



## NO REST IN PROPELLING YOUTH

**ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA, Wednesday, August 14, 2013 – GIS:** “As long as there is one young person out there without hope Government will not rest”.

That’s the promise of Prime Minister Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell as he addressed the new batch of trainees under the New IMANI Programme on Friday 9th August.

Dr. Mitchell said, “restoring hope” is not just a campaign slogan but a necessity in the process of development.

“This is not just about providing a stipend. The most important aspect of this is yourself development and your ability to gain a skill and to gain knowledge to empower you for the future” the Prime Minister said.

The Grenadian leader said, witnessing another of the commencement ceremonies represents an important step in the lives of the nation’s youth and urged them to take this opportunity seriously.

“As long as this government is in office you’ll have a friend working and walking a step with you as you march forward in your lives to create a better place, a better opportunity for you and your family”, he assured them.

An emotional participant, Colleen Charles, who is enrolled in the first batch testified of the impact the programme has had on her life as it relates to personality and attitudes.

“The life skills have really transformed my life. It has helped me to know that when I’m around different people how I should react towards them”, she said.

The Ministry is working to ensure the programme impacts not only the young people but Grenada as a whole. The self development component runs for three months.

Immediately after the three months it will be phased out into two days per week, unlike five days a week, for an entire year.

Placement of the first one thousand is expected by the end of September, where participants will be engaged in direct skills - which include plumbing or carpentry under the apprenticeship programme.

In addition, there would be the community service component where persons will be involved within the community. A small business component is also included in the programme.

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