



GUYANA NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2008

Guyana High Commission, 3 Palace Court, Bayswater Road, London W2, 4LP

Tel: 020 7229 7684 ; Fax No: 020 7727 9809

E-mail: guyanahc1@btconnect.com

Website: guyanahc.com

Cariforum agrees to sign EPA - but President Bharrat Jagdeo holds out

Caribbean Heads of State at their meeting in Barbados on 11 September, agreed to sign the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union (EU). Guyana's President, His Excellency Mr Bharrat Jagdeo, however, stated that he was not in a position to sign the EPA. Haiti also indicated that there were reservations which had to be cleared at the Presidential level before signature of the document.

Heads of Cariforum, comprising the 15 Caricom states plus the Dominican Republic, have set 15 October for the signing of the Agreement in Barbados and this will subsequently be transmitted to the EU.

At a Press Conference in Guyana, President Jagdeo said that he is not convinced that the Agreement which Cariforum initialled would impact positively now or in the future on the Region; in fact, the Region could be compromised in many ways.

The President said that the Agreement undermines multilateralism, and regional integration and cooperation.

Explaining his position, the President opined, "We (Cariforum) could have easily awaited the ACP Heads of Government Meeting scheduled to be held in Ghana in a few weeks before agreeing to sign the Agreement". He said that such a decision would have allowed for better coordination with the other five Regions in a similar position to negotiate better Agreements. He went on to say that the Region is too much in a hurry to sign the Agreement and that the pace of the negotiations was dictated by the European Union.

President Jagdeo had indicated before the Cariforum Meeting in Barbados that Guyana was prepared to sign a 'goods only' Agreement which is all that is required to fulfil the commitment to the WTO. He stressed, however, that if the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) is imposed on Guyana's exports, then Guyana will have no alternative but to sign.

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Carifesta X - A Grand Success

At the end of a ten-day magical display of Caribbean culture which took place throughout the length and breadth of Guyana, President Bharrat Jagdeo lauded the Guyanese people for the tremendous display of hospitality in hosting the Caribbean Festival of Arts (Carifesta)

The premier festival of its kind in the Caribbean, Carifesta X attracted an estimated 3,500 artists and artistes in the various fields of performing, visual and culinary arts. Guyanese and the host of visitors to the country lapped up the bountiful display of talent. Attendance to all Carifesta events was free.

At the closing ceremony on Sunday, 31 August, at the Guyana National Stadium, President Jagdeo said: "As a nation, we rose to the occasion, we did ourselves proud, we created a Carifesta to remember, the biggest ever".

Using the occasion to emphasise the point that the field of arts was important in development, the President stressed that Carifesta had helped in providing a "deep understanding of the arts and the necessity of placing its development in nation building".

The President added: "We have done a great service to regionalism through this festival. We have breathed new life into Carifesta, celebrated the cultural diversity of our people and affirmed this diversity as a uniting force in the Caribbean.

President Jagdeo further said: "A number of persons were trained in a wide array of disciplines. We ventured into new vistas, unearthed a treasure trove of talent and gave our artists the priceless opportunity to rub shoulders with some of the best in the Region. We provided special participation for our young people and the public who welcomed this festival with laudable dignity and hospitality".

The next Caribbean Festival of the Arts will be held in the Bahamas in 2010.

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ECONOMIC NEWS

Cariforum agrees to sign EPA - but President Bharrat Jagdeo holds out

The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Hon. Bruce Golding, at a Press Conference following the meeting, said that it was not in the interest of the Region to refrain from signing as it would be injurious to the interest of its citizens. He said that he and colleague Heads of Government would continue to discuss with President Jagdeo the concerns which he expressed during the one-day meeting with a view to having Guyana as a signatory to the EPA at the earliest opportunity.

The EPA was initialled in December last year in Barbados and replaces the Cotonou Agreement which expired at the end of 2007. The EPA seeks to establish a new trading arrangement between the EU and Cariforum countries which is compatible with the rules of the WTO.

NOTICE

**Guyana High
Commission**

**New E-mail
address:**

guyanahc1@btconnect.com

Website address:

guyanahc.com

US\$4M Tourism Investment

A US\$4M resort offering various amenities and targeting overseas-based Guyanese will soon commence operations at Versailles, West Bank Demerara (Region 3).

