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PRESS RELEASE

Opening of First Class Community Facility at Union, St Mark funded by the Government of India

Grenada, 8 December 2021 — The new Union Community Complex was officially opened by Parliamentary Representative for St. Mark's & Honourable Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Climate Resilience and Environment, Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen together with His Excellency Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to Trinidad & Tobago.

The Indian Government donated approximately XCD 1.6 million to Government and people of Grenada for the complex. The three-story complex is a multi-purpose facility built for educational, sporting, cultural and social events. The facility, constructed by Building Contractor, Mr. Junior Farray, was also constructed to be used as an emergency shelter. The ground floor offers bathroom facilities, showers and a change room for sports, the first floor contains multiple office spaces and activity rooms, and the second floor consists of a kitchen, bathroom facilities, and a spacious conference or activity room that opens out to a stadium with a sprawling field dedicated to sporting and cultural events. This building provides a safe place for wholesome activities for young people and social gatherings for families and communities, including humanitarian activities. This multi-purpose facility can accommodate a variety of events and serve various organizations.

The opening ceremony was also attended by the Parliamentary Representative for St. Patrick West, Honourable Anthony Boatswin, Minister of Trade, Industry & Consumer Affairs Honourable Alvin Dabreo, Honourable Minister of State for Disaster Management Senator Hon. Dr. Winston Garraway, and the Honorary Consul of India to Grenada Shadel Nyack Compton. His Excellency High Commissioner Sahu was accompanied by two diplomats Mr. MC Baghat and Mr. Ragu Sharma from the office of the Indian High Commission in Trinidad. Also attending were members of the media and a large representation of persons from the community.

The Hon. Dr. Modeste-Curwen thanked the Government of India and re-iterated the positive impact the facility would have on local communities in terms of culture, sports and education and stated the complex would be put to immediate use. She also spoke of India's long friendship with Grenada and our gratitude for their speedy assistance during a crisis. His Excellency, Arun Kumar Sahu spoke of his delight to see the project come to fruition and stated he would like to see more of these facilities. He added that India was Grenada's friend ready to assist our country when needed. Senator Hon. Dr. Garraway thanked the Government of India and described the positive impact of the new facility as an emergency shelter particularly in times of natural disasters. He explained that the complex was made of solid hurricane-proof structure and built high above sea level, complete with kitchen, rooms and bathroom facilities, making it a perfect emergency shelter.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, a commemorative plaque bearing the words. " With immense gratitude for the friendship and collaboration between our countries and for this purposeful and beautiful recreational & educational complex for our people" was unveiled by Hon. Minister Dr. Modeste-Curwen and His



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Excellency High Commissioner Sahu. The new community complex was blessed by Pastor Elvis Hillaire, of the Seventh Day Adventist faith.

While in Grenada, His Excellency High Commissioner Sahu also met with Prime Minister Dr. The Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell and other government Ministers and officials, community organizations and representatives from the Indian and Indo Grenadian communities. His meetings were focused on other infrastructural funding projects and initiatives to assist Grenada in agriculture and community development, further strengthening the friendship and bilateral relations between India and Grenada.