



GUYANA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2008

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GEORGETOWN - LETHEM ROAD

The Ministry of Transport and Hydraulics has confirmed that the feasibility studies for the Georgetown - Lethem Road is expected to commence in February 2008.

The Guyana Government and the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) signed a US\$900,000 technical cooperation agreement, in August 2007, to finance the feasibility of the Road. The project to construct a highway to Lethem is part of the agenda of the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA).

The Government has approved the award of the contract to Mott McDonald Ltd. of the U.K, in association with a local company, CEMCO Inc.

The Road will enhance regional integration, facilitate access to medical and education facilities in the Amerindian communities, and create a favourable environment for private sector investments.

The other infrastructure project, the Takutu Bridge, connecting Guyana with Brazil is scheduled to be completed this year. The bridge will connect Guyana to Brazil's Northern States of Roraima, Amazonia and Para.

UN ADOPTS NGHO RESOLUTION

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a Resolution by consensus in December 2007, on its role in promoting a New Global Human Order (NGHO).

According to a press release from Guyana's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Resolution was proposed by Guyana with support from the Caribbean Community and the Rio Group, and it recognises the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to a sustainable global development.

The NGHO "is concerned with the human development dilemma of persistent poverty and under-development amidst unprecedented global prosperity and seeks to promote partnership and cooperation among all nations for greater and more balanced economic and social progress". It calls for primacy to be given to people in the development process in order to create an environment where human beings can develop their potential and contribute meaningfully to their societies.

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UN ADOPTS NGHO RESOLUTION

In the debate on the item held on 17 December, speakers alluded to the fact that while new and expanded opportunities and greater prosperity had been realised for many states, the contemporary order was increasingly marked by uneven levels of progress. The NGHO offers a qualitatively different approach to development that addresses these realities.

The consensus text also recognises that inequality within and among countries is a concern for all countries regardless of their level of development—with multiple implications for the realisation of the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals. Accordingly, the consensus calls on the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to submit to the General Assembly, at its 65th Session, a report on the implementation of the resolution including an assessment of the implications of inequality for development. It is expected that the report will provide a stronger basis for building over time, a just and equitable system of international economic and social relations.

The Ministry said that Guyana had introduced the NGHO concept in 2000. Then at the Rio Summit held in Georgetown last year, the Rio Group Heads had agreed to advance the consideration of the proposal.

The NGHO was the brainchild of the late President Cheddi Jagan.

The Guyana High Commission has been instrumental in promoting the NGHO through the Circle of Friends for the Promotion of the NGHO which was attached to the High Commission.

ECONOMIC NEWS

US\$ 2.M BAKERY INVESTMENT

Guyanese investor, Lawrence Harvey, has completed construction of a modern state-of-the-art bakery in Linden, costing over US\$2.5m. The business, "Compare Bread", is a partnership which was conceived nearly two years ago.

After purchasing the land nearly 18 months ago, on which the bakery is located, the partners have since invested over US\$2.5m to purchase state-of-the-art-equipment.

While the company will target the local market initially, it plans as a long term goal, to tap into the international market. The company currently employs 40 persons but hopes to increase that number to 125 by the end of the year as the operations reaches its optimum capacity.

US\$4B HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT ON STREAM

A Caribbean Company, ENMAN Services, is moving to secure financing to complete feasibility studies for a US\$4B hydro-electric project in Guyana. The Group is targeting an immediate US\$20M that is needed to do a full feasibility study and front-end engineering design leading to the financial closure and start of construction.

The project includes the construction of a 1,100 megawatts hydropower plant along the Mazaruni River in Region Seven (Cuyuni/Mazaruni) and the eventual selling of electricity for as little as two US cents per kilowatt hour (kwh), as compared to between 16

GUYANA OFFICE FOR INVESTMENT (GO-INVEST)

The Guyana Office for Investment (GO-INVEST) has redesigned its website to a more user friendly and comprehensive format. It includes information on export promotion and has links to many websites in Guyana.

You can now visit GO-INVEST at: www.goinvest.gov.gy

and 40 US cents currently being paid by regional consumers.

Another aim of the project is that of integrating the Guyana electric power system with other renewable sources through laying of an overland/submarine cable from Guyana southwards to Brazil's Roraima State and northwards to the Caribbean.

ENMAN surveys have found the hydropower project technically and financially viable and its partners include Canadian consultants, Hardy Stevenson and Associates, among others.

