



NATIONWIDE

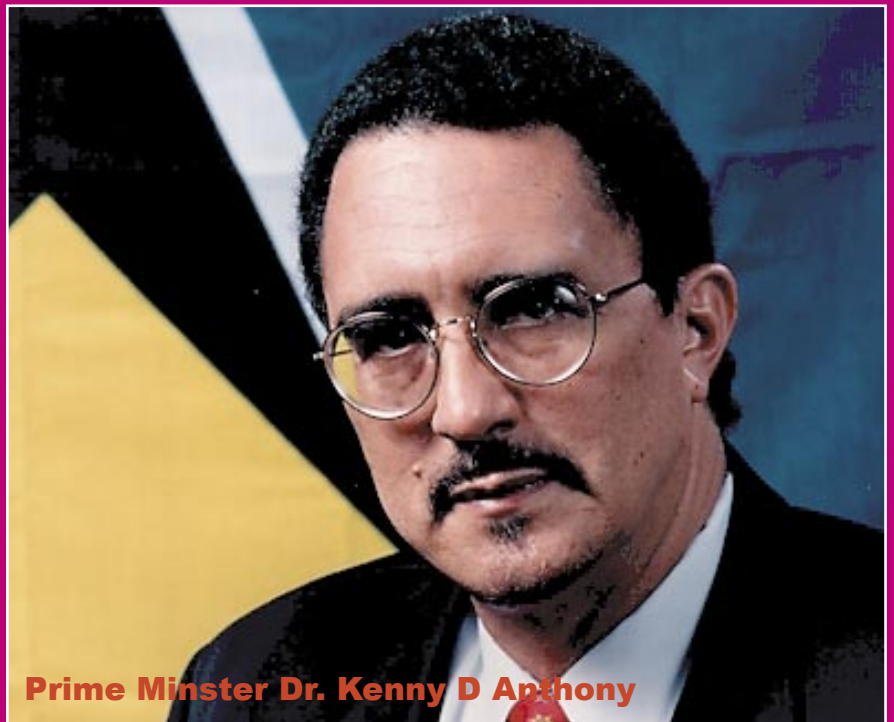
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PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED



Governor General Dame Pearlette Louisy



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D Anthony

GENERAL ELECTIONS 11TH DECEMBER

Governor General Dame Pearlette Louisy, on Friday November 17th, dissolved the St. Lucia Parliament, at the request of Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D Anthony, as he set the date for the island's next general elections. The Prime Minister, at a massive meeting of his ruling St. Lucia Labour Party, at the Castries Market steps on Thursday night, announced that the date for general elections was Monday December 11th 2006 and that nomination day would be Thursday November 30th 2006. The Prime Minister prefaced his announcement of the date with an address outlining his party's achievements during the last decade. The Prime Minister's address was carried live on Helen Television System and Radio 100 FM and marked the first occasion that a political meeting was broadcast live in St. Lucia. The text of the address follows.

“KEEP SAINT LUCIA MOVING”

Fellow St. Lucians, Friends and Well Wishers, I address you this evening from the historic steps of the Castries Market, the legendary home of the Saint Lucia Labour Party.

The Market Steps are not only the stomping ground of the St. Lucia Labour Party but are also home to several decades of rich St. Lucian history that ought not to be sidelined or erased from our memories.

My beloved people of St. Lucia, thank you for the magnificent turnout here tonight. I sense an air of expectancy. I feel it in my bones that we are about to make history once again!

The atmosphere here tonight reminds me of May 1997 when the country, in the depths of despair, turned to the St. Lucia Labour Party for hope, opportunity and progress.

A New Political Culture

As early as 1997 all the signs were there that a new political culture was emerging in the Caribbean to address the unprecedented challenges that globalization was bringing. People were sick and tired of the old politics that revolved around fooling the people every five years, doing nothing in office and then coming back and duping them again.

As early as 1997 our people had become more enlightened. They knew that the world was changing. They knew that our economy was in trouble. They knew that many of our political leaders were out of their depth. They knew that unless there was a new vision, a new source of energy and a new style of leadership, our beloved country would be swept away by the forces unleashed by globalization.

Our people were desperately looking for new leadership that offered a creative response to the challenges and the stability that

was necessary for consistent growth and development.

The country naturally turned to the St. Lucia Labour Party. Our philosophy, our ideology, our policies and our programmes captured the imagination of the people and we were swept to power on 23rd May 1997.

Fellow citizens of St. Lucia, friends,the truth is that in 1997 we undertook a monumental task. Let us never underestimate how difficult it is for a small developing state with limited human and natural resources to survive in the cut and thrust of the global market place.

Let us never underestimate what is required of a Government that had to deliver to an enlightened people with high expectations. In May 1997, we undertook to do in 10 years what it took the developed countries over 100 years to achieve!!!

My friends, when you come to judge our

performance on Elections Day please remember the rapidly changing context in which we have operated for the past 10 years and the time frame within which we have been asked to deliver.

Our Achievements

I want to start my end of term report by thanking you, the electorate, for the privilege of serving you during the decade that spanned the 20th and 21st centuries.

These have been challenging years but I am sure that for you and our country, these have been nine solid years of achievement.

The important point is that after nine years of battling for improvements in the standard of living and the quality of life of our people, the St. Lucia Labour Party is as committed and as strong as it was in 1997.

Continued on pages 2, 4 & 5



“Take 2 ” - A fifteen minute news review of the week.

Every Friday at 6.15 p.m. on **NTN**, Cablevision Channel 2.

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A fresh news package
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More Chinese Funding For Poverty Alleviation

The People's Republic of China made a second disbursement of funds to the government and people of Saint Lucia on Tuesday, for the funding of several poverty alleviation projects. The latest disbursement of US half a million dollars, follows a similar gesture made earlier this year for the same purpose, bringing the total amount to one million US dollars.

China's Ambassador to Saint Lucia His Excellency Gu Huaming, in

making the presentation to the Minister for External Affairs, noted his government's prompt response to Saint Lucia's request for assistance.

"Not long ago when the Ministry of External Affairs of Saint Lucia raised the request for additional funds I reported back to the Chinese government immediately. The Chinese government attaches importance to these requests and have accorded serious considerations to the request. When His Excellency Minister Lee Jow Sin visited

Saint Lucia, he confirmed that China would give these funds to Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony."

Minister for External Affairs Senator the Honourable Petrus Compton provided a status report on the projects, stating that at least 49 of 60 approved projects have already been completed.

"This is an initiative by the Ministry of External Affairs to work with the Government of China in developing a number of small but very impact -full projects throughout the length of breadth

of Saint Lucia, both by way of extending to the country, Chinese assistance so that our relations become deeper, become more meaningful and is felt at the community level and also to assist the government at poverty reduction."

