Head 26: Ministry of Education

A summary of the Ministry’s Expenditure, Divisions and Projects
Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Education for the period 2012-2018. It provides the Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Education and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure, the Estimates of Development Programme, the Public Sector Investment Programme and the Auditor General’s Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2016.
Head 26 – Ministry of Education

Ministry Overview¹

Background
The Ministry of Education (MOE) is the government entity responsible for the management and administration of public education in Trinidad.

Mission
To educate and develop children who are:

- able to fulfill their full potential;
- healthy and growing normally;
- academically balanced;
- well-adjusted socially and culturally; and
- emotionally mature and happy.

Vision
The Ministry is a high performing and dynamic organization leading a quality education system that is responsive to the diverse needs of 21st century learners to contribute to the education and versatility of holistically developed children who are able to satisfy the human capital needs and sustainable development of society.

¹ Ministry of Education website accessed 24/Aug/2017 http://moe.edu.tt/
Agencies
The Ministry of Education is the Government’s leading advisor on the education system. As such, it is tasked with the responsibility of shaping the direction of the educational agencies and providers that operate within Trinidad and Tobago. Some of these agencies include:

- The National Training Agency (NTA)
- The Schools of Nursing and Midwifery
- Metal Industries Company Institute of Technology (MIC)
- The National Energy Skills Center (NESC)
- The University of the West Indies St. Augustine (UWI, St. Augustine Campus)
- The Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT)
- The College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)
- Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (TTHTI)
- National Examinations Council (NEC)
- The Local School Boards
- The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT)

Minister of Education, the Honourable Anthony Garcia
Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, The Honourable Dr. Lovell Francis
Permanent Secretary - Ms. Angela Sinaswee- Gervais (Accounting Officer)
Permanent Secretary - Mrs. Lenore Baptiste-Simmons

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Divisions/Programmes

Distance Learning Secretariat (DLS)
The Distance Learning Secretariat is involved in re-engineering and connecting Learning Access and Human Development to support the development of a Lifelong Learning System in Trinidad and Tobago. The Secretariat is responsible for ensuring the development and implementation of strategies related to distance learning.4

Educational Facilities Planning and Procurement Division (EFPPD)
The Educational Facilities Planning and Procurement Division was established in accordance with Cabinet Minute Number 603 of 2010. The Ministry established central control of all its asset management activities and functions under one (1) Division, thus allowing for greater overall efficiency in the delivery of these services at the Districts and the School level. The large volume and high value of assets demanded that the Strategic Apex of the Ministry retain responsibility for policy formulation and strategic planning for the maintenance, safety and security of these assets.5

Examinations Unit
The Examinations Unit has the responsibility for:

- The administration of the following National, Regional and International examinations;
- The Registration and Examination Dates;
- The Release of Results;
- The Processing of Applications for Certified Statements and Transcripts and
- The Verification of Results for Educational and Professional Institutions6

6 Ministry of Education website accessed 24/Aug/2017  http://moe.gov.tt/Services/Examinations-Unit
Financial Assistance Studies Programme (FASP)
The Financial Assistance (Studies) Programme is a government initiative designed to assist students in the pursuit of a post-secondary qualification or first undergraduate qualification. The assistance is given in the form of a grant and acts as a supplementary fund to which applying does not guarantee funding. The grant can be accessed only once as it works in tandem with the student’s existing financial plans. Successful awardees would be required to enter into an agreement with the government to work within the territory of Trinidad and Tobago for a period specified. Any breach in the agreement on the part of the student would result in the grant being converted to a loan. 

Educational Planning Division
Established in 1964, the Educational Planning Division is responsible for the formulation and implementation of Government’s policy with respect to on-going reform of the education system in the context of national development. The Division is divided into the following sections offering the followings services:

- **Programming Section** - The Programming Section provides support to all Divisions and Units of the Ministry to bring consistent planning across the Ministry's initiatives and operations. The Section prepares country reports, papers for presentation at national, regional and international workshops and seminars, and provides technical support to all divisions of the MOE in areas related to educational planning.

- **Statistics Section** - collects, collates, disseminates and maintains a system of data collection to inform the policies, projects and programmes to be developed and executed in the educational system. It also provides accurate, relevant and timely information for the effective monitoring and evaluating the formation of those policies, projects and programmes.

