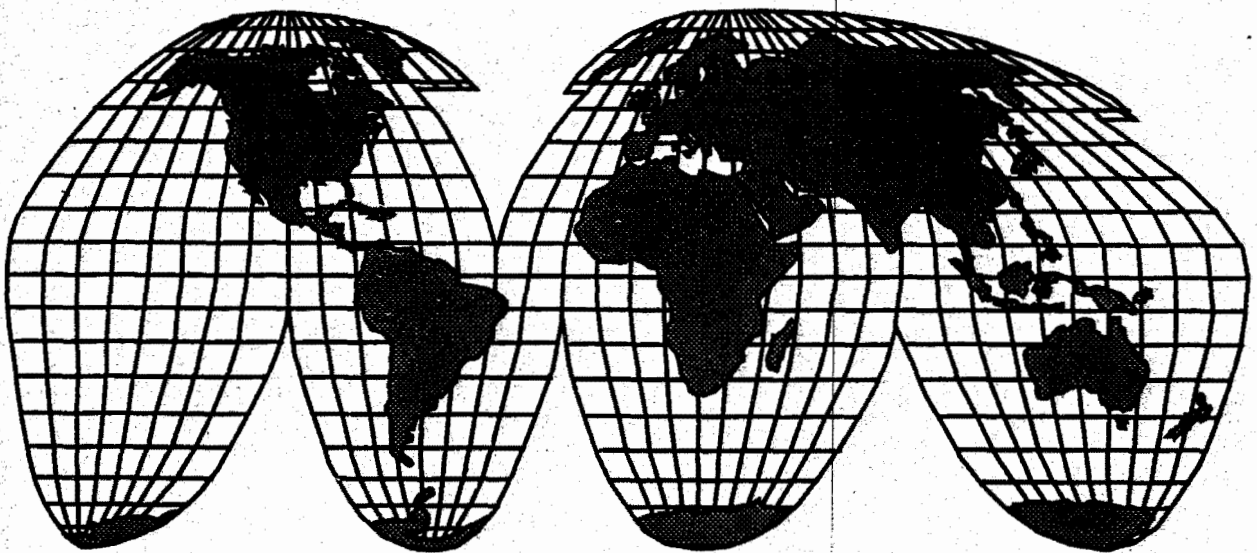


# Ministry of Foreign Affairs

*"Service within and beyond our borders"*



## Annual Report 1994

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Mission Statement	ii
Foreword	iii
Executive Summary	iv
Economic Affairs Department	1
Political Affairs Department	13
Multilateral and Global Affairs Department	41
Administration and Finance Department	51
Protocol and Consular Department	62
Secretariat of the Senior Minister	68
- Legal Adviser	68
- Public Affairs and Information Unit	69
- Remigration Unit	

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to promote and defend worldwide the interest of Guyana as follows:

- ▶ the preservation of the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Guyana;
  - ▶ the promotion of the economic and social development of Guyana through financial and technical assistance;
  - ▶ the promotion of trade;
  - ▶ extending assistance to Guyanese in Guyana and abroad;
  - ▶ the maintenance of friendly relations between Guyana and the nations of the world;
  - ▶ ensuring that Guyana's interests are made known and understood at all levels of international affairs;
- and
- ▶ the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.



# FOREWORD

This report summarises the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the year 1994.

It reflects the range of bilateral and multilateral activities which inform foreign policy formulation and execution and illustrates the impact of some of those activities on the development process in Guyana.

During 1994, foreign policy revolved, primarily, around the formulation of a relevant agenda to give meaningful impetus to the concept of economic diplomacy. It is felt that such an agenda took shape and, in several respects, was successfully executed in 1994.

Traditional foreign policy interests endured. The Ministry continued to be mindful of the critical importance relations with neighbouring states, hemispheric states and **CARICOM** partners. Additionally, as the contents of this Report indicate, Guyana continued to play an active role in international organisations.

It should be stated that, in all circumstances, foreign policy activity continued to be pursued in the context of the over-riding national interest.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During 1994, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sought to give practical impetus to its blueprint for the creation of a regime of economic diplomacy in support of the national Economic Recovery Programme.

This multi-faceted initiative manifested itself chiefly in the intensification of existing economic - including aid and trade - relationships at the bilateral and multilateral levels; providing support for the broader national drive to enhance external investment in the Guyana economy; developing a new network of bilateral and multilateral economic ties and strengthening both inter-agency and intra-Ministry infrastructure to ensure the effective implementation of the economic diplomacy agenda.

Among the noteworthy features of this regime of activities were the agenda of enhanced bilateral economic co-operation which underpinned the visits overseas by His Excellency the President; the intensification of economic relations with neighbouring and hemispheric states through the convening of meetings of Joint Commissions and other fora; a greater involvement in hemispheric arrangements for functional and other forms of co-operation through participation in **OAS** and **ACS** fora and in the December 1994 Summit of the Americas; continued active participation in **CARICOM** fora; focussed attention on aspects of aid and trade relations with the United States and more scrupulous monitoring of the fortunes of marketing arrangements in Europe for critical Guyanese products.

It was also during 1994 that the inter-agency liaison necessary to give direction to the economic diplomacy agenda took shape. By the end of the year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had established new niches in inter-agency cooperation rooted in the concept of multi-agency collaboration in pursuit of the economic diplomacy agenda.

However crowded Guyana's foreign policy becomes with agenda items fashioned to accommodate timely issues, the axioms endure. In this regard there was constant effort in the direction of enhancing relations with neighbouring states; preservation of the integrity of the country's borders; deepening regional integration and subscription to the mores of global society as enshrined in the charter of the United Nations.

In pursuit of each of these foreign policy considerations Guyana pursued a programme of active diplomacy during 1994. The preservation of cordial relations with neighbouring states and the management of territorial controversies were realised through a series of high level visits and the convening of specialised fora.

In the case of relations with Venezuela Guyana continued to subscribe to the principles of the United Nations-instituted Good Officer Process.

Perhaps the two foreign policy events of the greatest symbolic importance to have occurred during 1994 were the visit to Guyana by Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh in February and the visit to South Africa by His Excellency the President in May to attend the historic installation of His Excellency Mr. Nelson Mandela.

The former visit symbolised the satisfaction of her Majesty's Government with the events of October 1992 as a prerequisite to the restoration of an acceptable political culture. On the practical side the signing by Senior Minister of Finance, the Honourable Asgar Ally, and British Minister of Overseas Development, the Honourable Baroness Linda Chalker of an Agreement to reschedule Guyana's debt to the United Kingdom reflected the interest of Her Majesty's Government in helping to create conditions which would favour Guyana's Economic Recovery Programme.

The invitation extended to His Excellency the President by His Excellency President Mandela to attend the latter's inauguration ceremony was indicative of the new South African Government's recognition of the sustained support which Guyana had given to the liberation struggle over the decades.

In November, Guyana established formal diplomatic ties with South Africa and Namibia thereby signalling its intention to strengthen relations with both post-apartheid regimes.

During 1994, intensified diplomatic activity was manifested in visits to Guyana by several distinguished officials of friendly states and international organisations. Those visitors included the Honourable Sir Geoffrey Henry, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands; His Excellency Jacinto Seynado, Vice President of the Dominican Republic; His Excellency Helmut Schafer, Minister of State in the Foreign Office of Germany and His Excellency Ambassador Joao Clemente Baena Soares, Secretary General of the OAS.

Bilateral relations, particularly economic relations, were also enhanced through visits to Guyana by emissaries and delegations from Great Britain, Iran, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Chile, Italy and the People's Republic of China.

Ambassadors from Australia, Sweden, Poland, Italy and Cuba, among others, presented their credentials in Georgetown.

It is apposite to state at this juncture that the furtherance of the political and economic objectives of Guyana's foreign policy were enhanced through visits

overseas by His Excellency the President and the Honourable Prime Minister and through their attendance of various important international fora.

Among these, His Excellency the President's visits to South Africa, Botswana, Mauritius, Suriname plus his attendance of the Fifth Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of **CARICOM** Heads (St. Vincent) the Fifteenth Meeting of **CARICOM** Heads of Government (Barbados) and his visit to the European Commission in Brussels where he addressed the European Parliament, are recalled.

The Honourable Prime Minister visited Canada and Colombia, the purpose of the latter visit being to sign the Agreement establishing the Association of Caribbean States (**ACS**).

The Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs also attended a number of international fora including the twentieth Meeting of the Standing Committee of **CARICOM** Foreign Ministers in Belize, the twenty-fourth Regular Session of the **OAS** General Assembly in Brazil; the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned countries in Egypt and the Third Guyana/Brazil Joint Commission Meeting in Brazil.

Guyana's contribution to the United Nations was enhanced by His Excellency Ambassador Samuel R. Insanally's tenure as President of the General Assembly. His tenure ended in September.

During 1994 Guyana made a historic contribution to the restoration of democracy in Haiti through support for **UN** and **OAS** resolutions by contributing policy and military contingents to the restoration of democracy in Haiti.

# ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

## INTRODUCTION

During 1994 several bilateral agreements were entered into with Latin American States providing frameworks for economic and technical cooperation. Increased bilateral technical cooperation became available on account of the resuscitation of Joint Commissions.

## Trade and Economic Activities

### The Americas

#### ARGENTINA

An Argentine Government team visited Guyana towards the end of 1993 and an offer of technical assistance through the Argentine Fund for Horizontal Cooperation was extended. Areas for proposed collaboration included Agriculture, Energy, the Environment, Health, Mining, Geology and Water Resources.

Requests to local agencies for information indicating possible areas for collaboration have attracted responses from the Ministry of Agriculture (assistance for Dairy Development) and the Guyana Water Authority (the attachment of Argentine experts to prepare a well-rehabilitation programme and to establish training programmes for well-drilling teams). Argentine officials are currently reviewing these proposals.

#### DEBT

Guyana is still indebted to Argentina for the construction of the Pharmaceutical Plant at Farm, on the East Bank Demerara.

#### BRAZIL

The Third Meeting of the resuscitated Guyana/Brazil Joint Commission was convened from March 28-29, 1994 in Brasilia. At that forum the areas identified for possible collaboration included:



- ▶ Communication Links
- ▶ Trade
- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Energy and Mining
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Health
- ▶ The Environment
- ▶ Trans-Border Cooperation

The rate of implementation of collaborative activities has remained relatively low.

## **TRADE**

During the meeting of the Joint Commission Guyana presented its counter-proposal to the Brazilian proposal for an Economic Complementation Agreement. Brazil has since made a commitment to **MERCOSOL** which would nullify any Agreement entered into with Guyana. Brazil anticipates working on a separate Agreement to facilitate Guyana/Brazil trade on a partial scope basis.

In September, His Excellency I.B. Evelyn, Sr., Guyana's Ambassador to the Federative Republic of Brazil visited the State of Rio de Janeiro, to meet with Mr. Samuel Kauffman, Managing Director, **BRASIF**, in relation to the introduction on the Brazilian Market of Demerara Distillers Ltd. 15 Year Old El Dorado Special Reserve Rum. During that visit the Ambassador met with Guyanese nationals.

## **ENERGY**

The proposed areas of collaboration which included the short-term training of **GEC** technicians and Brazilian technical assistance in the construction of a transmission line from Onverwagt to Georgetown were not realised. The Brazilian Government has recommended modification of the Agreement which currently facilitates the loan of two turbines to Guyana.

## **DEBT**

Guyana has an outstanding debt of US\$9.0M with Brazil. The Government of Brazil has not responded positively to initiatives to have this debt written off.

## **BORDER COOPERATION**

The meeting on Consular Cooperation took into consideration issues related to Border Cooperation including health, illegal and legal trade, Customs and Immigration matters.