The Poverty Reduction Fund is the executing agency for the projects which include construction of drains, footpaths and retaining walls, road works, water supply projects and infrastructural works to upgrade and maintain community facilities.

UK Should Officially Recognize West Indian War Contribution

Prim Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony has called for the United Kingdom to officially recognize the contribution made by West Indians in the two world wars. He made the call during the Annual Reunion he hosted for St. Lucian ex-servicemen and women at his official residence in Vigie on Sunday, following the formal Remembrance Day Ceremony and Parade at the Derek Walcott Square. The Prime Minister spoke against the backdrop of the United Kingdom's first Remembrance Day Memorial dedicated to the New Zealand's war dead.

"I believe that as I go through the pages of history, I am better able to understand our own contribution, the contribution of the Caribbean to their

war effort in such difficult circumstances. I hope one day it will be possible that just as war has brought us closer to the British, it has brought us closer to the French so too one day in England, there can be a tribute to those west Indians who fell for Britain in the Second World War primarily."

The Prime Minister expressed optimism that more awareness of the West Indian contribution will come to light through research and publications.

"I think that time has come and I hope that we are not going to be lost in the recesses of history and relegated to some corner, because as you heard even from that letter that was read, our people in the Caribbean contributed and they gave their heart and soul."

Meanwhile tribute was paid to Saint Lucia politician, researcher and writer Cephas "Ben" Bousquet who wrote the book "West Indian Women at war" and other publications on the history of West Indians in the world wars. Mr. Bousquet, a relative of the Prime Minister's Press Secretary Earl Bousquet, was remembered for his work in seeking recognition for the service of West Indians in the World Wars. He died in South Africa in June but will be honoured with a memorial service at Morne Coubaril next Saturday.

Secretary of the Saint Lucia branch of the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Service League Mrs. Dorothy Pilgrim was meanwhile presented with the silver medal of honour from French counterparts.



Police Force Needs Mid Level Management

A lack of management expertise, particularly at the middle management level, has been identified as one of the biggest problems facing the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force.

The observation has come from Minister with Responsibility for Home Affairs and Internal Security, Senator the Honourable Calixte George. The Minister was at the time addressing the local media on the deployment of retired British Police Officers who have now

joined the ranks of the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force.

Minister George stressed that the Police needs to make effective use of the resources that they have. "I believe that the middle level officers - the supervisors do not supervise and when the supervisors do not supervise that means you have slackness in the system, indiscipline and so on. So I believe there is need for strengthening the middle level supervisors in the force."

The Minister added that the incorporation of retired British police

officers into the ranks of the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force is a move to correct certain deficiencies within the force. "They are actually incorporated as officers of the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force. They are not consultants. They are really operational people and they were specially chosen for that. In the past we have had a lot of consultants coming in. After the consultants give you information and advice and so on they leave, but we believe that the incorporation and the active involvement of the officers

would leave some kind of legacy behind because they will be working with our existing officers."

According to Senator George, the arrival of the British officers will be no threat to the existing officers, adding that the new policemen will also be serving as mentors for members at all levels of the force.

The Minister said that this technical assistance from the United Kingdom will help government meet its priorities of security and crime fighting.

"KEEP SAINT LUCIA MOVING" *continued*

We are confident that our nation is a better country today than it was ten years ago.. Today, Saint Lucians can feel the benefits of the decade of positive transformation over which Labour has presided.

Economic Development

We are making progress in achieving the objective of making St. Lucia the number one place to live, work, study and enjoy oneself in the Caribbean.

Let me start with the economy, not because we are pre-occupied with material things, ...but because in a modern cash economy you simply cannot spend what you do not have.

In 1997, the Saint Lucian economy was in crisis, having experienced three straight years of stagnation. Agriculture had suffered its fifth consecutive year of decline.

The downward trend reflected the decline in banana production. More than 4000 farmers had left the industry amid much strife and bloodshed.

The manufacturing sector did not fare much better, having almost died due to its lack of competitiveness. Tourism represented the only flicker of hope on the otherwise bleak horizon.

In the nine years of our governance, GDP

has grown through peaks and troughs from 3.3% in 1998, to a record 5.4% in 2005. This year it is expected to surpass 6.0%.

Throughout the period, we have given unprecedented support to bananas, simply because we know how important the banana sector has been and still is to our people. In a little under ten years, we injected over \$140 million worth of support into the banana industry.

I do not want to go into the details of this support, but suffice it to say that no Government has ever done more for any single industry in any comparable period in our history.

We have also recognized the need to diversify agriculture. We have therefore given considerable support to the various other sectors, including fishing, poultry and livestock.

Manufacturing is generally considered an essential element of the economy because of the spin-offs in the form of feeder industries. Despite stiff international competition, manufacturing has enjoyed four consecutive years of expansion, fueled by growth in the food and beverage sector.

Continued on pages 4 & 5

House Passes Historic Labour Code

St. Lucia's House of Assembly on Monday voted for a historic piece of legislation – the island's first comprehensive Labour Code. Labour Minister, Velon John, presented the bill for its first reading when the House met on Tuesday November 7; it was then taken through its remaining stages on November 13th. Speaking during the debate on the Bill, leader of Government Business in the Saint Lucia House of Assembly, Hon. Mario Michel said the much talked about labour code was a sensible, reasonable and justifiable measure intended to modernize and reform existing labour law.

According to him: "This Labour Code seeks to do two things. One is to collect and consolidate existing labour law in Saint Lucia and secondly, to introduce some new measures to modernize and reform existing labour law. There are at present several pieces of legislation in which the labour laws of this country are contained, and the principle purpose of this legislation is to collect them into a single code to be referred to hereafter as the Labour Code". He added that the enactment of the new law will bring Saint Lucia into line with current and modern practices and with International Labour Conventions that the country has signed.

Meanwhile the New Labour Code has been hailed by Minister for Social Transformation, Culture and Local Government Hon-

ourable Menissa Rambally, as a document which addresses the concerns of ordinary workers.

Speaking during the House debate, the Minister said that she is heartened that the Labour Code will touch workers in all sectors of the society including the service industry.

"The code also addresses the issue of spilt shifts and occasional shifts and this again has been a bone of contention for some workers. The reality of our working environment now, Mr. Speaker, is that with the presence of the services industry, with the presence of, in particular the tourism industry, the issue as it relates to spilt shifts and occasional shifts has become a real issue for many workers in this country. This Labour Code is seeking to address that."

The Minister also noted that the legislation provides a safety net for both employers and employees, adding balance and definition to contentious issues. She indicated that the Labour Code should not be perceived to be a threat by employers in the country.