- **Facilities Section** - develops and maintains the educational adequacy and efficiency standards for school facilities by managing the services and processes that support school infrastructural improvement.

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• **Business Planning Unit (BPU)** - is tasked with strengthening the Ministry’s strategic planning process by monitoring the deliverables identified in the Ministry’s Corporate Plan and the integrated Business Plan.

• **Policy Support Unit** - The Policy Support Unit is charged with advising and providing support to Divisions/Units in the formulation education policies.

• **Educational Planning Library** - The Educational Planning Library provides library services in support of educational planning in the Ministry.  

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**Division of Educational Research and Evaluation (DERE)**

The DERE was established on October 21st, 1994, based on recommendations made by the National Task Force on Education, 1993. The DERE is a key player in the process of reforming the Ministry of Education. It is involved in all the initiatives aimed at strengthening the planning, management and implementation capability of the organisation in its thrust for increased efficiency and effectiveness.  

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**The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)**

The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) is available to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago under 50 years of age who have been accepted and are enrolled in a tertiary level programme within CARICOM. The applicant must complete a HELP Application Form. The loan is available to part-time or full-time, employed or unemployed students. Applicants who do not meet the age criterion may on review be given special consideration. The loan is available to part-time or full-time, employed or unemployed students.  

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**The Teaching and Teacher Development Division**

The Teaching and Teacher Development Division (TTDD) is the arm of the Ministry of Education which is responsible for the professional development of all teachers in our education system: E.C.C.E., Primary and Secondary Levels.  

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The Scholarships and Advanced Training Division

The Scholarships and Advanced Training Division has responsibility for the administration of scholarships and long-term technical assistance awards offered by/through the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Government scholarships enable nationals to acquire skills and training in areas that are critical to the development of the country.\footnote{Government of Trinidad and Tobago website accessed 24/Aug/2017 \url{http://www.scholarships.gov.tt/home/index.php/about-us}}

Human Resource Management Division

The Human Resource Management Division’s (HRMD) major role is to contribute to individual and organisational success by creating and sustaining a working environment based on performance and leadership; attracting and retaining committed employees who share the Ministry’s values; and ensuring consistency with business objectives.\footnote{Ministry of Education website accessed 24/Aug/2017 \url{http://moe.gov.tt/Services/HR}}

Monitoring and Evaluation Unit

The Unit was established in 2013 and its main purpose is to assist in developing a sustainable monitoring and evaluation system that can provide a consistent flow of information on the progress and performance of the Ministry’s initiatives to inform policy development, review, budgeting and decision making. The Unit plays an important role in facilitating and supporting continuous improvement in the Ministry of Education through Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). The M&E Unit utilizes the Results-Based Management (RBM) approach to M&E.\footnote{Ministry of Education website accessed 24/Aug/2017 \url{http://moe.gov.tt/Services/Monitoring-and-Evaluation}}

The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE)

The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE) is administered by the Funding and Grants Administration Division of the Ministry of Education – Tertiary Education Division. The objectives of the GATE programme are:
• To make tertiary education affordable to all so that no citizen of Trinidad and Tobago will be denied tertiary education because of their inability to pay.
• To widen access to tertiary education that will support economic development and promote social equity.
• To build and strengthen a national quality tertiary education sector through both public and private tertiary level institutions.¹⁵

**Spanish Implementation Secretariat (SIS)**

The Secretariat for the Implementation of Spanish or SIS was formed under Cabinet Directive on September 9th 2004 and formally launched on March 22nd 2005. The objectives of the Secretariat for the Implementation of Spanish (SIS) are:

• To facilitate a new learning environment through which the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will learn and effectively utilise Spanish as the First Foreign Language (SAFFL) by the year 2020.
• To promote fruitful and effective intercultural dialogue.
• To promote public awareness and support for the Spanish as the First Foreign Language (SAFFL) initiative.¹⁶

**Curriculum Planning and Development Division (CPDD)**

The CPDD functions as champions of the school curriculum which serves as a medium for ensuring that students achieve the value outcomes as stated in the Mission Statement of the Ministry of Education. The CPDD therefore helps to bring policy to fruition through the curriculum development process. The Division makes use of research on best practices for curriculum development and implementation to achieve educational objectives. It also makes recommendations on the acceptability and implications of curriculum offerings which have been developed regionally and internationally. The other major objective is to support the achievement of a seamless education system that will ensure that students are afforded real opportunities for holistic development mindful of their individual educational needs.¹⁷