## **CHILE**

Government of Guyana officials continue to benefit from training programmes coordinated by the Chilean Agency for International Cooperation (AGGI). In 1994, officials participated in Workshops on "Agro-industry Development and Quality Certification Packing", "Forest Policy and Forest Management" and the "Secondary Schools' Spanish Teachers Workshop".

In July, Chilean officials from AGGI visited Guyana to discuss bilateral technical cooperation; an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the "International Cooperation Managers" meeting in Jamaica hosted by Chile. This was geared towards the drafting of the 1994/95 Work Programme for the Caribbean.

During the final quarter of the year the Government of Guyana concluded a Framework Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation with the Government of Chile. This Agreement facilitates biennial meetings of the Guyana-Chile Joint Commission.

## **COLOMBIA**

The Governments of Guyana and Colombia created a structure for bilateral cooperation at the inaugural meeting of the Guyana/Colombia Joint Commission, April 4-6, 1994. The areas of collaboration which have so far been implemented are as follows:

### **Health**

The Government of Colombia has presented 120 phials of anti-snake venom vaccines to the Ministry of Health.

Commencing in January 1995, four medical doctors will undertake short-term training in clinical specialities and post-graduate training in Public Health in Colombia.

Colombia has submitted a list of hospitals and costs of treatment for Guyanese patients using Colombian Health Care Institutions to the Ministry of Health. Colombia will supplement the cost of such treatment.

### **Education, Sport and Culture**

The Escuela Nueva initiative for the education of hinterland communities and the upgrading of the National Archives have been rescheduled on account of financial constraints.

A Colombian Football Coach completed a one month stint in Guyana during the second quarter of 1994. A local Football Coach, Mr. Ivan Persaud, has been nominated for training in Colombia.

### **Line of Credit**

The Government of Colombia has provided a US\$14M Line of Credit to promote bilateral trade. To this end two **BANCOLDEX** (Bank of Colombia) officials met with officials of local commercial banks to discuss administrative arrangements.

### **Training (PSM)**

The Public Service Management had to forego offers for short term training in Colombia due to financial limitations and the language constraints of prospective nominees.

The "Leadership for the 20th Century" Management Workshop proposed by the Government of Colombia in 1993 has been rescheduled for the first quarter of 1995.

### **Agriculture**

Two Colombian rice experts visited Guyana during March 1994 to identify possible areas of collaboration. The National Agricultural Research Institute has since received rice seed samples for testing. An assessment of this project is to be completed shortly.

### **Tourism**

Guyana has indicated its readiness to conclude a Tourism Agreement with Colombia. The Vice Minister of Cooperation of Colombia will conclude this Agreement when he visits Guyana in 1995.

### **Gaviotas and Foundations**

The Guyana Water Authority has indicated its interest in collaborating with the Gaviotas Foundation to utilise indigenous technology for the generation of power for rural water supply systems.

## **EUROPE**

### **GERMANY**

#### **Natural Resources Management Plan**

As a follow up to the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1993 between the Governments of Guyana and Germany for the technical assistance of the latter in the development of a Natural Resources Management Plan, a Canadian consultant from the firm LUSO CONSULT arrived in July 1994 to commence project activities.

#### **Technical and Vocational Training Programme**

The German Project Coordinator of the Technical Education and Vocational Training Project (OECS-GTZ) visited Guyana late last year. However, there has been little progress with respect to German assistance to Guyana in this area.

Recently, the German Government extended an offer for advanced short-term training at the Food and Agriculture Development Centre in Germany, commencing January 1995. This is not the first offer of its kind.

Several opportunities for bilateral collaboration went under-utilised due to the limited local absorption capacity.

# ASIA

## Japan

The Exchange of Notes (E/N) for the Grant of 90 Million Yen for the purchase of spare parts for the Versailles Power Station took place on January 17, 1994 during a visit to Guyana by His Excellency Ambassador Jutaro Sakamoto, of Japan.

The Government of Guyana was requested by the Government of Japan to select ten group-training courses and five individual training courses for 1995/96 fiscal year.

Guyana's Ambassador to Venezuela, His Excellency Mr. Satayadeo Sawh, signed on behalf of the Guyana at the Exchange of Notes with Ambassador Sakamoto for the supply of television equipment valued at US\$63,000.00 to the Guyana Television Broadcasting Company.

## The People's Republic of China (PRC)

Four Guyanese trainees were accepted for rice cultivation and one for a biogas training programme in the People's Republic of China.

The following Agreements for use of the 1992 PRC loan were signed:

- ▶ Exchange of Letters for 14 Human 12A Walking Tractors;
- ▶ Exchange of Letters for the Project for the Construction of the Moco Moco Hydropower Project;
- ▶ Exchange of Letters for the provision of Working Capital to Sanata Textiles Limited.

The following Agreement for use of the 1992 PRC Grant was signed:

- ▶ Exchange of Letters for the supply of 1000 Beijing Duck Eggs.

A visit by a team from the Ministry of Forestry of PRC to consider ways of developing cooperation in the Forestry Sector and to consider the establishment of Joint Ventures took place in September.

## **Republic of Korea**

Medical equipment valued at US\$100,000 and 73 computers valued at US\$100,000 allocated as Grant Aid for 1993 were received in February and April respectively.

In October, one excavator and two road breakers and spare parts valued at US\$100,000 were received as grant aid for 1994.

One place offered on the Pisculture Training Course run by the Korean International Cooperation Agency was not utilised.

The services of an expert wood carver (furniture expert) was offered but was not utilised.

Mr. Dae Sung Oh, Counsellor in the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, visited Guyana in November to hand over the 1994 Grant Aid package.

# **INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

## **UNICEF**

1994 marked the end of the **UNICEF** Country Programme for the period 1990 - 1994. A new Resident Programme Officer, Danielle Brady, replaced National Project Officer, Mr. Karan Singh.

On March 1, 1994, the Basic Cooperation Agreement between **UNICEF** and the Government of Guyana was signed. It sets out the terms and conditions of cooperation between the two parties. The Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Marta Mauras-Perez and Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, The Honourable Clement Rohee, signed the Agreement on behalf of **UNICEF** and the Government of Guyana, respectively.

## GENERAL ACTIVITIES

The following is a breakdown of **UNICEF** Funding:

		US\$
General Programme	-	765,000.00
Supplementary	-	1,354.00
Amazon Programme	-	78,000.00
CDEC	-	55,000.00

During the period under review, most of the activities implemented focused on preparation for the new Country Programme (1995 - 1999). This process commenced in 1992 with the preparation of the Situation Analysis of Women and Children and the subsequent Joint Strategy Meeting between **UNICEF** and the Government of Guyana in May 1993. The Master Plan of Operations for the Country Programme was approved at the **UNICEF** Executive Board Meeting in April 1994 and later signed by the Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Clement Rohee and the **UNICEF** Caribbean Area Representative, Marjorie Newman-Williams.

## UNFPA - UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Activities conducted during the year focused on preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo, Egypt, from September 5 - 13, 1994. Guyana was represented at this Conference by the Senior Minister of Health, The Honourable Gail Teixeira, Chief Statistician Mr. Lennox Benjamin, Chairman of the Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association (**GRPA**), Ms. Jean Sankies, and Ms. Jean Persico, the representative of the Minority Party.

The Family Life Education Project with the **GRPA** continued during the year and the services of the **UN** Volunteer, Bhagwan Shrestha, were extended for a further two years. A tripartite review of the project was held in December.

## **PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION - (PAHO)**

Interaction between the Government of Guyana and **PAHO** during 1994 focussed on the following areas:

- ▶ Human Resource Development
- ▶ Health Services Development
- ▶ Food & Nutrition
- ▶ Maternal and Child Health
- ▶ Communicable Diseases Control
- ▶ General Activities of Environmental Health

## **UNITED NATIONS DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME (UNDCP)**

In May 1994, following its premature termination an independent review was conducted on the project P88/397 "Prevention and Control of Drug Abuse" by **UNDCP** consultant, Mr. Jeffrey Lee. A report has been submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **UNDP FIFTH CYCLE PROGRAMME**

### **HEALTH**

The Guyana Agency for Health Sciences Education, Environment and Food Policy, (**GAHEF**) submitted two projects for funding:

1. Health Learning Materials Project
2. Nutrition Enhancement Project

The budgets for the projects indicated that they required excessively high levels of capital assistance.

## **NUTRITION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

The project document reflected difficulties in defining the problem to be addressed. At a meeting held in May, **GAHEF** was advised to pursue a course of action which would result in the problem being clearly defined.



## **Education**

The Ministry of Education submitted the following three projects for funding:

- ▶ Establishment of a Book Loan Rental Scheme;
- ▶ Strengthening of the National Archives;
- ▶ Strengthening Teacher Education.

The first project will not be funded by UNDP.

With respect to the project "Strengthening the National Archives", adjustments are to be made with regard to the definition of the problem and activities and outputs. Funding for the project will not be approved until there is an adequate building. The project 'Strengthening Teacher Education' also requires substantial capital assistance.

## **GUY/90/010 - Development of Textbooks**

The above project came to an end in 1994. During the Terminal Review Meeting held in May, 1994, UNDP recorded their satisfaction with the project.

## **RESPONSE TO NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA) AND ITS SIDE AGREEMENTS**

During 1994, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened several inter-agency meetings to examine the implications of the establishment of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) for Guyana's economy. Based on the recommendation of one such meeting an inter-agency working group was created. Because of the absence of much of the relevant data the group has been unable to complete its work.

## **PROPOSED BILATERAL INVESTMENT TREATY WITH THE USA**

In March 1994, Guyana responded to the first draft Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) which was submitted by the United States Embassy in 1993. However, without commenting on Guyana's response, the Embassy submitted a second (revised) draft for the consideration of the Government of Guyana. New consultations were held on this draft and the proposed response was submitted to Cabinet for its consideration.

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

During 1994, several inter-agency meetings to discuss this draft Agreement were convened. A task force established to examine the draft Agreement recommended that Guyana seek to accede to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (**WIPO**) in order to acquire the necessary technical assistance to respond competently to the United States draft.

Guyana is now a member of **WIPO** and a party to the Berne and Paris Conventions for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works and for the Protection of Industrial Property, respectively.

In July 1994, a **WIPO** Consultant visited Guyana to assess needs in the area of Intellectual Property Rights and Guyana was able to acquire **WIPO's** assistance in the drafting of laws for the updating Intellectual Property Rights legislation.

Guyana also received a mission from the Commonwealth Secretariat, the purpose of which was to assess ways in which the Secretariat could be of assistance to Guyana in the area of Intellectual Property Rights.

## **ECONOMIC INFORMATION BRIEF**

The Department prepared and published an Economic Information Brief. The Brief has been despatched to Missions and is available to potential investors desirous of doing business in Guyana.

## **TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITY**

The Ministry supplied items produced in Guyana for exhibition and sale to Missions in London, Caracas and Paramaribo.

## **INDO-GUYANESE COOPERATION**

- a. Guyanese in the public sector have been utilising scholarships by the Government of India under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (**ITEC**) Programme. The scholarships are fully funded and training is being done in various areas (computer technology, agriculture, human services, health, architecture, trade etc.)

- b. Provisions for deputation to Guyana of Indian experts in Agriculture, Engineering, Archival Preservation and Mineral Exploration have been put in place. Experts in the areas mentioned are expected shortly to carry out studies which the Government considers necessary for the economic development of the country.

### **DONATION OF WATER PUMPS TO GUYANA**

Arrangements have been made for the utilisation of 500 water pumps from the Government of India to improve pure water supply in Guyana.

