Head 23: Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs

Total Budget Allocation - $393,585,200.00

A summary of the Ministry’s Expenditure, Divisions and Projects
Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Publication
An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website: www.ttparliament.org

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs for the period 2014-2020. It provides the Members of Parliament and their stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate all of the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs, 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 2018.
History of the AGLA

Upon gaining Independence in 1962, the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago expressly assigned to the Attorney General the powers now exercised by the Director of Public Prosecutions i.e. the institution and undertaking of criminal proceedings. Upon attaining Republican status in 1976, the Constitution declared the Attorney General a Minister and assigned him/her responsibility for the administration of legal affairs in Trinidad and Tobago. Legal proceedings for and against the State must be taken, in the case of civil proceedings, in his/her name and in the case of criminal proceedings in the name of the State.

From time to time after 1976 there have been changes in the structure of the Office of the Attorney General. From 1979 to 1990, the Office of the Attorney General functioned under the umbrella of the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs, where both an Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs operated conjointly. In 1997 however, the ministry portfolios were split into two, where they functioned as separate entities and in 1999 subsequently re-joined but were separated again three years later in 2002. On September 7, 2015 the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago merged the Ministry of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Legal Affairs to once more operate as the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs under the present headship of the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Honourable Faris Al-Rawi.

Noteworthy is that the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs has also been a leader in the public service with the establishment of the Health and Recreation Centre and the Vacation and After-School Centre, both the first of their kind in any Government Agency in Trinidad and Tobago.

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The AGLA’s Commitment

The Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs remain committed to the holistic development of Trinidad and Tobago through the promotion of the rule of law at all levels of society. The AGLA will carry out the responsibilities as outlined in the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago and aligned with the Government's Strategic Plan - Vision 2030 to ensure the developmental pillars of a modern legal and regulatory framework are implemented and made effective.

The protection of individual freedoms and property rights can have the greatest impact on national development. The Legislative Agenda 2015-2020 advocates for those rights and tables on Parliament's floor the ideals and performance measures required in the law and justice sector to effect change at the national, regional and international level.

The AGLA resolves to create public value through the development of specialist legal services in the areas of law that are of importance to the State and simultaneously provide to You, the stakeholder, a safe and enabling environment delivered with respect, equity and integrity so as to stimulate increased productivity and greater confidence in the rule of law and in the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs.

The Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs will provide responsive, timely and confidential service with integrity and passion for excellence in order to meet or exceed stakeholders' expectations

Core Values:

- **Integrity**: Honesty, Ethical Behaviour, Commitment and Equity
- **Professionalism**: Discipline, Courtesy, Technical Competence and Timeliness
- **Confidentiality**: Mutual Respect, Trust, Privacy and Security
- **Customer-Focused**: Empathy, Compassion and Customer Satisfaction
- **Results-Oriented**: On-Time Delivery, Punctuality and Reliability

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Responsibilities

| • Appointment to Quasi-Judicial Bodies | • Office of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel |
| • Construction of Court facilities for the Judiciary | - Legislative Drafting |
| • Law Reform | • Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions |
| • Legislative Agenda | • Law Revision |
| • Office of the Chief State Solicitor | • Legal Service Complaints |
| - Administrator General | • Alternative Dispute Resolution |
| - Conveyancing | • Constitution Reform |
| - Custodian of Enemy Property | • Registrar General |
| - Government Contracts | - Civil Registry |
| - Legal Service | - Companies Registry |
| - Provisional Liquidator | - Land Registry |
| - Provisional Receiver | - Rent Restriction |
| - Public Trustee/Official Receiver | • Intellectual Property |
| • Office of the Solicitor General | - Copyright and Related Rights |
| - Civil Litigation | - Trademarks |
| - Commissioners of Affidavits | - Industrial Property |
| - Justices of the Peace | • Criminal Justice System |
| - Legal Advice to the Government | - Reform and transformation |
| - Liquor Licenses | - Quicker Justice Initiative Programme |
| - Marriage Licenses | |