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School Supervision

The Division of School Supervision is responsible for:

- Providing direction for the development of schools in keeping with the strategic plan of the Ministry of Education.
- Ensuring quality standards by supervising, inspecting and evaluating the operation of schools.
- Leading the professional development of principals and teachers through programme proposals, training seminars and workshops.
- Ensuring the development of school-based management.
- Providing a rich resource of exemplary coaching, training and apprenticeship for teachers and school administrators.\(^{18}\)

Student Support Services Division (SSSD)

Established in 2004, the Student Support Services Division (SSSD) delivers an array of psycho-social, educational and behavioural services for students to provide environments which support their healthy development, enabling them to become responsible, productive citizens. The Division provides a comprehensive and well-coordinated array of psycho-social support services to students which include specialized services for children with moderate and severe Special Educational needs, behavioural issues, clinical issues and career guidance.\(^{19}\)

Textbook Management Unit

The Textbook Management Unit (TMU) is a division in the Ministry of Education which is responsible for the management and administration of all the facets of the Textbook Rental Loan Programme (TRLP). The programme aims to provide textbooks and other learning materials for students at Primary, Secondary and Special Education schools. It ensures that all students have affordable and easy


access to the learning materials required for the core curriculum areas. It also forms part of the Ministry’s efforts towards achieving equity in the provision of educational opportunities and levelling the playing field in gaining access to education.20

Key Statement from 2016 Standing Finance Committee Debate

During the Standing Finance Committee debate of 2017, the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Education for fiscal year 2016/2017:

“It is the intention of this Minister of Education and indeed the intention of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to ensure that within our school system quality education is delivered. If we are to achieve this objective we have to ensure that we have quality physical infrastructure, our teachers must be well trained, our students must be well disciplined and there must be a high level of parental involvement.

Towards this end, we have embarked on what we refer to as a School Based Management Model that will involve all major stakeholders in the school system, ably supported by our school supervisors and our curriculum officers and members of the Student Support Unit. These persons, these officers will be visiting the schools on a regular basis where they will be having discussions with our principals, our vice-principals, our heads of departments, our deans and our teachers, all in an effort to ensure that our objective is met.

In our school system today we have a number of challenges and I am sure as we discuss the details of our recurrent expenditure, some of these challenges will be brought to the fore, but I want to assure Members of this House and indeed members of the national community, that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the Ministry of Education will do everything to ensure that our children are not short changed. In other words, we are going to stick steadfastly to our task of providing a high level of quality education to all our students.”

-Minister of Education

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Where the Ministry spends its money

2017-2018 Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure

The budget allocation for the Ministry of Education is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of $5,151,772,967;
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme in the sum of $842,887,000
  - Consolidated Fund in the sum of $321,205,000; and
  - Infrastructure Development Fund\(^2\) in the sum of $521,682,000.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure; - $2,580,452,700;
- 02 Goods and Services; - $589,717,850;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases; $61,767,000;
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies; $1,735,376,417; and
- 06 Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies $184,459,000.

The Ministry of Education’s:

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is 9.81%;
- Consolidated Fund as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund is 13.12%; and
- Infrastructure Development Fund as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund is 19.5%.

\(^2\) Head 18 – Ministry of Finance, Sub-Head 04 – Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance allocation for the financial year. Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Ministry of Education does not include IDF funding.)
Summary of Estimates for Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2012-2018

The Graph below illustrates the budget allocation for the Ministry of Education for the financial year 2017/2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>2,023,502,726</td>
<td>2,718,876,228</td>
<td>2,225,678,738</td>
<td>3,015,980,639</td>
<td>2,523,175,530</td>
<td>2,564,602,115</td>
<td>2,580,452,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services</td>
<td>660,986,107</td>
<td>652,686,039</td>
<td>692,517,519</td>
<td>720,168,350</td>
<td>789,841,156</td>
<td>530,064,100</td>
<td>589,717,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>64,237,553</td>
<td>64,268,815</td>
<td>30,805,582</td>
<td>30,306,536</td>
<td>1,008,762</td>
<td>1,323,100</td>
<td>61,767,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>747,473,752</td>
<td>642,222,824</td>
<td>636,615,469</td>
<td>622,525,387</td>
<td>2,378,997,683</td>
<td>1,641,422,985</td>
<td>1,735,376,417</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2012 Actual