The project, the Aracari Resort, would be initially offering 36 executive suites but is seeking to expand in the future. According to Chief Executive Officer of the project, Sase Shewnarain, the resort would be the first "true" vacation resort in Guyana and would not only provide accommodation but other facilities for mental and physical health as well. He said that the resort is similar in design to resorts found within the Caribbean including places like Cuba, Jamaica and Mexico.

Both the Guyanese Diaspora and the local market are being targeted. Currently, the complex consists of three main buildings, housing 36 executive suites, two restaurants, two bars, a swimming pool, a gymnasium, an internet café, a convenience store, Conference/Meetings room and a theatre/bandstand. The venue would also be available for banquets and weddings.

US\$60M More in World Bank Assistance

The World Bank plans to disburse another US\$60 million to US\$70 million in programmes into Guyana over the next three years as it contemplates its new country assistance package.

In view of the rising food prices and Guyana's push to grow more food, the Government has agreed with the Bank to channel more of these funds into agriculture.

The announcement was made by visiting World Bank Communications Officer, Mr Alejandro Cedeno, who

GUYANA OFFICE FOR INVESTMENT (GO-INVEST)

The Guyana Office for Investment (GO-INVEST) has redesigned its website to a more user friendly and comprehensive format. It includes information on export promotion and has links to many websites in Guyana.

You can now visit GO-INVEST at: www.goinvest.gov.gy

said that the Bank is seeking to forge closer ties with the media and civil society with a view to increased monitoring of its projects and programmes in Guyana and in the region.

He further pointed out that because of the programmes in operation, Guyana "is a very important country for us". The five major programmes being financed in Guyana are the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control project signed in 2004 in the amount of US\$10 million, the Water Section Consolidation Project signed in 2005 in the amount of \$11.3 million, the Education for All Fast Tract Initiative signed for US\$45 million in 2003; the Conservancy Adaptation Project, a Global Environmental Facility grant of US\$3.8 million, and the Guyana National Statistics Strategy and Statistical Development project.

IDB Assistance for Private Sector

Guyana will benefit from Three Technical Cooperation Agreements totalling more than US\$340,000 under the Mini-Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), under its Private Sector arm the MIF.

The IDB also recently approved four new Technical Cooperation Agreements and representatives of three of the four successful applicants signed their agreements. These are Upper Berbice Forest Producers Association (UBFPA) for their project on Management and Operations Training in the Forestry

Sector; Institute of Private Enterprise Development (IPED) for their project on integrated Farming and the Iwokrama International Centre for Forestry Conservation and Development for their project on Sustainable Forestry.

Although Conservation International has had funding approved for its project on Community Tourism Enterprise Development, it will be signing the agreement at a later date.

Country Representative of IDB, Mr. Marco Nicola, explained that the MIF is the Private arm of IDB and since its inception in 1993, the guiding principle of the MIF is to promote broad-based economic growth through private sector development, particularly micro enterprises and small businesses.

G\$4.5B DDL Investment

The Demerara Distillers Limited (DDL), one of Guyana's leading and largest Companies has unveiled a G\$4.5B expansion programme which includes investment in a new bottling plant, a new multi-column still and the first bio-methanization plant in the English-speaking Caribbean.

According to the Chairman of DDL, Mr. Yesu Persaud the growing demand for the Company's products necessitated the new investment. He noted that since his Company has successful products in the global economy it is imperative that DDL has to produce the best.

The foundation works on the bottling plant have already been completed and construction of the structure is scheduled to begin soon with an operation commencement date targeted for early 2009. The modernised and fully automated plant which cost G\$1.8B would allow for a doubling in bottling capacity of the Company to cater for the projected increased demand of DDL's El Dorado branded products in the local and international markets.

The Company is also investing in a bio-methanization plant. The Chairman noted that this venture is a totally new concept in Guyana. This particular operation would help to save costs of fuel which the distillery consumes in great quantities. The use of the G\$1.1B plant is expected to result in 60-70% savings of the fuel currently used by the distillery operations.

GENERAL NEWS

US\$ 31M GPL/ Government Agreement

The Guyana Power and Light (GPL) signed an Agreement with the Guyana Government, in June, for US\$31M to finance three main projects to reduce generation cost.