Past Attorneys General

- The Honourable Sir Ellis Clarke - 1957-1962
- The Honourable George Armsby Richards - 1962-1967

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The Honourable Karl Terrence Hudson-Phillips - 1969-1973
The Honourable Basil Pitt - 1973-1976
The Honourable Russell Martineau - 1981-1986
The Honourable Anthony Smart - 1989-1991
The Honourable Keith Sobion - 1991-1995
The Honourable Kamla Persad-Bissessar - 1995-1996
The Honourable Ramesh Lawrence Maharaj - 1996-2001
Her Excellency Glenda Patricia Morean-Phillip - 2001-2003
The Honourable Bridgid Annisette-George - 2007-2009
Senator the Honourable Anand Ramlogan - 2010-2015
Senator the Honourable Garvin Nicholas - 2015-2015

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs: The Honourable Faris Al-Rawi, MP
Minister in the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs: The Honourable Fitzgerald E. Hind
Permanent Secretary (Ag): Ms. Natasha Barrow
Departments:

The Anti-Terrorism Desk
The Anti-Terrorism Desk of the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs was established in the fourth quarter of 2015. Its primary mandate is the implementation of the powers of the Attorney General under the Anti-Terrorism Act, Chap. 12:07. These include obtaining Orders of the High Court declaring individuals and entities as listed entities and freezing their funds, forfeiture of terrorist property and legal action in respect of suspected international terrorists found in Trinidad and Tobago. The Desk also provides policy advice to the Honourable Attorney General and other Government Departments regarding terrorism and related matters, including on the development and revision of laws in this area.

Intellectual Property Office
The Intellectual Property Office was created on the 1st December, 1997 (Section 3 of the Patents Act, 1996) and is situated at 3rd Floor, Capital Plaza, 11 – 13 Frederick Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad. A department within the Ministry of Legal Affairs, the department is the local government agency responsible for handling the registration and conflict resolution of intellectual property rights.

The Chief State Solicitor
The Chief State Solicitor provides legal services to other Government Ministries and Departments as well as to the members of the public. Its main functions are as follows:

- To focus on commercial and property law matters and in these areas serve both the Government and the public in the preparation of deeds and contracts for its commercial enterprises and for the engagement of consultants and other personnel
- To instruct the Solicitor General in Civil Litigation Matters

The Solicitor General
The Solicitor General’s Department performs a critical role in the administration of justice by:

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Advising the State on all aspects of Civil Law
By representing the State in both Constitutional and Civil Proceedings
By assisting in the formulation and execution of Government policy within the limits of the law
To vet financial documents relating to loan agreements and bond issues on the domestic and international markets.

Office of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel
The Chief Parliamentary Counsel heads the Legislative Drafting Department, which plays a critical role in the implementation of Government policy. The main functions of the Legislative Drafting Department are as follows:

- To draft primary and secondary legislation as instructed by Cabinet or the Attorney General;
- To advise on the legal aspects of Bills and subsidiary legislation in Parliament;
- To advise the Attorney General on the constitutionality of legislation and other matters relating to same;
- To advise the Parliament on matters relating to Parliamentary procedure, and other legal issues.

Law Revision Commission
Established by the Law Revision Act, Chap. 3:03, the Commission's mandate is to prepare, publish and maintain a Revised Edition of the Laws of Trinidad and Tobago. It is the only agency charged with this responsibility. In pursuance of this mandate the Commission's vision is: "A state-of-the-art, technology-driven organisation providing real-time access to the updated Laws in both textual and electronic formats."

