

International Air Traffic Controller's Day 2020

October 20, 2020

The Georgetown Flight Information Region spans from the Atlantic Ocean to the Amazon Jungle and encompasses approx. 290,000 square kilometers of airspace that includes thousands of square kilometers of lush green forested area where passengers, mail and cargo are transported safely and efficiently across daily. It provides the opportunity for air traffic controllers, a dedicated team of professionals with the ingenuity and skills necessary to maintain the high reputation of the safest mode of transportation and aviation excellence.

As our country continues to combat the unprecedented challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, the ANS and its workforce have worked tirelessly to keep the skies open and safe ensuring that the supply chain of medical and other essentials cargos is delivered on time. Our Nation's vigilant air traffic controllers are at the heart of these operations and have worked 24/7. In the months to come, the aviation industry will be integral in helping our Nation recover from the effects of the coronavirus.

Air traffic controllers are keeping a watchful eye on aircraft movement within our air space, at the local aerodromes and in the region to ensure continued safe flight operations. On any given day, thousands of flights are guided safely through the skies, whether they are carrying passengers or cargo, flight crews rely on the professionalism of air traffic controllers, the systems they use and all the people behind the scenes to ensure safe movement from one airport to the next.

The air traffic control profession is one that requires highly specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities. Controllers must work rapidly and efficiently to coordinate the succinct movement of air traffic, understand complex situations and make quick decisions while managing multiple flights at a time. The individual controller often has an incredible amount of responsibility during and even after the tour of duty, hence this profession is subject to some of the strictest physical, mental and medical requirements, that makes it consistently regarded around the world as one of the most stressful and challenging jobs.

On this International Air Traffic Controller's Day, we express our sincerest gratitude to the air traffic controllers, assistants and technicians in Guyana, who toil diligently to connect millions of passengers and cargo by air travel all around the world. On behalf of the Management team of Air Navigation Services, I take this opportunity to extend sincerest thank you to all the men, women and your extended families, who work assiduously in ensuring the safety and efficiency of this service.

We commend you on the exceptional execution and commitment towards your duties and responsibilities, since we are aware of the various challenges you would have encountered, which no doubt sometimes makes your jobs more difficult and demanding. We appreciate your efforts and dedication towards ensuring the highest level of service, and look forward to your continued support, as we strive to improve the growth and development of Air Navigation Services.

Happy Air Traffic Controller's Day to my buddies of the past, colleagues of today and those in training.

“Smart, intelligent, good looking then Controllers, it doesn't get better”

Rickford Samaroo

*Director of Air Navigation Service
Guyana Civil Aviation Authority*