MARRIOTT HOTEL FOR GUYANA

President Bharrat Jagdeo has announced that some investors will commence construction of a 5 -star Marriott hotel in Guyana at the end of January 2008. The hotel will be built by New York-based Guyanese contractor Mike Ahmad of Adam Development Enterprises Inc.

Construction of the hotel will begin with the diversion of sewerage lines in the Kingston area where the hotel will be sited. This initial aspect of the project to divert the lines will cost approximately US\$700,000.00.

GOVERNMENT AND GT&T TO NEGOTIATE ENDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS MONOPOLY

President Bharrat Jagdeo has told the nation that his Government will soon commence negotiation with the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company Ltd (GT&T) on ending the firm's monopoly in the local telecommunications sector. The President said that the Government has already signalled the need to have a more competitive telecommunications sector. This decision, the Guyanese leader said, is in consonance with the Government's objective of ensuring that at least 80 percent of the Guyanese households have access to the internet.

Accordingly, President Jagdeo noted that the Government is prepared to support reaching target by subsidising bandwidths and by even subsidizing computers so that each home in the country can benefit from changes in technology.

The GT&T currently enjoys a 20-year licence for international voice and data services, as well as other services, for another 20 year period. The company is still to decide whether to renew the exclusive 20-year licence which is winding down.

President Jagdeo had previously indicated his Government's intention to engage GT&T in discussions on a range of issues, including ending the monopoly the company has on the telecommunications sector in Guyana.

MUCH INTEREST IN BIO-FUEL INVESTMENT

Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Robert Persaud, has announced that the Guyana Office for Investment (GOINVEST) is currently in possession of eleven proposals from companies wanting to invest in

developing a local bio-fuel agro energy sector. The proposals, ten of which are from eight different countries and one from a local investor, will be evaluated early this year with assistance from the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) and the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

According to Minister Persaud, Goinvest has received proposals, which are in varying stages of development since additional information is still being sought from the potential investors.

The number of investors has increased to eleven since August last year when President Jagdeo had noted that six companies had expressed interest, with one of them proposing an investment of US\$600M. Along with one from a local investor whose company is registered in Canada, proposals have also been received from companies in Brazil, Canada, India, Jamaica, Spain and the United States.

The Government of Guyana and the IDB have prepared a project proposal which covers the development of methodology for identifying viable investment opportunities; knowledge transfer and preliminary identification of potential bio-energy projects; and design of a financial instrument to develop viable investment opportunities and implement a strategy to promote Guyana's potential for bio-energy production.

MORE FINANCE FOR POWER GENERATION

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved a US\$12M (G\$2.4B) loan for the power sector which aims at the sustainable reduction of electricity losses among other things. The project will be funded by the IDB's

Fund for Special Operations and the Ordinary Capital. The project will be overseen by the Ministry of Finance and the amount will be disbursed over a four year period in three tranches.

According to the IDB, the loan will support the efforts of the Government of Guyana to promote a more sustainable and efficient power sector in Guyana. The IDB has over the years made disbursements to aid development in the electricity sector.

This most recent loan, apart from aiming to reduce electricity losses, will be used to support activities in the power sector such as improving efficiency by supporting institutional, legal and regulatory reforms; planning and priority setting in the sector that will contribute to sustainable power loss reductions; and strengthening the power company's capabilities in corporate governance, transparency and accountability.

GUYANA SIGNS US\$1.35M ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WITH CHINA

Hon. Dr Henry Jeffrey, Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation and H.E. Zhang Jungao, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, on behalf of their respective Governments, have signed an Economic and Technical Agreement for a ¥10M (US\$1.35M) Chinese grant to Guyana for the implementation of bilateral cooperation projects agreed to by the two Governments. Apart from the grant, the Government of China is prepared to invest an additional G\$882M this year while working with the Government of Guyana to ensure that the grants are mutually invested to the full benefit of the Guyanese people.

Guyana receives the most technical assistance from China compared with the other Caribbean countries. At present, Guyana benefits from the despatch of Chinese experts in various sectors of the economy, including health, agriculture, sports and mining sectors; training; and bilateral cooperation projects implemented under the programme of economic and technical cooperation.

