REPORTING PROFORMA FOR COMMERCIAL WING

(Data Source: Bureau of Statistics, Guyana)

No. Geo/Com/201/1/2012

Name of the Mission: <u>High Commission of India, Georgetown</u>

I. MONTHLY REPORT- August, 2022

A. Trade in goods

a) Total trade in goods during

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0	1	2	0	2	2	_	0	3	2	0	2	2

	Export (US\$ million)	Import (US\$ million)	Status (P) Provisional/ (F) Final
Guyana's trade with India	0.1217	17.308	Provisional
Guyana's total global trade	1,365.2	728.4	Provisional

b) Preferential trade in goods during

0	1	2	0	2	2	-	0	3	2	0	2	2
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S.No.	Preferential / Free Trade	Preferential Imports from	Preferential Imports
	Agreement with India	India (US\$ million)	from World (US\$ million)
	Nil	Nil	52.919

(Source: Bureau of Statistics, Guyana)

S.No.	Preferential / Free Trade Agreement with India	Preferential Exports to India (US\$ million)	Preferential Exports to World (US\$ million)
	Nil	Nil	9.898

(Source: Bureau of Statistics, Guyana)

c) Top 10 items of import from India during

0	1	2	0	2	2	_	0	3	2	0	2	2

S.No.	Commodity (6 digit HS tariff line)	Value (US\$ million)	Quantity	Unit of Measure- ment	% share in total import of the commodity
1.	Medicaments (consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses put in measured doses or in forms or packings for retail sale.	3.877	464,515	(kg)	89.8

2.	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloyed steel, of a width of 600mm or more, clad, plated or coated. (Plated or coated with aluminum/plated or coated with aluminum. Of a thickness of less than 3mm	3.125	1,841,674	(kg)	58.6
3.	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloyed steel, of a width of 600mm or more. Painted, varnished or coated with plastic: Of a thickness of less than 3mm	2.096	1,077,770	(kg)	98.7
4.	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, clad, plated or coated. Other of a thickness of less than 3 mm	1.352	719,500	(kg)	86.9
5.	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories (including gloves, mittens, and mitts), for all purposes, of vulcanized rubber other than hard rubber	0.7168	112,725	(kg)	42.3
6.	Tractors (other than tractors of heading 87.09) Exceeding 37 kW but not exceeding 75kW: for use in agriculture	0.4453	85,249	(kg)	64.9
7.	Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06) consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic uses, put up in measured doses (including those in the form of transdermal administration systems) or in forms or packings for retail sale.	0.2715	7,592	(kg)	23.8
8.	Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences, including scintigraphic apparatus, other electromedical apparatus and sighttesting instruments. Other instruments and appliances	0.2317	68,289	(kg)	9.0
9.	Other clays (not including expanded clays of heading 68.06), andalusite, kyanite and sillimanite, whether or not calcined; mullite; chamotte or dinas earths.	0.1917	91,240	(kg)	100

10. New pneumatic tyres, of rubber Of a kind used on agricultural or forestry vehicles and machines Tractors	0.1629	41,546	(kg)	55.9
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d) Items of export to India during

						i						
0	1	2	0	2	2	-	0	3	2	0	2	2

S.No.	Commodity	Value	Quantity	Unit
	(6 digit HS tariff line)	(US\$ million)	70.000	(1 -)
1.	Aluminium waste and	0.063	72,000	(kg)
2.	scrap. Wood (including strips			
۷.	and friezes for			
	parquet flooring, not			
	assembled)	0.032	179,000	(kg)
	continuously shaped		,,,,,,,	(3/
	(tongued, grooved,			
	rebated, chamfered,			
	V-jointed, beaded,			
	moulded, rounded or			
	the like) along any of its edges, ends or			
	faces, whether or not			
	planed, sanded or			
	end-jointed.			
	- Non-coniferous:			
3.	Hoopwood; split			
	poles; piles, pickets			
	and stakes of wood, pointed but not sawn			
	lengthwise; wooden	0.013	130,000	(kg)
	sticks, roughly	0.0.0		(1.9)
	trimmed but not			
	turned, bent or			
	otherwise worked,			
	suitable for the			
	manufacture of walking-sticks,			
	umbrellas, tool			
	handles or the like;			
	chipwood and the			
	like.			
	- Non-coniferous:			
4.	Aluminum bars, rods	0.040	40.000	(1)
	and profiles Of aluminum alloys:	0.012	18,000	(kg)
	- Or aluminum andys.			

