



GUYANA NEWS

Norton slams budget, says VAT should have been lowered



Aubrey Norton



– promises to end lawlessness that has characterized youth

Voicing disapproval of budget 2025, Leader of the Opposition Aubrey Norton told the National Assembly yesterday that if elected this year the PNCR will be implementing several measures including the lowering of VAT and \$100,000 cash grants almost monthly to citizens.

Of the many plans he highlighted which saw much heckling from the government benches was developing the Soesdyke-Linden Highway, Linden to Lethem, and others with highlands, while also building out the transportation infrastructure to support the movement of people.

He also promised the implementation of a railway network linking communities with both Georgetown to the north and Lethem to the south, powered by Guyana's own natural gas reserves.

Norton said that the PNCR "will revisit our youth policy since the government has none, update it, and provide our youth with a clear pathway to development, especially in reducing their contact and conflict with the law and promoting their economic, political, and social empowerment. We will structure youth development programmes to ensure we produce a society that is law-abiding and end the lawlessness that has characterized our youth over the years under this PPP regime. It is our youth that will have to be in the forefront of those changes".

He added that more resources will be added to the National Insurance Scheme (NIS), to improve its ability to offer benefits and social protection to

the people of Guyana, also putting in place objective criteria for people to access social service benefits.

“People should know and be able to predict their entitlement. Mr. Speaker, as I am on NIS, the minister should tell this house how much money has accrued to NIS as a result of the 60,000 jobs you claim to have created. If you created those jobs, then NIS should have reflected an increase.

He stated that Value Added Tax (VAT) should’ve been reduced to 10 or 12 percent.

“If this government genuinely wants to help the people of Guyana with the high cost of living crisis, it could have reduced VAT to 10% or 12%. Had it reduced it to 10% or 12%, it would have put \$4 billion or \$17 billion directly in the pocket of the Guyanese, which is far larger than the \$9 billion in the budget for direct cost of living mitigation. Mr. Speaker, every person that goes to the shop pays VAT, on virtually everything and therefore, the best way to give them back money is to reduce it. This will benefit and impact positively the average Guyanese in a direct way, he stated urging the finance minister to “bring it down to either 12% or 10%. The people of Guyana will be grateful”, he said.

He promised to adjust VAT if elected.

Norton stated that the current cash grant of \$100,000 being distributed by the government as presently structured cannot take people out of poverty, however if elected, their cash transfer policies and programmes will be aimed at ensuring all Guyanese receive a livable income and to increase their ability to plan, purchase, save and invest.

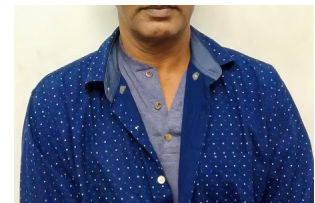


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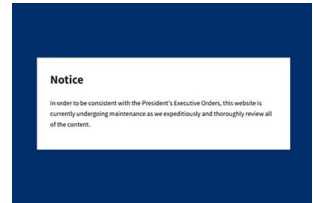
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Best Newest Oldest



C A.Griffith

8 days ago

"Norton slams budget, says VAT should have been lowered."

If Norton does not like the budget like his precedessors did when the December 31,1961 'Kaldor Budget' was passed, let him organize a protest rally at the Parade Ground in North Geortown (Middle Street between Carmichael & Waterloo Street) and lead the protestors through the streets demanding they AXE the TAX.

It's days like these when Peter, Forbes,Annie, and Richard at TUC fought the good fight backed by peaceful Urban dwellers with muscle imported from the outskirts of town.

0 0 Reply 



DOUGLAMAN

— 

8 days ago edited

Mr Norton your speech can be recognised as an essay of some importance to the minds of those seeking political power. Fair promises, illusions, propoganda inexactitudes etc. However more emphasis should have been on the objective side based on the common proposals and needs From reading or like any amateur / rum shop economist I humbly ask that following should be explained to us the masses : 1 how do you plan to enhance economic growth, 2 IS there a plan to reduce the gap between rich and poor via making sensible improvements for the poor and balanced opportunities 3 Creation of jobs 4Reduction of crime at all levels 5 Making the country self reliant 6 Pushing the country towards modernization. And please the time limit of the afore mentioned formulations need to be given.

0 0 Reply 



another point of view

— 

8 days ago

VAT should be lowered or eliminated to allow more cash to circulate in the economy.