The loan which is granted on concessional terms, will be used to finance a 20.7MW of Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) fired generating capacity for the Demerara System and 5KM of 69KV transmission interconnection; 20KM of 69KV transmission lines to interconnect GUYSUOCO's Skeldon Factory with GPL's substation at No. 53 Village; and the refurbishment and conversion of 10MW of diesel generating capacity at the Canefield Power Station to HFO operation.

According to a Press Release from the Company, GPL's plan is to "reduce drastically its dependence on diesel generation from 32% to about 5% by the second quarter of 2009 and to rely on renewable resources to provide 18% of its power supply by 2012". The Press Release further pointed out that after implementing the three projects, the Company will be able to reduce production cost by over US\$1.8M per month.

G\$2.6B GBTI Investment

The Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry (GBTI) has invested G\$2.6B in a new modern four-storey building which will be the Bank's main head office. Construction work started a few months ago. The building which is situated at Kingston, Georgetown, is expected to be completed in November 2009.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Bank, Mr Radha Krishna Sharma, said: "the super edifice would not only improve the capacity of the Bank's management team to enhance service

to its customers, but will provide architectural enrichment to its own location and the capital city".

Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr Robin Stoby, said that the Bank's new head office reflects a coming of age for the Company.

Formerly a branch of Barclay's Bank Plc, the Bank became a public Company seventeen years ago.

Republic Bank's New Branch

On 4 August, the Republic Bank formally opened its impressive and elegant new multi-million dollar branch situated at Camp and Robb Streets.

In a Press Release, the Bank said that operations at the existing Camp and Savage Streets' Branches will be merged and transferred to the new Branch along with the Commercial Credit Department which is currently housed at the Water Street Branch.

US\$4.4M Diagnostic Lab

On 4 July, the recently constructed US\$4.4M National Public Health Institute (NPHI) located in the compound of the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation was formally handed over by the US Government.

The Lab was financed under President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The NPHI was designed to bridge the gap between routine clinical laboratory testing and specialised reference testing.

US\$7M UNDP Grant

The Guyana Government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on 7 August, signed an agreement for the disbursement of a US\$7M grant to enhance a good governance project which would substantially benefit youth and women.

The project titled "Enhance Public Trust, Security and Inclusion (EPTSI)" is a follow-up to the collaborative social cohesion project which concluded in 2006. This project which commenced in

August will come to an end in December 2011.

G\$50M Paddy Facility

The Minister of Agriculture, on 15 July, commissioned a G\$50M seed paddy plant at Black Bush Polder. The facility at Lesbeholden was constructed under the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)/Cariforum/CARICOM Food Security Project and was financed by the Government of Italy and Guyana. It will be used for drying, storing, clearing and testing of seed paddy.

The Minister in his remarks said that similar facilities have been established at Anna Regina in Essequibo, Crane in West Demerara and at Leguan. He announced that another paddy plant will be constructed in Region Six (East Berbice/Corentyne), between Number 52 to 74 Villages.

G\$40M to reduce deforestation

According to a Press Release from the Ministry of Agriculture, Guyana will receive G\$40M from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) to prepare its Readiness Plan (R-Plan) to combat tropical deforestation.

The R-Plan will outline among other activities, the methodologies to be used in carrying out assessments of historical and current emissions from deforestation and forest degradation at a national level.

The World Bank has identified fourteen developing countries for assistance to combat tropical deforestation and climate change. Guyana is the only CARICOM country to receive such assistance.

Government to re-open Morawhanna port

The Government is to reopen the Morawhanna Fish Port Complex in Region One (Barima/Waini).

According to the Prime Minister, Honourable Samuel Hinds, the Government is currently upgrading

the port which will be used for the export of agricultural produce to Caribbean countries (CARICOM). Quarrying and logging companies are also keen to use the port for exports.

The Prime Minister said that agricultural produce could be shipped from Region One to Trinidad and Tobago within 20 to 24 hours in small ocean-going vessels (70 to 100 tonnes). This is about the same time it takes to transport agricultural and other products from Region One to Georgetown for onward shipment to other Caribbean destinations.