(Source: Bureau of Statistics, Guyana)
(Only above items were Guyana's exports to India for Jan-Mar 2022)

e) Potential products of imports from India

S.No.	Commodity	Rationale
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	(6 digit HS tariff line)	(Max.200 words)
1.	Solar equipment/products E-Vehicles	Under the Low Carbon Development Strategy, Guyana is hoping to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2025. Hence, there is huge potential for affordable solar products and e-vehicles in Guyana.
3.	Surgical gloves	
4.	IV Fluids	India being considered as a reliable and affordable source,
5.	Pharmaceuticals	enhanced demand is expected.
6.	Clothing/textiles & fabric	
7.	Footwear & handbags	Increasing local demand
8.	Cosmetics	
9.	Herbal soap, shampoo	
10.	Household electronic products.	With the discovery of and production of oil and gas in Guyana since December 2019, there would be more and
11.	Carpets/rugs	more private investments and operations in the oil related
12.	Ceramic products	support service sector. This will lead to higher demand for more affordable and reliable products.
13.	Agriculture & automobile spares & accessories	Good local demand with enhanced interest in agriculture sector to be a substantive secondary support sector after the oil and gas industry, for the economy and overall development.
14.	Farming (particularly coconut, rice, sugar) machinery/ equipment	Increased local demand and quest for modernizing these vital sectors in the country.
15.	Oil and gas equipment/supplies	Since oil production began in December 2019, there is an increased demand due to ongoing expansion in the oil and gas sector.

B. **QUALITATIVE**

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1. Market Access Alerts (attach copy of notification):

a. Alerts on customs tariff changes:

S.No.	Notification no. and date	HS code	Description	Original customs tariff	Present customs tariff	Effective from	Remarks if any
1.	Nil						

b. Alerts on non-tariff measures (SPS/TBT/ import and export procedures/ restrictions/ prohibitions, licensing/ STEs etc.)

S.No	Notification	Measure	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if
	no./ date				any
	Nil				

c. Alerts on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures:

S.No.	Notification no./ date	Standard/ technical regulation/ conformity assessment procedure	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if any
	Nil				

d. Alerts on trade defense measures taken by Guyana: (Safeguards including special safeguard, antidumping, CVD or anti- subsidy)

S.No.	Notification no., date or other references	Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review)	Details of products/ sectors affected (including HS codes)	Effective from	Remarks if any
	Nil				

e. Alert on services, regulatory regime, qualification requirement, licensing procedures, visa regime, barriers etc.

S.N	Notification	Service	Modes	Effective	Remarks
0.	no., and	sectors		from	if any
	date or	affected			
	other				
	references				
	Nil				

2. Feedback

a. Feedback from major Indian industries/other commercial concerns and Indian trade visitors to Guyana.

S.No.	Name of business house	Activity sector	Trade barrier issues if any (incl. HS codes)	General Feedback (Max.200 words)
	Nil			

b. Feedback on major trade activities **including logistic events** (trade fairs/BSM including Indian participation)

S.No.	Activity (trade fair, BSM etc.)	Date and venue	Number of participants from India	Name(s) of large/ key participants from India	Feedback received (Max.200 words)	Source of funding (MAI, TA/TC)
	Nil					

c. Feedback from local commercial visitors to trade fairs in India, including under BSM; number of Business Visas issued:

S.No	Activity	Date and	Number of	List of	Number of	Feedback
	(trade fair)	venue	participants	large/ key	Business	received
			from the	participants	Visas	(Max.200
			relevant	from the	issued	words)
			country	relevant	In August	
				country	2022	

Nil		0	

3. Trade and Investment:

a. Significant trends in trade and investment (Sources: Department of Commerce, Gol)

S.No.	Category	Details of significant trends (Max.200 words)	Analysis (Max. 200 words)
1.	Trade in Goods	Bilateral trade between India and Guyana rose steeply from US\$46.97 million in 2020-21 to US\$223.37 million in 2021-22. India's exports to Guyana increased by 86.07%, from US\$35.69 million in 2020-21 to US\$66.41 million in 2021-22. Indian imports from Guyana skyrocketed by 1,291.93%. Indian imports from Guyana rose from US\$11.28 million in 2020-21 to US\$156.96 million in 2021-22. Additionally, according to the Bureau of Statistics (Guyana), India is Guyana's 9th import trading partner for the year 2021.	
2.	Trade in Services	Nil	
3.	Investment	Nil	

b. Opportunities for investments/ assets on offer/major company divestment:

S.No.	Sector Name	Particulars of the asset	Contact details
	(List attached)	/company	
	Nil		

c. Information on tender Notices for projects and procurements of interest to Indian project exporters/ suppliers (USD15 million & above)

S.No.	Tender/ procurement notice No and	Sector	Value of tender/
	date		procurement

d. Trade Queries for Imports/ Exports (if not uploaded on the Indian trade portal)

S.No.	Enquiry originator	Product with HS Codes	Nature (Import/ Export)	Value (US\$ million)	Action Taken (Max.200 words)
	From India				

1.	M/s. Dhanraj Exports	Food products	Export	Responded
2.	M/s Parksley Global Pvt. Ltd.	Pharmaceutical products	Export	Responded
3.	M/s Mrkbox Corp.	Men and women shits	Export	Responded
4.	M/s Sparkle	Sanitary pads	Export	Responded
5.	M/s EoB International	Spices	Export	Responded
6.	M/s Sparten Granito Pvt. Ltd.	Vitrified tiles	Export	Responded
7.	M/s Avalta Granito Pvt. Ltd.	Floor tiles	Export	Responded
8.	M/s Bipra International	Rice	Export	Responded
9.	M/s Shardaa Exim	Rice, ginger	Export	Responded
10.	M/s Bhabha Exports	Ceramic Tiles	Export	Responded
11.	Mr. Slaxan International LLP	Beverages	Export	Responded
12.	Mr. Parekh	Spices	Export	Responded
13.	M/s CAPEXIL	Building materials, ceramic products, etc.	Export	Responded
14.	M/s Jogani Export Import	Pulses, grains etc.	Export	Responded
15.	M/s Sevastu Global	Rugs/carpets	Export	Responded
16.	M/s Reya International	Medicine/pharma products	Export	Responded
17.	M/s Sabgard Group of Companies	Pharmaceutical products	Export	Responded
18.	M/s Tulsi Agro Engi Mech Pvt. Ltd.	Pharma products, kitchenware, pulses etc.	Export	Responded
19.	Mr. Hardik Patel	Pesticides, fertilizers	Export	Responded
20.	M/s Bluewings Global	Cosmetic and pharma products	Export	Responded
21.	M/s Greenica Dreams	T-shirts	Export	Responded
22.	M/s RS Pharmacy	Ayurvedic products	Export	Responded
23.	Mr. Bharat B. Shah	Tea, Food snacks, pipe fittings etc.	Export	Responded

4. Important India related statements of commercial significance by political leaders, think tanks, chambers, associations etc. / Significant stories/features on India related trade, investment, services and logistic sector, published in foreign journals/dailies, etc. (Max. 500 words)

5. <u>Details of trade research, information dissemination activity of the commercial wing</u>

S.No.	Nature of activity (trade research, information dissemination, seminars etc.) (Max.200 words)	Details of Seminar/ conference (date/ venue, no of participants) or research (Max.200 words)	Details of trade research (title of the report, executive summary, date of publication) (Max.200 words)
1.	Global Regulators Conclave alongside the 8 th edition of International Exhibition for Pharma & Healthcare (IPEX)	21 st -23 rd September, 2022 at IEML, Knowledge Park, Greater Noida.	

6. Details of activities conducted out of Trade promotion budget:

BE for current	RE for current	Amount utilized	Details of Activity
financial year	financial year		(Max.200 words)
Rs. 0.00	Rs. 0.00	-	

7. <u>Action taken on the previous JWGs, Joint Commissions, Sub-Commissions etc.</u> (issues that Mission had to follow up with host government):

S.No.	Detail of JWG/JEC with date and venue	Action Point (Max. 200 word)	Action Taken (Max. 200 words)
	Nil		

8. Complaints from foreign buyer/supplier (Guyanese) on quality and trade dispute:

Name	of	Address	&	Name & address	Brief	The authority to
Foreign buyer/supplier			of	of Indian exporter	of .	whom the matter was referred and
					complaint	the date on which the matter was referred.
Nil	·					

9. Complaints of Indian exporter/importer:

Name of Indian exporter/importer		Brief description of complaint	The authority to whom the matter was referred and the date on which the matter was referred.	Any outcome
Nil	·			

10. Any other issue of importance (Max. 500 words)



Bilateral



(a) A high-level business delegation from the Indian Oil & Gas public sector undertakings-Indian Oil Corporation & Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited visited Guyana from August 29-31, 2022 to discuss issues related to long-term contract for oil from Guyana to India. The delegation met with President Dr. Mohammed Irfaan Ali, Vice President Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo, Dr. Ashni Singh, Senior Minister at the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance. The delegation also met with senior executive of Exxon Mobile. High Commissioner accompanied the delegation to their meetings.