0 0 Reply 



Ben Khan

— 

8 days ago

Another Great Mathematician, ready to drain the country.

0 0 Reply 



Witch_Dr

— 

8 days ago

Aubrey needs to go back tot he drawing board and come back with a better plan to get votes.

2 1 Reply 



fmguycan

→ Witch_Dr

— 

8 days ago

Em gat the mathematican available 33=32 .All em has to do is be prepare to give up de tap spot!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

0 0 Reply 




flabbygasted

→ Witch_Dr

— 

8 days ago

that's an understatement for the day. but there is always tomorrow. I would keep my eye on the Exxon Lawyer.

0 0 Reply 



Duglar → Witch_Dr



8 days ago

Which doctor, no drawing board or domino board. It is boring. Aubrey has a good strategy up his sleeve. So staan quite.

0 0 Reply



Kaieteur_Canada → Duglar



8 days ago

Give it up dooglar.... de HaHaBray fella is a laughable loser.

0 0 Reply



DOUGLAMAN → Witch_Dr



8 days ago

Dr with such tantalizing promises the dead will rise and vote for him .

0 0 Reply



2BEAK → Witch_Dr



8 days ago

He can't because he is no different from the PPP, all using the same pro-privatized capitalist economics drawing board.

0 0 Reply



GT_Pitbull



8 days ago edited

"\$100,000 cash grants almost monthly to citizens."

This 'funny' idea will cost the Government approximately US \$240Million

monthly(approximately US \$3Billion annually). Note, Global oil prices are projected to fall in 2025 and 2026.

"He also promised the implementation of a railway network linking communities with both Georgetown to the north and Lethem to the south, powered by Guyana's own natural gas reserves."

Question: Where is the volume of local commercial output to support a National Railway?

A Natural Gas railway system will require very expensive infrastructure investment (US \$ many Billions).

If the PNC/AFC coalition is to survive then Nigel Hughes must be the President Candidate.

GT_Pitbull's points system to November 2025.

PNC/AFC - 0

PPP/C - 1



0 0 Reply 



Krish Lall

— 

8 days ago

Norton , can you please stand up & tell the nation that you support transparent, free & fair elections now & forever ? Forget about all these these promises & VAT . The nation need people who are GENUINELY interested in the affairs in a honest , transparent & legal way...lets hear an sincere oath towards this. No one person is more important than the nation & Guyanese know that now clearly . We have lives through the promises & everything about Cheddi, Forbes, Hyote, Granger & many others . The nation would have been better if we had honest leaders who govern for the people as their foremost priority.

1 0 Reply 



gordon

— 

8 days ago

"PNCR will be implementing several measures including the lowering of VAT and \$100,000 cash grants almost monthly to citizens." ... sure, there should be no VAT tax on foods but \$100K, ALMOST MONTHLY TO CITIZENS; key words ALMOST [how often?] and CITIZENS [ALL?] are both ambiguous, shows a sigh of recklessness, desperation and hopelessness...

1 0 Reply 



Pilot 230/380/767

— 

8 days ago

\$100,000 monthly Aubrey ? A country with the most millionaire's. A gan say um again . The PNC is not ready to manage the affairs of Guyana . That leave us with the corrupt, money and land One Race Administration .

0 0 Reply 



Radar21reformed

— 

8 days ago

But wait was it not the APNU-AFC that burdened the people of Guyana with VAT on over 200 hundred items in the 2016 budget? There was a tax on baby formula to the hearse that took people to their final resting place. There was even a tax on donkey carts.

I notice the PNC has been asking for proof of these new taxes. Please refer to the 2016 budget.

1 0 Reply 



Pilot 230/380/767 → Radar21reformed

— 

8 days ago

VAT was a idea from de IMF . Don't blame Guyanese politician's fuh duh one . Oil money was not flowing in 2016 . All they did was borrow and spend .

0 0 Reply 



DOUGLAMAN

→ Pilot 230/380/767



8 days ago

IMF did not come to Guyana because they were altruistic and helpful .Our politicians wet to them with a plan first This plan included included all of Guyana s proposals , made by the " economists " at the time.
NB under the government in the 70 s we had one of highest ratings of taxes

0 0 Reply ↗



flabbygasted



8 days ago

will the real Guyanese voter please stand up.
vote for the suit that will hand you \$100,000 per month.
why, who, what, else you gonna vote for. now... that's leadership. that is vision every month.