G\$17.5B VAT, EXCISE TAX COLLECTED IN SIX MONTHS

Minister of Finance, Hon. Ashni Singh has informed that Government's revenue from Value Added Tax (VAT) and Excise Tax (ET) was recorded at G\$17.1B for the first half of 2007. He said that the amount represents 68.95% of the projected G\$24.8 billion projected for 2007. As a result, the Minister said, the target has now been revised to G\$30.5 billion and the Government's total revenue, budgeted at G\$64.9 billion, has been revised to G\$70.7 billion.

The Minister identified higher imports and less tax evasion as reasons for the surplus. The increased collections in import duties and the level of collections in value added and excise taxes reflect substantial increases in several categories of imports, the Minister noted.

According to the Minister, the economy recorded real growth of 5.8% in the first half of 2007 as compared with 3.3% growth for the same period in 2006.

US\$26M FORESTRY INVESTMENT ON STREAM

The Government of Guyana through the Guyana Forestry Commission has granted a

State Forestry Exploratory Permit to the American firm Simon and Shock Inc (SSI). In accordance with the agreement, the company will set up a sawmill in Linden, Region Ten, and provide a fillip for the lumber industry in Guyana.

SSI has been granted concessions totalling 391,832 hectares in Regions Six and Nine. The company projects employing approximately 112 persons with at least 85 percent of that number coming from the local labour market, including appointments ranging from senior management to starting positions. The overall investment is targeted at US\$26M over a three year period.

In terms of efficiency of production and sustainable environmental practice, SSI hopes to achieve a recovery rate of over 70 percent, twice as much as is being achieved in the local lumber industry currently. This recovery rate is anticipated since the company is building from the ground up, a brand new modern sawmill, which, with the aid of computer imagery, will be able to scan logs and calculate the number of boards that it would yield.

The waste produced would be used to power the kiln-drying plants.

GUYANA BID TO FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

President Bharrat Jagdeo says it is important for Guyana to either enter into a bilateral agreement or be part of a market-based carbon trading regime so that the country could raise the resources necessary for the fight against climate change.

The President noted that Guyana is vulnerable to the challenges of climate change, hence its need for assistance for the necessary mitigation and adaptation efforts.

During the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting held in Guyana in October last year, President Jagdeo spoke of Guyana's willingness to deploy the country's forest in the fight against climate change. The Guyanese leader emphasized that in so doing, Guyana will in no way compromise its sovereignty.

Guyana's interest in helping to fight against climate change was also outlined at the Thirteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate (UNFCCC), which was held in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2007. At that forum, Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Robert Persaud, noted that Guyana will continue to deal with climate change including its forest management which is based on the principles of sustainable development.

The Minister said that these principles include sustainable use and conservation which are evident in the work of the Iwokrama Rainforest Conservation and Development Programme.

Guyana and other rainforest countries have been lobbying for adequate compensation for standing forests and a market-based mechanism to be put in place as negotiations continue on a post 2012 Kyoto Protocol.

Guyana stands firm on its position on incentives for standing forests, the need for more support for adaptation measures and support with access to technology.

Guyanese Word and Meaning:

Word: Cuffum

Meaning: The tarpon (Megalops atlanticus), a large brilliantly silvery sea and river fish with big scales; it can exceed 150 lbs in rivers and 350 lbs in open sea, and (especially the young) has the habit of leaping several feet out of the water and diving back in.

AMAILA FALLS HYDRO PROJECT

Synergy Holdings Inc. has announced that it has entered into the final stages of preparing bid documents for the Amaila Falls Hydro-electric Project (AFHEP), thereby allowing the company to solicit international EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) bids.

The project's schedule has construction commencing in 2008 and delivering power to the Guyana Power and Light Inc. (GPL) in December 2011. In its first phase the Amaila Falls project will generate 100 megawatts.

The company says it is simultaneously working on the construction documents, engineering specifications and to re-look at all aspects of the construction including alignment of transmission lines, to write a clear set of specifications so that bidders will reduce contingencies and offer the most competitive prices.



G\$1.7B FOR REGIONAL PROJECTS

Minister Kellawan Lall at a press conference on 9 January, told the media that the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development will spend approximately G\$1.7B to construct and rehabilitate buildings to further enhance education and health services in Guyana's ten Administrative Regions.

The Minister said that the Georgetown Solid Waste Management Programme would be one of his Ministry's main priorities this year. He confirmed that the landfill site at Mandela Avenue will be closed and that a new site will be created at Haag Bosch. He also informed that the institutional strengthening component of the Caribbean Development Bank—funded Community Services Enhanced Programme (CSEP) will begin this year. The programme provides for the construction of more roads, bridges and other infrastructure work.