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
The Director of Public Prosecutions, a position created by the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago, is the head of the Criminal Law Department. The establishment of this position stemmed from the need for a constitutional post that would always be independent of political and stakeholder involvement in the prosecution of criminal matters. In this circumstance, the independence of this post is constitutionally guaranteed. The functions of the Criminal Law Department also include the following:
• Undertaking Criminal Prosecution in all High Courts (Assizes and Appeal);
• Briefing Counsel in the United Kingdom on the conduct of Appeals before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council;
• Undertaking prosecutions in complex matters and matters of public interest in the forty (40) Magistrates' Courts throughout the country;
• Formulating prosecution policy;
• Interfacing on a regular basis with Governmental, Non-Governmental and international agencies such as the Police, the Defence Force, Customs and Excise, the Board of Inland Revenue and Town and Country Planning Division. In addition, there is a great deal of interaction with the Public, the United States Department of Justice, the Crown Prosecutors Service and other prosecuting agencies within the Caribbean Territories;
• Assisting with Extradition requests;
• Proffering indictments before the High Court and preparing and filing other legal documents.
Auditor General Report Findings for the Fiscal year 2018

Notes to the Appropriation Accounts

Note 21 (ii) – Contracts already entered into but not yet completed

A contract in the sum of $4,265,600.00 was entered into by the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs for the digitisation of land registry records. The Note to the Appropriation Account indicated that $2,544,460.00 was paid to date with a contract balance of $1,721,140.00. However of the sum paid, documentation was only provided to substantiate three payments totalling $1,439,640.00. Documentary evidence in support of the difference of $1,104,820.00 was not produced.

The Note to the Appropriation Account at the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs included details of the Ministry’s contract for consulting services to design and implement a Property Business Registration System (PBRS). This contract was effected on 30th November 2018, therefore disclosure of this contract and any payment details does not relate to the financial year 2017/2

AUDIT OF REVENUE

Observations arising from the examination of the systems and procedures for revenue accounting, as well as the Statements of Receipts and Disbursements of the Receivers of Revenue are highlighted in the subsequent paragraphs.

AT6 - MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

There is an unreconciled difference of $1,417,555.00 between the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements and the records of the Treasury Division.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

Ministries and Departments are given approval by the Comptroller of Accounts to maintain Deposit Accounts. Monies accepted as deposits are lodged with the Treasury for safekeeping and are referred to as “Treasury Deposits”. The amounts in the Treasury Deposit accounts are temporary lodgements and are shown as liabilities in the records of the Treasury.

The Financial Instructions 1965, Part XIII, paragraph 212 (2) states, “Departments shall prepare a reconciliation statement with details of the composition of the balance and such statement shall fully explain any difference between the departmental and Comptroller of Accounts balances of the account.” Reconciliation Statements of Deposit Accounts and/or supporting analyses of balances where necessary were not received as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Held</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Submitted</th>
<th>Number of Accounts not submitted to AGD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Statement from 2018 Standing Finance Committee Debate

During the Standing Finance Committee debate of 2018, the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs for fiscal year 2019:

“The Attorney General’s office is responsible for a number of areas of very important responsibility, including the conduct of litigation for, and on behalf of the State; the Registrar General’s Office; the Land Registry; the Companies Registry and, generally, giving legal advice to the Government and State Corporations.”

- Minister of Finance

Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2019

During fiscal 2019, it was necessary to have a Supplementation of Appropriation of resources to fund urgent and critical Recurrent and Capital Expenditure in areas where insufficient or no allocation was provided. The source of these additional funds was the Consolidated Fund.

The Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs requested and was granted the following supplementations:

**Recurrent Expenditure - $50,000,000**

- 02/001/23 – Fees - $50,000,000

  The sum is required to facilitate payment of outstanding legal fees for services provided to the Ministry.

