

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

WHAT'S HAPPENING

October 13, 2023

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NATIONAL SECURITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE 2024 NATIONAL BUDGET

Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. made his contribution to the debate on the Appropriation (Financial Year - 2024) Bill, 2023, in the House of Representatives on Monday October 09, 2023.



Minister Hinds presented the progress the Ministry made in 2023 and outlined upcoming projects and initiatives carded for 2024. Here are a few of the highlights:

- The national security budgetary allocation for 2023 to 2024 is proposed at \$6.9 billion.
- A border security policy has been completed for the consideration of the Cabinet. It is envisioned that this policy will form part of the border management system.
- Additional CCTV cameras will be installed, this year, across Trinidad and Tobago, commencing with five areas in Port of Spain, in October.

October 13, 2023

NATIONAL SECURITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE 2024 NATIONAL BUDGET (Con'd)

- A national gun retrieval exercise continues with five hundred and twenty-one illegal firearms recovered for 2023, so far. The exercise is led by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) with the support of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF).
- Two water rescue vessels and a mobile water system have been acquired for the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service.
- Funds have been allocated to acquire ten (10) additional TTPS riverine crafts to continue their work in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard.

Minister Hinds reiterated that addressing crime remains a top priority for the Government. He gave the assurance that all arms of law enforcement will continue to work together to push back against criminals and to safeguard Trinidad and Tobago.



October 13, 2023

MINISTER HINDS MEETS WITH DELEGATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION



On Wednesday October 11, 2023, Minister of National Security the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds M.P. met with Deputy Secretary General for Economic and Global Affairs of the European External Action Service (EEAS), European Union (EU), Ms. Helena König. The meeting took place at the Ministry of National Security's Head Office, Abercromby Street, Port of Spain.

Head of Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Peter Cavendish was also present at the meeting. Ms. König is visiting Trinidad and Tobago as part of a high-level mission to a number of Caribbean countries, to directly engage European Union partners in the region and advance bilateral relations.

Minister Hinds and Ms. König engaged in discussions on ongoing collaboration in defence and security matters, as well as on security-related technical assistance from the EU to Trinidad and Tobago. This engagement has been long-standing and mutually beneficial, and covers a range of issues, including terrorism, transnational organised crime and capacity-building for law enforcement.

October 13, 2023

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING



Thirty-six (36) members of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF), the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) and the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS), are now equipped with the essential knowledge and skills to effectively respond and conduct search and rescue operations, during disasters and emergencies, particularly in the urban environment.

This follows the completion of a five-day Regional Search and Rescue Training (RSART) Programme that was held at the TTFS' Savonetta Training Facility from Monday 02 to Friday 06 October, 2023. The intensive course provided the participants with the critical competencies necessary to effectively manoeuvre through collapsed structures, save lives, operate as a member of a local, regional and international response team, as well as to train others with the knowledge gained.

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October 13, 2023

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING (Con'd)



Permanent Secretary (Ag.) of the Ministry of National Security, Ms. Nataki Atiba-Dilchan, delivered the Feature Address at the Closing Ceremony, which took place on Friday 06 October, 2023, at the BRIX Hotel, Port of Spain. She acknowledged that while the training course was operational in nature, it fulfilled several strategic goalposts for our nation.

The capacity building training course was taught by a team of Hope International and the Caribbean instructors from World Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC), who held the graduates to the standards set by the United Nations endorsed, International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). It was jointly organised by the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), with sponsorship provided by Global Affairs Canada and the United States Agency for Development, of **International** Bureau Humanitarian **Affairs** (USAID/BHA).

October 13, 2023

TT-CSIRT HOSTS WEBINAR FOR CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

In observance of October's Cyber Security Awareness Month, the Ministry of National Security's Cyber Security Incident Response Team (TT-CSIRT) hosted a webinar on October 11, 2023, titled "Trinidad and Tobago Threat Landscape Update 2023". A total of two hundred and forty (240) persons from various public and private organizations across Trinidad and Tobago attended.

The webinar aimed to provide an update on cyber threats impacting local organizations from the national perspective, and equip participants with the necessary tools used to mitigate cyber risks. The capabilities and capacity of TT-CSIRT were highlighted to promote increased incident reporting and improve information sharing.

Trinidad and Tobago has noted an increase in cyber security incidents, which have affected various sectors over the past five (5) years. As such, increased cyber threat information (CTI) sharing among government entities as well as private sector industries is crucial to effectively combat cyber threats and thwart potential attacks.



October 13, 2023

FIRE SERVICE OBSERVES FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2023

The Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS) observed National Fire Prevention week along with the international community from October 08 – 14, 2023, under this year's theme "Cooking safety starts with You. Pay attention to fire prevention."



In commemoration of the observance, members of the TTFS's Fire Prevention Unit participated in a media campaign to bring awareness on the dangers that exist within homes which pose serious fire hazards.

Here are some handy cooking safety tips and other measures shared by the TTFS to safeguard against kitchen fires:

- Always keep a close eye on what you're cooking.
- Set a timer to help monitor foods that have longer cooking times.
- Clear cooking area of combustible items such as dish towels, oven mitts and paper towers.
- Turn pot handles towards the back of the stove to avoid spillage of hot food, which can cause scalding and burns.
- Create a "Kid and Pet free zone" of at least three (3) feet or (one meter) around the cooking area.
- Keep pot lids nearby in case a small grease fire starts. Slide lid over pot and turn off burner.
- Never use water to extinguish an oil, fat or grease based fire as this can cause severe burns.
- If a fire occurs, even if small, get out of the house and call the Fire Service emergency number 990 immediately.

"Cooking Safety Starts with You! Pay attention to Fire Prevention"



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