

BUSINESS

Price falls to US\$57.14

JANUARY West Texas Intermediate crude oil, the United States benchmark, shed 85 cents to end trading yesterday at US\$57.14 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Natural gas ended down

5.3 per cent to US\$2.678 per million British thermal units. Trinidad and Tobago's 2018 budget is based on a US\$52 per barrel oil price and an average gas price of US\$2.75 per 1,000 cubic feet.



Five to receive ANSA McAL awards

Aleem Khan

A JAMAICAN writer of prophecies and poetry, a Guyanese businessman, a couple from Trinidad and Tobago supporting child cancer patients, and a University of the West Indies (UWI) senior lecturer have been named the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence (ANSACAFE) 2018 laureates.

Chairman of the ANSA McAL Foundation Norman Sabga, ANSACAFE programme director Maria Superville-Neilson, and ANSACAFE Eminent Persons Panel (EPP) member Professor Emerita Bridget Brereton announced the five names of the four awardees from the ANSA McAL boardroom on Maraval Road, Port of Spain, yesterday.

Express Individuals of the Year 2008 Chevaughn and Noel Joseph, founders of the paediatric cancer support group the Just Be-

ple to receive the Caribbean award.

They will be rewarded for their public and civic contributions.

Jamaica-born University of Exeter (UK) Professor of English and Creative Writing Kei Miller, and UWI (St Augustine) Senior Lecturer Dr Adesh Ramsubhag will be awarded for their achievements in the arts and letters, and science and technology, respectively.

Home-grown antibiotics

Speaking about Ramsubhag, Superville-Neilson said: "His work on micro-organisms is producing exciting results that, if supported by further research, can lead to the development of pharmaceuticals, an estimated US\$1 trillion export-driven industry. The research findings, so far, include that the chemical compounds produced by many indigenous organisms from Trinidad have

for pharmaceuticals. The diversity of these organisms is great, making it even more likely that home-grown research here can lead to more astounding results."

Guyanese microbiologist-turned-businessman William Andrew Boyle, who employs medical doctors at his laboratories in Guyana and St Vincent, will be awarded for his entrepreneurship. Boyle is married to Dr Karen Boyle, the deputy chief medical officer of Guyana's Ministry of Public Health.

The four laureates will receive \$500,000, or its equivalent in US dollars in the case of the Guyanese and the Jamaican, a medal and a citation at a ceremony on May 5 next year at a venue to be announced. Last year's



AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE: Norman Sabga, executive chairman, ANSA McAL Group of Companies; Professor Emerita Bridget Brereton, centre, Eminent Persons Panel (EPP) member, and Maria Superville-Neilson, programme director, before the announcement of the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence 2018 laureates at Tatil Building, Port of Spain, yesterday. —Photo: ISHMAEL SALANDY