"So the Labour Code of 2006, Mr. Speaker is not necessarily targeted at Saint Lucian Employers or even employers who are currently operating in Saint Lucia. Successive governments have had a direct say in the negotiating and crafting a framework for existing companies to operate. What we have to do now is to



Hon. Mario Michel



Hon. Menissa Rambally

ensure that we set forth in law the provisions that will obtain henceforth and ensure that we seek to safe guard our environment- both employers and employees."

Minister Rambally also urged workers and employers to get a copy of the document so they can familiarise themselves with its content and see the ways in which they will benefit.

It is four years since work began on

the Labour Code and the bill was only brought to Parliament after wide ranging consultations with workers' and employers' organizations. These consultations ended two weeks ago. However the debate on the Labour Code was not without drama as members of the opposition UWP walked out of the House claiming that they had not been given sufficient time to read amendments to the Bill that had been made since its first reading.

Statement by Labour Minister Hon Velon John on **"The Sandals Affair"** November 9, 2006

On behalf of the people and Government of St. Lucia we will at this time comment on what has been termed the "Sandals Affair".

It is indeed regrettable that Sandals – a private company, has embarked on a course of action, that at this time has placed a substantial number of its employees in a situation of acute dislocation.

Though Sandals has the legal right to sever the employment nexus between it and its employees under those circumstances, yet in the interest of comity and goodwill between it and the

workers of this country, better thinking and reasoning should have prevailed.

The "Sandals" course of action has in my opinion undermined the principle of social dialogue and in some measure has posed a subtle threat to Caribbean Trade Unionism.

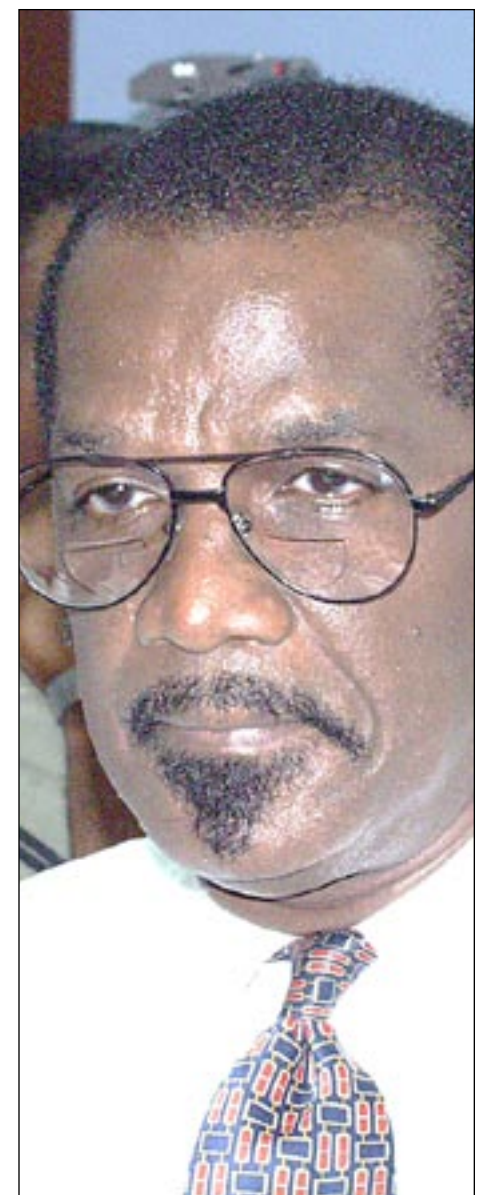
As I see it the industrial relations landscape must evidence a functional solidarity that facilitates the resolution of contentious matters between the social partners in a manner that does not exacerbate the employment expectations of workers on one hand, and the right to a reasonable profit on their investment, by employers.

It is the salubrious climate of co-operation and consultation that the Labour Code is endeavoring to address so that our workers are not disadvantaged by unilateral and unreasonable decisions taken by employers. In time there will be legislative provisions that will obviate the necessity or possibility of a "Sandals Affair".

At this time the Government will engage the outsourced companies in an attempt at facilitating the employment of those who are bearing the brunt of the "Sandals Affairs". As many of them that could be so employed, the better.

In closing, I must comment that in this X-mas season of goodwill towards men we are confronted with a situation that does violence to the ideals of brotherly love and concern

Let it be unequivocally stated that this Government is committed to the welfare of its workers and will resolutely advance their cause for social justice.



Hon. Velon John

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“KEEP SAINT LUCIA MOVING”

CONTINUATION OF ADDRESS BY HON. DR. KENNY D. ANTHONY, PRIME MINISTER IN ANNOUNCING THE DATE OF GENERAL ELECTIONS 2006

CASTRIES MARKET STEPS, CASTRIES THURSDAY, 16TH Nov, 2006

Our targeted support for this sector, with the systematic reduction of taxes, the granting of generous incentives, and the implementation of policies to encourage export, has yielded positive results. Our manufacturers are more vibrant and active now than at any other time in recent history.

Construction activity is a barometer of an economy's health. And it is in construction where we have seen the most impressive growth performance. In the past year, despite significant increases in the cost of building materials caused by fuel-led increases in shipping costs, construction's contribution to Gross Domestic Product has averaged well over 8 percent during our first two terms. St. Lucia has become one huge building site as ordinary citizens and business entrepreneurs felt confident to invest in bricks and mortar.

Other Economic Achievements would include: The construction of the Goods Distribution Free Zone in Vieux Fort; Completion of the Pointe Seraphine Redevelopment Berth; Extension of the George FL Charles Airport Terminal building; Resurfacing of the George FL Charles Airport runway; Rehabilitation of the Northern Wharf; The expansion of La Place Carenage and the Desmond Skeete Animation Centre; Introduction of a Financial Services Sector; Investment in Information Services; The construction of a new Ferry Terminal

We recognize that a country cannot enjoy development unless it has the essential infrastructure in place. We therefore invested heavily in developing the tertiary road network because we recognized its importance to economic and social life and its value as an important national asset. Under our tertiary road repair programme (TRRP) we upgraded no less than 34 tertiary roads across St. Lucia.

The following major highways were rehabilitated or are in the process of rehabilitation: The Soufriere to Vieux Fort Highway; The East Coast Highway; The Castries to Gros Islet Highway; The Beausejour Bella Rosa Ring Road.

In addition to this we have: Facilitated the installation of 8,000 new Street Lights; Installed lights on our highways, from Gros Islet to Vieux Fort and from Gros Islet to Soufriere in the west; Brought electricity to communities like Bouton that had been left in the dark for decades; Undertook Flood Mitigation Projects in Castries, Dennery, Anse La Raye and Vieux Fort; Commissioned new Sanitary Landfills at Deglos and Vieux Fort; Embarked on an ambitious Northern Water Supply Project to alleviate the water shortages in the most densely populated part of our island.

