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Dr. Surujbally Holds Post-Election Staff Briefing

Chairman of the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) Dr. Steve Surujbally, at his first post 2006 elections meeting with staff of the Commission's Secretariat, lauded their contributions relative to the implementation of the 2006 General and Regional in manner that has won local and international acclaim as having been of an incomparably high standard in Guyana.

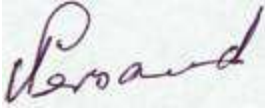
Dr. Surujbally recalled that in pre-election meetings with the staff, he had always thrown out the challenge that as a part of the GECOM family, each member of Team GECOM had a responsibility to give of his/her best in contributing towards the success of the 2006 General and Regional Elections. "You have risen to that challenge, and in so doing, you have proven to the Nation that together we are a force that would not be daunted by the misgivings of professional detractors, obstructionists and other categories of negativists ", Dr. Surujbally posited.

Dr. Surujbally urged the staff, while enjoying the satisfaction that followed the 2006 elections, to rededicate themselves to upholding the good reputation which the Commission has achieved.

The GECOM Chairman cautioned that, as in the past, the challenges ahead would not be smooth as the Commission and its Secretariat would be faced with other hurdles associated with national registration, Local Government Elections that have been due for a number of years, and future General and Regional Elections. He expressed the conviction that, as had been demonstrated at the 2006 General and Regional Elections, the GECOM family would rise to the occasion whenever necessary.

Noting that the fires which struck the building housing the GECOM Secretariat had come at a time when all of the Commission and Secretariat staff members would have been basking in the glory of the successful 2006 elections, Dr. Surujbally said that this occurrence should not be seen as more detrimental than it actually was. He assured the staff that none of the content of the damaged records were irrecoverable. More particularly, he assured them that none of the Human Resources records had been damaged. "Do not let this fire daunt your spirits for we have proven that we are of stronger constitution", the Chairman urged.

Acknowledging that displacement by the fire had generated unforeseen conditions under which some staff members were being sent on accrued annual leave, Dr. Surujbally offered best wishes to them for well deserved vacations, and hoped that the concomitant payments would help staff enjoy their holidays. He expressed confidence that the staff would return to their respective positions and would engage themselves in honouring their respective responsibilities in a rejuvenated manner.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Persaud", is centered at the top of the page. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Vishnu Persaud, MCIPR

Public Relations Officer