### **PILOT PROJECT FOR TECHNICAL INSTITUTION IN GUYANA**

The Ministry, at the request of the Government of India, has forwarded a proposal for the development of the Guyana's Technical Institutes.

### **SPECIAL TRAINING FOR SCHOOL DROPOUTS**

Plans have been finalised for four early school leavers to be trained at a special school in India. The nominees will be taught skills in keeping with their aptitudes. Training programmes begin in July 1995.

# POLITICAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

The responsibilities of the Department include:

- ▶ preparation of country briefs on the countries under its purview;
- ▶ monitoring global political events and their implications for Guyana's foreign policy;
- ▶ coordinating liaison activities between other Ministries/Departments, Foreign Missions (both resident and non-resident)

## POLITICAL RELATIONS

### GUYANA/USA RELATIONS

Relations between Guyana and the **USA** remained cordial during 1994.

Concerted efforts to maintain the momentum of bilateral assistance from the **USA** which began to change in the preceding year, were moderately successful.

The **USA** Armed Forces Collaboration Programme including their Medical Outreach Programme conducted jointly with the Guyana Defence Force (**GDF**) and the Ministry of Health during the year were of enormous benefit to the rural communities where they were engaged.

Increased cooperation at the multilateral level was also evident, notably in Guyana's participation in the Summit of the Americas hosted by the United States Government in Miami during December 9-11, 1994. This meeting which sought greater hemispheric collaboration enabled Guyana to focus attention to the need for a Regional Development Fund (**RDF**) to allow for a coordinated approach to development assistance to the region. Guyana also participated in the United States sponsored **UNMIH** and earned the commendation of the **US** Government for its involvement in the peace keeping process in Haiti.

## **GUYANA/CANADA RELATIONS**

During 1994 Guyana/Canada relations continued to be vibrant.

The Honourable Christine Stewart, Secretary of State for Latin America and Africa in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada paid a visit to Guyana as part of a familiarization tour of countries of South America.

The Secretary of State's portfolio includes Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Canadian development aid and activities of non-governmental organisations. She held discussions with His Excellency the President, the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and other officials of Government.

Canada also continued to provide support for Guyana's economic reconstruction efforts and provided technical assistance through **CIDA** and the **CARIBCAN** mechanisms.

Canada, as coordinator of Guyana's Structural Adjustment Programme and the main donor of development assistance to Guyana, participated in the country's development through bilateral and multilateral efforts, including support to the programmes of **NGOs**.

During the period 1989 - 1994, Canada contributed C\$69.7M towards balance of payment support.

Futures Fund contributed to community and hinterland development projects, institutional strengthening of **NGOs** and the private sector.

In October The Honourable Prime Minister Samuel Hinds visited Canada.

The High Commission maintained contact with the **CARICOM** and Commonwealth groups and with High Commissioners accredited to Guyana who are based in Ottawa. Through contact with the Zambian High Commission in Ottawa arrangements were made for the visit to Guyana by the President of Zambia.

The Mission also extended Consular assistance to Guyanese and responded to remigration queries.

## TRADE AND INVESTMENT

In 1994 the Guyana High Commission in Ottawa continued to seek out investment opportunities. This entailed contact with Canadian federal and provincial officials and with the Guyanese community in Ottawa, Ontario and other provinces. The High Commissioner visited Edmonton and Calgary, (Alberta), Winnipeg (Manitoba) and Montreal (Quebec).

The High Commission made representation to the Canadian Government regarding the likely adverse effects on Guyana's sugar of the inclusion of sugar on the GPT list. CARICOM Missions made representation to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, on the matter of the export of rum from the Commonwealth Caribbean to Canada.

Trade and Investment enquiries were received from Guyanese based primarily in the province of Ontario. Queries included the status of proposals put to the Department of Lands and Surveys and the percentage of customs duties on specific items.

### Enquiries received from Canadian Agencies on Investment in Guyana

	<u>Individual/ Agency</u>	<u>Area of Interest</u>	<u>Status</u>
1.	Wind Power Inc.	Wind Power Generation	Have been in touch with Guyana Natural Resources Agency directly.
2.	Kiskadee Inc.	Agriculture, Eco-Tourism	Awaiting approval from Lands and Survey
3.	Looksouth International	Pulp and Paper Manufacturing	In contact with the Ministry of Trade and GO-INVEST.

4.	Can-Carib Management	Management Information Systems	Direct contact established with <b>One Plus ComputerService-Guyana</b> .
5.	Novateric	- do -	Awaiting response from <b>SIMAP</b> re: request for consultants.
6.	Birim Gold Fields	Gold Mining	Initial meeting held February 9, re: interest in Gold Mining. Will establish direct contact with <b>Guyana Geology &amp; Mines Commission</b> .
7.	Janal Int. Marketing	Sugar and Rice	Interested in buying rice from Guyana.
8.	New East Wireless	Telecoms equipment for Mining Company	We recently learnt that the deal was cancelled since the fee required by <b>GNFU</b> - Cdn\$5000 - was considered too high.
9.	Fareez Kassim	varied	Sent a <b>GO- INVEST</b> brochure.
10.	Jaredan Holdings Inc.	Forestry	To send specific proposals.
11.	MPP Technology (Kris Sanati)	Forestry	To send specific proposals.

12.	Impact Minerals	Gold Mining	A representative will pay an exploratory visit to Guyana.
13.	Snow Seafoods Inc.	Fisheries	In contact with the <b>Ministry of Agriculture.</b>
14.	Smallworld Fisheries	Fisheries Consultants	In contact with the <b>Ministry of Agriculture.</b>
15.	Montreal Fish	Tuna	No tuna available.
16.	Franklyn Marshall University of Alberta	Aquaculture	Direct contact with the University of Guyana and <b>GO-INVEST.</b>
17.	Futuremed Enterprises	Sugar	None available.
18.	Paul Schuler	Agriculture	In contact with the <b>Ministry of Agriculture.</b>
19.	Roy Ifill	Gold Jewellery	In contact with the Guyana Gold Board.
20.	Sino Power	Shirt Factory	In contact with Mission.
21.	Mr. Jagdeo	Furniture Factory	In contact with Mission (Toronto).
22.	Mr. Fazil Ramzan	Housing; Industrial Estate	In contact with Mission and <b>GO-INVEST.</b>



## **GUYANA/AFRICA RELATIONS**

### **Africa**

Guyana established formal diplomatic relations with the following Southern African countries:

Namibia	-	November 3, 1994
South Africa	-	November 4, 1994

### **South Africa**

His Excellency President Dr. Cheddi Jagan accepted an invitation to attend the inauguration of His Excellency President Nelson Mandela in May 1994.

Three South African diplomats paid a one-day visit to Guyana on November 4. The delegation paid courtesy calls on the Honourable Samuel Hinds M.P., Prime Minister and the Hon. Clement Rohee M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

This visit was made possible through the Commonwealth and **CARICOM** Secretariats, as part of a training programme for South African diplomats.

The Government of Guyana granted South African Airways permission to overfly Guyana's airspace in October.

### **Botswana**

While returning from South Africa, His Excellency The President visited Botswana at the invitation of the President of Botswana.

In Botswana, His Excellency the President held discussions with his counterpart on the possibility of investment in mining and other sectors of the Guyana economy.

### **Lesotho**

Two Lesotho medical students are pursuing studies at the University of Guyana under an Agreement for Scientific and Cultural Cooperation.

A Lesotho medical student recently completed a one-year period of internship at the Public Hospital in Georgetown.

## **GUYANA/MIDDLE EAST RELATIONS**

### **Iran**

Mr. Musoud Edriski Kermanshabi, Director Latin America in the Ministry of External Relations in Iran visited Guyana in June.

Discussions were aimed at assessing bilateral trade and investment possibilities. Mr Kermanshabi paid a courtesy call on His Excellency the President and met with officials of the Ministry of Trade, Tourism & Industry.

### **Egypt**

The former Ambassador of Egypt to Guyana His Excellency Dr. Mahmoud Moutada, paid a visit to Guyana in February. He held discussions with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Guyana explored the possibility of obtaining from Egypt six Water Engineers for Guyana. An unsuccessful approach was made to seek **UNDP** financing for this project.

At the end of the year a reaction was still being awaited from the Egyptians on the Draft Economic, Technical, Educational and Cultural Cooperation Agreement.

## **GUYANA/ASIA-PACIFIC RELATIONS**

### **Republic of Korea**

During 1994 Guyana was the recipient of Korean Grant Aid valued at US\$100,000 as well as the provision of training opportunities for Guyanese.

Visits were made to Guyana by the Non-Resident Ambassador and other Embassy staff from the Mission in Caracas, While in Guyana, discussions were held with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on matters of mutual interest.

On July 13, Guyana established an Honorary Consulate in Seoul. This event coincided with a visit to Seoul by Guyana's Non-Resident Ambassador to Korea, His Excellency Ambassador S.R. Insanally.

#### **Democratic People's' Republic of Korea (DPRK)**

On August 11, the new resident **DPRK** Ambassador to Guyana, His Excellency Mr. Choi Chun Yong presented his Letters of Credence.

#### **Japan**

Bilateral cooperation was reflected in the continued disbursement of Japanese Grant Aid and Technical Assistance.

During the year opportunities for Guyanese to participate in training courses in Japan were processed through the Japanese Embassy in Caracas.

In September, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. M.C. Miles participated in the Second **CARICOM**/Japan Encounter in Tokyo. While in Japan the Director General held discussions with officials of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other Japanese Agencies which have Grant Aid and Technical Cooperation Projects with Guyana.

#### **People's Republic of China (PRC)**

As a tangible expression of Government's desire to further deepen ties with the People's Republic of China, Cabinet, in April 1994, approved a request for the purchase land for the construction of a new Embassy Complex.

His Excellency the President visited the **PRC** in December 1993.

A number of Chinese delegations visited Guyana in 1994 in order to follow-up proposals made during the Presidential visit. These included delegations from the Guangzhou Municipality Pharmaceutical Corporation, the Hainan Provincial Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Development Cooperation, as well as a delegation led by the Vice-Minister of Forestry of the People's Republic of China.

In March, the Chinese Ambassador Wang Bao Min, handed over to the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. M.C. Miles a gift

of seven electric floor fans. The People's Republic of China, through its Embassy in Georgetown, also presented gifts to the National Assembly and the Georgetown City Council.

On November 7, a new Chinese envoy, His Excellency Ambassador Zhang Yu, presented Letters of Credence to His Excellency the President.

### **Malaysia**

At year end, the Draft Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement was still receiving the attention of the Malaysians.

His Excellency Looi Cheok Hun, Ambassador of Malaysia completed his tour of duty and proceeded into retirement. He was succeeded by His Excellency Zainal Abidin Bin Mahamad Zain, Ambassador (designate).

### **Australia**

In January, the Australian High Commission in the Caribbean was relocated from Kingston, Jamaica to Bridgetown, Barbados. His Excellency Mr. Robert C. Whitty, non-resident High Commissioner for Australia to Guyana presented his Letters of Credence to His Excellency the President on September 22.

### **Pakistan**

His Excellency Mr. Arif Kamal, non-resident Deputy High Commissioner for Pakistan in Guyana visited Guyana in January 1994. Discussions were held with officials of the Ministry of Trade, Tourism & Industry, The Ministry of Education & Cultural Development and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **Maritius**

His Excellency the President visited Mauritius in May. In Mauritius, bilateral exchanges included ways in which Guyana can benefit from the experience of that country in the establishment of an Export Promotion Zone.

