

## **Alfonso Portillo**

### **President of Guatemala**

Alfonso Portillo was born on Sept. 24, 1951. He holds a bachelor's degree in law and social sciences from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and carried out postgraduate studies in economics at the same university. After working as a professor of economics in Mexico, he became a columnist for a Guatemala City newspaper.

From 1991 to 1995, Mr. Portillo represented the Guatemalan Congress on the national Monetary Policy Board. From 1992 to 1994, he directed the Guatemalan Institute of Social and Political Studies and was deputy secretary of the Christian Democratic Party of Guatemala. From 1994 to 1996, Mr. Portillo was deputy member of Congress for his party. Later he represented the Guatemalan Republican Front. Mr. Portillo was elected President of Guatemala on Dec. 26, 1999. He is married and has one child.

## **Bharrat Jagdeo**

### **President of Guyana**

Bharrat Jagdeo was born on Jan. 23, 1964, at Unity Village, East Coast Demerara. In 1990, he graduated from Moscow University with a master's degree in economics. Returning to Guyana, Mr. Jagdeo worked at the State Planning Secretariat before being appointed special adviser to the Minister of Finance in 1992. He was appointed Junior Minister of Finance in 1993 and Senior Minister of Finance the following year.

Mr. Jagdeo has directed the Guyana Water Authority, the National Bank of Industry and Commerce, and the Caribbean Development Bank. He has also been Guyana's governor on the World Bank. A member of the People's Progressive Party, Mr. Jagdeo was named Prime Minister of Guyana on Aug. 9, 1999. Mr. Jagdeo is married.