0 0 Reply ↗



General



8 days ago

Ah wha happened to you Naughton you ain't thinking 😞 about abee minibuses ah wha gonna happen when you bring trains? You know Claudette and Nandalala still driving donkey carts.

0 0 Reply ↗



rich wong

→ General



8 days ago

Why not USD 5000 annually ? Pnc has the balm for our daily pains . Talk to Aubrey bredda . It's a landslide

0 0 Reply ↗



fmguycan



8 days ago

Lots of carrots dangling for the taking.

Some seem promising and some speculative.

The reduction in the VAT and 100,000 almost monthly are sure winners.

At some point Guyana has to reintroduce a train service.

1 0 Reply ↗



flabbygasted

→ fmguycan



8 days ago

and what better time than the "Oil and Gas" years.

0 0 Reply 



Duglar

8 days ago

He is right.

0 0 Reply 



Martin

→ Duglar

8 days ago

<https://guyanatimesgy.com/setting-up-for-mayhem/>

0 0 Reply 



Storme

8 days ago

President Ali is a winner man. You have to go with the winner.

1 0 Reply 



Duglar

→ Storme

8 days ago

President Aubrey will storm into the winner!

0 0 Reply 



rich wong

8 days ago

Irresponsible ! This party doesn't understand macro economics.

2 0 Reply 



Duglar

→ rich wong

8 days ago

I think you had too much fly lice lately.

Aubrey is the man for the hour!

0 0 Reply 



Prof. One Luv

9 days ago

Mr. Norton I love your grandiose close out debate presentation "Aubrey Norton told the National Assembly yesterday that if elected this year the PNCR will be implementing several measures including the lowering of VAT and \$100,000 cash grants almost monthly to citizens."

I don't want to be negative, but this monthly \$100,000.00 must be a vote catching argument in an election year. As I blogged before a better suggestion for me is to save half of that \$100,000.00 for each eligible Guyanese, otherwise all that is going happen is the great spending affair taking place (leading to inflation). It should be clear to ALL Guyanese that this Oil will one day come to an end - as only salvation last forever.

To be honest Mr. Norton your party has not done and achieve much during this parliament. Why the level of disunity in your party and Jagdeo party politics cripple much of what you could have achieve. In addition, Regions 4 and 10 alone cannot win an election. This is the last time I am going to make this suggestion in my blog. All that BJ can accuse your party of is rigging elections. I saw in the USA Trump tried the same (failed) and he is back in power/office as the KingMaker.

0 0 Reply 



Rakhi Sangh → Prof. One Luv

— 

8 days ago

Inflation and laziness. It already happened with the 100k.

0 0 Reply 



Prof. One Luv → Prof. One Luv

— 

8 days ago

Neither Jaggie or Aubrey getting my vote - no way Duglar.

0 0 Reply 



Duglar → Prof. One Luv

— 

8 days ago

You are a negative thinker.

What Aubrey says makes sense. Vote for him.

1 0 Reply 



Prof. One Luv → Duglar

— 

8 days ago

Neither Jaggie nor Aubrey getting my vote - so you can stay there and dream on.

0 0 Reply 



2BEAK → Prof. One Luv

— 

8 days ago edited

Its very doubtful P. Trump policies will make him a king using sanctions and regime change. Even Trump's son-in-law's, Kushner's plans using his Abraham Accord to develop bombed-out Gaza into a resort will not succeed. For an insight, see,

1 YouTube Search Window video titled "Richard D. Wolff & Michael Hudson: Israel's

1. YouTube Search Window video titled "Richard D. Wolff & Michael Hudson: Israel's Dead End—US Empire's Collapse: Losing Touch w/Reality" and,

2. See article titled, "Richard Wolff: Settlers Colonialism -- 'It Ends With Us' in Palestine" and,

3. See the YouTube Search Window video titled, "Pepe Escobar: Trump's Strategic Blunder: Is He Dangerously Underestimating the Power of BRICS?"

American arrogance and hubris have regrettably exposed one of the biggest blunders in military history ever in the US/NATO failed attempt to attack, fragment, and destroy the Russian Federation in the 21st century. In fact, this attack has the inverse effect, as the Russian economy is booming while Russia is at war in Ukraine.

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