



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

WHAT'S HAPPENING

March 25, 2022

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COAST GUARD OFFICERS ENHANCE MARITIME OPERATIONAL SKILLS



Members of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard (TTCG) are participating in a two-week joint training programme designed to enhance participants' skills in effectively conducting maritime operations, with special focus on boarding procedures and tactics.

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At the Opening Ceremony held on, Monday March 21, 2022 at Staubles Bay, Chaguaramas, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P stated that the training is being conducted at an opportune time when countries across the world face threats to border security brought on by transnational criminal activities.

The Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) Training Programme is a collaborative effort between the TTCG, the Canadian Coast Guard, the High Commission of Canada in Trinidad and Tobago and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

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IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTRE RECEIVES DONATION OF SPORTING ITEMS FROM EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA



The Ministry of National Security's Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) has received a donation of sporting items from the Embassy of the Republic of Colombia.

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Permanent Secretary (Ag.), Ms. Nataki Atiba-Dilchan expressed gratitude for the donation to Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Colombia, Her Excellency Martha Cecilia Pinilla Perdomo, which both parties noted was indicative of the cordial bilateral relationship between the two countries.

The donation comprised two (2) indoor/outdoor basketballs; two (2) footballs; two (2) packs of tennis balls; one (1) table tennis net and post; two (2) packets of table tennis balls; two (2) table tennis rackets; one (1) badminton set; and two (2) cricket bats; which will be used for recreational activities for detainees housed at the IDC in Aripo.

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MINISTER HINDS PRIORITIZES PRISON SECURITY



Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P., visited the Golden Grove Prison in Arouca and the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (Mt. Hope Hospital) on Tuesday March 22, 2022, to get a first-hand view of security conditions, following the recent escape of five (5) inmates. Minister Hinds spoke with members of the media following his visit to the Golden Grove Prison, indicating that he, along with Acting Commissioner of Prisons Mr. Deopersad Ramoutar, toured the dormitory area, where the five escaped inmates were housed.

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The Minister also met with the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service Executive and members of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment Engineer Battalion for a preliminary assessment of the Golden Grove Prison facility infrastructure and to identify quick solutions to prevent the recurrence of an escape situation.

Minister Hinds commended the members of the various National Security Agencies for their quick execution of the response plan which led to the recapture of the escaped inmates.



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BORDER OFFICERS TRAINED TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The Ministry of National Security's Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) continues to equip border officers with the necessary expertise to Effectively Screen persons for Human Trafficking Indicators. This week, training was delivered to two groups of specially identified officers from the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard and Customs and Excise Division on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 March, 2022.

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The training session conducted with Coast Guard officers at Staubles Bay, Chaguaramas, complemented the joint training programme also being delivered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Global Maritime Crime Programme (UNODC GMCP), aimed at strengthening the capacity of Trinidad and Tobago to provide enhanced operational responses to transnational organized crime at sea.

Both sessions were focused on providing border officers with the necessary tools to conduct preliminary screening of nationals and non-nationals for indicators of Human Trafficking, in an effort to prevent and suppress Human Trafficking exercises at our nation's borders.



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