



THE GUYANA REVENUE AUTHORITY
SECRETARIAT

357 LAMAHA AND EAST STREETS

PHONE #: 227-8814/227-8787

PRESS RELEASE

From: The Office of the Commissioner-General
Date: February 11, 2010
Topic: **Increased revenue collection expected in New Year**

The Commissioner-General of the Guyana Revenue Authority, Mr. Khurshid Sattaur would like to thank all taxpayers who have honoured their tax obligations to the Guyana Revenue Authority by paying their taxes on time, as well as to the hardworking and committed staff at the GRA and he wishes their families an enjoyable and happy holidays.

GRA in 2009 adopted a more functional approach of administering taxes so as to increase its capacity to obtain higher levels of efficiency and effectiveness that lends to the creation of a more service oriented organization to serve the public better. Despite the many challenges that presented themselves, such as some Media operatives who continue to write and report negatively about the organization, we are expected to perform much better in revenue collection in the coming year, since we have seen an increase in compliance by most categories of taxpayers as the organization is engaged in activities to inform, educate and assist taxpayers to understand their responsibilities and obligations, with respect to the various Tax Acts.

The GRA has now been fully re-organized which forms part of the GRA's component of the Government of Guyana/Millennium Challenge Corporation, Guyana Threshold Country plan /Implementation project.

It is noted that the GRA has reduced the problem of smuggling to a controllable level, and has recouped millions in revenue from interceptions and raids made by the enforcement section. In relation to corrupt practices carried out by some staff the Commissioner-General will continue to adopt a no-nonsense approach to this practice, the new information technology system, costing in excess of US\$6M through support given under a loan agreement has strengthened GRA, and safeguards against fraud and corruption.