## **GUYANA/SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND STATES RELATIONS**

In November, a delegation from the smaller South Pacific States led by Sir Geoffrey Henry, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands visited Guyana for the purpose of pursuing discussions with the **CARICOM** Secretariat and the Government of Guyana on issues pertaining to the deepening of relations between the smaller South Pacific Island States and the Caribbean Community and Guyana, respectively.

While in Guyana Sir Geoffrey held discussions with His Excellency the President, the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **Maldives**

An Agreement to establish diplomatic relations between Guyana and the Maldives was signed on April 13, 1994, by Guyana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, His Excellency Ambassador S.R. Insanally and the Charge d'affaires at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives in New York.

## **WESTERN EUROPE**

Italy, Sweden and Germany held general elections in 1994. Congratulatory messages were forwarded to the respective Prime Ministers, the Chancellor and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

The Department continued to expedite responses to correspondence between the Guyana High Commission, London, the Guyana Embassy, Brussels and Agencies in Guyana. Follow-up action was required in respect of job applications, welfare cases and general banking enquiries forwarded by the Guyana High Commission, London.

Briefs were prepared on Guyana's political and economic relations with West European countries for purposes of the accreditation of Ambassadors and officials visits.

Overflight and patrol boat requests were processed on behalf of the Embassies of France and of the Netherlands.

## **GUYANA/UNITED KINGDOM RELATIONS**

In January, the British Deputy High Commissioner to Guyana signed an Agreement with The Honourable Asgar Ally, Senior Minister of Finance, for a grant of 5 million pounds sterling to be used to finance public sector reform over a three-year period.

The Honourable Senior Minister of Finance also signed an Agreement with Mr. Graham Cook, Engineering Manager of the British firm Sir William Halcrow & Partners for the Company to provide three experts to manage the Guyana Sea Defence Project Execution Unit. The Unit was expected to oversee the rehabilitation of 40 km of sea wall in 1994. The contract, worth ECU750,000 (G\$108M), was funded by the European Community.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh paid an official visit to Guyana from February 19 to 22, 1994.

The Royal couple was accompanied by Baroness Lynda Chalker, British Minister of Overseas Development who signed, with the Honourable Senior Minister of Finance, an Agreement for the rescheduling of Guyana US\$31.2M debt to the United Kingdom.

In March, the British High Commissioner handed over a Land Rover and water treatment chemicals to the Guyana Sewerage and Water Commission (**GS & WC**). In October he handed over new pumps to the **GS&WC** for the maintenance of the city's pure water supply system. The equipment and materials form part of the total British Government grant of 600,000 pounds sterling to the Government of Guyana for the **GS&WC**.

In April, Mr. Ian Stewart assumed duty as Director of the Overseas Development Administration (**ODA**) in Guyana.

Under the auspices of the British Executive Service Overseas (**BESO**), a British Civil Engineer was assigned to the Auditor General's Office and a retired British Customs Officer was employed to take charge of Customs & Excise operations in East Berbice.

The following Cabinet memoranda pertaining to Guyana/United Kingdom Relations were submitted:

- ▶ United Kingdom/Guyana Drugs Confiscation Agreement
- ▶ Employment of Diplomatic Spouses

British Royal Marines aboard the HMS Fearless visited Guyana from June 22 to July 15, for a joint training exercise at the Guyana Defence Force Jungle and Amphibious Training School. During their stay, they were involved in the Rubella vaccination project and in activities related to dentistry and optometry as well as the refurbishing of the Ministry of Health pharmacy bond.

British soldiers from the Welsh Guards Regiment visited Guyana in September to conduct adventure training in the Upper Mazaruni area as part of the fourth phase of the "Roof of the Americas" expedition.

The Guyana High Commission in London hosted a seminar on Race Relations in Guyana in April. This seminar was co-sponsored by Warwick University. It was attended by approximately fifty persons including representatives from various political organisations.

This High Commission was responsible for planning the visit of a group from Guyana to exhibit Amerindian art and craft. The Exhibition was held over a two week period at the Commonwealth Institute and the Guyana High Commission. The exhibition was made possible through the kind sponsorship of BWIA, The Commonwealth Foundation and the Commonwealth Institute. The High Commission also received generous help from members of the Guyanese Community, in the United Kingdom.

The High Commission was instrumental in obtaining funding from the Commonwealth Foundation for accommodation and meals for two of the visiting Amerindian exhibitors.

Several Guyanese residents expressed an interest in returning to Guyana to work. The High Commission played its part in processing their communication with Georgetown.

Assistance was given in the advertisement of vacancies and tenders in the Guyana public sector largely through the medium of the High Commission's Newsletter.

The publication of the Mission Newsletter afforded the opportunity of informing members of the public of developments taking place in Guyana and of the types of services provided by the Consular Section of the High Commission.

Nationals including businessmen were encouraged to register with the Mission.

There was much interaction with Guyanese organisations in the United Kingdom. Staff regularly attended fundraising events organised by organisations to assist the health and education sectors in Guyana.

Dissatisfaction from the Guyana community in the United Kingdom centered mainly on the functioning of the banking, postal and legal services in Guyana.

Information on trade and tourism fairs was forwarded to the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry and the Tourism Association of Guyana by the Mission. Enquiries pertaining to tourism investment were processed.

The Mission was represented at a Symposium on the Tourism Industry in March 1994 organised by the Commonwealth Institute and the University of North London.

The Mission was also charged with responsibility for preparing for Guyana's participation at the World Travel Market which took place at Earl's Court from November 14 - 18, 1994. Representatives of resorts/hotels in Guyana, the Tourism Advisory Board, the Executive Director of the Tourism Association of Guyana and a representative of the High Commission, attended.

Proposals for a permanent trade exhibition to be mounted at the High Commission were formulated and forwarded to Georgetown. It is the desire of the High Commission that the exhibition be set up during the first quarter of 1995.

#### **VISITS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM BY MINISTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICIALS**

The visit to London of the Honourable Senior Minister of Finance from October 10 - 12 provided opportunity for the West India Committee, in consultation with the High Commission, to organise a Round Table discussion between the Minister and members of the United Kingdom business community.

The High Commissioner accompanied His Excellency The President to the Netherlands and Brussels in September 1994. During his stopover in London en route to Guyana, the President addressed a public meeting.

On May 4, the Honourable Senior Minister of Health Ms. Gail Teixeira met with Executive Members of the Guyana Health Care Coordinating Group



at the High Commission.

In mid-June, the opportunity of the presence in the United Kingdom of the Honourable Senior Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security Dr. Henry Jeffrey was taken to invite members of the Guyanese community in Britain to a briefing on developments in Guyana.

In June, during a visit to London by Bishop Randolph George, Dean of Georgetown, to the United Kingdom, the opportunity was taken to introduce members of the United Kingdom community concerned with Race Relations. A reception was hosted by the High Commissioner in honour of Bishop George.

Efforts were made to consolidate the relationship between the High Commission and other High Commissions/Embassies accredited to the United Kingdom. Special attention was paid to maintaining close links with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the ODA.

Regular meetings of Caribbean High Commissioners were held.

## **CONTACTS WITH NATIONALS**

The High Commissioner and staff spent a considerable amount of time meeting nationals and in working with the approximately fifty (50) Guyanese organisations whose representatives were invited to the High Commission to participate in seminars and to attend functions.

The High Commission also initiated the publication of a Newsletter which has a circulation of over one thousand copies. To facilitate the preparation of the Newsletter, a computer and printer were purchased by the High Commission with funds donated by individuals in the community (£1,500).

## **GUYANA/FRANCE RELATIONS**

A three-member French multi-disciplinary team visited Guyana from October 8 - 14, 1994 in connection with Guyana's request for assistance for its National Archives. The Report from the French team is still pending. The Archivist (ag) of Guyana subsequently accepted an invitation from the French Government to view the Archives in French Guiana for one week in December.

His Excellency Denis Nardin, non-resident Ambassador of France to Guyana, paid a farewell visit in October 1994 at the end of a three-year tour of duty.

The Ministry has offered the temporary use of the ground floor of Ramphal House for meetings of the Alliance Francaise of Guyana. The Alliance had not officially responded to this offer.

In February, Mr. Philippe Massif of Martinique organised a Workshop in Guyana on the Teaching of French as a Foreign Language. The Workshop was attended by secondary school French teachers and University lecturers.

The French Patrol Boat "La Capricieuse", under Commander Pierre Jean Guionin, paid its fifth visit to Port Georgetown in November.

Following an invitation from the Chief of Staff of the Guyana Defence Force, the Commander in Chief of the French Forces in French Guiana paid a visit to Guyana from November 2 - 6.

Sections of the French 9th Infantry Marine Regiment trained in Guyana in May and October.

The Western Europe Desk Officer and an Economic Affairs Officer attended a six-week French Language course in Martinique sponsored by the Government of France.

Copies of Letters of Accreditation in respect of the present High Commissioner and Letters of Recall of the former High Commissioner were handed over at the French Embassy in London. Regular contact was maintained between the High Commission and the Protocol Department of the French Foreign Ministry regarding the presentation of credentials. It is hoped that this can be done early in the new year.

## **GUYANA/GERMANY RELATIONS**

His Excellency Helmut Schafer, Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany, paid an official visit to Guyana in February. He was accompanied by the German non-resident Ambassador to Guyana, His Excellency Holger Heinfried Eberle and Private Secretary, Ulrich Dresen. During that visit, the Minister exchanged Instruments of Ratification to the Treaty on Reciprocal Protection of Investments with the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Germany granted US\$9,000.00 to the Rehabilitation Programme for a Teaching Skills Programme for Amerindian teachers in the Rupununi.

Guyana nominated a candidate for a course for football coaches. However, late receipt of the application form led to Guyana's candidate not being considered.

## **GUYANA/DENMARK RELATIONS**

The Danish non-resident Ambassador to Guyana died in 1994. A message of Condolence was forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

## **GUYANA/NETHERLANDS RELATIONS**

His Excellency Schelte Baron Van Heemstra, non-resident Ambassador of the Netherlands to Guyana, presented his credentials to His Excellency the President on July 11.

Guyana's High Commissioner to London, His Excellency Mr. Lall Singh, paid an official visit to the Netherlands from June 24 - 27. The opportunity was taken to call on senior officials of the Dutch Foreign Ministry and on the Minister for Development Cooperation. The main objective of the visit was to identify areas where Dutch assistance could be obtained at governmental and non-governmental levels.

The opportunity was also taken to meet with nationals and to address a gathering organised by the newly formed Association of Guyanese in the Netherlands - Stichting Friends of Guyana.

## **GUYANA/SWEDEN RELATIONS**

In March, the non-resident Ambassador of Sweden to Guyana paid his annual visit to Guyana. He met with The Honourable Prime Minister and with The Honourable Senior Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Finance.

## **GUYANA/AUSTRIA RELATIONS**

A training course on Hotel Management and Tourism was again offered to Guyana. Guyana is still to nominate a candidate for this course.

## **GUYANA/SPAIN RELATIONS**

Guyana nominated a candidate for a language scholarship offered by Spain. Due to late receipt of the application form the candidate did not participate.

## **GUYANA/ITALY RELATIONS**

His Excellency Francesco Capece Galea, non-resident Ambassador of Italy to Guyana was accredited.

A delegation from Italy visited Guyana in May to hold talks on bilateral cooperation in the field of energy.

Two Italian contractors - PAC Impreza Construzioni SPA and GELFI Construzioni SPA signed contracts on November 4 with the Government of Guyana valued at US\$12.6M to effect repairs to sea defences in the Pomeroon-Supernaam and West Demerara regions. This Programme was funded by the European Community under the LOME IV Convention.

