



No. 48. Saturday, July 3, 2004



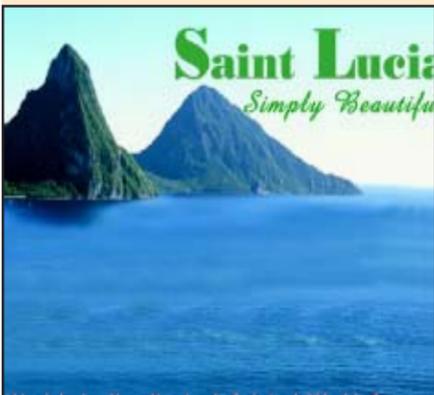
PM talking crime - page 4, 5 & 8



Governor General unveils burst of George F.L. Charles Tribute - page 2



Jamaican P.M., P.J. Patterson being introduce to Cabinet Members



Pitons now on World Heritage list



Ruby Yorke laid to rest - page 7



## Warm Welcome for Jamaican Prime Minister



**"Take ②" - A fifteen minute news review of the week.**  
Every Friday at 6.15 p.m. on NTN, Cablevision Channel 2.

**Government Notebook**  
A fresh news package daily on all local radio stations



# George Frederick Lawrence Charles: A Man who Embodied a Movement and an Aspiration



## A tribute by Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony

### People of St. Lucia

**It is with great sadness that I have the responsibility today of announcing the death of Sir George Frederick Lawrence Charles, our first Chief Minister and the man who brought St. Lucia from the subordination of Colonial Rule to adult suffrage. He was a founding member of the St. Lucia Labour Party as well as our first Minister of Education and Social Affairs.**

A man of humble origins and diminutive size, his stature as a fighter for the right of St. Lucians to be the masters of their labour and their destiny will be indelibly etched in the hearts of those with whom he struggled and in the history books of the future. Sir George belongs to that pantheon of early Caribbean leaders who organized the working class and spurred the

formation of trade unions and the early political parties that sought to express the people's collective will.

Born on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1916 and educated at St. Mary's College, George Charles could have lived a life of personal comfort with such a privileged education. Like many young West Indians of his time, he emigrated to Aruba and worked there for one year with the Largo Oil and Transport Company. It was in Aruba that he was exposed to trade union activity and on his return to St. Lucia in 1945, he supported the cause of the workers at the Vigie Airport Renovation Project where he was employed as a timekeeper. His solidarity on that occasion propelled him to assume the General Secretaryship of the St. Lucia Workers Cooperative Union.

Sir George played an increasingly active role in trade unionism in St. Lucia and by 1948 he was elected the then Castries Town Board as trade union representative. He stepped up the effort to secure a more democratic representational role and in 1950, he was

one of the key personalities involved in the organization of the St. Lucia Labour Party.

In the 1951 General Elections, the first held under universal adult suffrage, the St. Lucia Labour Party under his leadership won five of the eight seats against the middle class-oriented Peoples Progressive Party. Sir George's first resolution as an elected member was for legal recognition of the right to paid leave which was rejected by the Colonial Authorities.

The struggle that Sir George led resulted in a series of constitutional reforms that ultimately brought into being the system of ministerial government. In 1954, the Labour Party was again victorious at general elections and Sir George was elected as the first Minister for Education and Social Affairs; with full ministerial government he was appointed our first Chief Minister.

Sir George Frederick Lawrence Charles represents a generation which fought hard and sacrificed much to secure many of the rights and

entitlements that we take so much for granted today. He was quintessentially labour, he was uncompromising in his stance for the poor and the dispossessed, and he was unyielding in his respect for the dignity of work.

Sir George Frederick Lawrence Charles represents a quality of leadership that gave but did not count the cost, that fought but did not seek for rest, and that laboured but for no reward.

Sir George Frederick Lawrence Charles represents an idea whose magnitude spanned all continents; whose appeal crossed all races; whose rectitude overcame all human oppression. Sir George has passed on physically but this transition marks the movement from the temporal to the immortal. The freedoms that he fought for yesterday that we now have and which we enjoy today, we must cherish and sustain tomorrow for all generations of St. Lucians.

Long live the memory of George Frederick Lawrence Charles!

