

Understanding the Budget Cuts

Guaranteeing Value For Money and the best use of YOUR tax dollar!

Cuts that will save money so you can get an increase in your wages, better social services and pay less VAT



Why cut allocations to NCN and GINA?

NCN made over half a billion dollars (\$ 508 Million) in advertising in 2011. This was stated in Parliament during the budget debates. This is enough to pay all its workers and cover overhead costs. The dismissal of any regular employee will be deemed as political retribution.

NCN does not need taxpayers money. They have not accounted for public money they received over the last five years. NCN is owned by the state and not the government and must be made to serve in the best interest of all the Guyanese people .

The AFC demands:

- NCN must be reformed to reflect the views of others not just the government.
- Respect for political association of all employees
- Use of state media revenues for media employees only, not phantom letter writers and party propagandists.

GINA – Most ministries received money in the 2012 budget for PR activities. Let the ministries use their PR money to pay GINA for they work they do. Giving money to GINA would be paying twice for the same service.

Why reduce the subsidy to GPL from \$6 to \$5 billion?

33% of your GPL bill is for electricity you don't receive. After decades of continued line losses, overcharging consumers, running up a debt of \$29 billion and failing to improve the operations of the company, the Government wants to use more of taxpayers money to bail out GPL but they do not want to cut GPL fat-cat managers who receive over \$3 million in salary and benefits every month.

\$6 billion was requested and \$5 billion was given, GLP needs to improve its efficiency before they receive more money.

Why cut monies to the ERC ?

At present the Ethnic Relations Commission is not legally constituted. When this is properly done funding will be approved

Why cut money for the Low Carbon Development Strategy projects?

No money was cut for these projects. The Government has not received yet the funds for these projects so the opposition cannot cut what is not there. If or when the funds are received then the opposition will approve a supplementary appropriation.

Why cut funds to GECOM?

The Government budgeted more funds to GECOM this year than last year – an election year. If these funds are for local government elections the reforms stipulated must be carried out. This includes the passing of five pieces of legislation and the implementation of the administrative arrangements. This will take time and when near completion the Government can request a supplementary allocation.

Why cut funds to CANU?

The opposition approved \$71 million for CANU under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

When the government complies with recommendations made by the Auditor General and moves CANU under the Ministry of Home Affairs the government can request the remaining \$20 million as a supplementary provision.

Why cut funds to Office of the President?

On April 12, 2012, the AFC wrote a letter asking the Finance Minister to list the amounts earned by the 25 highest paid employees. To date the Minister has failed to provide this information. Fifteen so called 'advisors' at Office of the President take home close to \$1.5 million each per month. Taxpayers cannot afford this.

Monies collected by NICIL from the sale of the government shares in GTT and the sale of other state assets, plus the money in the Lotto Fund and other slush funds, all belong to the people of Guyana and must be paid into the Consolidated Fund so it can be reflected in the National Budget.

Any disruption to national life will be a result of government retribution and not as a result of budget savings.