Fourth Regional Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Region of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)

(b) Leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean came together for the first time in person and virtually for the Fourth Regional Meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Region of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) that was held in Guyana from 3-5 August 2022. Their aim is to work together to deploy solar energy technologies as a means of bringing energy access, ensuring energy security, and driving energy transition. President Dr. Irfaan Ali delivered the keynote address at the meeting. According to Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General of the International Solar Alliance, solar adoption in LAC region has increased by 44% in 2021, compared to 26% in 2020 and 15% in 2019. However, caution was sounded over cost of transitioning and the need for finance. Dr. Mathur pointed out that of the US\$200 billion invested globally, only



7% was invested in the LAC region. He noted that there was a need for more finance from developed countries, banking institutions and the private sector for greater uptake of solar.

(c) President Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali makes five-day State Visit to Trinidad and Tobago President Dr. Irfaan Ali and a high level delegation made a five-day State Visit to Trinidad and Tobago from August 17-21, 2022. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation-Hugh Todd, Minister of Agriculture-Zulfikar Mustapha, Minister of Tourism.

Industry and Commerce-Oneidge Walrond and other government officials were part of the Guyanese delegation. The visit was aimed at advancing bilateral cooperation on energy, food security and climate change among others. The President's visit allowed for the two countries to further explore areas of cooperation and was a follow-up to the visit by Prime Minister Keith Rowley to Guyana in May of this year where a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed



between the two CARICOM nations to renewed and enhanced cooperation in various sectors.

Under the MoU, the two nations agreed to work with each other on areas of trade and investment, including non-tariff barriers and other impediments to the flow of goods and services between them. The MoU also focused on food security and agriculture, energy, security, infrastructure, education, tourism etc. Matters pertaining to energy (a partnership between Guyana and the twin island state in the development of gas resources as part of a plan to facilitate the commodity within the region), food security, youth development mainly in agriculture, tourism and development of an efficient trade environment were among areas discussed during President Ali's visit. In keeping with their goal to reduce their nations' food import bill by 25 percent in the next three years, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana have crafted a Food Development Plan for collaboration in a number of areas. The plan will see action being taken on rice cultivation, agro-processing, aquaculture, development of human resources, shade house and coconut initiatives, aquaculture, livestock production, corn and soya

production, among other areas of interests. A major outcome of the visit was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Guyana Office for Investment (GO-Invest) and Trinidadian agroprocessing company, Novo Life Farms, for the company to expand its operations to Guyana. Prime Minister Rowley and President Ali joined other Heads of States of Barbados, Suriname and St. Vincent & the



Grenadines for the Agri-Investment Forum & Expo II, which was part of a continued commitment implemented by the Heads of Government of CARICOM, to reduce the region's large food import bill by 25% by 2025.

Economy

(d) Just few months after Guyana's largest national budget to date was approved, and with no member of the opposition in the house, members of the government present in the National Assembly approved US\$215.3m in supplementary financing for major transformational work in the housing and water, education, public works, local government, and other sectors. Almost half of the supplementary fund of US\$101.2m will go towards the Ministry of Housing and Water. Cash strapped Guyana Sugar Corporation (GuySuCo) received an additional US\$16.3m to cover operational expenses and provide additional resources to support the sugar industry out of the Ministry of Agriculture's US\$26.3m supplementary allocation. Earlier, GuySuCo received US\$16.3m to support its operations in the 2022 National Budget.

(e) Summary of Economic analysis of Guyana: Agriculture, manufacturing & gold among non-oil sectors projected to grow in 2022 – IDB