The Guyana Embassy in Brazil pursued with His Excellency Mr. Oliviero Rossi, Ambassador of the Italian Republic, the advancement of the process in relation to the 1991 conclusion by Guyana of a Commodity Aid Agreement (Financial Protocol) with the Italian Government to the tune of US\$4M. Towards the end of the year, the Italians suggested that the grant be converted into a soft loan.

### **Request for Agreement**

The Italian Government submitted a request for Agreement for His Excellency Oliviero Rossi, Ambassador of the Italian Republic located in Brazil to be accredited to Guyana.

## **LATIN AMERICA**

During 1994 the following activities were conducted:

- ▶ Monitoring political events regionally and advising on their implications for Guyana.

- ▶ Despatching messages of congratulations and of sympathy to countries in the region.
- ▶ Liaising with local Ministries, agencies and embassies.
- ▶ Preparation of political briefs.
- ▶ Identifying areas of possible cooperation.

## **GUYANA/BRAZIL RELATIONS**

The Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, led a nine-member Guyana delegation to Brazil, for the Third Guyana/Brazil Joint Commission Meeting, from March 28-29. At that forum, the possibility of implementing technical cooperation projects of mutual benefit in areas of health, agriculture, energy, education, mining, culture, sports and environment, was discussed.

The signing of the Agreed Minutes of that meeting in September paved the way for the implementation of the decisions arrived at.

The Guyana/Brazil Mixed Border Commission was established and convened its first meeting in Georgetown from November 21 - 24. Its principal task was to devise plans for the inspection and repair of the border markers.

The Guyana/Brazil Group on Consular Cooperation convened its inaugural session in Georgetown from November 24 - 25. Discussions were also pursued within a Working Group on Trade.

### **Visit of Her Excellency Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P., First Lady and Ambassador-at-Large to Brazil**

Her Excellency Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P., First Lady and Ambassador-at-Large visited Brazil, as Guyana's official representative to the inauguration of Brazil's new President, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, from December 30 - January 2, 1995.

### **Government of Guyana Scholarship Awardees**

There are 23 students sponsored by the Government of Guyana pursuing studies in Brazil.

## **Consular Activity**

During the year 1994, the Mission issued 274 visas. Thirteen (13) passports were renewed and thirteen (13) new passports issued.

## **GUYANA/CHILE RELATIONS**

Guyana has indicated its interest in Chilean assistance in the areas of forestry, fishing and human resource development.

A Chilean technical delegation visited Guyana on July 12, to discuss greater bilateral cooperation.

Cabinet is to consider a request for visa-free travel between the two countries. Accession to this request may be limited to travel for diplomatic and official business.

## **GUYANA/COSTA RICA RELATIONS**

Collaboration between Guyana and Costa Rica has been achieved at the multilateral level as both countries hold membership in the United Nations, **SELA** and the **OAS**. Costa Rica has shown an interest in the Caribbean sub-region which is reflected in its request for Observer status in **CARICOM**.

Guyana's Ambassador to Venezuela, His Excellency Mr. Satayadeo Sawh represented Guyana at the inauguration of President Jose Maria Figueres on May 8.

## **GUYANA/COLOMBIA RELATIONS**

On January 29 a delegation from Colombia visited Guyana to settle details for the implementation of co-operation programmes. Guyana benefitted from the services of rice-breeding experts and received donations of books and vaccines.

An Agreement for the Prevention, Control and Suppression of the Use and Trafficking of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances was concluded on January 15.

Guyana supported the candidature of President Cesar Gaviria for the post of Secretary General of the **OAS**.

The Junior Foreign Affairs Minister, Andelfo Garcia paid a visit to Guyana.

Bilateral relations were further strengthened by the April State visit to Colombia of His Excellency the President. Concurrent with this visit was the inaugural meeting of the Guyana/Colombia Joint Commission. Education, Health, Agriculture and Trade, Tourism and Industry were identified as areas of possible co-operation. Guyana was also to benefit from a US\$14M line-of-credit facility to promote trade between the two countries.

## **GUYANA/CUBA RELATIONS**

His Excellency Mr. Ricardo Garcia Diaz, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba presented his credentials to President Jagan on March 25.

Guyana supported United Nations Resolution 48/16 entitled "necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

## **GUYANA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Dominican Republic made significant advances to **CARICOM** in 1994. During the latter part of 1994, Mr. Jacinto Lienvenioto Seynado, Vice President of the Dominican Republic requested meetings with the Heads of Government of Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad & Tobago to discuss the Caribbean integration process, the Western Hemispheric Summit and the Dominican Republic's possible participation in the **CARICOM** Preparatory Meeting of Heads of Government on November 17-19 in Jamaica.

## **GUYANA/HAITI RELATIONS**

Following the forced removal from office of the democratically elected Government of Haiti, the Government of Guyana fully supported the restoration of democratic rule in that country, as seen in its support for the Governors Island Accord. At the 24th Regular Session of the Organisation of American States held in Belem, Brazil in June, the Government of Guyana supported a resolution which called for the removal of the military in Haiti.

In response to the UN Security Council Resolution 940 of July 31, Guyana joined **CARICOM** in contributing a 40-member contingent from the Guyana Defence Force to Haiti. Guyana Defence Force troops were deployed in the third phase i.e. the non-combatant/stabilisation phase of the process to restore democracy to Haiti.

President Carter and his team reached an agreement with the past three military leaders of Haiti on September 18 on relinquishing control of power in Haiti by October 15.

Guyana also contributed to the United Nations mission in Haiti (**UNMIH**) by sending representation from the Guyana Police Force.

The Guyana Police Force contingent comprised one Officer, one Inspector, one Sergeant, one Corporal, and ten Constables.

On October 15, 1994 President returned to Haiti.

## **GUYANA/MEXICO RELATIONS**

During 1994, Mexican President His Excellency Ernesto Zedillo indicated that Mexico would be placing emphasis on strengthening bilateral and regional co-operation with the Caribbean.

Ambassador Sawh met with senior officials of **Bancomext** (The National Bank of Foreign Trade), who were interested in strengthening trade with Guyana. Mexican Foreign Ministry officials also expressed an interest in the possible export of Guyana's rum products to Mexico.

At the multilateral level Guyana had the opportunity to collaborate with Mexico at the Summit of Americas in Miami in December.

## **GUYANA/SURINAME RELATIONS**

As a frontier country Suriname remained in the focus of Guyana's relationships in 1994.

Guyana and Suriname continued to enjoy friendly though somewhat uneasy relations in 1994.

Functional cooperation between Guyana and Suriname is channeled under the aegis of the Guyana/Suriname Cooperation Council, inaugurated in 1989.



The third meeting of the Council was successfully convened in Guyana in April.

The year 1994 was noted by the following activities:

**February:** Senior Minister of Finance the Honourable Asgar Ally, accompanied by the Comptroller of Customs and Excise, Mr. Jai Mangal and Customs Adviser, Mr. Michael Welling, visited Suriname. The visit facilitated discussions on the draft Memorandum of Understanding (**MOU**) submitted by Guyana and on measures to control the illegal trade across the Corentyne River.

The Honourable Minister shared Guyana's experience of its Structural Adjustment Programme with Suriname at a Seminar organised by the Suriname Private Sector.

**April:** The Sub-Committees of the Guyana/Suriname Cooperation Council met at Springlands during April 21 - 22. The Council met during April 25 - 26 in Georgetown. The Work Programme for 1994/95 was approved.

**June:** The Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs paid a visit to Suriname. He paid a courtesy call on the President of the Republic of Suriname, His Excellency Ronald Venetiaan. Additionally, he held discussions with the Honourable Mr. Subhas Mungra, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Suriname.

His Excellency the President paid a four-day State Visit to Suriname. The meeting provided an opportunity for discussions on the Prevention of Illicit Drug Trafficking, illegal Trade, Fisheries, Economic and Technical Cooperation in the areas of Bauxite, Forestry Oil Exploration and the Border Controversy, among others.

**September:** On September 12, His Excellency the President was intransit for about six (6) hours in Suriname enroute to Europe. During his stopover he met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Suriname and other government officials, representatives of the Suriname State Oil Company (**STAATSOLIE**), Para Industries, and Private Sector. In

these discussions His Excellency the President expressed an interest in the activities of **STAATSOLIE**, the Suriname Glass Factory and Suriname's hydropower development.

Under the Cooperation Council fisheries met frequently during the year.

There was frequent contact between the Military of the two countries in 1994. In August, a Military delegation from Guyana visited Suriname and participated as Observers in a Joint Military exercise between Suriname and French Guiana.

## **FUNCTIONAL/TECHNICAL COOPERATION**

Following the discussions between His Excellency the President and Surinamese officials during his stopover in Suriname the undermentioned visits took place:

- ▶ Members of the Suriname Private Sector Commission visited Guyana in October;
- ▶ A delegation from the Para Industries of Suriname also visited during October;
- ▶ A delegation from the Suriname State Oil Company, headed by Mr. Jharap, Managing Director of **STAATSOLIE**, visited Guyana during the period November 28 to December 2.

During the year under review, the Surinamese Business Community continued to seek to conduct business with Guyana.

In 1994, the Executive Chairman of Demerara Distillers Ltd. (DDL) Mr. Komal Samaroo visited Suriname to explore the possibility of establishing business contacts. He met with officials from the Suriname Trade and Industry Ministry, the Chamber of Commerce, the Ministry of Trade and the Suriname Liquor Company.

In March, Mr. Ashton Chase, Dean of the Guyana Bar Association participated in a two-day seminar in Suriname on the Role of the Lawyer and the Lawyer Organisation in Democratisation and Development Process organised by the Federation for Judicial Cooperation between Suriname and Holland.

In June, the Commissioner of Police Laurie Lewis attended the inauguration of the new Surinamese Police Chief, Mr. C. Hunsel.

## **SPORT**

The 1994 Inter-Guiana Games were held in Georgetown from September 7 - 13. Regular contact continued between the two countries in the field of sport.

## **SMUGGLING**

Sea Piracy and smuggling of consumer goods, logs and other items across the Corentyne river continued during the year.

## **CONSULAR**

During the year the Consular Section continued its regular services (Consular and Notarial) to the Guyanese Community in Suriname and French Guiana.

Approximately 1,400 new passports, 1,200 renewals and 900 Emergency Certificates were issued.

The Embassy played a pivotal role in obtaining birth, marriage, death and character certificates for Guyanese nationals residing in Suriname and French Guiana.

Requests for visas decreased significantly following the lifting of Guyana visa requirements.

The Mission continued to authenticate and probate documents such as Deeds Poll, Powers of Attorney, Affidavits etc. The Embassy was often required to advise Guyanese nationals on personal matters affecting them, such as requests for assistance in obtaining documents from the Guyana, and Surinamese Authorities, advice on Divorce procedures, and on various other domestic and legal matters.

## **WELFARE MATTERS**

Several welfare cases involving Guyanese were dealt with during the

course of the year. These matters related to immigration, ill-treatment, death, detention, confiscation of travel documents, fishing boats and goods, among others.

Appropriate action was taken in collaboration with the Surinamese Attorney General's office and the local Police Authorities which resulted in most of these cases being solved satisfactorily.

It is important to mention the case of the two (2) Guyanese painters who were ill-treated by the Slooten brothers (Surinamese) for allegedly stealing from mother Slooten. The incident occurred in April and the case came up for hearing in July. One of three suspects went on trial. The other two were at large. At the conclusion of the trial in August, the suspect, Police Brigadier Slooten was found guilty and sentenced to three (3) years imprisonment. Additionally, he was suspended from duty for a period of five (5) years.

On account of this Embassy's intervention a Surinamese-based Guyanese child who was suffering from cancer was sent abroad for medical treatment by the Government of Guyana.

