



Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

Tuesday 29th August, 2017

4:00pm

Sod-turning Ceremony

Quarry Village Community Centre

Remarks Address

Presented by:

Dr. the Honourable Nyan Gadsby-Dolly,

Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

SALUTATIONS:

- Member of Parliament, Ms. Nicole Olivierre
- Permanent Secretary, Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts, Ms Angela Edwards
- Local Government Representatives
- Chief Executive Officer UdeCott, Mr. Frank Barnes
- President of the Village Council
- Residents of Quarry Village
- Other staff of the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts
- Other officials of UDECOTT
- Members of the Media

Good afternoon.

55 years of waiting. 55 years that a community kept hope that they will see a community centre built in this area of Quarry Village. 55 years and some people may have passed on, some activist who may have been pushing for this centre, who may have been ensuring that they keep the fact that they needed a community centre at the front burner through their member of parliament, every councillor and every representatives. 55 years and they are at the point now where we are officially marking the intention to build a centre for Quarry Village. I think that deserves a rounds of applause.

I want to commend your Member of Parliament Ms. Nicole Olivierre as well as your local government representatives who are present because these executives have been

clamouring on behalf of this community. They have been putting the case forward for a centre as many member of parliament do and I am glad that on behalf of the government through the Ministry to partner with UdeCOTT to be able to say today that we have marked the spot, the contract has been awarded and we are moving full speed ahead to be able to deliver this centre to you in less than a year and I know your member of parliament will be marking that time.

I want to give you the commitment on behalf of the Ministry that we will do all we can to ensure that the centre I built on time and I know for a fact that UdeCOTT is on the same thread of ensuring that projects are delivered on time and within budget. We will also be taking personal interest in ensuring that this project goes ahead. With any project there are going to be challenges, so our goal is to ensure that the

challenges that presents themselves, we will deal with them expeditiously so that it does not hamper the building of the centre, because we want to deliver this centre to you. We understand the desire you have, to have a centre to congregate at, to have the community education classes running to edify your local citizens. We know that you want this centre, some people already planning their wedding in the centre for next year, we know that too. We understand that a community centre is really the hub of community interaction and human development within the community.

We are committed to doing our best, all within our power to deliver this centre to do this in the shortest space of time possible. As it was mentioned, it will be a two storey centre because we understand the needs of the community have expanded and the requirements for more than one thing happening in a centre now, is something we have to match.

Therefore, you will have a two storey centre with many amenities. If you would have seen some of the centres we opened recently, just recently in Mt. Hope/Mt. Lambert, just recently in Ackbar Trace, Fyzabad and I am sure if you had the privilege to see some of the newer centres, you will be really waiting with much anticipation to see the kind of centre that will transform your community.

I want to pledge that we at the Ministry of Community of Development, Culture and the Arts give our support to all village councils, all community groups, all representatives to assist with whatever programme is necessary so that your centre can be maximised and it can really be used to its fullest potential.

This is a day that we are also very happy to be here to mark this spot and to look forward to coming back again at

another time, where there will be a new piece of community infrastructure in Quarry Village to the benefit of all residents who are here. We look forward to the work ahead, we look forward to delivering this community centre to you. I look forward to coming back very soon to celebrate your new centre at Quarry Village.

God Bless.

Thank you.