

Only Your Friend Could Shoo-Shoo 'Pon You

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Leader of the Opposition in Trinidad & Tobago, Basdeo Panday, was most incensed at the suggestion that his meeting with Prime Minister Patrick Manning could be about anything but the very important national and constitutional matters the office holders of PM and L of the O are constitutionally bound to have from time to time. He dismissed outright suggestions by speculators ranging from Leader of the No Position (aka Congress of the People Political Leader, Winston Dookeran) to the usually PNM-friendly Selwyn Ryan that the timing of the meeting could suggest they might try to reach some sort of political agreement.

Mr Manning hasn't issued his own denial yet. That one is likely to come, if it comes at all, in a much more laidback, obviously-I'm-on-the-Bible-and-mellow tone.

If it does come from Mr Manning, we would then have had word from the only two people in Trinidad & Tobago who know for sure what they will talk about.

But will anyone believe them?

It's almost worth it though, to see the well-faked pained looks. "Oh Gorm! All you think I would lie?" (Or, "Ladies and gentlemen, does anyone really think the Prime Minister would lie?")

What you think they will discuss at the "Diplomatic Centre" today? Matters of national importance? Or matters of narrow self-interest?