### **CONSULAR VISITS**

As part of its outreach Programme, the Embassy continued its periodical visits to District Nickerie and the local Prisons in Paramaribo and Nickerie. Apart from the Consular aspect of the Programme, these visits facilitated discussions with the Surinamese Authorities on matters relating to the welfare of the Guyanese residing in Suriname.

### **STAFFING**

In September an officer with an adequate knowledge of accounting was finally posted to this Embassy.

### **SOCIAL**

The Embassy participated in an International Bazaar organised by the Diplomatic Ladies Group in Paramaribo. The Guyana booth offered for sale products of the country including Limacol, Ferrol Compound, Guyana Rum, Snack Foods, Jams and jellies etc. These items were donated by the Demerara Distillers Ltd., Guyana Pharmaceutical Corporation and Banks DIH.

## **GUYANA/URUGUAY RELATIONS**

On July 19, 1994 Cabinet approved the appointment of His Excellency Enrique Fyn Larriera as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Uruguay to Guyana.

## **GUYANA/VENEZUELA RELATIONS**

During 1994, Guyana continued to build on the enhanced bilateral relations consequent upon the State visit to Venezuela by His Excellency the President in February. Guyana also continued its support for the McIntyre Process aimed at an eventual peaceful resolution of the controversy over the Essequibo, resulting from Venezuela's claim.

Guyana further sought to intensify its economic relations with Venezuela.

To this end, a contract was signed with **MARAVEN** for the supply of Venezuelan petroleum products to Guyana. Negotiations continued with officials of **ASCERA** Airlines.

The first meeting of the Administrative Commission of the Partial Scope Agreement between Venezuela and Guyana was held from June 20-21.

### **Appointment of Non-Resident Ambassador to Five South American Countries**

In December Cabinet Memoranda were submitted for the Appointment of Non-Resident Ambassador to Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay.

## **CIS COUNTRIES AND EASTERN EUROPE**

Relations between Guyana, and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Eastern Europe can be characterised as cordial.

The disintegration of the **USSR** and the end of the Soviet empire and the end of the Cold War coupled with the uncertainty occasioned by the radical economic reforms that the states are undertaking have resulted in a decrease in cooperation between Guyana and those regions.

## **GUYANA/RUSSIAN FEDERATION RELATIONS**

Guyana continues to enjoy cordial relations with the Russian Federation, the only State within the CIS with which it has diplomatic relations.

A number of bilateral meetings were held between His Excellency the Russian Ambassador and Senior Foreign Ministry officials to discuss issues of mutual importance.

In February, Cabinet approved of the Jamaican Embassy in Moscow assuming responsibility for the Consular affairs of Guyanese resident in the CIS and Eastern Europe, particularly the affairs of the Guyanese students. There are approximately sixteen (16) students remaining in the former USSR.

In August the Guyana Consulate in Moscow was closed mainly for financial reasons.

In September, a meeting was held between His Excellency the Russian Ambassador and officials of the government and private sector to discuss possibilities of expanding trade and economic cooperation between Guyana and Russia.

It was proposed that a new Trade Agreement be established as a basis for renewed trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Guyana has been included by Russia on the list of countries eligible for preferential treatment of its products in that country.

In September, Cabinet amended a decision to reflect approval of the signing of a Visa Abolition Agreement between Guyana and the Russian Federation for holders of Diplomatic and Officials passports.

After much consultation with the University of Guyana, the Ministry of Education and Public Service Management the Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted to the Russian Government its draft of the Protocol on the Mutual Recognition of Studies, Certificates, Diplomas and Academic Degrees for the latter's consideration.

During the latter part of the year Agreement was granted by the Russian Government for His Excellency Laleshwar Singh to be accredited as Guyana's Non-Resident Ambassador to the Russian Federation.

The Russian Federation was granted permission by the Central Housing

and Planning Authority to lease a portion of its Embassy to Mr. Nafis Khan, Director, Resort Facilities, to be operated as a residential and commercial complex.

### **GUYANA/AZERBAIJAN RELATIONS**

Following a request from the Government of Azerbaijan, the Government of Guyana approved the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries through an Exchange of Diplomatic Notes.

### **GUYANA/POLAND RELATIONS**

In October, Non Resident Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Andrzej Krzanowshi presented his credentials to His Excellency the President. He held a number of meetings with senior government officials to explore possibilities of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

# MULTILATERAL AND GLOBAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

## UNITED NATIONS

The Department liaised with Guyana's Permanent Mission to the United Nations on the following issues:

- a. Reform and Restructuring of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council;
- b. An Agenda for Development;
- c. Role of Women in Development;
- d. Human Rights issues;
- e. Establishment of an International Criminal Court;

There was need for even greater coordination with the Permanent Mission, New York during His Excellency Ambassador Insanally's Presidency of the General Assembly which continued until September 20, 1994.

### Drug Trafficking

The Department continued to liaise with the Ministries of Health and of Home Affairs in order to comply with requests for information from the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Drug Control Programme among others. It also facilitated the transmission of related documents to the Ministries.

### UN Specialised Agencies

During 1994 the UNICEF Regional Representative visited Guyana and the Basic Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Guyana and UNICEF, was signed.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development were coordinated by the Department.

The Department also assisted in coordinating and implementing activities leading up to the World Summit on Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, both of which are scheduled for 1995.

### **50th Anniversary of the United Nations**

In May, a National Committee was established under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The National Committee held four meetings and, through a Working Group, planned activities in accordance with the broad areas suggested by the United Nations Anniversary Secretariat:

- ▶ Commemoration
- ▶ Celebration
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Communication

Guyana's proposals included the printing of a Commemorative Stamp, Symposia, Essay Competitions, Cultural Expositions and Craft Exhibitions. Emphasis will be placed on participation by school children, youths and University students.

### **THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)**

The Department continued to consult with line Ministries to enable policy execution on the **CARICOM** Work Programme and the decisions of the Conference of Heads of Governments. The Department was involved in preparatory and follow-up activities relating to, inter alia:

- ▶ The Fifth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of **CARICOM** Heads of Government held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in March. His Excellency the President led the Guyana delegation. He also pursued bilateral discussions with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Mr. Michel Camdessus.

- ▶ The Twentieth Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs held in Belize in May.
- ▶ The Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of **CARICOM** Heads held in Barbados in July.
- ▶ In September, the Department organised for the first public consultation on **CARICOM's** Draft Charter for Civil Society at St. Rose's High School in Georgetown.
- ▶ In August, the Honourable Senior Minister convened the first meeting of the Task Force on **CARICOM** Affairs.
- ▶ The Eleventh Informal Consultations of the **SCMFA** held during the Forty-ninth Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly, in New York in October.
- ▶ Two meetings of the Technical Group on Suriname's Application for Membership of **CARICOM**.

## **ORGANISATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**

Mr. Cesar Gaviria, former President of Colombia, assumed duty as the new Secretary-General of the **OAS**, in September. In April, the outgoing **OAS** Secretary-General, Ambassador Joao Clement Baena Soares, paid an official visit to Guyana.

The Twenty-fourth Regular Session of the **OAS** General Assembly was held in Belem do Para, Brazil in June, 1994. Guyana's delegation was led by the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

### **OAS Technical Cooperation**

In January, Dr. Riyad Insanally, Senior Foreign Service Officer I, was appointed National Liaison Officer (ONE) to the **OAS**.

The **OAS** undertook a study on the integrated development of the Kimbia and Mainstay Lake areas, focusing on the agriculture and eco-tourism potential of those areas.

The **OAS**, through its Horizontal Cooperation Programme, facilitated the visit of a team of four scientists from **EMBRAPA** in Brazil, to share their experience with regard to the agricultural development of savannahs.

The **OAS** completed a Tourism Awareness Programme (**TAP**) in conjunction with the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry and conducted a project aimed at training small hotel operators.

The **OAS** was asked to undertake an Integrated Tourism Development Plan for Guyana and a preliminary mission was conducted in November.

The Ministry of Education and Cultural Development benefitted from **OAS's** Higher Education Multinational Programme (**PROMESUP**), conducted through the University of Guyana and the Institute of Adult of Continuing Education, focusing on Spanish language teaching.

A technical cooperation project for the Department of Culture was pursued, beginning with training for National Archives personnel.

The Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security participated in an **OAS** regional project on Youth in Business and the Women's Affairs Bureau received a gift of computer equipment through the Inter-American Commission of Women.

In the course of the year Government officials participated in various **OAS** seminars, workshops and courses.

## **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)/CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)**

In February, Mr. Daniel Blanchard, Director of the **ECLAC** sub-regional Office in Trinidad and Tobago, paid an official visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and had discussions with the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and senior officials.

The **ECLAC/CDCC** Secretariat continued to provide technical support for national preparations relating to participation in the two United National World Conferences held in 1994, the Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the International Conference on Population and Development.

In July, Guyana's Ambassador to Venezuela, His Excellency Satayadeo Sawh, represented Guyana at the Fifteenth Session of the CDCC held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

### **ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)**

Guyana participated in a series of technical meetings aimed at establishing the ACS. On July 24, in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, the Honourable Prime Minister signed the Agreement Establishing the ACS, on behalf of the Government of Guyana.

### **ACP - EEC**

#### **Mid-Term Review**

The Mid-Term Review of the LOME IV Convention was launched at the Council of Ministers Meeting between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and the European Union (EU) held in Mbabane, Swaziland in May 1994.

The Negotiations were conducted in three (3) groups as follows:

- ▶ Central Negotiating Group (Industrial matters, the Suspension Clause and Political dialogue);
- ▶ Negotiating Group No. 2 (Trade Cooperation)
- ▶ Negotiating Group No. 3 (Development Finance Cooperation)

Negotiations continued throughout the year and resulted in significant progress in some areas. Disagreement loomed in respect of the quantum of the financial package.

### **CARIBBEAN FORUM (CARIFORUM)**

Guyana continued to monitor progress in respect of the following two projects which are to be funded by the European Union through CARIFORUM.

- ▶ The provision of security lights at the Timehri International Airport; and

- ▶ Guyana/Suriname Ferry Project.

### **Sugar**

Guyana has maintained supplies of sugar to the European Union for a total of 163,000 tonnes over the 1993 - 1994 delivery period.

The Guyana Mission in Brussels maintained its liaison with **GUYSUCO** in respect of the sugar prices for the 1994 - 1995 delivery period and negotiations for the supply of **ACP** sugar to the Portuguese refining market.

### **Rice**

Guyana continued to export rice to Europe via the Dutch Antilles. The compromise system put in place in 1993 continued during the year.

### **Rum**

Exports to the European Union continued. Guyana continued to look forward to an increase in the quota with the enlarged Union and the abolition of the quota system in 1996.

## **MEETINGS**

During 1994 Guyana was represented at the following meetings:

- ▶ 4th Meeting of the Ministers of the CARIFORUM in Georgetown, February 4.
- ▶ 18th Session of the **ACE-EU** Assembly Meeting in Straasbourg, France, February 11 - 18.
- ▶ 58th Session of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (**ACP**) and 19th Session of the **ACP-EU** Council of Ministers Meeting Mbabane, Swaziland, May 10-20.
- ▶ 59th Session of the **ACP** Council of Ministers Meeting in Brussels, November 27 - December 2.

### **Visit**

His Excellency the President Jagan visited the European Commission. He held discussions with Mr. Jacques Delors and addressed the Economic Committee of the European Parliament and senior members of the Commission, the Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organisations.

### **Election of Secretary-General**

The ACP held elections for a new Secretary-General in November. However, neither of the two candidates - Zimbabwe and Gabon - won the required majority. Further balloting was postponed to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

## **NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**

Guyana was represented at the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned countries held in Cairo, Egypt from May 31 - June 3, by the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Guyana Mission in New York continued monitoring meetings of the Coordinating Bureau and represented the Honourable Senior Minister at the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau in New York in October.