The Saint Lucia Labour Party has also championed the liberalization of the telecommunications sector. Today, nearly every citizen owns a cell phone, thanks to the policies of the Saint Lucia Labour Party. By liberalizing the sector we provided the opportunity for a wider section of Saint Lucians to access telephone and other telecommunication services, and to benefit from lower rates for phones.

Our efforts have resulted in the modernization of the economy through the various applications of Information Communications Technology, including the establishment of Call Centres, providing employment for hun-

dreds of young Saint Lucians and allowing more persons to travel on the information super highway.

We pursued a conscious decision to introduce and implement a door-to-door mail delivery service. The door-to-door delivery has been expanded and to date 40 communities receive this service.

Our Government established the National Television Network to provide a medium for Saint Lucians to be better informed on national social, cultural, economic and historical issues.

However, the new flagship of our economy has been and will remain tourism. During our last nine years in office we have developed a vibrant Tourism Sector. We have deliberately set about establishing the necessary environment that would give local and foreign investors the confidence to develop the industry.

The results have surpassed even our most optimistic expectations. Since our Government assumed office in 1997, the following hotels have either been built or completely refurbished: Sandals Grande Hotel, Coco Palm Hotel, Coco Creole Hotel, Almond Bay Resort, Coconut Bay Resort and Discovery at Marigot Bay.

In addition, a number of hotels have commenced construction or expansion and are due to open soon, such as: Cotton Bay Resorts on Cas En Bas Beach, Bay Garden Suites, The Landings and Club St. Lucia.

We have also had record visitor arrivals. Total visitor arrivals to St. Lucia surpassed 800,000 in 2004. Last year the stay-over arrivals topped 300,000 for the first time in our history.

To make sure that hotel workers benefit from the boom in tourism, we removed, as early as 1998, the taxes on the tips earned by hotel workers.

We also provided special incentives to rental operators and taxi drivers to allow them to improve their fleet of vehicles. Today, taxi drivers can boast of new vehicles thanks to the Saint Lucia Labour Party.

But above all we have tried to spice up our tourism product and to offer visitors a varied and unique Caribbean experience. Sports Tourism has been one of the major innovations we stimulated and oversaw in St. Lucia.

A new Golf Course is now under construction at Le Paradis in Praslin, in preparation for the commencement of construction of the hotel.

The jewel in the crown has been the Beausejour Cricket Ground. We have used sports as a vehicle for boosting tourism and bringing tangible benefits to our people.

We have invested heavily in sporting infrastructure. Prior to 1997, Saint Lucia had no world-class sporting facilities. Today we boast an Olympic standard National Stadium in Vieux Fort and the best cricket ground in the Caribbean, in the Beausejour Cricket Ground.

Since its official opening in 2002, the Beausejour Cricket Ground has played host to India, New Zealand, England, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, Australia and Pakistan touring teams. All have hailed it as the best in the Caribbean and one of the best in the world as far as facilities for teams and match officials are concerned.

In 2005, Beausejour Cricket Ground was selected by the International Cricket Council as the venue for Opening Round matches in the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup involving England, New Zealand, Kenya and Canada, and the place where the semi-final between the top ranking team and the fourth qualifier will take place.

This year, the Beausejour Cricket Ground made history once again when it became the first cricket ground in the Caribbean to host a Day-Night Cricket One Day International match.

A legacy project of the 2007 Cricket World Cup will be the construction of Saint Lucia's first Indoor Sports Facility at Beausejour. This facility will provide our local basketballers, volleyballers, netballers and table tennis players, among others, with a high quality venue to further improve their skills.

The construction and upgrading of playing facilities in almost every community has been a consequence of the focus on sports by the St. Lucia Labour Party administration.

On top of all of this impressive investment, 160 properties have received incentives for development in time for the 2007 Cricket World Cup and 25 new Bed and Breakfast properties are also expected to come on stream for the World Cup.

And I want you to ask us: "How did these economic changes impact on the ordinary voter?"

My answer is that they have created wealth and employment for our people. This has resulted in unemployment reaching a fifteen-year low of 15.3 % ...and NOT 25% as the UWP propagate. Sometimes, you have to wonder whether the UWP leadership live in Saint Lucia.

Creating A Caring Society

This focus on people, this concern for the welfare of our citizens has been the hallmark of our two terms in office.

In 1997, our Government inherited a country whose social infrastructure had been neglected.

In almost every area - education, health care, housing, care of the elderly, social development, youth, sports and culture - we had witnessed a gross underdevelopment of our ability and our potential. So we immediately set about creating a more caring and compassionate society. The results are one of the proudest legacies of our administration. Today, Saint Lucia is a more egalitarian and cohesive society than it has ever been in our history.

A Revolution in Education

Recognising the importance of education as a vehicle out of poverty, we immediately sought to and succeeded in expanding education opportunities for all Saint Lucians. We abolished the shift system, built several new schools and trained more teachers. To ensure that students were not merely allowed to pass through the system we introduced national performance standards for primary school students. To stop hunger and poverty from preventing children from performing better at school we expanded the school-feeding programme in a number of primary schools. We also developed a book bursary programme and textbook rental programmes in several schools. Most important we introduced Universal Secondary Education.

Not only have we expanded the number of students receiving a secondary education, we have also expanded the numbers receiving university training. Over the past decade, this government has increased the number of offers of under-graduate scholarships to various Universities in the USA, Mexico, Venezuela, the French Antilles, Cuba, the UK and Canada. There are over six hundred Saint Lucians attending universities abroad with the support of the Government of St. Lucia.

Additionally, we have introduced the National Skills Development Centre (NSDC) in 2001 to train unemployed youth in technical and vocational programmes. To date, NSDC has trained over 2,000 formerly unemployed individuals.

Through the NSDC, we established 6 Learning Enrichment Centres in Grande Riviere, Gros Islet, Vide Boutelle Castries, La Croix Maingot Castries, Patience Mon Repos, Soufriere and Reunion Choiseul.

Even for those who have long left school, we have established the National Enrichment and Learning Programme, popularly known as NELP.

For the St. Lucia Labour Party, education is a lifelong process. We intend making provision for our people from the cradle to the grave.

Addressing Health Care Needs

No previous government has had the courage and vision to address the health care needs of Saint Lucians as comprehensively as we have done. Since 1997, the Government of the Saint Lucia Labour Party has been revolutionizing the health care system in Saint Lucia and getting it set to become world class.

In pursuit of this goal we have: Eliminated doctor's fees at all Health Centres; Redesignated and improved our Accident and Emergency (Casualty) Care Service; Refurbished 15 Health Centres islandwide; Trained over 75 doctors and recently provided opportunities for over 250 Saint Lucians to study nursing; Provided free screening and free diabetes and anti-hypertension medication; Screened, free-of-charge, over 8000 Saint Lucians for various eye diseases and made it possible for over 2000 nationals to receive free eye surgery in Cuba; We provided massive in-service training for all health care workers; We established a Medical Complaints Commission to deal with complaints about health care professionals and workers.

