

Guyana Public Service Union

“RIGHTS AT WORK – ENDING POVERTY & INEQUALITY”

PRESIDENT **Patrick M. Yarde**

GEN. SECTY. (**ag**) **Deborah Murphy**



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Established 8th June, 1923.

IN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE DATE
HEREOF AND No. **PSU: 135/5**

November 14, 2011

Dr. Nanda Gopaul
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Service
C/o Office of the President
Shiv. Chanderpaul Drive
GEORGETOWN.

Dear Dr. Gopaul,

Rejection of 8% increase as final position for increase in salaries and wages for 2011

The Guyana Public Service Union (GPSU) refers to its respective correspondence dated 24 October 2011 and 31 October 2011 on the matters “Displeasure with Negotiations for Increases in Salaries and Allowances for Public Service Workers”, and “Wages and Salaries Negotiations; and Matters in discussion with the Presidential team and the GPSU”. Reference is also made to Public Service Ministry Circular No. 3/2011 dated 2011-11-04, under the subject “Increase in Salary and Wages-2011”.

The Union categorically rejects the arbitrary increase of 8% in wages and salaries, because of the unilateral imposition and meagreness of the award. Having exercised considerable restraint and patience following the September 2009 submission of our proposals for a three year wage package for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012, Government has continued to negotiate in bad faith with the GPSU, the recognized bargaining unit of public servants. It is very clear that Government has no intention to honestly negotiate the salaries, wages and allowances of workers at the bilateral level and/or to give the process of negotiation the professional attention it deserves. The relentless imposition of arbitrary awards has instead become the annual hallmark or response to the Union’s request for negotiated settlements for realistic packages to be paid to workers. These reasons formed the bases of the rejection of the award.

Dr. Nanda Gopaul
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Service

November 14, 2011

I, therefore, give notice that the Union will now be pursuing the option of conciliation through the Ministry of Labour.

Sincerely yours,

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Patrick M. Yarde
President/CEO

Copied: His Excellency Bharrat Jagdeo
President

Hon. Samuel Hinds, OE, MP
Prime Minister

Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, MP
Minister of the Public Service

Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, MP
Minister of Finance

Hon. Manzoor Nadir, MP
Minister of Labour

Mr. Yoganand Persaud,
Chief Labour Officer