Region One Chairman, Mr Fermin Singh said that the opening of the port would encourage farmers who had scaled down their operations and those who had abandoned their farms to return to farming. The Chairman also opined that with the growing demands in the Caribbean Region for food products the prospects are exceedingly good for Region One.

G\$140M Ophthalmology Centre

Infrastructure work on the G\$140M National Ophthalmology Centre in Berbice is finished and the facility should be operational in September.

The Ophthalmology Centre is the only one in the Caribbean. According to a Press Release from the Government Information Agency (GINA), patients suffering from cataract, glaucoma, retinopathy, retina detachment and other eye ailments would be treated at the Centre. The Centre will also make use of micro-incisions for treating some of the conditions which will enable patients to be discharged the same day.

The Centre was constructed under a Guyana/Cuba health sector agreement signed in 2006. It will be partly staffed by Cuban doctors.

Contracts approved for various sectors

Head of the Presidential Secretariat and Cabinet Secretary, Dr Roger Luncheon, announced at his post-Cabinet briefings that the following contracts have been

approved by Cabinet:

- 427,710 euros for procuring equipment and materials for emergency sea defence works.
- G\$153.1M for drainage and irrigation works at De Willem, West Coast Demerara (Region 3).
- G\$72.3M for construction of Seour Protection at La Union Outfall Channel (Region 3).
- G\$91.2M for procuring water meters and meter boxes for Guyana Water Incorporated (GWI).
- G\$37.9M for procurement of polyvinyl chloride ductile pipes, fittings and accessories for GWI.
- G\$40.7M for the procurement of galvanized pipes for GWI.
- 17.5M euros for procuring a 20.7 megawatt power plant for Guyana Power & Light (GPL).
- G\$158.9M for the acquisition of learning material for the Ministry of Education.
- G\$18.1M for rehabilitation works at the Cyril Potter College.
- US\$99,260 for the creation of a Disaster Recovery Preparedness System (IFMAS).
- G\$75.3M for the procurement of arms and ammunition for the Police Force.
- G\$24.6M for the procurement of forensic equipment for the Police Force.
- G\$5.7M for the rehabilitation of the narcotics and fingerprint facility, Eve Leary.

Guyanese wins Commonwealth Book Prize

Ms Karen King-Aribisala, a Guyanese residing in Nigeria, won for the second time, the Commonwealth Book Prize for the African Region.

Educated in Guyana, Barbados, Italy, Nigeria and England, Ms King-Aribisala is now living and working in Nigeria where she is Professor of English at the University of Lagos. She writes both fiction and non-fiction and has published several short stories and poems in various journals such as Wasafiri, Presence Africaine, The Griot and Bim. The accomplished writer has

received a number of awards including two James Michener Fellowships for Creative Writing at the University of Miami, a Ford Foundation Grant and British Council Grants.

The Commonwealth Prize is awarded annually to the best in Commonwealth fiction, written in English by both established and new writers.

Chanderpaul awarded the Golden Arrow

Shivnarine Chanderpaul who is currently listed as the No. 1 batsman on the ICC Test Player Rankings was appointed by President Bharrat Jagdeo as a member of the Order of Service of Guyana and has been awarded the Golden Arrow of Achievement.

According to a Press Release from the Office of the President dated 31 July, "His Excellency Bharrat Jagdeo, President of the Republic of Guyana, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Guyana and Chancellor of the Orders of Guyana, is pleased to appoint Shivnarine Chanderpaul as a member of the Order of Service of Guyana and has awarded him the Golden Arrow of Achievement for his consistently outstanding performance as a cricketer, especially as a batsman, at the national, regional and international levels".

The 33-year-old prolific batsman joined an illustrious group by becoming the fourth West Indian batsman to reach 8,000 runs in Test Cricket. This feat was accomplished on the fifth and final day of the third Digicel Test against Australia. He ended the series with an aggregate of 442 runs.