Caring for the Elderly

The neglect of the needy by previous administration was perhaps most glaring example of how it dealt with vulnerable people in our society. Our Government identified this group as one in need of special assistance. As part of its mission to create a more caring society we undertook the following: Increased the allowance received by persons on Public Assistance by 100%; Repaired 273 houses owned by elderly persons under a Home Repair and Care of the Elderly Programme; Established a Women's Support Centre to protect victims of domestic violence; Provided financial support to HIV/AIDS positive persons in need; Implemented a national protocol and procedures to address child abuse, resulting in more cases being identified and addressed; Launched a Foster Care and Adoption Programme to protect vulner-

able children; Exempted pensioners from the payment of Property Taxes; Relocated the residents of Black Mallet after the unfortunate land slippage in that area; Exempted over 5,000 low-income earners from Income Tax by increasing the taxable threshold to \$16,000.00; Increased Maternity Benefits; Constructed 7 Human Resource Development Centres (HRDCs); and Built 6 new Day Care Centres.

Strengthening National Security

We accept that crime is an issue for every Saint Lucian. But many have short memories. So bad had the crime situation already become under the previous administration, that the most senior member of that administration, John Compton, now Sir John Compton, described Saint Lucia as the murder capital of the Western Hemisphere.

This was the situation the Labour Government inherited in 1997. Since that time we have done many things to protect and secure Saint Lucian citizens.

We expanded the Police Force by training over 450 new officers. We also trained our police in the handling of evidence and crime scenes.

This government recruited a team of ten highly skilled former British Police Officers to provide ongoing training and assistance for our police officers.

We have constructed new police stations at Anse la Raye, Marchand and Vieux Fort and refurbished 6 more in Gros-Islet, Marigot, Canaries, Soufriere, Choiseul and Laborie.

A new Police Station has just been opened in Micoud. Construction has commenced on two new stations in the Mabouya Valley and Dennery Village.

We also invested in a modern Frame Relay System to ensure that Police Stations and Divisions can communicate with each other.

We constructed new Fire Stations in Dennery, Vieux Fort, Gros Islet and Micoud.

We improved the legislative framework within which law enforcement operated. We were bold. We enacted a new Evidence Act, a new Criminal Code, a new Firearms Act, and legislation to intercept the communications of the drug barons in our midst.

To improve on the safety of residents and visitors the Saint Lucia Labour Party Government introduced Rapid Response Units, manned by former police officers and special constables. We also introduced a new Unit, the Beach Rangers.

Since coming into office, the Saint Lucia Labour Party Government has bought 45 new motor vehicles and 23 new motor cycles for the Police and has recently placed an order for another 55 motor vehicles and 15 motorcycles.

Being a people-centred Party we have put greater emphasis on the rehabilitation of criminals. Since we opened the Bordelais Correctional Facility we no longer hear the horror stories about criminals escaping on a daily basis or prisoners rioting and endangering our national security.

Our Government created the National Crime Commission to assist the police in the development and implementation of a nationwide community-policing programme. It also collected and compiled vital statistics that the Police use to target their crime prevention strategies and efforts.

But our work in this regard, is far from complete. The Labour Party administration shares the outrage of citizens over increased anti-social behavior. This is not a St. Lucian phenomenon, but it is a challenge we are determined to confront and overcome.

Currently, the Government is carefully studying the responses of our CARICOM neighbours to the problems of crime in their countries.

I know that in Barbados and in Trinidad and Tobago the Governments are exploring ways of instilling traditional values, which seem to have been eroded by cultural penetration via the mass media in recent years.

Suffice to say that a re-elected Labour administration will, as priority Number One, take the following specific steps in its fight to return respect for law and order and greater peace of mind to the citizenry of St. Lucia.

We will (1) Enforce a zero-tolerance approach to crime and violence; (2) Explore the possibility of introducing a National Youth Service Programme for all young people going through our education system; (3) Get communities more involved in their own policing; (4) Increase the rewards for good citizenship while at the same time stiffening the penalties for breaking the law; 5. Amend our Constitution to enforce hanging.

International Recognition

Citizens and Residents of St. Lucia, your Labour Administration committed itself to restoring national pride and confidence in facing the challenges of the future. We said we would do this by raising Saint Lucia's profile in the international community. Tonight, we can report with pride that we have accomplished that mission with distinction.

Saint Lucia attained its crowning achievement in External Relations when in 2003/2004, it assumed the Presidency of the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Saint Lucia is the smallest member of the International Community to hold this position and made all small States proud because of the success of this Presidency, which was held by our very own, Honourable Julian R. Hunte.

Also, a positive outcome of our establishment of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China has been the gift of a Goods Distribution Free Zone, a National Stadium, and a new Mental Health Facility. On completion of the Mental Health Facility, China will construct a state-of-the-art Cultural Complex for Saint Lucia. Yet, the UWP plan to return us to the embrace of Taiwan.

Our continued friendship with the Government and people of Cuba has resulted in the training of hundreds of young Saint Lucian men and women who otherwise would not be able to receive University training and professional qualifications. Over 550 Saint Lucian students are currently in Cuba undergoing training in nursing, medicine, engineering and other fields.

As a result of the sterling work of committed Saint Lucians, under the guidance and direction of our Government, Saint Lucia's Twin Pitons were accorded the prestigious status of a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Crowning Moment

One of our crowning achievements in this second term relates to the passage earlier this week of The Labour Code 2006.

This is one of the most far reaching and progressive pieces of legislation enacted in this country since Adult Suffrage. Yet it must be noted by the electorate of St. Lucia that when it mattered most; when the moment of truth came for those who stand in the corner of the workers to demonstrate that support, the "ayes" came from only one side of the chamber. Indeed, the benches on the other side were empty. The electorate of St. Lucia would do well to ponder on this development.

Thank You All

In conclusion, I want to stress that the St. Lucia Labour Party could not have done all this on its own. We have made history by transforming the economy without losing sight of the personal needs of our people. Our record over the last nine years is not perfect. As human beings, we made mistakes. But, by any objective analysis, the good that we did far outweighed the shortcomings or errors. The balance sheet is in our favour.

At the end of the day, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have tried our best. But, we also know that we will do even better. Now that we have laid the foundation for growth, I am confident that this country will take off in a big way during the next five years.

I therefore want to thank all those who have supported and co-operated with us during the last nine years. I thank the Ministers of Government, Members of Parliament and the leaders in our economic, religious, educational and social sectors.