Guyana's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to increase by 47.5 per cent in 2022, compared to 43.5 per cent in 2020. The non-oil economy, which contracted by 7.3 per cent in 2020, will grow by 7.7 per cent this year according to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) recently released quarterly report titled "Caribbean Economics, Finance for Firms". Apart from oil, this will be driven by growth in the agriculture, mining and construction sectors. Agriculture and gold, which contracted last year, will grow by 8.9 per cent and 12.2 per cent, respectively, in 2022. The manufacturing and construction sectors are also expected to grow

by 14.3 per cent and 10.5 per cent, respectively. On the other hand, the large services sector is projected to grow by 3.8 per cent. "In summary, the new oil economy has rebalanced as follows: oil and gas are estimated to represent 59.7 per cent of GDP in 2022, followed by services at 16.7 per cent, agriculture at 10 per cent, and gold production at 4 per cent. Oil production's contribution to GDP growth was 51 per cent and 17 per cent in 2020 and 2021, respectively, and is projected to be 43.3 per cent in 2022," the report further detailed. The report has not only projected growth of various productive sectors, but potential for credit to continue expanding in Guyana, allowing Guyana to expand its access to capital for small, medium and large firms. According to the report, Guyana's financial depth has been climbing steadily, increasing from 22 per cent in 2009 to 39 per cent in 2020. Guyana has always been one of the countries in the region where firms had minimal barriers to financial access, compared to its regional peers such as Jamaica, Suriname and the Bahamas.

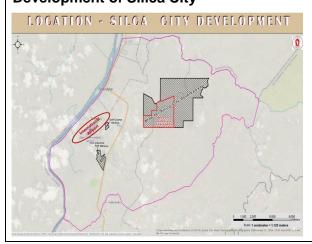
(f) United Kingdom's flag carrier, British Airways, is expected to commence flights to Guyana's Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA) in the first quarter of 2023. The expected start date is March 23, 2023. It is anticipated that the airline service will ply the Guyana route twice weekly through a connection via the Caribbean island of St. Lucia using a Boeing 777-200ER aircraft catering for 332 passengers per flight.



Investment

(g) Local conglomerate Demerara Distillers Limited (DDL) and the government signed a US\$15 million agreement that would see the establishment of a milk plant on the Soesdyke-Linden Highway in Guyana. When becomes fully operational, the project is expected to produce 1200 litres of milk daily from milking cows, and have over 600 acres of forage plants under cultivation. Milk by-products such as buttermilk, whey and skim milk will also be produced at the plant. According to DDL, the initiative is one that supports CARICOM's commitment to reducing its food importation bill by 25% by 2025.

Development of Silica City



(h)The development of Guyana's first smart urban centre, 'Silica City' which is approximately 40 miles from the densely populated capital city Georgetown is being aggressively pursued by the government. Over 185 acres of land has been cleared already for the 12,000-plus- acre upscale smart city development which will be located within the vicinity of Kuru-Kururu on the Linden-Soesdyke Highway. Touted as the Caribbean's first smart and innovative

city, Silica City is envisioned to be a transformational solution to address climate change impacts, such as flooding from rising sea levels and complement the country's rapid growth. It will include a commercial area, an industrial zone, a tourism district, a conservation district, an agriculture zone, a hydroponic area, administrative and sports districts, among other areas for use.

Agriculture

- (i) The Agriculture Ministry is collaborating with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) to restart coffee cultivation in the Pomeroon, Region Two area as Government continues its mandate of introducing high-value and non-traditional crops in the sector.
- (j) The National Assembly, in the absence of the APNU+AFC parliamentary opposition, passed the Industrial Hemp Bill, signalling the start of a new economy wager in Guyana.

Oil & Gas

(k) The highly anticipated auction of Guyana's oil blocks has now been delayed from the end of the third quarter of 2022 to sometime before end of December 2022. According to



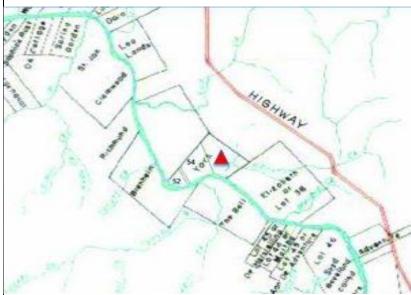
Guyana's Minister of Natural Resources. Government is still in the process of putting measures in place for auctioning of available offshore blocks. The auction is likely to attract new companies to Guyana's nascent oil and gas sector. While the government has not disclosed which offshore blocks are going to be part of the nation's first auction in 2022, relinquished portions of the Kanuku, Corentyne, Demerara, Canje and the Kaieteur Blocks are expected to be up for auction. Importantly, no areas in the coveted Stabroek Block will be up for grabs in this year's auction since the Stabroek Block areas will become available only in