G\$86M MOBILE PUMP FOR EAST COAST

A G\$86M mobile hydraulic pump was commissioned on 14 January at Hope, East Coast Demerara, by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Robert Persaud.

The pump is one of two stationed at Hope and Greenfield to help with the drainage and irrigation system in the two villages and neighbouring communities. The two pumps have the capacity to discharge 560 gallons of water per second.

Minister Persaud said that the pumps have proven to be the most effective and efficient way of dealing with drainage and irrigation needs in countries affected by natural disasters.

The Minister noted that the Government intends to "implement more mechanical drainage measures" this year in various parts of the coastland, including the Essequibo Islands.

GOVERNMENT APPROVES MORE THAN G\$285M IN CONTRACTS

During December 2007, the Government gave the go-ahead for the awarding of several contracts valued at more than G\$285M.

The contracts awarded included G\$185.5 to the Guyana Water Incorporated (GWI) for the purchase of water meters; G\$22.7M to the Ministry of Health for auditing to be carried out on the Ministry's Health Centre for Disease Control; G\$20.8M to the Works sector for the rehabilitation and construction of the Ituni to Kwakwani Road; G\$19.3M for the rehabilitation and construction of roads and bridges along Linden/Lethem trail via North Kurupukari and South Kurupukari; and G\$36.5M to the electoral Commission which entails the supply of 610 die-cutters for photography purposes.

G\$116.9M DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION PROJECT

In its efforts to boost the production of non-traditional export to the Caribbean and North America, the Ministry of Agriculture commissioned a G\$116.9M drainage and irrigation project, on 14 January, in the Essequibo River, Western Hogg Island, Region Three.

The Project which is executed under the Poor Rural Community Services Project provides for eleven miles of

NOTICE

Guyana High Commission

New E-mail address:

guyanahc1@btconnect.com

New Website address:
guyanahc.com

canal and the construction of five reinforcement structures at Western Hogg Island.

Hogg Island is one of Guyana's largest island where farmers are involved in cattle rearing and cultivation of ground provisions, pineapples, vegetables and fruits.

New G\$1.1B UNIT AT GPHC

Construction is due to commence around March at the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) for a new in-patient facility.

Executed through the Health Sector Development Unit of the Ministry of Health and funded by the Government through an IDB loan, the G\$1.1B project includes the construction of a rehabilitation therapy section, 16 surgical units with approximately 96 beds; seven paediatric units with 48 cribs; seven surgical units with 42 beds; and a medical records unit and clinical administrative services.

G\$5B SEA DEFENCE PACT SIGNED

A Financing Agreement to the tune of Euro 17.018 million (G\$5B) was signed between the European Commission (EC) and the Government of Guyana towards the protection and sustainability of Guyana's Sea Defences.

This agreement follows one that was signed in March 2007 for Euro 900,000, bringing the total support under the 9th EDF to Guyana's Sea Defence Sector, to Euro 17.918M in grants.

Some additional elements under the programme include the preservation of existing mangroves and exploring possibilities of bringing back mangroves where they once formed the natural defence against the sea.

G\$758M PLAN TO ELIMINATE MALARIA UNVEILED

A G\$758M (US\$3.7M) programme aimed at eliminating malaria in Region Nine (Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) over a five-year period was introduced to regional officials and other stakeholders inclusive of non-governmental organisations and indigenous groups.

During the initial stages of the programme, the Ministry of Health will ensure that every health-care worker is trained to perform microscopy and also equip each health facility in Region Nine with a microscope. A malaria control plan has also been developed and being executed in four stages.

The Ministry of Health records indicate a 50% reduction in malaria cases. A malaria Prevention Council comprising the indigenous toshaos, health care workers, members of the religious community, housewives and teachers was formed and malaria clubs to increase education and awareness of the disease and its prevention, are in the process of being established.

SHIP BUILDING CAPACITY EXPLORED BY CHINESE TEAM

A ten-member Chinese survey team visited Guyana in January to determine the feasibility of designing and constructing two roll-on/roll-off ferries estimated at US\$8M.

The team arrived on a 20-day visit to conduct the study following a request to the Chinese Government to build the two vessels approved under a bilateral agreement.

