



HARRY HARNARINE

## Harry Harnarine declared bankrupt

By ANDRE BAGOO

**A HIGH Court Judge yesterday invoked the Bankruptcy Act to issue a receiving order against former Hindu Credit Union (HCU) president Harry Harnarine in relation to a debt in excess of \$868,000 which he failed to pay to Raymond and Pierre Limited and Afra Raymond in 2008. The ruling effectively designates Harnarine bankrupt.**

Justice Joan Charles ruled that she was satisfied with a petition brought by Raymond's attorneys – led by Seenath Jairam SC. The judge constituted the Chief State Solicitor as receiver of the estate of Harnarine and ordered him to pay Raymond's legal bill.

The case dates back to 2008 when Raymond obtained an award of \$867,726.58 in relation to a court action he brought against Harnarine. The former HCU president failed to pay up and Raymond filed a bankruptcy notice against Harnarine on March 25, 2009. In May 2010, Charles ruled that the notice was good in law. She also found that "there was no undue influence" on the part of Dr Wesley Debideen, Harnarine's then attorney, who was murdered earlier this year.

In July 2010, Raymond petitioned

the court to grant a receiving order in respect of the estate of Harnarine, citing the fact that Harnarine failed to comply with the requirements of the bankruptcy notice before May 2010.

The court noted that Harnarine fell under its jurisdiction as he resided in the country, with addresses at Light Pole No. 81 Alligator Street North, Monroe Road, Cunupia, and at 3 1/4 Mile End Village, Rio Claro.

An appeal was heard and dismissed in its entirety on May 6, 2013, when the court rejected a claim by Harnarine that he had shown cause against the petition.

"In the circumstances, therefore, I am satisfied by the judgment creditor's petition, and I declare that a receiving order is hereby made against Harry Harnarine," the judge ruled in a written decision.

Harnarine could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Raymond yesterday said, "This morning's High Court decision now formally bankrupts Harry Harnarine. This effectively debars Mr Harnarine from any further participation in our financial system." He noted that, "the original action arose out of libellous statements uttered by Harnarine on HCU's Radio Shakti in September 2005."