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 57%
- 02 Goods and Services: 19%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 2%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 21%
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies: 1%

2013 Actual

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 64%
- 02 Goods and Services: 15%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 4%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 2%
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies: 15%
2016 Actual

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 43%
- 02 Goods and Services: 13%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 4%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 4%
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies: 0%

2017 Revised Estimates

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 52%
- 02 Goods and Services: 11%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 0%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 4%
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies: 0%
2018 Estimates

- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies
Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the year 2018 was $2,769,213,750, which is an increase of approximately 3.15% from the last fiscal year 2017. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all staff related expenditure for 2016-2018.

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Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Fund (GATE)

Information supplied by the Ministry of Education (Tertiary Education and Skills Training) to the Auditor General’s Department when preparing the Auditor General’s 2016 Report shows total spending on the GATE programme as at 2015/2016 to be $6.46 billion, as follows:24

[Graph showing Summary of Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Fund (GATE) Payments]

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24 Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year ended September 30, 2016, - Pg. 67
http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.tt/sites/default/files/Auditor%20General%27s%20Report%20on%20the%20Public%20Accounts%202016_0.pdf
The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2012 to 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Allocation</th>
<th>National Budget</th>
<th>Percentage of National Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$3,563,541,451.00</td>
<td>$55,718,271,573.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$4,290,997,523.00</td>
<td>$59,174,226,196.00</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$3,864,935,183.00</td>
<td>$65,020,886,424.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$4,673,530,216.00</td>
<td>$61,966,922,675.00</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$6,260,934,016.00</td>
<td>$56,573,913,053.00</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$5,214,889,550.00</td>
<td>$55,598,436,912.00</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$5,472,977,697.00</td>
<td>$54,955,041,591.00</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Ministry as a percentage of the National Budget illustrates an increase in the allocation to the Ministry of Education by 1% between the period 2016/2017 and 2017/2018.

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25 For the Fiscal Years 2012-2016, actual figures were used to calculate the total allocation. However, estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018.

26 Total Allocation for the Ministry of Education = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund

27 The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Total Consolidated Fund
Analysis and Summary of Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry including Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases, Current Transfers and Subsidies and Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 was estimated at $5,151,772,967. This represents 9.81% of the total Estimated Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial year 2017/2018.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 was $4,943,527,750 (Revised). Comparing this figure with the allocation in Fiscal Year 2017/2018, there is an increase of $208,245,217 or 4.21%.

- The largest portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head 01 Personnel Expenditure. This figure has been fluctuating over the period 2012 – 2018 from 57% in fiscal year 2012, increasing to 66% in fiscal year 2015 and then decreasing to 43% in 2016.

- In 2018 the allocation, Personnel Expenditure will account for 50% of the Ministry’s total recurrent allocation.

- Minor Equipment Purchases received the lowest portion of the Ministry’s allocations for the period 2012 to 2018.

- Current transfers and subsidies represented approximately 34% of the total recurrent allocation when compared to the last fiscal year 2017, there was an increase of 1%.

- Current transfers to State Boards and Similar Bodies represented approximately 4% of the allocation.
The actual/estimated expenditure for the five (5) Sub-Heads has been fluctuating over the seven (7) year period, from a low of $3,532,956,854.00 in 2012 to a high of $5,902,954,417.00 in 2016. It should be noted that in 2015, the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training merged with the Ministry of Education.
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2012-2018

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP), which represents the capital expenditure component of the National Budget, is the instrument used by Government to effect its vision and policies. It is a budgeting and strategic planning tool made up of projects and programmes, designed to realise the goals set out in the Government’s overarching policy.

The PSIP budget document provides a detailed description of the programmes and projects and includes a review of the implementation of projects and programmes in the previous financial year and highlights the major projects and programmes to be implemented in the upcoming financial year.

- The Public Sector Investment Programme is intended to achieve:
  - the country’s social and economic development goals; and
  - enhance the quality of life of all citizens.