## **THE COMMONWEALTH**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintained liaison with the Commonwealth Secretariat in respect of the Heads of Government Meeting to be held in Auckland, New Zealand from November 10 - 13.

Guyana was represented at the Senior Officials meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan from November 22 - 24, by His Excellency Mr. Laleshwar Singh, High Commissioner to London.

Guyana joined the rest of the Commonwealth in welcoming South Africa's return to that body.

The High Commission played an active role as a member of the Working Group to examine programmes funded by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation.

The High Commissioner also represented Guyana at the Commonwealth Senior Officials Meeting in Pakistan (November).

Approaches were made to the Commonwealth Secretariat for technical assistance under the CFTC in the following areas:

- ▶ the drafting of legislation for Intellectual Property Rights;
- ▶ assistance to the Guyana Privatisation Unit;
- ▶ assistance in the establishment of an Export Processing Zone;
- ▶ the attachment of experts to the Ministry of Legal Affairs.

Overtures by the Commonwealth Broadcasting Authority, the Commonwealth Telecommunications Bureau and the Commonwealth Society for the Deaf to initiate programmes of assistance in Guyana, were followed up by the High Commission.

## **TREATY OF AMAZONIAN COOPERATION**

Guyana attended the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazonian Cooperation Council in Lima, Peru during October 6 - 11, 1994. Deliberations centred on:

- ▶ Institutional Strengthening of the Secretariat;
- ▶ Regional projects;
- ▶ International Cooperation;
- ▶ The date for the Fifth Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and

- ▶ Work of the Special Commissions.

Guyana benefitted from the **TAC's** efforts at garnering funds from several international donor agencies. This success was reflected in projects such as:

- ▶ Health;
- ▶ Environment (Ecological and Economic Zoning in Guyana);
- ▶ Inclusion in projects on "Botanical Research";
- ▶ Amazonian Eco-tourism; and
- ▶ The Knowledge and Use of Indigenous Cultures.

### **Other International Organisations**

The High Commission continued to pay close attention to the work of international organisations, and to participate as far as possible in meetings and other activities. These organisations included the International Sugar Organisation (**ISO**), Intergovernmental Fund for Agricultural Development (**IFAD**), Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (**CABI**); United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (**UNIDO**), International Maritime Organisation (**IMO**) **GATT**, the Commonwealth and **UNESCO**.

The High Commissioner attended the **GATT** Council Session of Contracting Parties from November 7 - 12 in Geneva at which the issue of a waiver for LOME IV under **GATT** was being discussed.

The High Commission continued to monitor the activities of **UNESCO** and to liaise with the Guyana National Commission for **UNESCO**. Special emphasis was placed on the requests for assistance submitted by Guyana under the 1994/95 Participation Programme.

Mrs. Lilawati Gajraj who is resident in Paris and is an Alternate Member for Guyana on the Executive Board of **UNESCO** gave valuable assistance in attending monthly meetings of the Latin American and Caribbean Group and other **UNESCO** meetings.



The Executive Board of **UNESCO** met for its 145th Session from October 17 - November 7. The High Commissioner attended the Session from October 31 to November 4. Among the issues discussed at the meeting were preparations for the World Summit for Social Development to be held in March 1995, the International Year for Tolerance and the organisation's work in the fields of Education and Culture, Science and Technology and Communications.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

The Government of Guyana as spokesman for the Environment in **CARICOM** attended the meeting of Small Island Developing States held in Barbados from April 25 - May 6, 1994. This country's delegation was headed by His Excellency, the President.

Guyana worked closely with the United Nations Environment Programme, the Inter-governmental Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Global Environment Committee.

The Government of Guyana deposited Instruments of Ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

## **CANDIDATURES**

The Department was actively seized with the promotion of Guyana's candidature to the International Court of Justice. Guyana's candidate, Judge Shahabuddeen, will be seeking re-election.

# **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

This Department is responsible for the support services in the areas of Personnel, Finance, Registry, Maintenance and General Administration.

The Department is divided up with the following 5 Sections:

- ▶ Communications and Transportation Section
- ▶ Maintenance and Security Section
- ▶ Registry Section
- ▶ Personnel Section
- ▶ Accounts Section

At the beginning of 1994, the following vacancies existed in the Department:

- ▶ One (1) Principal Assistant Secretary (Finance)
- ▶ Seven (7) Typist Clerks
- ▶ Three (3) Office Assistants

The position of Principal Assistant Secretary (Finance) was filled on July 1, 1994. The new position of Chief Administrative Officer, created with effect from July 1, 1994 in place of Principal Foreign Service Officer, was filled with effect from that date.

At the end of 1994, the Department was staffed as follows:

- ▶ One (1) Chief Administrative Officer
- ▶ One (1) Confidential Secretary
- ▶ One (1) Foreign Service Officer II

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT**

In 1994, the Section dealt with an average of 25 daily requests for transportation, despatched approximately four (4) diplomatic bags weekly and received an average of six (6) diplomatic bags weekly.

## **MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY SECTION**

During 1994, the following repairs, servicing and maintenance tasks were undertaken:

- ▶ Repairs to two (2) water pumps
- ▶ Repairs to four (4) air condition units
- ▶ Repairs to two (2) refrigerators
- ▶ Repairs to six (6) photocopiers

Nine (9) new computers were installed.

At the end of 1994, the Section recorded 80% success in the area of general maintenance of equipment and 95% in the area of security. The latter achievement was due to the greater effectiveness of National Guard Service.

## **REGISTRY**

The Registry continued the exercise of incorporating files of the former Department of International Economic Cooperation into the Ministry's records. By the end of 1994, the exercise was 80% completed.

The Registry's establishment provides for the existence of the following staff positions:

- ▶ One (1) Senior Registry Supervisor
- ▶ One (1) Registry Supervisor
- ▶ Nine (9) Typist Clerks
- ▶ One (1) Senior Office Assistant

- ▶ Eight (8) Office Assistants
- ▶ Two (2) Telephone Operators

During 1994, four (4) Typist/Clerks resigned. They were replaced by the end of the same year.

The Ministry continued to experience difficulty in attracting qualified clerical staff largely because of poor wages and the unavailability of suitable candidates.

The Registry continued to be responsible for transmitting faxes, and photocopying.

## **PERSONNEL SECTION**

Five (5) recommendations for appointments and acting appointments were submitted to the Public Service Commission. Four (4) requests for temporary employment were submitted to the Public Service Management.

## **ACCOUNTS SECTION**

During the year under review, the section operated the Ministry's finances in accordance with the financial regulations and remitted funds to Guyana's overseas missions on a regular basis.

To provide a summary of what transpired in relation to this Ministry's voted provision for 1994, relevant information on budgeted and actual expenditure is submitted herein.

## **REFURBISHMENT OF THE OFFICES OF THE HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON**

The refurbishment of the offices of the High Commission began in May, following a fund-raising dance which realised over eight thousand pounds sterling. Substantial contributions were made by individuals/organisations towards the building fund. Work carried out by volunteers from the Guyanese community. This project realised a saving of approximately sin thousand pounds sterling to the Government of Guyana.

### **Relocation of Guyana Embassy, Brazil**

The Guyana Embassy in Brasilia moved to its new address in the first semester of 1994 to economise on both space and rental expenditure.

### **Postings**

The Mission's Foreign Service Executive Officer, Mr. Godfrey David, was cross-posted from the Guyana Embassy, Brazil to Consulate-General New York in August, and was replaced by Ms. Shellon Liddell who assumed at the mission in September.

Ms. Jacqueline Hamer, First Secretary, was reposted from the Guyana High Commission in Ottawa to Georgetown in November.

### **Resignations**

Ms. Janice Benfield, First Secretary, Guyana Embassy Brazil, submitted her resignation in December.

### **Revenue Collection**

Revenue was generated by the Guyana Embassy, Brazil, mainly from the issuance of visas, new passports and renewal of passports. Small amounts were collected from other consular services rendered by the Mission.

The Embassy honoured its obligations regarding the submission of financial statements to the Accountant General's Department and Headquarters.

## BUDGET AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE - 1994

('000)

Sub Head	Description	Budgeted - 1994	Actual-1994
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION EXPENSES</b>	846,665	715,369
	<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COST</b>	319,651	313,131
	<b>WAGES AND SALARIES</b>	112,320	122,449

101-000	Administrative	20,002	18,120
102-000	Senior Technical	403	0
103-000	Other Technical & Craft Skills	18,877	22,073
104-000	Clerical & Office Support	54,036	60,671

105-000	Semi-skilled Operatives & Unskilled	19,002	21,585
<b>OVERHEAD EXPENSES</b>			
201-000	Other Direct Labour Costs	12,107	12,490
203-000	Benefits and Allowances	194,256	176,982



204-000	National Insurance Scheme	968	1,120
	<b>OTHER CHARGES</b>		
320-000	Materials, Equipment & Suppliers	10,623	12,023
003	Office Materials & Supplies	5,890	7,142

004	Print & Non-Print Materials	4,733	4,881
303- 000	Fuel and Lubricants	6,800	7,148
304- 000	Rental and Maintenance of Buildings	227,849	169,4 57
001	Rental of buildings	209,849	150,1 43

002	Maintenance of Buildings	14,000	16,164
003	Janitorial & Cleaning Services	4,000	3,150
306-000	Electricity Charges	21,600	15,102
307-000	Transport, Travel & Postage	62,000	45,649

001	Local Travel & Subsistence	34,000	22,24 5
003	Postage, Telex & Cablegrams	19,000	11,08 7
004	Vehicle Spares & Services	9,000	12,31 7
308- 000	Telephone Charges	15,350	30,07 8

309-000	Other Services Purchased	22,792	21,419
312-000	Subsidies & Contributions to Local & International Organisations	140,000	84,910
313-000	Refunds of Revenue	2,000	370
314-000	Other	18,000	16,082

# PROTOCOL AND CONSULAR DEPARTMENT

## VISAS

The Diplomatic Corps requested routine extensions of stay for diplomats and technical and administrative officials attached to their respective Missions, and their spouses. Requests for visas on arrival averaged one each week. Most of these requests came from the Colombian Embassy, the Indian High Commission and the United Nations Development Programme.

## BIRTH, DEATH, MARRIAGE AND CHARACTER CERTIFICATES

Guyanese living abroad continued to forward, through Guyana's Missions Overseas, requests for Birth, Death And Marriage Certificates and Certificates Of Character.

## PASSPORTS

Some requests for the issuance and renewal of ordinary Guyana Passports were channelled through the Department. The Department processed 46 diplomatic passports during 1994.

## HONORARY CONSULS

Guyana has Honorary Consuls in the following cities/countries:

Barbados	Mr. Norman Faria
California, USA	Mr. Joseph D'Oliveira, A.A.
Cyprus	Mr. George Economides
Grenada	Mr. Deodat Singh
Jamaica	Mr. Desmond R. Thomas

Japan	-	Mr. Tasuka Hasemura, A.A.
Korea	-	Mr. Soon Seok Lee
Margarita, Venezuela	-	Mr. Dennis Bourne
Pakistan	-	Mr. Abdul Kader Ahmed
Saint Lucia	-	Mrs. Ann Wishart-Eudozie
Trinidad & Tobago	-	Mr. Laxshmi K. Rampersaud

During 1994 Guyana sought Agreement for the appointment of Honorary Consuls from the following governments:

- ▶ Australia
- ▶ Botswana
- ▶ Venezuela (Puerto Ordaz)
- ▶ Switzerland

## **WELFARE**

In 1994 logistical and other forms of assistance was given to Guyanese, both at home and overseas, in circumstances of death, illness, loss of passports, imprisonment and deportation, location of relatives and general information.