# St. Lucia Host Annual CARIMET Symposium



Commerce Minister Hon. Phillip J. Pierre (center) at CARIMET Symposium Head Table

**St. Lucia, through the Bureau of Standards, is for the first time playing host to the annual symposium and workshop of the Caribbean Metrology sub-regional grouping CARIMET. Monday's high-level conference on the theme "Metrology – Society, Commerce, Environment and Health for the Americas, is today being followed by a three-day technical workshop.**

The four-day activity seeks to promote the importance of metrology – the science of measurement, for user confidence at every level in St. Lucia and the region. The over-forty Caribbean representatives are discussing issues of traceability in legal metrology; the calibration of scales and measurements in the petroleum sector; and calibration of mass and other related subjects.

In addressing the conference, Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Minister, Hon. Phillip J. Pierre said that with issues of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME), the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and the wider World Trade Organisation (WTO) looming on the horizon, steps to develop the necessary infrastructure to enable industry and trade related concerns to make measurements competently and accurately; to protect consumers and the environment; and to coordinate the region's measurement systems with that of the rest of the world were no longer a matter of choice but a necessity.

"The very facets of our economic and social existence are founded on suitable and reliable measurements," said Minister Pierre, adding, "trade, health, protection of the environment and consumers, along with consumer education are all, indeed, areas that need constant support of measurements. It is clear therefore, that a country that is

serious about development must establish a sound nation measurement system."

Since a new metrology bill was enacted in 2000, much has already been achieved, in terms of calibration of scales and measurements in the petroleum sector, a lesson that St. Lucia will share with Caribbean neighbours. Meanwhile, moves are now afoot to verify electricity and water meters.

As efforts continue here in getting the island fully compliant with the internationally accepted metric system, the Caricom Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) has given St. Lucia the thumbs-up in that regard.

Executive Secretary of CROSQ, Mrs. Camella Rhone says in order to expand trade, the region has to manage significant challenges, if it is to address

market access and international standards compliance issues.

"In order to meet international production and quality standards as a region, we need to upgrade our production processes; our quality assurance processes; our management systems; and our monitoring, evaluation, product testing, and packaging processes. It is necessary to do all of that, if we are to take advantage of important regional bi-lateral and multi lateral trade opportunities," Mrs. Rhone said.

Funding for the workshop is provided by the Organization of American States (OAS), and other region bodies.

## State Funeral for Sir George F.L. Charles on July 7

**Wednesday, July 7 has been set as the date for the State Funeral for the late Sir George F.L. Charles. This was officially announced on Tuesday, June 29, 2004.**

In keeping with the norm associated with State Funerals, Sir George's body will be laid in the chamber of the House of Assembly on Wednesday morning, to allow relatives, friends, associates and members of the public a final opportunity to pay their last respects to the late labour hero.

After the public exposure at the House of Assembly, the body will be taken to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, where the State Funeral will be officiated with full honours.

A Book of Condolences has also been made available for public signature as of this morning in the foyer downstairs the House of Parliament.

Flags on state buildings and in other official quarters have been flying half-mast since Monday and by Cabinet decree, shall remain at half mast until Sir George's State Funeral next week Wednesday.

Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony yesterday, issued an official statement on behalf of the Cabinet of Ministers, in which he described the late Sir George as "a man who embodied a movement and an aspiration."

He said Sir George represented "a generation, which fought hard and sacrificed much to secure many of the rights and entitlements that we take so much for granted today."

The Prime Minister noted that the late Sir George "represented a quality of leadership that gave, but did not count the cost; that fought, but did not seek rest; and that laboured, but for no reward."

Dr Anthony said Sir George represented "an idea whose magnitude spanned all continents and whose rectitude overcame all human oppression."

The Prime Minister also urged that "the freedoms Sir George fought for yesterday, and that we now have and enjoy today be cherished and sustained for tomorrow for all generations of St. Lucians."



Sir George F.L. Charles with Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony & Governor General, Dame Pearlette Louisy

### NTN THIS WEEK ON NTN

July 2<sup>nd</sup>– July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004

**Triumph of A St. Lucian Spirit – A Feature on Derek Walcott – Fri. July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:10 p.m.**

- **The GIS speaks with Members of the Fishing Community** - Sat. July 3<sup>rd</sup>. 8 p.m.
- **The Medical and Dental Association presents "Methods of Contraception"** – Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup>. 9:00 p.m.
- **The GIS Speaks with former students of the St. Joseph's Convent as the SJC Commemorates 150 years of Existence** - Mon. July 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 p.m.
- **The GIS Speaks with Consul General of the French Antilles, Cass Elias** - Tues. July 6<sup>th</sup>. 8:00 p.m.
- **"You Know" A programme on HIV/AIDS** – Wednesday July 7<sup>th</sup>. 6:30 p.m.
- **CaribScope–Discovering Cuba** Thursday July 8<sup>th</sup>. 7:30 p.m.
- **Lecture on Caribbean Trade by Dr. A. Mc. Intyre** – Friday July 9<sup>th</sup>. 7:30 p.m.