2009 AMAZONIA PAGEANT FOR GUYANA

The Miss Tourism Amazonia Pageant is scheduled to be held in Guyana in November 2009 as part of the activities organised in observance of Destination Amazonia Year 2009.

DR CHEDDI JAGAN IS LONGEST SERVING MP

The late President of Guyana, Dr Cheddi Jagan, was given due recognition as the longest serving Member of Parliament following a unanimous motion approved by the National Assembly.

It was agreed that tribute would be paid to Dr Jagan and a special edition of the Hansard with a collection of his speeches spanning his 45 years in the Assembly would be prepared for display in the Parliament's library. Dr Jagan entered Parliament at the age of 29 on 18 December 1947.

PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR ONLINE UNIVERSITY FOR DISCUSSION BY COMMONWEALTH MINISTERS

Commonwealth Education Ministers are scheduled to discuss at their June meeting in Malaysia, President Bharrat Jagdeo's proposal for the establishment of an online university to provide tertiary education throughout the Commonwealth.

The President suggested that an online university should be modelled after the Open University in the United Kingdom, to provide tertiary education across the Commonwealth on a large scale. He said that the online university would allow for the training of 100,000 with internet access each year instead of the few scholarships which the Commonwealth offered to member countries.

Guyana was requested to produce a paper regarding the recommendation for further discussion at the Ministers' Meeting.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE REGISTRATION

House-to-house registration has commenced and is expected to continue over the next five months in preparation for local government elections.

According to Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) Chairman, Dr Steve Surujbally, the most important objective is to have the registration completed properly since the process would determine the claims and objections period which follows the establishment of the National Register and Data Base.

The 300 members of staff of GECOM assigned to conduct the registration process would be accompanied by two scrutineers, one from the Opposition and the other from the PPP/C.

HEART SURGERY FOR BARBADIAN GIRL

After two years trying to raise funds for her daughter to travel to Miami for an operation, a Barbadian mother decided to look closer home and ended up in Guyana at the Caribbean Heart Institute (CHI) where her daughter had a successful heart surgery in January this year.

Ms Tricia Haynes flew to Guyana on 9 January with her eight year old daughter, Ayesha, who had a hole in her heart since birth. Breathing a sigh of relief that her daughter can now live a normal life, the overwhelmed mother said the option was always open for the non-invasive procedure to be done, but the funds were not available.

Another fillip in the area of medicine has been the appointment of Guyanese-born oncologist Dr Carl Niamatali as the head of the cancer care programme set up in Grenada with a \$1M donation from the telecommunications company, Digicel.

Dr Niamatali said that the National Cancer Unit will cater to the needs of the countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States.

TWO GUYANESE WIN SABGA AWARDS

Guyanese Professor David Dabydeen and Annette Arjoon were among the four outstanding Caribbean men and women to win the 2008 Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence (ANSCAFÉ).

Professor Dabydeen was named the winner in the Arts and Letters Section while Arjoon was named joint winner in the Public and Civic Contributions segment.

CARIFESTA 2008

The 10th Caribbean Festival of Arts (CARIFESTA) will be held in Guyana from 22 to 31 August.

The opening and closing ceremonies are scheduled for the National Stadium in Providence while other events are slated for the Sophia Exhibition Centre, National Park, ICC, Sports Hall, Umana Yana, Parade Ground, National Cultural Centre, Theatre Guild, and Museum. Festivals will also be convened in Regions 2, 3, 5, 6 and 10.

The High Commission will continue to provide information as it becomes

available and is urging participation from Guyanese nationals in the UK and other European countries.



- In November 2007, Russian President Vladimir Putin bestowed the Pushkin medal to President Bharrat Jagdeo in recognition of his achievements in the areas of culture, education, literature and the arts. The Pushkin Medal was established in 1999 by former President Boris Yeltsin to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Russian poet Alexander Pushkin..
- President Jagdeo has announced that the new National Archives building would be named after one of Guyana's most outstanding sons and renowned historian, the late Dr Walter Rodney.
- In December 2007, President Jagdeo awarded a posthumous Order of Liberation to Dr Cheddi Jagan. The Award was bestowed in recognition of the sterling contributions the late President made to the political struggle in Guyana, especially his pivotal role in helping to restore democracy to Guyana. The Order of Liberation is now designated Guyana's highest national award.
- The G\$14M East Bank Demerara Regional Hospital situated at Diamond, was officially opened by President Jagdeo in October 2007.
- The Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation has established a Diabetic Foot Centre to implement best practices for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of foot disease in diabetic patients.