2026. Back in 2018, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) revealed that the estimated remaining oil blocks comprise of approximately 9,500 sq. km within the coastal environment, 24,000 sq. km within the environment of the continental shelf, 10,000 sq. km with the deep water environment and 9,000 sq. km within the ultra-deep water environment. Most interest has been in the deep water environment following major discoveries by Exxon Mobil in the prolific Stabroek Block, putting the highly coveted Block C as the most sought after area. The companies holding blocks in the deep water area are Exxon Mobil, CNNOC, Nexen & Hess (the Stabroek Block); Exxon Mobil, Total Energies, JHI & Mid-Atlantic Oil & Gas (the Canjie Block); Exxon Mobil, Ratio, Hess & Cataleya Energy (the Kaieteur Block); Repsol, Tullow and TOQAP-comprising of Total & Quatar Petroleum (the Kanuku Block); Tullow, Eco Atlantic, TOQAP (the Orinduik Block); Anadarko (the Roraima Block); CGX and Frontera Energy Corporation (the Corentyne Block) and Demerara Block.

(I) The Stabroek Block is expected to produce some 93.6 million barrels of oil equivalent (BOE) for 2022 and of that amount Guyana will get an estimated 12 lifts of one million barrels each, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources. In keeping with global oil prices, the government projects to rake in excess of US\$1 billion from the sale of the country's share of profit oil. Meanwhile, at the end of July 2022, monies from oil proceeds in Guyana's Natural Resource Fund stood at US\$ 845.6 million. A total of US\$607M is to be withdrawn this year by government. The first tranche, of US\$200 million was withdrawn in May of this year. In July, a further US\$200 million was transferred from the NRF to the Consolidated Fund to finance national development priorities. Government now has a further US\$206M eligible for withdrawal for the 2022 fiscal year.

Establishment of Oil Refinery

(m) With light, sweet crude oil being produced offshore Guyana, the Guyana government appears to be favoring the establishment of a small refinery, rather than a much larger operation, to process crude oil for local consumption, according Vice President Bharrat Jagdeo. The VP also posited that government received at least eight proposals for large refineries, however, the conditions for these potential projects are not favorable for Guyana, citing too lucrative incentives from the investors and higher level of carbon emissions. While the Government is considering these applications for large refinery operations here, Jagdeo stressed the need for at least one small refinery in the country to ensure Guyana's energy security.



(n) Chemtech International, a major US manufacturing firm for broad а spectrum of markets since 1984, has envisioned that it is poised to set up a massive US\$ 200 million oil refinery and Integrated Petrochemical Manufacturing Complex in Guyana following approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The project is expected to allow for a port for shipbuilding as well as a

special facility for wood processing. According to the company, it already has a letter from the Guyana Office for Investment (Go-Invest) to establish the complex which will be located at Plantation York, East Bank Demerara comprising 492 acres of land 80 km from Georgetown. Financing is expected from the United Securities Trust of Switzerland. The first phase, will be focused on the integrated chemical complex, while its second phase will see a port being built to service the oil and gas sector and provide ship building and repairs.

(o) Government is negotiating insurance coverage of up to US \$2 billion with US oil major ExxonMobil, in the event of an oil spill or disaster.

Health

(p) Guyana's health sector will soon benefit from the construction of a US\$ 152 million specialized pediatric and maternal hospital to be built at Goedverwagting on the East Coast of Demerara. The specialty hospital will be funded by the United Kingdom Export Finance Credit Agency and will be the largest public health investment in the history of Guyana. The new hospital will be constructed by VAMED, an Austrian company. The facility will be equipped some 256 beds. It will also include an Inpatient and Out-Patient service, General and Subspecialty Pediatric, General and Subspecialty Surgical, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Pediatric Intensive Care (PICU) and Step-Down Unit (SDU). Additionally, it will feature an Operating Suite, High- Risk Prenatal and Post-Natal Clinic, General and Subspecialty Pediatric and Surgical Clinics, Pediatric Emergency Room and an Immunization centre.

Multilateral

- (q) The Government of Guyana signed a US\$44 million loan agreement with the World Bank as part of the Strengthening Human Capital through Education Project. The project focuses on the expansion of access to quality education at the secondary level and improving technical and vocational training (TVET).
- (r) In an effort to promote greater partnership and trade, the European Union (EU)-Guyana Chamber of Commerce was officially launched in Guyana by President Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali and EU Ambassador to Fernando Ponz Canto.

International

(s) President Irfaan Ali and Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Mottley visited Brazil and met with the Governor of the Brazilian State of Roraima, Antonio Denarium and other senior officials at the Governor's Palace in Boa Vista to advance trilateral relations. Discussions were focused on agriculture, trade, infrastructure and strengthening relations between Guyana, Barbados and the State of Roraima. President Ali was accompanied by Guyana's Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce.