**Remember to tune in for:**

- **GIS News Breaks and Kweyol News daily from 6:30 p.m.**
- **Issues & Answers/Mondays** at 8:00pm:
- **Interview/Tuesdays** at 6:15pm
- **Konsit Kweyol/Tuesdays** at 8:00pm (Kweyol Discussion):
- **Your Right to Know/Thursdays** at 6:15 p.m. (Min. of Ed. Prog).
- **Take 2/Fridays** at 6:15pm (Week in Review)
- **Weflechi/Fridays** at 6:40pm - (Week in Review—Kweyol)

For the complete programme guide, log on to our website at [www.stlucia.gov.lc](http://www.stlucia.gov.lc) and then click on the NTN icon.

[www.stlucia.gov.lc](http://www.stlucia.gov.lc)

# Government Committed to Fighting Crime

## ...PM addresses the Nation



Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony addressing the Nation

**H**ello St. Lucia, It has been a very wet weekend and I hope the weather has not been too unkind to you.

Last week, I promised to respond to a question from a listener to this programme. The listener is Trevor Wilness, an employee of Cable & Wireless. Incidentally, Trevor granted me permission to mention his name today.

Trevor was concerned about the increasing reports of dangerous crimes, which, in his view, indicated that probably "St. Lucia is not safe anymore." He said the police were doing a terrible job and they needed to be held accountable. But, he added, the same police officers who should be held accountable were also being seen driving without seat belts and breaking traffic lights. Trevor wanted to know how we expected these same police officers to fight crime, if they do not have regard for the laws, which they are required to enforce. He put this question to me: *What is the Government doing about crime?*

This is one of the most frequent questions that I am asked. I have answered on many occasions – whether in Parliament or constituency meetings, or overseas. Trevor's question is helpful because it provides an opportunity to summarize, for the benefit of our listeners, the efforts of the Government to fight crime.

### Crime in the Caribbean

Unquestionably, there is a very serious crime wave sweeping the region. In Jamaica, over 500 people have been killed for the year so far; in Trinidad & Tobago, over 100 have died at the hands of criminals; and in Guyana we hear reports of deadly crime of unimaginable proportions. In browsing Caribbean

newspapers on the Net over the weekend, three headlines from the Antigua Sun caught my attention:

- June 25: Daily Break-ins Alarm Villagers
- June 25: Police Respond to Masked Man Alert
- June 25: Robbers Hold Up BJ's Supermarket

I mention those statistics, not to seek refuge or to deny that we do have a serious crime problem, but to point out that the entire region has a crime problem. Indeed, the situation confronting the region is serious. But let us go to the heart of the issue.

### Harsh Realities...

Each time there's a major crime, anxiety deepens and the issue comes to the forefront. Given recent developments, such as the abduction of the six-year-old girl from her school, and the burning of a police vehicle at Wilton's Yard last week, such anxiety is fully understandable.

### Measures to Protect our Citizens...

Over the past eight years, Government has, on several occasions, introduced measures to protect our citizens, our children and our communities. Let me identify the initiatives.

### Review of the Police Force

The Government once always accepted that if the Police are to confront crime and defeat criminals, the police force must be modernized. A team of British experts was invited to review the Police Force. A reform process is under way, based on the recommendations of the British team. **A new Act to govern the structure and operations of the force**

**will soon be established.** It will introduce new procedures and criteria for promotion and hopefully it will allow for the best to emerge at the top.

In addition to this, the Government has invited members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the RCMP, **to train our police officers in the handling of evidence and scenes of crime. Their recommendations have led to changes in the approach to crime detection and prosecution.**

### Legislative Reforms

Government has accepted that we need to modernize the legislation governing crime. **New and tough sentences have been introduced for the unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.**

**A new Evidence Act has also been enacted to allow for the admissibility of evidence such as DNA.** Government has also enacted a **modern and revolutionary Criminal Code containing 1,264 provisions.**

**New legislation has also been enacted to deal with money laundering and its associated evils.**

### Accountability

The Government has heard the allegations about police abuse and brutality. To that end, the **Government has enacted a Police Complaints Act. The Act makes provision for a Police Complaints Commission to hear and determine complaints against any police officer.** The commission will be operationalised in the next few weeks. Citizens will therefore have an opportunity to seek redress against complaints of police abuse and negligence.

### Beach Rangers

In a bid to reduce crime on our beaches, the **Government introduced a new Unit, the Beach Rangers.** The Rangers patrol our beaches and help to protect both citizens and visitors. They provide a vital link to our Police. **Since their introduction, there has been a noticeable reduction in harassment of tourists and locals on our beaches.**

### Establishment of the Rapid Response Unit

Again, in our effort to strengthen the police response, particularly in our tourism communities, the **Government introduced Rapid Response Units, manned by former police officers and special constables.** The units exist in Gros Islet, Castries and Vieux Fort. New vehicles were also provided for these units.

### Recent Measures...

But let me also remind you of what I said just over two months ago during my Budget Address.

### Establishment of a Forensic Unit

I indicated that in an effort to improve the ability of our Police Prosecutors to successfully present cases before the courts, we would take steps to improve the availability of forensic evidence. In that regard, I said we would **establish a Forensic Unit and a Forensic Laboratory.** We have already identified the location for this lab and plans are underway to refurbish the building.

### Training of New Police Officers

I also spoke in the last Budget Address about what we had done to address the training and procurement needs of the police force. In this regard, I recalled that we had **recruited over 150 new police officers between 1999 and 2001, at a cost of \$3.6 million.** In addition, I announced that government will be **moving to employ an additional 60 police officers this year, and will establish an SSU branch in the south of the island.**

### New and Refurbished Police Stations

In order to improve conditions of work of police officers and strengthen morale, the Government has moved to refurbish and construct new police stations. **New police stations have been constructed at Anse la Raye, Marchand and Vieux Fort.** In addition, **five more police stations have been refurbished in Gros-Islet, Marigot, Canaries, Soufriere, Choiseul and Laborie.** Construction will begin on three more new stations this year in Dennery, Mabouya Valley and Micoud.

### Procurement of Specialized Equipment

I indicated just six weeks ago in my last Budget Address that the government had allocated over \$800,000 for the

**procurement of specialized equipment such as stun guns** to assist the police in apprehending criminals; **breathalysers to measure the alcohol level of persons suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol.**

**Duty Free for Security Equipment**

I also announced that the **government would reintroduce the duty free regime on security equipment and encouraged businesses to invest in their own security. This particular concession was also extended to include households.**

**Procurement of Vehicles**

A common complaint by police officers is that they have insufficient vehicles and so, cannot respond to crimes. **In 1998-99, government purchased 24 new motor cycles and 21 new motor vehicles at a cost of over two million dollars. Two years ago, the Government of South Korea donated some sixteen new vehicles, all to the Police Force. Many of these vehicles will soon require replacement.**

**A Holistic Approach**

Crime has to be fought on all fronts. Fighting crime has to be beyond legislation, new police officers and vehicles. It has to go to the heart of the justice system. That is why **we built a new prison to strengthen the security of our people and our nation, and to rehabilitate the criminals among us.** The Bordelais Correctional Facility exists to make this country safer from our criminals.

I indicated that **Government would do away with the periodic Assizes and a Criminal Division of the High Court would be established.** This will provide for year-round hearing of cases. The result would be that persons accused of crimes will be brought to trial more regularly and speedily. The Court is now in operation, initially as a pilot project.

**National Crime Commission**

Finally in 2003, **the government created a National Crime Commission.** This Commission seeks, among other responsibilities, to harness concerns and suggestions for preventing and controlling crimes and to assist the police in the development and implementation of a nationwide community policing programme.

**The Police Needs Your Help – And Your Trust!**

All that having been said, I wish to repeat what I've always said: The police cannot do it alone. All the money and equipment, the new vehicles, the new police stations, the Forensic Lab, the increased number of police officers and the other measures will come to naught, if there isn't a consistent, coordinated and purposeful strategy backed by popular support. The police need to do their part and so do we as citizens. We can always find reasons to criticize the Force, but we must also find the reasons to have a little more trust and confidence in the police.

Like everywhere else, there are rotten cops in our Force. They have to be rooted out. But please don't allow the dirty deeds of a very few be the yardstick by which we measure the entire Police Force. The vast majority of police officers are decent and well-intentioned.

I can assure you, Trevor, that I am as concerned as you are about the state of crime in our country today. That is why the Government has taken the measures I outlined earlier, all in an effort to take a large bite out of crime.

The benefits of all these measures I have outlined will not come easy or early. They will take time.