- The World Bank's Board of Directors has approved a US\$3.8M grant to further improve and strengthen the institutional capacity for managing water and floodwater levels, and to give interventions to reduce Guyana's vulnerability to floods.
- A G\$14.2M contract for the construction of a new primary school at Santa Mission, Demerara River, was signed at the end of 2007. Construction of the school was due for completion in January 2008.
- The Minister of Finance and the Resident Representative of the Inter-American Development Bank in Guyana, signed an agreement for a grant of US\$6000,000 to finance the implementation of the strategic plan of the Audit Office.
- At the end of December 2007, seven motor boats were handed over to health centres in Upper Pomeroon to boost health care services in Region Two (Pomeroon/Supenaam). The communities to benefit are: Kabakaburi, St. Monica, Abram's Creek, Friendship Canal, Bethany, Wakapoa and Akawini.
- A new G\$368M state-of-the-art Secondary School at Diamond on the East Bank Demerara, was officially opened on 14 January 2008. Part of the Government's education strategy is to build secondary schools in catchment areas.

- The University of Guyana in partnership with Nova South-Eastern University of Florida, USA, has commenced a Masters of Education programme. Approximately 35 graduates have registered for the course. The programme is designed to meet the specific needs of Guyana.
- On 10 January, President Jagdeo allocated G\$14M to the Social Services Ministry to provide for 38 children in its care.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BOOK REVIEW

Henry Etwaroo's first novel, "**Travel with Assassins**", published by Author House, is a fast moving story of travel and intrigue, taking readers on an exciting journey full of humour and foreboding.

Henry Etwaroo was born in Guyana and resides in England. He and his wife travelled extensively and independently by motor car with a tent, a caravan and a motor-camper. They journeyed overland across Europe, the Middle East, the Indian sub-continent, Russia, and North America—from Florida to Alaska.

During one of their journeys which took them across Europe to Egypt, Henry was able to draw his Egyptian experience to create this gripping story of intrigue, murder, romance and humour.

The novel is available at Waterstones, Barnes and Noble and Borders for £9.95.

Commonwealth Week

In the commencing week of Commonwealth Day, 10 March 2008, 'Friends of the Commonwealth', in Association with the Commonwealth Foundation are attempting to raise the profile of the Commonwealth in the UK by engaging with diverse communities and demonstrating that it is a vibrant, modern and relevant Association.

The organisers would appreciate any assistance in promoting this important new initiative. Please contact the Project Manager, Ms Emma D'Costa at 0207 7930 3783 or e-mail: e.dcosta@commonwealth.int

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT



Mohamed Kasim, known to some as Krishna Samaroo, passed away in Guyana on 6 January.

Mohamed Kasim died at the age of 63 and at the time of his death he was in the planning stages of building a local school in his native village, Canal No. 1, West Bank Demerara.

The High Commissioner and staff extend sincerest condolences to the family and children of Kassim. He will always be remembered for his willingness and selfless contributions to the work of the High Commission. His kindness of spirit was exceptional and it was the reason why he could be counted on whenever the Mission called on him. We will certainly miss him.

**PASSPORT AND
CONSULAR
MATTERS**

OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Friday:
9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.**

**BIRTH, DEATH &
MARRIAGE
CERTIFICATE**

These certificates are issued by the Registrar General in Guyana whose address is:

**The Registrar General,
General Register Office,
General Post Office Building,
Georgetown, GUYANA.**

An application form should be completed and posted to the Registrar General together with a postal order for two pounds (£2.00) made payable to the Registrar General and crossed. This amount covers the fee and return registered postage.

It is important to enter accurate information on the form, particularly the exact place of birth in Guyana, that is, street, hospital or village.

It is advised that a covering letter be sent stating very clearly the address in the United Kingdom to which the certificate should be returned.

Forms can be uplifted from the Guyana High Commission.