I thank too the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force, even though they have, on some occasions, caused us disappointment. I thank too our Fire Service, even if they caused us dismay.

I thank our public servants who have worked in very trying circumstances to translate our policies into programmes and action that touched the lives of our people.

Above all I want to thank the people of St. Lucia, all the people for putting their faith in us. We reiterate that we are the Government of the people, not some of the people but ALL THE PEOPLE OF ST. LUCIA.

The Future Looks Bright

Fellow St. Lucians, friends ...as I reflected on this speech over the past few days, it impacted on me how much has been achieved in such a short period of time. Do you remember what it was like in 1997? Now, I want you to cast your mind forward to 2011. What do you see?

I cannot promise you pie in the sky. But now that we have laid the economic foundation for development we have carefully designed education as the vehicle to take us forward. I can categorically promise that we shall increase the opportunities for St. Lucians to use their world-renowned intelligence to pull themselves out of poverty.

Indeed, I give you my commitment that in its third term of office, the St. Lucia Labour Party will focus on:

Laying the basis, so that by 2010 a significant percentage of families in Saint Lucia have a son or daughter who is a University Graduate;

Reduce the unemployment rate below 10%; Ensuring that every family can have an opportunity to own a piece of land to build a home;

Ensuring that very child has access to a computer; Making sure that crime and violence is reduced to enable St. Lucians to enjoy their prosperity without fear of threats to their person or their property.

By now it must be clear that what is emerging in St. Lucia is the carefully drawn-up plan of the Labour Party to bring first, political and social stability to this country; then economic growth; and finally the inclusion of all St. Lucians in all the good things that this country has to offer.

So far we have completed stages one and two. The St. Lucia Labour Party now stands ready to lead you on to stage three.

Exercising Your Constitutional Rights

My friends, tonight, I will invite the people of St. Lucia to exercise their constitutional rights and elect a new Government.

I know over the past four years, some people became impatient and wanted results immediately. Basic economics and history has taught us that the development of small societies is a painstaking exercise. Let me remind you that those countries, which have experienced real development, invested for at least 20 years before they began to reap the benefits. For example, Barbados experienced prosperity in the 1980's - twenty years after massive investment in education in the 1960's. We have tried to speed up the process in St. Lucia. We want to start reaping after 10 years.

My advice to St. Lucian voters is do not abandon hope and refuse to vote, or worst still, gamble with your future by turning back the hands of time.

If you choose any of these options you could be setting back this country by up to 25 years. The reality is that by not voting you could end up with what you definitely do not want.

You must reject any and all efforts to take this country back. "Yesterday's Men" do not have a clue about the new world order in which we live. They want to fight today's battles with yesterday's weapons. They have no vision, no energy.

There is only one option open to voters in St. Lucia. You must vote for peace, progress and prosperity. The current administration has demonstrated its capacity to deliver just that.

That's why I say tonight: "Keep Saint Lucia Moving". Fellow St. Lucians, the second term of this Labour Administration is drawing to an end. There is plenty more work for us to do, but we need a fresh mandate.

It is against this backdrop that I shall advise Her Excellency, the Governor General, to dissolve the Parliament of St. Lucia, effective tomorrow, Friday, the 17th day of November 2006.

I shall further advise Her Excellency: (1) to issue a writ for the holding of General Elections in St. Lucia; and (2) that Thursday, November 30th, 2006 be Nomination Day.

I pray, my people, for free, fair and peaceful elections. Fellow Saint Lucians, the time has come to ring the bell! Citizens, residents and well wishers, the date for general elections in the simply beautiful isle of St. Lucia will be Monday, the 11th day of December, 2006. Good night and May God bless you all. I thank you.

STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & HOUSING, HONOURABLE FERGUSON JOHN TO MARK THE OPENING OF ENERGY WEEK 2006 NOVEMBER 2006

PRACTICE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Fellow Saint Lucians, when I addressed you in November 2005, to mark the start of Energy Week, I made reference to the steep increase in world oil prices. As expected, this increase spilled over into the local economy, and as a result Saint Lucians experienced, among other things, a hike in bus fares.

In the year that has elapsed, some of us appear to have grown accustomed to the prices we now pay at the pump, and for electricity consumption, generally we have made little or no attempt to adjust our lifestyles. In other words, it remains business as usual.

Those of us keeping track of international oil prices will be aware that the world market continues to be unstable. This instability should only serve to underscore, in our minds, the vulnerability of small countries to external economic factors. Simply put, our supply of imported oil and the price at which we obtain it can easily be disrupted by distant conflicts, natural disasters or collective decisions by the oil-exporting nations to manipulate the number of barrels produced daily.

Energy is an important input in the

development process as we need it to carry out economic activities in every sector and to perform tasks in our homes. It is also true; however, that we currently rely almost exclusively on imported petroleum to drive the various sectors in our economy. Therefore, if our energy supply is vulnerable to the vagaries of the world oil market, it stands to reason that our future development is similarly at risk.

When we own an expensive or precious item, it is natural for us to cherish it and to handle it carefully. Energy is a precious resource and so, too, should be our attitude towards energy resources. Energy is becoming increasingly costly and is at the heart of our existence. We need to manage our use of it more carefully.

We all need to make an effort to use our energy resources carefully and wisely. Small actions, such as turning off a light can make a difference in the end. We should also be more selective and choose energy-efficient appliances in order to reduce our demand for electricity. We should also adopt energy conservation measures when we drive. For example, we should walk short distances, ensure that our tyres are proper-

ly inflated, as these will greatly reduce the amount of petrol that a vehicle will consume. Further, we should be mindful to purchase electrical appliances with the energy conservation 'Star'. This is a good indication that an electrical appliance is efficient in energy consumption.

However, energy management goes beyond simply cutting back on our usage. It calls for the realization that energy is a precious and finite resource, and that we must optimize its use in order to preserve its availability.

Further, energy management calls for an integrated approach to energy consumption. This new approach adopts the best practices of sustainable energy consumption and development.

Indeed, the government of Saint Lucia and my Ministry are committed to developing new and renewable energy resources in an effort to establish Saint Lucia as a "Sustainable Energy Demonstration Country".

In this regard, my Ministry is in the final stages of drafting an "Energy Sector Policy and Strategy for Saint Lucia." This new policy will seek to achieve, among other things, the following: (1) The diversification of the energy base by developing renewable forms of energy such as Wind energy, hydro-electric energy and biomass fuels; (2) The development of indigenous renewable energy resources such as geothermal energy; (3) Higher efficiency in energy production, conversion and use with the overall objective of reducing the energy intensity; and (4) The reduction of the adverse environmental effects and pollution that energy consumption brings, by rehabilitating existing energy sector facilities.