I assure you and other listeners, however, that the spectacular headlines notwithstanding, a simple analysis of the crime figures will indicate that the police are in fact continuing to improve in the number of arrests, charges and convictions for most crimes. That may not be enough to convince many of us, but **I can assure every St. Lucian that this Government will continue to dedicate the resources necessary to**

**strengthen our capacity to handle the crime situation.** All I ask is that all police officers try to do their job the best they can, and that you, as sons and daughters and citizens of St. Lucia, do your best to give them the trust, confidence and support they will need to be more successful in tackling crime and easing our anxieties. But just remember: effectively tackling crime, whether sophisticated or simply brutal is not an overnight job. It takes time and resources, but most of all it requires

patience. The fact is, Trevor, the police need **your** help and that of other citizens. Will **you** help?

Just before I leave you, let me remind you that Prime Minister P.J. Patterson of Jamaica will be our official guest for two days this week. Let us welcome him with open arms and generosity of spirit. Traffic will be disrupted, so please be understanding and patient.

Until next Monday, do have a nice day and give the police your support, as of this week!

# Crime Fighting Measures

- ◆ A new Act to govern the structure and operations of the force will soon be established.
- ◆ Police Officers to be trained in the handling of evidence and scenes of crime.
- ◆ New and tough sentences have been introduced for the unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.
- ◆ A new Evidence Act has also been enacted to allow for the admissibility of evidence such as DNA.
- ◆ Modern and revolutionary Criminal Code containing 1,264 provisions.
- ◆ New legislation has been enacted to deal with money laundering and its associated evils.
- ◆ Government has enacted a Police Complaints Act.
- ◆ Government introduced a new Unit, the Beach Rangers.
- ◆ Rapid Response Units introduced.
- ◆ Forensic Unit and a Forensic Laboratory to be establish.
- ◆ Recruited over 150 new police officers between 1999 and 2001, at a cost of \$3.6 million.
- ◆ Moving to employ an additional 60 police officers this year.
- ◆ Will establish an SSU branch in the south of the island.
- ◆ New police stations have been constructed at Anse la Raye, Marchand and Vieux Fort.
- ◆ Five more police stations have been refurbished in Gros-Islet, Marigot, Canaries, Soufriere, Choiseul and Laborie.
- ◆ Construction will begin on three more new police stations this year in Dennery, Mabouya Valley and Micoud.
- ◆ Over \$800,000 allocated for the procurement of specialized equipment such as stun guns.
- ◆ Breathalysers to measure the alcohol level of persons suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol.
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Journalists viewing drugs confiscated from the recent Wilton's Yard raid

# US\$7.5 Million for Disaster Management in Saint Lucia

**St. Lucia is to receive a financial boost to help reduce its vulnerability to natural disasters. The assistance from the World Bank, will see the disbursement of US\$ 7.5 million dollars to help support St. Lucia's disaster preparedness and mitigation planning.**

The project will help communities in St. Lucia protect the most vulnerable households and the poor by enhancing the country's preparedness and response to such natural disasters like floods and hurricanes.

Director of the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO), Dawn French said that this would be the second phase of a disaster

management programme, which the government instituted last year.

Ms. French indicated that this year, NEMO would be assisted by the Project Co-ordinating Unit of the Ministry of Planning. According to Ms. French, the project will focus on three major areas.

Citing these as Physical Infrastructure, Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Vulnerability Assessments and Hazard Mapping, Ms. French said that some of these components would fall under NEMO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Physical Development, and that the number of agencies in both public and private sector would be looking at the Vulnerability Assessment

and Hazard Mapping. "It will be a very important tool for development both from a planning area from government of St. Lucia and Individuals", she said.

Financing for this second St. Lucia Disaster Management Project consists of a \$3.7 million dollar loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which is payable over a 15-year period, including five years grace, and a \$3.8 million, zero-interest credit from the International Development Association, payable in 30 years including ten years grace.

The second Saint Lucia Disaster

Management Project builds on the success of the first Adaptable Programme Loan Project in Saint Lucia, approved in 1998 through the Emergency Recovery and Disaster Management Programme (EDRMP). The EDRMP programme financed physical and institutional efforts to reduce disaster vulnerability and improve emergency preparedness and management in five countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. These are, Saint Lucia, Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

## US Promotional Campaign brings more visitors to Saint Lucia

**The St. Lucia Tourist Board has embarked on a new US Promotional Campaign initiative, providing special incentives for US visitors to make St. Lucia their holiday destination for the upcoming summer months.**

This new campaign entitled "Great Deal In Paradise - St. Lucia US Fall Promotion," is expected to highlight the many programmes and public relation exercises that the Tourist Board engages in, all in effort to promote and boost further, St. Lucia's image as a tourist destination.