[Attached is a Guyana Chronicle Editorial which pays tribute to the achievements of this distinguished son of Guyana. \(click link\) to pg 9](#)

Guyanese word and meaning

Word: *Aback*

Meaning: *Behind; at the back of; immediately behind; in or at a place at the back of.*

Prince of Wales lauds President Jagdeo's initiative to combat climate change

Addressing guests at Mansion House, on 12th September on his Rainforests Project, His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince Charles was high in praise of what he referred to as "one of the most optimistic developments of leadership on this issue shown by President Jagdeo of Guyana"

The Prince of Wales expressed his delight that his Project had assisted the Clinton Global Initiative to propose a study which is currently underway for President Jagdeo. The study is being done by McKinsey. The Prince informed that he was kept apprised of the study by his Project Director who was recently in Guyana for an update.

Prince Charles was optimistic, noting that 'the study is well on its way to producing a truly innovative roadmap of national development that will clarify the funding necessary for the conservation of Guyana's extraordinarily precious rainforests'. He alluded to the unique opportunity Guyana represents to develop a model that can be applicable for the rainforest nations and more so, the offer is available.

According to HRH, the challenge is how the developed world will respond to the offer. Further expressing his agreement with the President's initiative he said, "Clearly, if we want to continue to benefit from the services provided by the rainforest we will have to start paying for them. But we cannot afford to lose this opportunity to demonstrate what can be done and to respond to the President's remarkable offer".

President Jagdeo's offer was first made public in late 2006 after he suggested to then British Prime Minister Tony Blair that the two Governments could work together to identify how rainforest countries such as Guyana can assist the international community's efforts to combat climate change. Since then, the President has frequently outlined his belief that international partnership is the key to devising workable solutions and has

said that Guyana will continue to be ready to play a role.

The Government of Guyana has stated that solutions to climate change will only work if they are compatible with progressing the legitimate development aspirations of a country's citizen.

The President has confirmed that there has never been any question of handing over sovereignty of the forest. Further, any action to place the forest under supervision will only be taken after the full engagement of all relevant stakeholders in Guyana, especially those who live in rainforest communities. International supervision simply refers to creating a body which will oversee compliance in a manner which is credible.

President Jagdeo is firmly of the view that "We need to recognise that rainforest countries need new paths to development that do not rely on unsustainable exploitation of their forests".

NEWS IN BRIEF

- The first local kidney transplant was successfully carried out on 12 July at the Georgetown Public Hospital. The surgery involved the transplant of a kidney from 41 year old Leelkumarie Mangal of Lusignan, East Coast Demerara, to her son, 18 year old Munesh Mangal.
- Several persons, including six students from the University of Guyana (UG) received certificates after completing a course in archaeology. The course is the second of its kind and is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport, UG, the Archaeology Summer Field School at the Boise State University in Virginia and the Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology.

- Guyana is recognised in the 2008 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic as one of the countries that has significantly reduced the transmission of HIV from parent to child. The Report further highlighted that Guyana has 94 sites in 8 of Guyana's 10 Regions offering such services. The Report also noted that there are approximately 13,000 people living with HIV in Guyana.
- 39 graduates of the Cuban Scholarship Programme returned to Guyana in July. Among the 39 are 20 engineers, 7 veterinary medicine/zoo technologists and 7 agronomists. The other 5 have been trained in sports and communications.
- In 2008, a further 150 Guyanese were granted scholarships under the Cuban Scholarship Programme, covering different disciplines
- The Ministry of Amerindian Affairs handed over 5 All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) valued at G\$9.5M to the Chairman of Region 8 (Potaro/Siparuni). Four ATVs were handed over to 4 Amerindian villages last year – Kamana, Taruka, Chieung Mouth and Itabac.
- The Plaisance/Industry Municipal Market on the East Coast Demerara is currently being refurbished at a cost of G\$7M.
- The Guyana health sector has been boosted with the arrival in July of 6 new ambulances. The ambulances cost G\$34M.
- The Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners Association (GGDMA) received a grant of G\$6M from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The money will be used to employ a technically qualified consultant to train environment officers in good mining practices such as the construction of sediment ponds, turbidity monitoring and proper use and disposal of mercury.

- On 12 July, a new health clinic was opened at Suddie in Region 2 (Pomeroon/Supenaam). Established at a cost of G\$4M the clinic is currently providing tests for malaria, filaria, tuberculosis, HIV and other infectious and chronic diseases.
- A G\$43M Spanish Government funded project for the cultivation of rice and beans will be undertaken in 9 villages in Regions 8 (Potaro/Siparuni) and 9 (Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo).



Unveiling of Bronze Woman Monument

Commencing with a poem she wrote 30 years ago with an ensuing dream and years of diligent and persistent lobbying, Guyanese poet and teacher, Cecile Nobrega will have that dream realised when the Bronze Woman Monument is unveiled on Wednesday, 8 October 2008 at Stockwell Memorial Gardens, South London.

This Monument will be the first public statue in England to celebrate the contribution of black women to British society.

Cecile's inspiration came from the poem she wrote titled "The Bronze Woman" honouring the strength and achievements of women everywhere.

The Monument was designed by the sculptor of Nelson Mandela statue fame, Ian Walters. The registered charity, Olmec of Vauxhall was instrumental in helping Cecile to realise her dream.

Congrats and best wishes are extended to Cecile from the High Commissioner and staff of the Guyana High Commission as we recognise and acknowledge your commitment and dedication to this project.

GLA (UK) PRESS RELEASE

Top UK Diaspora Lawyers address the GLA (UK) Legal Careers Workshop

Guyana Law Association (UK) held its third annual Legal Careers Workshop on the 12 September 2008 at the Guyana High Commission in Central London. A full house turned up despite the inclement weather to hear the Guyanese legal luminaries share their experiences and dispense advice to potential lawyers and law undergraduates.

The distinguished panel included top QC and Bar Council member Richard Wilson, Peters & Peters Partner, extradition specialist and Law Society committee member Anand Doobay, Paul Kishore - Head of Chancery Chambers and Lauren Mercurius-Taylor co-partner of a criminal law firm of solicitors in North West London.

All the panellists spoke of their early careers at the Bar and private practice as solicitors. The recurring themes emphasised were:

- knowing what the student wanted to do at an early stage of law undergraduate studies – to be a barrister or solicitor; obtaining mini-pupillages / law placements with firms / chambers / Government Legal Services & other public bodies or NGOs. These should ideally be in relevant specialist areas of interest to the student; attending courts to observe cases; engaging actively whilst at university / college, in law societies i.e. taking part in moots, writing articles on legal topics; attending law societies' meetings and networking; not being dispirited by application rejections but not just sending out pro forma applications - tailoring applications to suit the target firm or organisation. Pupillages and training contracts were as difficult as ever but the student

GLA (UK) (cont'd)

must prepare specialised applications. However there was always scope for those who were prepared to work hard, organise themselves and learn from every experience.

Attendees were urged not to get too blinkered in their approach. Advocacy / private practice was not suited to everyone and there were opportunities in academia / in employment with the public and private sector firms and organisations. Attendees were also encouraged to undertake relevant para legal or pro bono placements both in the UK and abroad.

All felt the session was very informative and were grateful for the time given up by busy practitioners to organise and attend the session.

Special thanks were expressed to His Excellency Laleshwar Singh for so generously donating the use of the High Commission and to the staff for their assistance in preparing the room for the meeting.

List of forthcoming events:

04.10 .2008- Autumn Fund Raising Social at the Guyana High Commission.

05.12. 2008 – Christmas Fund Raising Social at the Guyana High Commission.

GLA (UK) was launched six years ago after a visit by the then Chancellor Hon Desiree Bernard when she addressed the Diaspora lawyers at a meeting arranged under the auspices of His Excellency Laleshwar Singh, the High Commissioner. In updating the lawyers about the courts and legal service she invited the lawyers to assist the Justice System in Guyana by collecting, transporting and shipping donated law books and computers.

Since then with encouragement and assistance from the High Commissioner, several shipments of books and computers have been sent to Guyana. The Acting Chancellor, Honourable Carl Singh has also addressed the GLA (UK) a few times over the years and he has expressed his deep appreciation for the books and computers sent. It is estimated that over a £1 million in law books have been sent to Guyana.

The books are housed in the Supreme Court's Library, the Law Library in Berbice, and the University of Guyana. They are available for the Judiciary, all practitioners and students to consult. It is also envisaged that in time a collection of law books will be made available in all the courts throughout Guyana.

GLA (UK) over the years has received generous donations of books and computers from the Crown Prosecution Service, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Courts Service, the Royal Courts of Justice, the Inns of Court School of Law, the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn, the Law Society, John Pethick of Wildy's, the Privy Council and numerous chambers, law booksellers, solicitors practices' and individual lawyers.