During the Standing Finance Committee on the Consideration of Proposals for the Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2019\(^7\), the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs for fiscal year 2019:

> “the Ministry of the Attorney General, under Head 23, is requesting a supplementation of appropriation of the sum of $50 million as set out in the documents. It falls under “General Administration” specifically under “Legal Fees”. If I could explain, Madam Chair, the exercise of legal fees is a continuum. As at September 2015, the Ministry of the Attorney General had spent $444,444,197.16 being a subtotal of approximately $1.4 billion in a whole-of-Government expenditure, largely conducted by the AG’s office. Out of that $1.4 billion – and the precise figure I can actually provide as well – out of that $1.4 billion, and specifically down at the AG’s office, we were left with an arrears of $137,128,741. So approximately $137 million of arrears. We have been managing with approximately a utilization of, at lowest, 34 per cent of the budget of the previous government and, at highest, 58 per cent of the year on year. This $50 million, therefore, is required to settle arrears that is owing.”

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\(^7\) Standing Finance Committee Hansard [http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s4-H-20190510-SFC-R2.pdf](http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p11-s4-H-20190510-SFC-R2.pdf) web accessed on October 7, 2019
“So the AG’s office, having spent in the period 2010 to 2015, $444 million in legal fees, being a subset of $1.4 billion in legal fees, left the incoming government with approximately $137 million of arrears. There is a statutory period of limitation with respect to legal fees. Obviously, it is a four year limitation period, and whilst the Ministry was conducting a value for audit exercise on the expenditure of legal fees and discovered very serious matters, we are now compelled to begin the exercise of settling vouched and bona fide legal fees, as opposed to those which are under investigation or which have been set aside. That is the rationale for this increase in expenditure.”

“I can tell you that it also includes fees to be paid to the DPP’s office. In 2017 we separated out the DPP’s expenditure from the AG’s expenditure, ring-fencing the expenses of the DPP. What we have been doing, on some years we have given the DPP approximately 80 per cent of our expenditure for fees, and at lowest, 50 per cent of the expenditure. So some of those figures include litigation, prosecutions which the DPP is paying. But what I can tell you is the vast majority of fees that we are proposed to settle are fees in respect of which we have been sued upon, or there has been taxation by a court, or there has been a settlement by way of an accounting exercise. So I do not have a precise figure yet. It will materialize as those pots become certain, either through taxation at the court, judgments which are rendered against us, or matters which are settled by way of the accounting division doing it. So regrettably, I do not yet have that settled figure.”

- Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs
Public Sector Investment Programme 2019 Achievements

Administration

Public Buildings

To effectively execute the business of Government, strong infrastructure that includes buildings, ICT, law and the regulatory environment, have been given priority attention.

Construction and refurbishment works were undertaken, aimed at providing suitable accommodation and a safe and healthy work environment at several Ministries and Departments in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act. At the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs, these activities included

- Continuation and fit-out and customization of the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs (MAGLA) Tower, Government Campus, Port of Spain.
The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2014 to 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$463,324,477</td>
<td>$65,020,886,424.00</td>
<td>0.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$479,220,329</td>
<td>$61,966,922,675.00</td>
<td>0.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$341,093,418</td>
<td>$56,573,913,053.00</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$307,416,793</td>
<td>$54,883,153,410.00</td>
<td>0.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$330,248,121</td>
<td>$54,211,726,813.00</td>
<td>0.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$310,729,705</td>
<td>$54,149,378,860.00</td>
<td>0.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$393,585,200</td>
<td>$58,058,338,392.00</td>
<td>0.68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Ministry as a percentage of the National Budget illustrated an increase in the allocation to the Ministry of Attorney General and Legal Affairs by **0.11%** between the period 2019 and 2020.

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[1] For the Fiscal Years 2014-2018, actual figures were used to calculate the Ministry’s total allocation. However, estimates were used to determine the Ministry’s total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.

[2] Total Allocation for the Ministry Of The Attorney General And Legal Affairs= Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund

Where the Ministry spends its money

2020 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $393,585,200.00 for the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of $339,285,200; and
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme Consolidated Fund in the sum of $54,300,000.00.10

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure includes:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure - $88,990,100;
- 02 Goods and Services- $191,670,100;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $1,726,500.00; and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $56,898,500.00.

The Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs:

- Total allocation as a percentage of National Budget is 0.68%
- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is 0.61%; and
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation is 2.12%.

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## Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2014-2020

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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$89,800,394.00</td>
<td>$63,215,747.00</td>
<td>$83,380,206.00</td>
<td>$82,814,351.00</td>
<td>$84,724,404.00</td>
<td>$86,567,200.00</td>
<td>$88,990,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services</td>
<td>$258,443,849.00</td>
<td>$204,508,008.00</td>
<td>$205,065,997.00</td>
<td>$173,870,241.00</td>
<td>$189,536,094.00</td>
<td>$163,052,722.00</td>
<td>$191,670,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>$10,087,581.00</td>
<td>$3,279,582.00</td>
<td>$1,085,593.00</td>
<td>$536,010.00</td>
<td>$584,531.00</td>
<td>$276,420.00</td>
<td>$1,726,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>$54,766,181.00</td>
<td>$54,284,158.00</td>
<td>$51,561,622.00</td>
<td>$45,923,527.00</td>
<td>$42,570,311.00</td>
<td>$52,474,258.00</td>
<td>$56,898,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 **Figures for fiscal 2014 to 2015 are the summation of both the Ministry of Legal Affairs and the Ministry of Attorney General**
2020 Estimates

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 56%
- 02 Goods and Services: 17%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 26%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 1%
Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the fiscal year 2020 was $156,194,620.00 which represents an increase of approximately 0.05% from the last fiscal year 2019. The following chart provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2018-2020.

![Summary of Staff and Pay Expenditure for the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs 2018-2020](chart.png)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2020 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$84,724,404</td>
<td>$86,567,200</td>
<td>$88,990,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms</td>
<td>$99,826</td>
<td>$85,105</td>
<td>$108,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling and Subsistence</td>
<td>$1,443,124</td>
<td>$1,461,000</td>
<td>$1,449,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Employment</td>
<td>$44,386,456</td>
<td>$46,272,019</td>
<td>$48,102,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>$155,412</td>
<td>$205,837</td>
<td>$440,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-Term Employment</td>
<td>$9,437,563</td>
<td>$8,400,000</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling - Direct Charges</td>
<td>$5,998,935</td>
<td>$6,270,200</td>
<td>$6,080,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Graduate Recruitment Programme</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees Assistance Programme</td>
<td>$10,463</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$146,256,183</td>
<td>$149,261,361</td>
<td>$156,194,620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis and Summary of Expenditure\textsuperscript{13}

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

- Recurrent Expenditure (Revised) for Fiscal Year 2019 was $302,370,600. Comparing this figure with the Estimate for Fiscal Year 2020 of $339,285,200, there is an increase of $36,914,600 or 12.2%.

- The \textbf{largest} portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head 02 \textbf{Goods and Services}. This figure has been fluctuating over the period 2014 – 2020. The figure allocated to the Ministry for fiscal year 2020 accounted for approximately 56.5\% of total Recurrent Expenditure received by the Ministry.

- \textbf{Minor Equipment Purchases} received the \textbf{lowest} portion of the total allocation for the Ministry over the period 2014 - 2020 accounting for approximately 0.51\% of total funding for the Ministry for fiscal year 2020 for the day to day operations of the Ministry.

- \textbf{Personnel Expenditure} received the second \textbf{largest} portion of the allocation and has been fluctuating over the period 2014 - 2020. Comparing 2019 to 2020, there was an increase in the allocation by 2.8%.

- The total Recurrent Expenditure has been fluctuating over the seven (7) year period 2014 - 2020 from a high of $413,098,005.00 in the fiscal year 2014 to a low of $303,144,129.00 in fiscal year 2017.