## **PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES**

The Department continued to facilitate the issuance of Identification Cards, processing of car licences, fitness, sale of cars, drivers' licences, opening of bank accounts, duty free imports and exports etc. for diplomats posted to Guyana.

Security of Chanceries and residences of the diplomatic community remained a source of disquiet for the Diplomatic Corps.

## **CEREMONIALS**

The Protocol and Consular Affairs Department attended matters relating to State and diplomatic ceremonials.

## **ACCREDITATIONS**

Fourteen (14) new Ambassadors/High Commissioners - [five (5) Resident and nine (9) Non-Resident] were accredited.

**Resident:** Ambassadors of the People's Republic of China, Republic of Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Suriname. High Commissioner for the Republic of India.

**Non-Resident:** Ambassadors of Italy, Spain, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal; High Commissioners for Mauritius, the Republic of Zimbabwe, Australia and Jamaica.

The Government of Guyana granted Agreement for the appointment of Ambassadors/High Commissioners of fourteen countries, namely:

- ▶ The Republic of Costa Rica
- ▶ The Republic of Cuba
- ▶ Mauritius
- ▶ Greece
- ▶ Spain
- ▶ Panama
- ▶ New Zealand
- ▶ The Kingdom of the Netherlands
- ▶ The Arab Republic of Egypt
- ▶ The Democratic People's Republic Korea



- ▶ The Republic of Uruguay
- ▶ Japan
- ▶ The Republic of Italy
- ▶ The Republic of Finland

## **PLACETS**

Placets were granted to the Military Attaches of the Republic of Venezuela and the Federative Republic of Brazil.

## **FAREWELL CALLS**

The following eight (8) Heads of Mission (Resident and Non-Resident) concluded their respective tours of duty:

- ▶ H.E. Omar Mendoza Sosa, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba;
- ▶ H.E. Pieter Frans Christian Koch, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- ▶ H.E. Stafford O'Neil, High Commissioner for Jamaica;
- ▶ H.E. Nehemia S. Bereng, High Commissioner for the Kingdom of Lesotho;
- ▶ H.E. Praveen Lal Goyal, High Commissioner for the Republic of India;
- ▶ H.E. Rim Gi Taek, Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
- ▶ H.E. Wang Baomin, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China;
- ▶ H.E. Denis Nardin, Ambassador of the Republic of France.

## OFFICIAL VISITS BY AMBASSADORS

The Following non-resident Ambassadors to Guyana paid official visits during 1994:

- ▶ H.E. Mahmoud Moutada, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
- ▶ H.E. Lennaert Klackenberg, Ambassador of Sweden;
- ▶ H.E. Jaime Jana Saenz, Ambassador of the Republic of Chile.

## CREDENTIALS

Guyana's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, His Excellency Laleshwar Kumar S. Singh, was accredited to the Republic of France and to **UNESCO**.

The Government of the Russian Federation agreed to the appointment of High Commissioner Singh as Guyana's non-resident Ambassador.

## VISITS

The Department facilitated the protocolar aspects the following visits to Guyana:

- ▶ The Foreign Minister of Colombia, Her Excellency Mrs. Noemi Sanin de Rubio - January 13;

Honourable Hans Schafer, German minister of State for Foreign Affairs - February 13 - 14;

The Costa Rican Foreign Minister - February 13 - 14;

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II - February 19 - 22;

H.E. J.C. Baena Soares, OAS Secretary-General; April 16 - 18;

Honourable Jacinto B. Peynado - October 29 - 30;

- ▶ Honourable Sir Jeffrey Henry, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, October 31 - November 2;
- ▶ Visit of two Gabonese Envoys - October 31 - November 3.

The Department also facilitated the following arrangements for His Excellency The President to travel overseas: including:

- ▶ State Visit to Colombia - April;
- ▶ Official Visit to Europe;
- ▶ **CARICOM** Heads of Government Conference - July

The Department was also involved in other activities including:

- ▶ Opening of the **OAS/IICA** Offices in Guyana - April;
- ▶ Enmore Martyrs Day - June;
- ▶ Diplomatic Corps Annual Dinner - June;
- ▶ Remembrance Day;
- ▶ Caribbean Secretariat Ministerial Meetings held in Guyana;
- ▶ National Day receptions hosted by Foreign Ambassadors/High Commissioners resident in Guyana.

The Protocol and Consular Affairs Department arranged receptions hosted by the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs throughout the year.

# **SECRETARIAT OF THE SENIOR MINISTER**

## **Legal Adviser**

During 1994, the Legal Adviser provided advice to the Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Director General and the Departments within the Ministry. The proper discharge of his functions also required the Legal Adviser to address requests for advice from other Ministries and Government Departments. Whereas the provision of such advice involved, in some instances, the submission of recommendations and solutions, the issues which attracted a role for the Legal Adviser were both national and international in character.

Advice was given on Guyana's bilateral and multilateral Treaty obligations and on Treaty relations in general. The relevant Instruments for Ratification or Accession were approved by the Legal Adviser, in cases where new Treaty obligations were being assumed.

The Documentary function of the Legal Adviser involved the issuance of Certificates of Non-impediment to Marriage for Guyanese nationals desirous of contracting foreign Marriages according to national laws. Additionally, the Legal Adviser authenticated documents to be presented to Diplomatic Missions in Georgetown or to be tendered in foreign countries.

The Legal Adviser offered advice to overseas Missions on matters related to their administration and the proper exercise of their various legal functions. General legal advice was also given to nationals and foreigners who requested same through overseas Missions. The Legal Adviser continued to monitor the activities of Diplomatic Missions resident in Guyana in the exercise and enjoyment of their Privileges and Immunities.

In the area of criminal law, requests for guidance from overseas Missions in relation to Guyanese committing crimes abroad were addressed. The Legal Adviser also collaborated with resident Missions on criminal investigations involving Guyanese outside of the national jurisdiction.

The peculiarity which set aside the work of the Legal Adviser during 1994 was that for the first half of the year, his functions were carried out while he was simultaneously on a temporary posting to the Guyana Permanent Mission to the United Nations, as Minister Counsellor and Legal Adviser to the Mission.

The Legal Adviser was also called upon to assume responsibilities related to the Environment, the Treaty on Amazonian Cooperation, several United Nations related matters, as well as the formulation of the national position on the Western Hemispheric Summit, which was held in Miami, United States of America in December.

# **PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION UNIT (PA&IU)**

The core functions of the Public Affairs and Information Unit remained unchanged in 1994. Those are:

1. To inform public opinion on the formulation and execution of foreign policy.
2. To utilise the various communications media medium to assist the Ministry in the achievement of its objectives.
3. To offer advice and make recommendations on matters which have a bearing on relations between the Ministry and the public.
4. To provide technical advice and support for public relations initiatives undertaken by the Ministry.

The activities of the Unit during 1994 were designed, principally, to give expression to the decision that foreign policy should, to a greater extent, become part of the public domain. In pursuit of this objective the Unit sought to give direct public information and public relations support to the work of the office of the Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Departments within the Ministry and Guyana's overseas missions; in that context, the unit also sought to initiate programmes/projects aimed at enhancing the image of the Ministry and enabling a more effective understanding of its work.

## **PRESS RELEASES/CONFERENCES, SPEECHES**

During 1994 the Unit issued 112 press releases and statements and organised 11 press briefings on behalf of the Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Unit wishes to make particular mention of its central contribution to the preparation of the official Government of Guyana statement on the occasion of the accession to office of the African National Congress Government in South Africa.

During 1994 the Unit was also called upon to prepare draft speeches for the Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs, and, on one occasion, for the

Honourable Prime Minister. The Unit was also called upon, from time to time, to collaborate with other Departments within the Ministry in the preparation of draft documents, including press releases.

## **FOREIGN POLICY FOCUS**

During 1994, the date and time for the Ministry's weekly radio Programme Foreign Policy Focus was changed from Sundays at 1:30 p.m. to Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.

The Programme continues to focus on current foreign policy issues and matters relating to the development of the regional, hemispheric and international systems.

The flow of news from missions continues to be irregular. However, the Unit receives regular news bulletins from the **OAS** Secretariat in Washington.

The existing financial arrangement with **GUYSUCO** for Foreign Policy Focus sponsorship comes to an end early in 1995.

## **USIA INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAMME**

In January/February 1994, the head of the Public Affairs and Information Unit participated in the United States Information Agency-sponsored International Visitor Programme, the focus of which was "Decision-Making in United States Foreign Policy."

The Programme facilitated visits to New York, Washington DC, Atlanta and San Antonio, Texas, and enabled interaction with public officials, with the State Department, **UN** officials, non-governmental organisations, "Think Tanks" (Brookings Institutions, Carnegie Foundation) academic institutions (New York University; Clark-Atlanta University) and private individuals.

The Programme enabled a more refined understanding of the currents and considerations that animate United States foreign policy.

On his return the Head of Public Affairs and Information Unit submitted reports to the United States Embassy in Georgetown and the Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A Recommendation was made that a Foreign Policy Association of Guyana similar to the Association which exists in Atlanta, be established.

## **EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION**

The Public Affairs and Information Unit continues to provide Guyana's overseas missions, consulates and Honorary Consuls with a once-weekly review of local news. This continues to be a limited service. However, it enables missions to keep abreast of important events and happenings in Guyana and to sustain their respective information services.

A proposal for a regular newsletter, mooted towards the end of 1994 will be pursued actively during 1995. This service will enhance the ability of the Unit to keep overseas missions/stations abreast of local events.

The Unit's limitations continue to restrict its ability to provide a more adequate information service to overseas missions/stations. It is considered absolutely essential that these be kept abreast of information emanating from private and public sector institutions; policy making entities; The National Assembly etc. The Unit is in dire need of a greater capacity to monitor publication of these various types of information and coordinate their transmission to missions.

In August the Unit prepared and despatched to Missions a questionnaire designed to secure missions assessments of the usefulness of the Weekly New Review.

All missions reported that the Review was received regularly and four of the six responses received indication satisfaction with its. All missions reported that they utilise the Review for internal and external purposes.

## **THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF IMPORTANT EXERCISES IN WHICH THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION UNIT PARTICIPATED DURING 1994**

January 28 - February 4 - The Head of the Public Affairs and Information Unit attended a **USIA**-sponsored Programme - "Decision-Making In Foreign Policy" - in the United States.

- March 22, 1994**                    -     **The Honourable Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs hosts media reception at which he announces that the Ministry is seeking closer relations with the media.**
- April, 1994**                      -     **The PA&IU prepared the official Government of Guyana Statement on the victory of the ANC at the first ever democratically held elections South Africa.**
- April, 1994**                      -     **Publication of a PA&IU feature on the OAS in the Guyana Chronicle to coincide with the visit to Guyana by the OAS Secretary General Joao Clement Baena Soares.**
- May 1994**                         **Head of PA&IU participated in GTV panel discussion Programme - The Future of South Africa.**
- July 1, 1994**                     **Senior Minister hosts "encounter" with Sixth form Students.**
- July 20, 1994**                   **Senior Minister hosts "encounter" with the media.**
- September, 1994**               **Proposal submitted to Senior Minister for the publication of an Information Pack for remigrants.**
- November 4, 1994**              **Senior Minister hosts encounter with media on current foreign policy issues.**
- November, 1994**                **Publication of a collection of documents on Guyana's involvement in the restoration of democracy in Haiti.**





Switzerland	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
St. Lucia	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
China	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
St. Martin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
St. Vincent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Barbados	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
<b>Total</b>													<u>334</u>