The estimates for the development programme are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds appropriated by Parliament and disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund; and
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund.
## Noteworthy Development Programme Estimates in 2017-2018

The table below lists the projects that have been noted due to uncharacteristic variances in estimates for funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2018</th>
<th>Project - Item</th>
<th>2017 Estimate</th>
<th>2017 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2018 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-04D-002</td>
<td>Sangre Grande MIC/HYPE Centre</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04G-003</td>
<td>Scholarship’s/Full Pay Study Leave for Teachers</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>5,690,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-025</td>
<td>Establishment of the Aviation Institute – UTT Camden Campus – Phase 1</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-027</td>
<td>Establishment of a National Science Centre</td>
<td>12,000,000</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-032</td>
<td>Establishment of a Training Facility - Chaguanas</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-033</td>
<td>Acquisition of Capital Equipment for Metal Industries Company Limited (legacy)</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>1,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06A-031</td>
<td>Seamless Education System Project</td>
<td>5,500,000</td>
<td>1,600,000</td>
<td>13,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06F-016</td>
<td>Relocation of Ministry of Education – Head Office</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06F-023</td>
<td>Expansion of the School of Dentistry at the Medical Sciences Complex</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>12,200,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06F-024</td>
<td>Upgrade of the Campus Sewer Collection System and Sewer Treatment plant</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,605,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2016-2017

For the fiscal year 2016-2017, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Education, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2018</th>
<th>Project - Item</th>
<th>2017 Estimate</th>
<th>2017 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2018 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06A-037</td>
<td>School Improvement Project – Laventille Community</td>
<td>31,000,000</td>
<td>10,322,500</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06A-038</td>
<td>Acquisition of Property in Tobago to House ACTT Offices</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06A-039</td>
<td>Establishment of a Knowledge Centre in Laventille</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06F-027</td>
<td>Building of the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre</td>
<td>4,500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04C-395 IDF</td>
<td>Construction and Refurbishment of Holy Cross College</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Projects for the Financial Year 2017-2018

The following new projects that received funding in the 2017/2018 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2018</th>
<th>Project -Item</th>
<th>2018 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-037</td>
<td>St. Bede Technology Centre – Establishment of Woodworking Workshop</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-039</td>
<td>COSTAATT El Dorado Academy of Nursing and Allied Health</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-041</td>
<td>COSTAATT Technology Upgrade</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-043</td>
<td>Enhancing of Agriculture through Technology - NIHERST</td>
<td>629,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Major Programmes and Development for the Period 2016 to 2018

The following table shows a list of the significant expenditure items, based on the proportion of the budgetary allocation assigned.31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2018</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2016 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2018 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-04G-004</td>
<td>National/Additional Scholarships based on Advanced Level Examinations</td>
<td>118,282,674</td>
<td>124,695,000</td>
<td>140,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04G-009</td>
<td>Post Graduate Scholarship</td>
<td>16,988,305</td>
<td>13,000,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-008</td>
<td>Establishment of the University of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>15,500,000</td>
<td>11,420,000</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04J-016</td>
<td>Establishment of a COSTAATT Campus in Chaguanas</td>
<td>46,653,000</td>
<td>9,050,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06A-037</td>
<td>School Improvement Project – Laventille Community</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,322,500</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F019</td>
<td>Development Works at the University of the West Indies</td>
<td>28,173,751</td>
<td>17,000,000</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-A001 IDF</td>
<td>Early Childhood Care and Education</td>
<td>7,654,706</td>
<td>38,000,000</td>
<td>35,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-B120 IDF</td>
<td>Improvements/Refurbishment/Extensions to Primary Schools</td>
<td>12,531,225</td>
<td>44,956,442</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-C322 IDF</td>
<td>Procurement of Furniture and Equipment</td>
<td>415,108</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-C331 IDF</td>
<td>Improvements/Refurbishment/Extensions to Secondary Schools</td>
<td>3,244,234</td>
<td>23,178,988</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-C333 IDF</td>
<td>Replacement /Construction of Blocks Within Secondary Schools</td>
<td>2,640,316</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>37,086,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-C394 IDF</td>
<td>Secondary School Construction and Other Infrastructure Works</td>
<td>203,124</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
<td>75,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-04-J041 IDF</td>
<td>UTT Main Campus Tamana E-Teck Park Wallerfield</td>
<td>6,111,715</td>
<td>58,000,000</td>
<td>120,265,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Auditor General Report Findings for the Fiscal year 2016**

Ref: Auditor General’s Report

### Overpayments

Overpayments

The Appropriation Account reported that 637 cases of overpayments totalling $6,477,125.15 were discovered for the financial period under review. This figure was overstated due to the inclusion of previous year’s overpayments.