Analysis of Expenditure Unique to the Ministry

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs that may not feature in other ministries or departments. The two items Unique to the Ministry are transfers to the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants\textsuperscript{14} and the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property\textsuperscript{15}

### Summary of Expenditure Unique to the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United International Bureau for the Protection of Industrial Property</td>
<td>$42,349.00</td>
<td>$40,591.00</td>
<td>$39,202.00</td>
<td>$42,108.00</td>
<td>$40,687.00</td>
<td>$38,096.00</td>
<td>$43,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Union for the Protection of new varieties of Plants (U.P.O.V.)</td>
<td>$81,336.00</td>
<td>$46,437.00</td>
<td>$73,820.00</td>
<td>$79,294.00</td>
<td>$76,624.00</td>
<td>$73,622.00</td>
<td>$79,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$123,685.00</td>
<td>$87,028.00</td>
<td>$113,022.00</td>
<td>$121,402.00</td>
<td>$117,311.00</td>
<td>$111,718.00</td>
<td>$122,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{14} The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental whose mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society. UPOV website: [https://www.upov.int/portal/index.html.en](https://www.upov.int/portal/index.html.en) Accessed on October 7, 2019

\textsuperscript{15} The United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property is the predecessor of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) whose mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. WIPO website [https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/](https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/) Accessed on October 7, 2019
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2014-2020\textsuperscript{16}

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 allocation of $54,300,000.00 for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2020 is solely for funds appropriated by Parliament and disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund. The monies were allocated to two Items as follows:

- Funds disbursed via Social Infrastructure representing 0.55 for the total allocation; and
- Funds disbursed via Multi-Sectoral and Other Services representing 99.45\% of the Total allocation.

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\hline
004 Social Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund & $2,500,000 & $- & $- & $- & $300,000 & $300,000 \\
\hline
005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Consolidated Fund & $15,866,772 & $25,598,717 & $35,421,370 & $4,272,664 & $12,832,781 & $8,059,105 & $54,000,000 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

Administration

Public Building

342. Government will continue its programme of works in fiscal 2020 with the refurbishing, furnishing and equipping of existing government buildings to be compliant with the OSH Act, and to better serve the public. The Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs was allocated funds for works which included:

- Outfitting of accommodation for the Director of Public Prosecutions at Port of Spain and San Fernando Offices. Outfitting of office space to facilitate the relocation of the Civil Law Department from Cabildo Chambers and the mobile offices of the District Registrar Offices and the Legal Aid and Advisory Authority
Major Programmes and Development for the Period 2017 to 2020

The following table shows a list of the significant expenditure items, based on the proportion of the budgetary allocation assigned.¹⁸

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2020</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-018</td>
<td>Strengthened Information Management at the Registrar General’s Department</td>
<td>1,676,115</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
<td>7,521,414</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2017

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2020</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-001</td>
<td>Revision and Printing of the Laws of Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>378,180</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-043</td>
<td>Design and Implementation of LAAA Website</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>717,803</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-044</td>
<td>Automated Backup Utility</td>
<td>59,212</td>
<td>30,787</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2019

The following new projects that received funding in the 2019 financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2020</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-025</td>
<td>Modernization of the Companies Registry</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-026</td>
<td>Fit-Out Accommodation for Civil Law Department</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-027</td>
<td>Accommodations for District Registrar Offices</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-028</td>
<td>Provision of Accommodation for the Legal Aid and Advisory Authority</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# New Projects from the Financial Year 2020

The following new projects that received funding in the 2020 financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2020</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-12-D-080</td>
<td>Establishment of a Law Museum</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Recent Legislative Developments

### Bills Introduced during the 4th Session of the 11th Republican Parliament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) (Amendment) Bill, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Bail (Amendment) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Cybercrime Bill, 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Licensing Committee (Validation) Bill, 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Magistrates Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Miscellaneous Provisions (Proceeds of Crime, Anti-Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago) Bill, 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Miscellaneous Provisions (Registrar General, Registration of Deeds, Conveyancing and Law of Property, Real Property, Stamp Duty and Registration of Title to Land) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Trespass (Amendment) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Useful Information