In adopting an integrated sustainable approach to energy management we will achieve increased efficiency in the consumption of energy in the most critical areas of our lives. Also, we will ensure that the energy consumed, is done



Hon Ferguson John

in a sustainable manner, with minimal environmental effects, and an adequate supply for future generations.

My fellow Saint Lucians I invite you to actively take part in this energy awareness week. Activities for the Week include a panel discussion on "Energy Management for Sustainable Development", on the National Television Network NTN, and a supplement in our national newspapers. These discussions should prove to be thought-provoking and insightful, especially in light of the current global situation.

Again, I encourage you, in this energy awareness week, to make a conscious effort to practice energy efficiency. It is my hope that this new energy consciousness will continue beyond this week to the foreseeable future.

Let us all work towards achieving sustainable energy for the good of present and future generations.

I take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and educational Energy Awareness Week. Thank you and good night/day.



A petrol station

Ministers of The Environment Meet In The BVI

St. Lucia's Minister of Environment Fergusson John chaired the tenth meeting of OECS Environment Ministers which took place in Tortola, British Virgin Islands on Friday (November 17th 2007). The Ministers, who make-up the OECS Environmental Policy Committee (EPC), focused on current pertinent issues related to environmental management and sustainable development.

An involved discussion on the emerging role of the Ministers in the context of the New OECS Economic Union Treaty was a major item on the

agenda. Ambassador Charles Maynard of Dominica led discussions on this item, following which the Ministers deliberated on specific areas in the environmental protocol such as disaster, energy and maritime issues.

Another highpoint of the meeting was the first official presentation of two OECS instruments, the Benchmarking Tool (B-Tool) on Disaster Risk Management (supported by USAID) and the revised version of the St George's Declaration (SGD) of Principles for Environmental Sustainability.

The Ministers also reviewed a number of issues that fall within the

ambit of the OECS Environment and Sustainable Development portfolio. These include environmental management and planning, biodiversity and planning, environment and capacity development, sustainable livelihoods and disaster management. In particular, Ministers will be asked to endorse the work of the OECS Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (ESDU) and to note or recommend priority areas for further inclusion into the work plan.

The Ministers also dialogued with a number of regional and international agencies who provided a summary of

their mandate and an update on their contributions to the environmental management portfolio of the region.

The one-day meeting of Ministers included senior environmental officials, relevant regional stakeholders and international donor agencies. Prior to that meeting the OECS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Environmental issues also gathered in Tortola for two days of talks which began on Wednesday and Thursday. The TAC normally comprises Chief Environment Officers and Permanent Secretaries from the Ministry of Environment.



SLMDA Tells Students: “TELL SOMEONE”

Some 700 students of the Camille Henry Memorial Primary School on Monday morning heard the “Good Touch; Bad Touch” message of The St. Lucia Medical and Dental Association (SLMDA) Child Sexual Abuse campaign. This is the first of several schools which will be visited by members of the association in order to spread the word of the negative effects of sexual abuse on children. In this regard the Association is collaborating with the

Ministry of Education, HRD, and Youth & Sports.

President of the SLMDA, Dr. Leslie Bishop, who conducted the morning at the school’s assembly, spoke to the students in different groups, according to grade level. Dr. Bishop’s overriding message to the kids was that children should “tell” whenever an adult touches them (bad touch) in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable, embarrassed, or if that touch hurts or does not feel right. She alerted them especially to touches that were done in secret. “Any

touch that is done in secret and if an adult tells you no one must know, then that is a bad touch. You must tell. People who give you bad touches will say to you ‘you must not tell’ or that it is your fault. Do not listen to them. Scream and shout “no” and tell someone,” she advised. She told the students that a “bad touch can damage you and you can never get better.”

Principal, Mrs. Noelina Louis says she supports the initiative by the SLMDA and says the message of the SLMA strengthens what students are taught in the regular Family Life curriculum. Many of the children danced as the SLMDA’s catchy jingle played on the loudspeakers. The jingle was used as one of the tools to impart information to students. Children in the lower grades (K-Grade3) giggled with embarrassment as the names of private parts were mentioned and Mrs. Louis explained that it was “alright to say, penis, breast and vagina, because they are all parts of our bodies, and you should be able to say them just as easily as you would say face. You should not feel embarrassed to use these words.” Later Mrs. Louis remarked that with children knowing the difference between a good touch and a bad touch, this can impede attacks by would be predators. But she added that the campaign needs to continuously be

sharing messages and strategies with children. “We need to be a step ahead at all time because abusers are always thinking of ways to lure children to take advantage of them.” Dr. Bishop answered several questions from students in Grades 4-6.

A parent who was on hand as the assembly was in progress, Ms. Catherine Danzie, says the SLMDA and the schools need to be complimented on such a campaign. “If we don’t talk about it and tell our children how to deal seriously with molesters, we are actually on the side of molesters rather than protecting our children.” Similar messages will be delivered to other schools throughout the term. As part of the SLMDA’s campaign a School Essay Competition for Primary and Secondary students based on the theme “Good Touch-Bad Touch. Know the Difference is being organized as well as a skit competition for children in Special Education schools.

In addition to the schools campaign the SLMDA will host a public panel discussion on the topic: “Your Role in the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse” at the NIC Conference Room, on Friday, November 17, 2006 at 7.00pm. (Visit our website at: www.slmda.org)

Child’s Rights Week Observed in St. Lucia

Greater prominence is being given to children’s rights during November 13th to the 20th, declared as Child’s Rights week. One of the activities during that week, will be the promotion of child health clinics on the island.

Community Paediatrician and Manager of the National Child and Adolescent Health Program, Dr. Jacqueline Bird, is encouraging parents to register their children with their nearest community child health clinic, whether they seek private care in the main or not.

“We really do like to know that the children are registered because it is the best place to look after them, and the best place to keep their health records. So that’s one way we are celebrating it. You may have heard about child sexual abuse, the horrors, and its prevention. The St. Lucia Medical and Dental Association is also recognizing child rights week by launching the Child Sexual Abuse campaign during this month of November,” Dr. Bird said.

Child’s Rights Week provides an opportunity to reaffirm the commitment to children and their safety. The week culminates on November 20th—Universal Children’s Day—the day on which the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959.

According to Dr Bird, “while the UN can’t really sanction governments when they do not make sure that those rights are fulfilled, it does impose certain obligations on governments, who are signatories to the convention, to respect children’s’ rights. There is a very harsh and stringent reporting process that really is as good as a sanction when governments do not comply.”

However, while laying down standards, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child takes into account the different cul-

tural, social, economic and political realities of individual states. According to the Unit-

ed Nations “Rights” are things every child should have or be able to do. Those rights are

listed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as 54 Articles or statements.



School children

UHC Observes World Diabetes Day

The Universal Health Care Programme this week joined in activities world wide in observance of World Diabetes Day on Tuesday Day November 14th. The UHC teamed up with the Diabetes and Hypertension Association in facilitating the set up of special screening desks at health centres and selected banks on that day. One of the objectives of this year’s campaign was to underscore the message that diabetics and persons at risk of diabetes deserve the best quality of education, prevention and care.

Meanwhile the Universal Health Care Program is continuing to provide free

screening services, as part of its Diabetes Awareness Program. Now that most of the adult screening has been completed, screening services, according to Manager of the Universal Health Care Program Jeanette Hughes, have commenced in schools on the island.

The UHC Manager is appealing to St. Lucians to make it their business to get screened for diabetes, an important exercise in the management of the disease. She said:

“Follow-up testing is also very important; this would be for persons whose glucose readings were above the normal level during the screening. Those persons are

expected to return to the health centre or hospital for screening; because you need to need to know your status. And we also need to encourage persons who have been diagnosed with the disease to manage the disease properly because it is not a death sentence, you just have to make a few changes to your life style, but you can enjoy life with diabetes.”

The UHC program has announced that it will be sponsoring diabetic testing machines for at least four diabetics who will be identified during the Diabetes and Hypertension Association’s screening exercise in the month of November.

Huge WTM Demand For Information On Saint Lucia For Cwc 2007



The Beasejour Cricket Ground

Information on Saint Lucia, which will host Group Stage matches as well as Semi-Final 2, in the 2007 Cricket World Cup in the West Indies, was in great demand at the World Travel Market held in London last week. The ICC Cricket World Cup 2007 family was out in full force during World Travel Market (WTM), showcasing the tournament and the nine Host Venues at the global expo for the tourism and travel industry.

Currently counting down to the end of Phase 2 of Public Ticketing for ICC CWC 2007 on November 30, 2006, a number of the Local Organising Committees (LOCs) seized the opportunity to promote next year's Event at the annual extravaganza. LOC officials also met with Official Travel Agents (OTAs) and Official Hospitality Agents (OHAs) which are offering packages for CWC 2007, to get first hand knowledge on sales and conducted various media interviews.

Tourism & Hospitality Manager of Saint Lucia's LOC, Daune Charlery-John. Said: "There is a lot of interest in Saint Lucia and cricket. The Semi-Final in Saint Lucia was oversubscribed during the first phase of Public Ticketing and bookings are looking good for

the England-New Zealand match during the Group Stage. We are looking at the trends (regarding persons booking to come to Saint Lucia) so we can prepare ourselves for the thousands of fans who will be coming."

She added: "Our recent promotions have focused heavily on the Group Stage with (Saint Lucia hosting) a full calendar of exciting community activities to complement the tournament."

Apart from liaising with OTAs at WTM "to see how best we can support them," Charlery-John revealed that Saint Lucian delegates also collaborated with the New Zealand and Kenyan tourist boards as cricket teams from those countries will be based in Saint Lucia.

CEO of Antigua & Barbuda LOC, George Goodwin, noted that occasions such as WTM are "paramount" in helping Host Venues "bring up ticket sales."

"The enquiries we have gotten indicate there is a high level of interest among people, regarding coming to Antigua. These have been either direct enquiries or enquiries through hotels or the companies selling (CWC) packages," he said, adding that there was a "positive feeling not just about CWC 2007 but about tourism as a whole in

the country."

"We have linked the promotion of the destination with the Cricket World Cup activities next year and this has gone well."

CEO of Jamaica's LOC, Robert Bryan, agreed that WTM was "a glorious opportunity" to cap his country's marketing efforts for CWC 2007. He noted that the overall presence of the LOCs and ICC CWC WI 2007 Inc. – the latter being represented by its chairman, Ken Gordon, who toured the trade fair last Tuesday – "is a big Caribbean statement."

"There's a great amount of interest in Cricket World Cup, not only from the market here in the UK but also from the Indian sub continent. What has surprised me is the number of persons from the sub continent who have said that they have already booked to come to the Caribbean and who want to know what else to expect – apart from cricket," said Bryan.

Addressing that question at a presentation on CWC 2007, Barbados LOC CEO, Stephen Alleyne, listed a variety of cultural and other activities which will take place in Barbados during the tournament, including the premiere of two films, performing-arts concerts, craft markets and street parties.

Meanwhile, Bryan lauded the role of West Indies cricketing legends, such as Sir Garry Sobers, Sir Vivian Richards, Joel Garner, Gordon Greenidge, Rev Wes Hall, Richie Richardson and Courtney Walsh, in promoting CWC 2007 for their respective nations.

"It's fantastic to see these former players – who took West Indies cricket to international heights – now being so prominent in the Caribbean's marketing strategy for the tournament," he stated.

Sir Garry noted that ICC CWC 2007 is "a great opportunity" for the Caribbean to get "tremendous international exposure" and give regional tourism a vital boost.



THIS WEEK ON NTN

Sat. Nov. 18th to Fri. Nov. 24th 2006
NTN – PROVIDING INFORMATION YOU NEED

The GIS discusses food security and other issues relevant to hosting Cricket World Cup 2007 - Sat. Nov. 18th, 9:30 a.m.

Want to know how best to deal with diabetes and hypertension? We discuss these issues in detail - Sun. Nov. 19th, 11:00 a.m.

The GIS speaks with Co-ordinator of the SALCC – Division of Technical Education & Management Studies – Mon. Nov. 20th, 6:15 p.m.

Wanted: Hearts & Homes- A look at the how Foster Care operates in St. Lucia - Tues. Nov. 21st, 6:30 p.m.

Land Reform in St. Lucia: A 21st Century Model – Wed. Nov. 22nd, 8:00 p.m.

The GIS discusses issues pertaining to adoption in St. Lucia - Thurs. Nov. 23rd, 8:00 p.m.

Young people throughout St. Lucia gather at a summit and openly discuss issues that affect their development – Fri. Nov. 24th, 8:30 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 and then click on the NTN icon.

POST OFFICE NOTICE - CHRISTMAS 2006 STAMP ISSUE

The Public is informed that an issue of stamps commemorating Christmas 2006 shall be released for sale at all Post Office Outlets from Thursday 16th November 2006. The issue comprises a set of two (2) stamps reflecting the theme "Folk Songs" as follows:

0.95cents -illustrates a choir group; \$2.00 - depicts Saint Lucia's Queen of folk singing, Dame Sesenne Descartes backed up by a musical folk group.

FIRST DAY COVERS - First day covers will be available for sale at a cost of \$5.95 each.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE POSTMARK - All letters posted on Thursday 16th November 2006 will receive the First Day of Issue Postmark.

The stamps will remain on sale for six (6) months or until stock is exhausted.

POSTMASTER GENERAL

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