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Monthly Statements of Revenue collected on behalf of the Ministry from eight District Revenue Offices for the months of August and September 2016 totalling $384,149.85 were not presented.

### Expenditure Statement

The Financial Statement submitted by the Administering Officer did not include Notes nor a report on the activities of the Fund as required by guidelines from the Comptroller of Accounts.

**Government Assistance Tuition Expenses (GATE)**

The surplus figure of $52,243,507.29 stated in Part A of the Expenditure Statement, did not agree with the audited balance of $53,115,711.73. The surplus balance in the Expenditure Statement was understated by $872,204.44.

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The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) Fund was established under section 43 (2) of the Exchequer and Audit Act, Chapter 69:01. Legal Notice No. 329 dated 9th December, 2004 refers.

The balance in the Fund of $95,059,749.71 at 30th September, 2016 increased by $67,889,949.33 or 250% from the prior year balance of $27,169,800.38 due mainly to a reduction in payments by the Ministry of Education (Tertiary Education and Skills Training) which administers the Fund (TS 56 and TS 57 refer).

The Financial Statement submitted by the Administering Officer did not include Notes or a report on the activities of the Fund as required by Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 11 dated August 4, 2016.

Information supplied by the Ministry of Education (Tertiary Education and Skills Training) shows total spending on the GATE programme to date to be $6.46 billion, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Fund Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>$102,193,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>$179,689,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>$472,771,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>$501,783,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>$574,913,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>$584,699,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>$624,997,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>$757,641,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>$726,116,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>$635,678,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>$698,849,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>$596,800,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>$6,456,132,770</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Committee Inquires Related to the Ministry of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Report Status</th>
<th>Ministerial Response</th>
<th>Key Recommendations[^33]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- The MOE should pursue the implementation of an automated document management system that is incorporated with an integrated management information system. This will give managers a proper system of data storage whilst facilitating the monitoring of the organization as a whole;  
- The Public Service Commission should make the outfitting of the MOE with proper staffing a priority because the MOE’s function is a critical component in the development of the minds of this country’s future leaders;  
- The Personnel Department should draft more attractive compensation packages for the vacant permanent positions in the MOE so that the Public Service Commission will find it easier to fill the vacancies. This will serve to boost the staff compliment and increase the productivity of the MOE; |

[^33]: Key Recommendations relate to recommendations that may have a financial impact on the Ministry
| 2. The First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an inquiry into the Current Level of Violence among students in schools with particular focus on Physical and Cyber Bullying | Report Presented:  
Senate - 19.12.2016 | Presented:  
H.O.R - 12.04.2017  
Senate - 04.04.2017 | • That at least one Learning Enhancement Centres (LEC) be established in each Education district  
• A comprehensive training regime for Principals and Deans at the Primary and Secondary levels be implemented. This training regime should be informed by a needs assessment of the skills gaps and developmental needs of those involved in managing schools.  
• The urgent development of a properly structured programme for directing persons with special learning needs out of the mainstream classroom into specially customizing learning environments.  
• The Ministry of Education hold discussions with the NPTA and a sample of schools with a view to developing new and innovate strategies that would encourage and facilitate greater parental interaction with the school’s administration through the use of ICT. As a start, consideration should be given to facilitating live online viewing of meetings for the benefit of parents who cannot be physically present  
• The MoE undertake the necessary recruitment procedures with a view to filling existing vacancies in the positions of Guidance Officer and Social Worker. In future, the selection
process for these positions should include psychometric testing and or a suitable methodology for assessing whether the candidate’s has a suitable personality.

| 3. The First Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, First Session of the Eleventh Parliament on Examination into the Current Expenditure of Ministries and Departments under three Sub-Heads: Current Transfers and Subsidies, Development Programme - Consolidated Fund and Infrastructure Development Fund | Report Presented: H.O.R - 09.11.2016 Senate -15.11.2016 | Presented: H.O.R - 18.01.2017 Senate -17.01.2017 | • Ensures that the Internal Audit Unit is sufficiently staffed with technical officers and receives the necessary training to build capacity |
Similar Ministries in Other Jurisdictions