

# **GUYANA**

## **COUNTY OF DEMERARA**

**In the matter of recognising the enormous contributions and sustained development of telecommunications in Guyana, through years of dedicated service by retired employees of the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company (GT&T) and former employees of the Guyana Telephone Corporation (GTC).**

### **PETITION**

**To: The National Assembly of  
The Co-operative Republic of Guyana  
Public Buildings  
Georgetown**

**THE HUMBLE PETITION** of retired employees of the **Guyana Telecommunication Corporation** and active servants of the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Guyana Postal and Telecommunications Workers Union (GPWU).

1. That the petitioners are all adults and Citizens of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana.

Whereas by way of correspondence dated February 10, 2000, from Mr. Winston Brassington, Executive Secretary and Head of the Privatisation Unit, to Ms. Carol Hebert, former Secretary to the Treasury, on the payment of pension benefits to former employees of GTC he stated that it was the Privatisation Unit's view that those employees who would have fallen in this bracket and would have attained the

age of 55 and were still employed by GT&T should have been paid their retirement benefits because it was monies already earned by them, and in fact they should have been paid since 1991 when the company was privatised as is the practice.

He also stated that there were several employees who had accepted the termination offer and had not yet been paid. He recommended that those employees also be paid their pension and gratuity as computed as at January 31, 1991.

AND Whereas by way of correspondence dated January 31, 2001, addressed to Mr. Winston Brassington, Executive Secretary and Head of the Privatisation Unit, Lot 126 Barrack Street, Kingston, Georgetown, from Mr. Godfrey Statia, Consultant, Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company, on the valuation of GT&T Pension Fund, he informed Mr. Brassington that

“Emanating from his letter of October, 11, 2000, he had met with representatives in late October 2000, and at that meeting, it was agreed that it would have been futile to continue discussions or make any decisions until the amount needed to be invested by the Government into the fund, so as to allow for the unification of plans for the benefit of past GTC employees who were in the employ of GT&T and for whom the Government is liable for the payment of pensions based on the terms of the purchase agreement between the Guyana Government and ATN, was ascertained.”

AND Whereas with reference to the Agreement of Sale between the Government of Guyana and Atlantic Tele Network, with respect to employees' crossover from the Guyana Telecommunication Corporation to Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company, Mr. Winston Brassington, Executive Secretary and Head of the Privatisation Unit, in a correspondence dated February 10, 2000, to Ms. Carol Hebert, Secretary of the Treasury of the Ministry of Finance, on the payment of

pension benefit to former employees of GT&T stated that “employees will continue in employment with GT&T and their services will be treated as continuous and unbroken and other conditions of service will not be less favourable than which they enjoyed and that they were guaranteed employment with GT&T for a period of eighteen (18) months, subject, of course, to right of the management of dismiss or discharge them for cause.”

2. AND YOUR PETITIONERS AS IN DUTY BOUND AND DO  
HUMBLY PRAY:

1. That the former employees of the Guyana Telecommunication Corporation who continued in service with Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company and retired, be paid their just and due pension in accordance with the Pensions Act as enshrined in the Constitution of Guyana;
2. That the Minister of Finance kindly state what is the reason preventing the responsible agency from affecting payment of the correct pension that is just and due to pensioners
3. When would the payment to the pensioners be effected?