Having recognised that over the years, there had been a decrease in tourism arrivals during the months of August, September and October, Senior Marketing Officer with the St. Lucia Tourist Board, Denise St. Hilaire said that as a result, the Board had collaborated with a number of other industry partners to organise an island-wide promotion, offering the visitors 25 per cent off their vacation experience.

"And as a result we have received support from 18 hoteliers, five tour companies offering seven tours, seven restaurants, and four car rental companies", Ms. St. Hilaire said, adding that they have all agreed to provide 25 per cent off their grades and services. The promotion, which was launched in the US in early May, allows bookings from May through to December 1st, with travels to take place between the 15<sup>th</sup> of August and the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. This is expected

to drive arrivals during the low months in St. Lucia.

According to the Marketing Manager of the St. Lucia Tourist Board, Ian Herman, the "Great Deal In Paradise" promotion targets four US cities. These are New York, Atlanta, Philadelphia and Chicago.

"New York primarily, because of the good air lift and the consistency of the numbers coming out of there", Mr. Ian Herman stressed, adding, "We have just introduced the new Delta service out of Atlanta, two flights weekly. This programme is going to support the air lift out of Atlanta". He adds further: "In Philadelphia, we are also serviced by US Airways. This programme is hopefully going to assist load factor coming out of that area. In Chicago, we've just gotten the news that Apple Vacation is going to introduce year-round flights out of that city, known as a very affluent community. This programme is certainly going to support the airlift out of the state of Illinois".

The Marketing plan involves, Tour Operator Co-op Marketing, Trade and Consumer Advertising, Billboard Advertising, TV Advertising Campaign, Nationwide Travel Agent Incentive, and Website Banner Advertising.

An estimated 40,948 visitors are expected on the island as a result of the "Great Deal in Paradise" campaign, with an increase of just over \$17 million. The estimated revenue during that period is over US\$ 727 million dollars.

# Ministries Move to Adopt Corporate Image

**As the Public Sector continues to implement the process of modernisation as part of changes taking place under the Public Sector Reform initiative, heads of departments from the Inland Revenue and the Ministries of Commerce and Tourism, brought the curtains down on a two day retreat on Leadership Development, which began on Monday June 21, 2004.**

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Investment and Consumer Affairs Ms. Allison Jean, said that Heads of Departments were integral to the process of ushering in a new paradigm of corporate leadership.

"We are moving away from the mundane public service orientation into a more flexible, more dynamic, more corporate focussed, more customer oriented type of regime; so all of these activities are geared towards that. As you know, we are repositioning ourselves, we are reorienting ourselves and as such, we have to reorient our skills in order to achieve that," she said.

Currently, the Ministry of Commerce has designated a special team headed by local consultant, Mrs. Agnes Francis with the task of developing a new strategic plan for the Ministry.

## Caricom Heads to Discuss CSME, Sugar at Upcoming Meeting

**Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), have a packed agenda before them for the upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM, which runs from July 4<sup>th</sup> through to 7<sup>th</sup> in Grande Anse, Grenada.**

High on the agenda will be a focus on the Caricom Single Market and Economy (CSME), which is geared towards creating a single economic space among Caricom states, and the challenges facing the regional sugar industry.

In light of the importance of the sugar issue, the European Union (EU) Sugar Protocol, which sets out the trade parameters for the export of sugar from the region, and which was created in the 1970's within the framework of an "indefinite" duration

is now being changed with serious consequences for Caricom Member States

Other matters to be considered by the Caricom Heads of Government include the restructuring of the Caribbean Festival of Arts (CARIFESTA) and issues pertaining to governance within the Community.

In a Press Release, Caricom

Secretary General, Edwin Carrington said that the Prime Ministerial Subcommittee on Cricket would meet to discuss the allocation of matches, and the sharing of proceeds from the 2007 Cricket World Cup in the Caribbean.

Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony is expected to attend the CARICOM Meeting.



Former Caricom Chairman, Prime Minister of Jamaica P.J. Patterson arrives in St. Lucia on Official Visit

# Ruby Yorke laid to rest



## Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony hosts 70 students from Dunnattor School at Official Residence, Vigie



# Government Big on Fighting Crime



## Crime Fighting Measures

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