GLA (UK) holds many fundraising events over the year to cover the costs of the collection and shipment of the books and computers.

Anyone wishing to donate books and computer equipment, please contact our co-ordinator Deonarine Singh (via the Guyana High Commission – tel. no. 0207 229 7684).

Commonwealth Fair 2008

Once again, the Guyana High Commission invites you to the Commonwealth Fair 2008 which will be held at the Kensington Town Hall, Horton Street, W8 7NX on the following days:

Friday 7 November - Gala Evening

Time: 6.30 to 9.00pm
Ticket: £20.00 per person

Saturday, 8th November - Fair Day

Time: 10.30am to 4.30pm
Ticket: £5.00 per adult; £3.00 per child below 16; Advance family ticket: £10.00 (admits 2 adults and 2 children); Advance adult ticket: £8.00 (admits 2 adults)

Tickets/Enquiries: Jania—0207 222 9342; Sui Chin—0207 602 8966
Website: www.ccl-int.org.uk

Underground: High Street Kensington Station;
Buses: 52, 70, 28, 49, 328, 9 10, 27; Greenline Express: 700, 701, 702, X7

Proceeds of the Fair support The CCL Education Fund which sponsors the secondary education of disadvantaged girls in Commonwealth countries. The Guyana High Commission will, as usual, hold booths with Guyanese food items, craft, etc. Please come out and support us.

**DIARY OF
EVENTS**

**SEPTEMBER
2008**

EVENT: Federation of
Guyanese Nationals (UK)
Senior Citizens Luncheon

DATE: Sunday, 28th September

TIME: 2 to 5pm

VENUE: St Augustine's Church
Hall, Broadwater Road, SW17.

CONTACT: Ms Desiree Prince
on 0208 342 8178

**OCTOBER
2008**

EVENT: The Golden Grove
Nabaclis Association (UK)
Annual Dance

DATE: Saturday, 4th October

TIME: 8p.m to 2a.m

VENUE: Lambeth Town Hall,
Acre Lane, Brixton, SW2.

CONTACT: Tel: 0208 553 4409

Admission £12.00 in
advance; more at the door.

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**OCTOBER
2008**

EVENT: Guyana Law Association
(UK) Fund Raising Social Evening

DATE: Saturday, 4th October

TIME: 6.30p.m

VENUE: Guyana High
Commission, 3 Palace Court,
Bayswater Road, W2 4LP.

Admission: £15.00

Contact Dale Simon to reserve
tickets on 07904 452991.

The evening will include a wine
reception, Guyanese buffet, fund-
raising raffle, and live entertainment
inclusive of a guest performance from
renowned flautist, Keith Waithe.

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EVENT: The Caribbean Hindu
Cultural Society presents Diwali
(Laxmi Puja)

DATE: Tuesday, 28th October

TIME: 7.30P.M

VENUE: 16 Ostade Road, Brixton
Hill, SW2 2BB

CONTACT: Mr Deonarine Singh
on 0208 674 0755 or 0208 859 2440

**NOVEMBER
2008**

EVENT: The Guyana Friends
Association (UK) Anniversary
Dance

DATE: Saturday, 22nd November

VENUE: Lambeth Town Hall,
Acre Lane, Brixton, SW2.

CONTACT: Ms Bridgit Sam-
Bailey on 0208 244 6857

**PASSPORT AND
CONSULAR
MATTERS**

OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Friday:
9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.**

**BIRTH, DEATH &
MARRIAGE
CERTIFICATE**

These certificates are issued by the
Registrar General in Guyana whose
address is:

**The Registrar General, General
Register Office, General Post Office
Building, Georgetown, GUYANA.**

An application form should be completed
and posted to the Registrar General
together with a postal order for two
pounds (£2.00) made payable to the
Registrar General and crossed. This
amount covers the fee and return
registered postage.

It is important to enter accurate
information on the form, particularly the
exact place of birth in Guyana, that is,
street, hospital or village.

It is advised that a covering letter be sent
stating very clearly the address in the
United Kingdom to which the certificate
should be returned.

**Forms can be uplifted from the Guyana
High Commission.**

(GUYANA)

Telephone

00592 225 7561 or 00592 226 4575

Fax: 00592 227 6861

**REGISTRATION
AS A CITIZEN OF
GUYANA OF A CHILD
BORN ABROAD TO A
GUYANESE PARENT**

The following must be sent to
the Registrar General at:

**The General Register Office,
General Post Office Build-
ing, Georgetown, Guyana.**

Telephone: 00592 226 4575

Fax: 00592 227 6861

(a) Child's original Birth
Certificate together with
official translation if it is not
in the English Language.

(b) Copy of birth certificate of
Guyanese parent.

(c) Fee of £2.00 payable by
postal order to the Registrar
General. Euros are not
acceptable. It is advisable that
a bank draft for US\$5.00 be
sent if applicant is living
abroad.

(d) Letter to the Registrar
General requesting that the
child be registered as a
citizen of Guyana and that the
appropriate birth certificate
be posted to the address of the
parent. It is important to write
your address clearly.

NOTICE

PLEASE DROP IN!

**We have available at the
High Commission
internet news; video
cassettes on eco-tourism
and cultural
programmes; and other
literature.**

**The High Commission is
open from Monday to
Friday: 09:30 hrs to
17:30 hrs.**

Guyana Chronicle

Editorial page for 12 September 2008

The ‘Tiger’ has done us all proud

Prolific Guyana and West Indies batsman, Shivnarine ‘Tiger’ Chanderpaul has done Guyana and the entire Caribbean proud with making history as being the first West Indian to earn the coveted ICC International Cricket of the Year Award.

And he so deserves the award with his majestic display of batting over the past year, like good wine gets better with age.

With all the negatives happening in the Caribbean, Chanderpaul and earlier, Usain Bolt of Jamaica have brought the Caribbean nation dignity and pride and dispels the notion that people in these parts cannot emerge at the very top when competing with the very best in the world.

One of the remarkable things about Chanderpaul is that his superb performance with the bat has been done amidst a very inconsistent and at times a crumbling West Indies team. He has always been like a beacon of light and provided some hope when the West Indies performance was at its dullest.

West Indian cricket commentator, Fazeer Mohamed, pointedly observed: “Not that he needs any formal acknowledgement to validate another prolific 12 months, but there can really be no other option for International Cricket Council “Cricketer of the Year” than Shivnarine Chanderpaul”.

“Amid the darkest period in the history of the West Indian game, Chanderpaul has emerged from the considerable shadow of Brian Lara to confirm to everyone what most discerning observers already knew: that he is one of the premier batsmen of our time and, at the age of 34 and with 8,001 runs in Tests and 7,573 in one-day internationals to his name, must be ranked among the very best Caribbean batsmen of all time”.

But Chanderpaul’s success has not come along an easy road. It has come through long hours of practice, discipline, grit, determination, persistence, perseverance, humility and sacrifice. And these qualities are evident when he is out in the middle as well as is in his lifestyle which is equally important if one is to be successful not only at cricket but any endeavour that one pursues in life.

A study in the US by Angela L. Duckworth, Christopher Peterson, Michael D. Matthews and Dennis R. Kelly indicated that high achievement is dependent on those qualities that Chanderpaul has demonstrated.

Reviewing the biographical details of Darwin, Einstein and other geniuses, Howe disputed the assumption that high achievement derives directly from exceptional mental ability.

“Perseverance is at least as crucial as intelligence. The most crucial inherent indifferences may be the one of temperament rather than that of intellect as such”.

So one of the lessons from the Chanderpaul experience is that anyone can rise from the gutters to the highest peak if he/she is determined enough and adopts the accompanying disciplined lifestyle and makes the required sacrifice.

Chanderpaul came from a very humble background in his native village of Unity, Mahaica on the East Coast Demerara and rose to the pinnacle in cricket and for this he must be admired and saluted by all Guyana and the Caribbean.

Despite his remarkable achievements in the cricketing world he has remained the simple, humble and unassuming self and just keeps going about his trade in a business like and professional manner with a dedication very difficult to match.

This great feat by Chanderpaul should serve as an inspiration not only to his colleagues but to all the youths in Guyana and the Caribbean who aspire to reach the summit of success in whatever may be their endeavours in life.