Telephone: (GUYANA)

00592 225 7561 or 00592 226 4575

Fax: 00592 227 6861

**REGISTRATION AS
A CITIZEN OF GUYANA
OF A CHILD BORN
ABROAD TO A GUYANESE
PARENT**

The following must be sent to the Registrar General at:

**The General Register Office,
General Post Office Building,
Georgetown, Guyana.**

Telephone: 00592 226 4575

Fax: 00592 227 6861

- (a) Child's original Birth Certificate together with an official translation if it is not in the English Language.
- (b) Copy of birth certificate of Guyanese parent.
- (c) Fee of £2.00 payable by postal order to the Registrar General. Euros are not acceptable. It is advisable that a bank draft for US\$5.00 be sent if applicant is living abroad.
- (d) Letter to the Registrar General requesting that the child be registered as a citizen of Guyana and that the appropriate birth certificate be posted to the address of the parent. It is important to write your address clearly.

NOTICE

**Guyana High
Commission**

**New E-mail
address:**

guyanahc1@btconnect.com

**New Website
address:**

guyanahc.com

**LECTURE ON THE
COMMONWEALTH**

**TOPIC: "THE ROLE OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
IN A CHANGING
WORLD".**

**SPEAKER: H.E LALESHWAR
SINGH, DEAN OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
DIPLOMATIC CORPS.**

**DATE: FRIDAY, 14th MARCH
2008.**

TIME: 7.00P.M

**VENUE: GUYANA HIGH
COMMISSION, 3
PALACE COURT,
BAYSWATER ROAD
W2 4LP**

ALL ARE INVITED.

**DIARY OF
EVENTS**

**FEBRUARY
2008**

EVENT: Guyana Berbice Association—Pre Mother’s Day Luncheon

DATE: Sunday, 24th February 2008 from 2PM to 6PM

VENUE: St Augustine’s Church Hall, Broadwater Road, Tooting, SW17

Donation: Adults £20; Children under 12 £10.

CONTACT: Mrs Sheila Baveghems, Tel. 0208 764 2955

**MARCH
2008**

EVENT: Mini Food and Craft Fair in celebration of Guyana’s Republic Day

DATE: Sunday, 2nd March 2008

VENUE: Guyana High Commission, 3 Palace Court, Bayswater Road, London W2 4LP

TIME: 1.00PM TO 5:00 PM

FOR INFORMATION:
Contact Ms Juliet Richards,
0207 229 7684



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EVENT: Guyana Diocesan Association—Spring Reception Dance

DATE: Friday 28 March 2008

VENUE: Guyana High Commission, 3 Palace Court, Bayswater Road, London W2 4LP

TIME: 6.00PM TO 9.00PM

CONTACT: Ms Jane Garner,
Tel. 01707 331545

**APRIL
2008**

EVENT: Guyana Friends Association—Spring Dance

DATE: Saturday 19th April 2008

VENUE: Lambeth Town Hall, Acre Lane, Brixton, London

CONTACT: Ms Bridget Sam-Bailey, Tel. 020 8244 6857
Mobile: 07956 417823

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EVENT: Guyana Berbice Association—Annual Food Fayre

DATE: Saturday 26th April 2008

VENUE: St Augustine’s Church Hall, SW17, London

CONTACT: Mrs Sheila Baveghems, Tel. 0208 764 2955

**MAY
2008**

EVENT: Linden Education Link (UK) - Spring Bank Holiday Dance

DATE: Saturday 3rd May 2008

VENUE: Chestnuts Community Centre (obliquely opposite St Anns Hospital), St Anns Road, Tottenham, London, N15

Contact: Ms Gwen Adams,
Tel: 0207 249 1657

NOTICE
PLEASE DROP IN!
We have available at the High Commission internet news; video cassettes on eco-tourism and cultural programmes; and other literature.
The High Commission is open from Monday to Friday: 09:30 hrs to 17:30 hrs.

EVENT: Queen’s College of Guyana (UK) Association—Spring Event

DATE: Friday 9th May 2008.

VENUE: Guyana High Commission, 3 Palace Court, Bayswater Road, London, W2 4LP

CONTACT: Mr Peter Fraser,
Tel: 020 8743 7370

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EVENT: Linden Education Link (UK) – Multi-Faith Church Service

DATE: Saturday, 17th May 2008.

VENUE: Holy Trinity Church, Phillip Lane, South Tottenham, London, N15

CONTACT: Ms Gwen Adams,
Tel: 020 7249 1657

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EVENT: Guyana Friends Association – Barbecue

DATE: Sunday 18th May 2008

VENUE: St Augustine’s Church Hall, Tooting, London

CONTACT: Ms Bridget Sam-Bailey, Tel: 020 8244 6857;
Mobile: 07956 417823

Proverbs & Meanings

Proverb:

Meaning:

