FIRST SESSION OF THE 12TH PARLIAMENT

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT

OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENT
OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

HEAD 13:
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Total Allocation: $577,633,325.00
0.83% of the National Budget

A Summary of the Ministry’s Expenditure, Divisions and Projects
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 Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) for the period 2014-2021. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Office’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Office of the Prime Minister, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure;
- the Draft 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 2019.
Head 13: Office of the Prime Minister

Departmental Overview

Mission
To provide unstinting support to the Prime Minister in executing his constitutional responsibilities to Trinidad and Tobago.

Vision
To be the hallmark of excellence in the Public Service.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) was established to assist the Prime Minister in executing his duties and responsibilities. This Office is not established by statute hence its business is largely dependent on the dictates of the Prime Minister. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) provides administrative and other support to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet and is responsible for coordinating the implementation of decisions taken by the Prime Minister and the Cabinet in order to ensure and promote the effective and efficient conduct of the business of Government.

Prime Minister: The Honorable Dr. Keith Rowley, MP
Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister (Communication): The Honorable Simon De Nobriga, MP
Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs): The Honorable Ayanna Webster-Roy, MP

Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister and Head of the Public Service: Mr. Maurice Suite
Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister: Mr. Ian Ramdahin (Ag.)
Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister Gender and Child Affairs: Ms. Jacqueline Johnson

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The Office of the Prime Minister is responsible for the following Business and Departments²:

- Cabinet
- Citizen Facilitation
- Commissions of Enquiry
- Ecclesiastical Affairs
- Foreign Policy Oversight
- Gender and Child Affairs
- National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC)
- National Security Council
- Protocols of the State
- Sport and Culture Fund
- Central Administrative Services, Tobago (CAST)
- Civil Society Engagement
- Constitutional Matters
- Economic Advisory Board
- Freedom of Information
- Government Communications Oversight
- National Awards Committee
- Parliamentary Affairs
- Public Holidays

Statutory Boards and Other Bodies

Children’s Authority

The principles which underpin the execution of the Children’s Authority’s functions – the promotion of and respect for children’s rights – are enshrined within the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Declaration and Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Consistent with these principles, a Package of Children’s Legislation initiated in 2000 formed the basis for the creation of the Children’s Authority. The pieces of legislation complement each other and provide for a robust system which brings Trinidad and Tobago in conformity with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The mandate of the Children’s Authority is derived directly from the legislation. As such, the organisation will be responsible for, *inter alia*:

- Receiving and investigating reports of mistreatment of children;
- Removing children from their homes where they are in imminent danger;
- Making applications to the Court for the protection and placement of children received into the care of the Authority;
- Establishing and maintaining places of safety, assessment and support centres, and reception centres;
- Establishing and operating a foster care system;
- Assuming conduct of the adoption process;
- Establishing standards for community residences, foster care and nurseries;
- Monitoring children’s community residences, foster care providers, and nurseries;
- Issuing and revoking licences for community residences and nurseries;
- Supporting the youth justice system;
- Providing assistance to the Counter-Trafficking Unit in respect of child victims; and
- Maintaining complete records.

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Sport and Culture Board of Management

The Sport and Culture Fund was established by Act No. 31 of 1988 with amendments articulated in Act. No. 25 of 1993. The purpose of the Fund, as stated in Section 4 of the Act is as follows:

- To facilitate the provision of sporting and cultural facilities;
- To enable grants and loans to be made to deserving individuals, groups and organisations according to criteria prescribed by the Board;
- To undertake any other activity related to Sport and Culture; and
- To undertake or do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above purposes

The goals and objectives of the Fund are:

- To encourage and to facilitate the promotion of excellence in Sport and Culture by individuals and organisations involved in activities related thereto;
- To assist in the nurturing and development of human and technical resource capabilities in Sport and Culture;
- To encourage self-reliance of groups, associations and individuals;
- To facilitate the provision and upgrading of facilities for sporting and cultural activities; and
- To facilitate the promotion of research and development and to determine the feasibility of undertaking projects relating to Sport and Culture.

The Board will from time to time determine priority areas which it may wish to pursue in the development of Sport and Culture. Such priority areas include but are not limited to:

1. Groups
   - Community Development – Cultural and Sporting activities beneficial to wider community

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• Training and Development in areas of Sport and Culture
• Facilities – Construction of buildings to facilitate Sporting and Cultural activities

2. Individuals
• Education
• Youth
• National Development

Assistance will be given solely in the form of grants as deemed appropriate by the Board. Funding is received from the Instant Lottery Surplus of the National Lotteries Control Board, a Board established under Section 3 of the National Lotteries Act. The Instant Lottery Surplus is the amount realised after defraying all the expenses and payments of prize money from the proceeds received from each instant lottery – Scratch game.
Current Transfers and Subsidies

2.55 The 2018/2019 Annual Work Plan of the Internal Audit Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister, had scheduled internal audit reviews of the operations at St. Mary’s Children’s Home and St. Dominic’s Children’s Home to be undertaken. At the time of audit scrutiny in September 2019, evidence was not seen that the scheduled audits had been undertaken.

2.56 Evidence was seen that the last Internal Audit Reports submitted for the Homes were as follows:

- St. Mary’s Children’s Home Report was in respect of the period October 2017 to May 2018, and
- St. Dominic’s Children’s Home Report was in respect of the period October 2016 to September 2017.

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Key Statement from 2019 Standing Finance Committee Debate

During the reading of the Appropriation (Financial Year 2020) Bill, 2019, the following statements were made in relation to the emphases of the Office of the Prime Minister for fiscal year 2019/2020:

“The Office of the Prime Minister provides professional coordinated support services to the Prime Minister in the execution of the business of government and leads the coordination and delivery mechanisms for child affairs, gender affairs and the national HIV/AIDS response. The past year was a continuation of the momentum, which started in 2015. In fiscal 2020, the Office of the Prime Minister shall continue to provide quality service to the internal and external clients of the office, propelled by its guiding values of integrity, accountability, transparency, equity, professionalism, commitment and diversity as articulated in its strategic plan 2017 to 2021.”

- Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister

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http://www.ttparliament.org/legislations/hh20191022SFC.pdf
Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) fiscal year 2019 Achievements

The Office of the Prime Minister, the Gender Affairs Division in collaboration with the MSYA hosted a workshop with Masters and Youth Empowerment Ambassadors along with other personnel who would be in contact with the young men at the Male Friendly Zone (Mzone).

Historical Buildings
Investments totalling $81 million was provided in fiscal year 2020 for the restoration of historical buildings. Under the programme for the Restoration of Historical Buildings, a total of $29.5 million was utilized for the following:

- completion of restoration works to the President’s House;
- continuation of the restoration of Mille Fleur Building; and
- completion of the Prime Minister’s Residence in Tobago.

The President’s House and the Prime Minister’s Residence in Tobago were officially handed over to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) by UDeCOTT in December 2019.

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Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2020

During fiscal 2020, 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 Office of the Prime Minister requested and was granted the following supplementations through the Finance (Supplementary Appropriation) (Financial Year 2020) Bill, June 2020:

13 Office of the Prime Minister ...... 47,220,000

“The Office of the Prime Minister requires the sum of $47,220,000, in order to enable the National Security Council to meet operation expenditure and to facilitate most importantly the disbursement of $30 million in funds to the major religious organizations to provide food support to citizens and residents who have been adversely affected by COVID-19. The OPM is also being given additional funding to meet debt service payments.”

- Minister of Finance

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The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2014 to 2021.

<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>2014</td>
<td>$238,509,663</td>
<td>$65,020,886,424</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$611,021,031</td>
<td>$61,966,922,675</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$215,588,876</td>
<td>$56,573,913,053</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$205,257,510</td>
<td>$54,883,153,410</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$241,032,641</td>
<td>$54,211,726,813</td>
<td>0.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$247,157,200</td>
<td>$54,149,378,860</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$267,936,054</td>
<td>$58,058,338,392</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$471,111,325</td>
<td>$56,788,359,151</td>
<td>0.83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Office of the Prime Minister as a percentage of the National Budget illustrated an increase in the allocation by 0.37% between fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

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9 For the Fiscal Years 2014-2019, actual figures were used to calculate the total allocation. However, estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.

10 Total Allocation for the Office of the Prime Minister = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund

11 The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Total Development Programme Consolidated Fund
Where the Ministry spends its money

2021 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $577,633,325 for the Office of the Prime Minister is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of $458,402,325;
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme in the sum of $119,231,000:
  - Consolidated Fund in the sum of $12,709,000; and
  - Infrastructure Development Fund\(^{12}\) of the sum of $106,522,000.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure- $46,734,395;
- 02 Goods and Services - $86,056,450;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $700,000; and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $194,911,480.

The Office of the Prime Minister’s:

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure is 0.84%;
- Consolidated Fund as percentage of the total Consolidated Fund is 0.57%; and
- Infrastructure Development Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund is 5.64%.

\(^{12}\) 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 Office of the Prime Minister does not include the IDF funding.)
Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2014-2021

Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the Period 2014-2020

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$24,823,745</td>
<td>$33,255,551</td>
<td>$28,437,980</td>
<td>$24,772,774</td>
<td>$21,802,369</td>
<td>$22,124,117</td>
<td>$23,388,798</td>
<td>$46,734,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 Goods and Services</td>
<td>$208,010,719</td>
<td>$218,955,948</td>
<td>$103,002,379</td>
<td>$69,003,413</td>
<td>$73,750,820</td>
<td>$67,962,531</td>
<td>$68,058,457</td>
<td>$86,056,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>$1,816,086</td>
<td>$1,693,076</td>
<td>$2,289,742</td>
<td>$11,547</td>
<td>$230,370</td>
<td>$1,154,802</td>
<td>$577,088</td>
<td>$700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 Current Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$123,077,747</td>
<td>$78,801,786</td>
<td>$98,495,245</td>
<td>$140,084,406</td>
<td>$148,533,314</td>
<td>$175,812,004</td>
<td>$194,911,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Allocation</td>
<td>$234,650,550</td>
<td>$376,982,322</td>
<td>$212,531,887</td>
<td>$192,282,979</td>
<td>$235,867,965</td>
<td>$239,774,764</td>
<td>$267,836,347</td>
<td>$328,402,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Recurrent Expenditure

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 for Fiscal Year 2021 is $458,402,325.

- Recurrent Expenditure (Revised) for Fiscal Year 2020 was $267,836,347. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2020, there is an increase of $190,565,978 or 41.6%.

- The largest portion of the allocation has gone to Sub-Head 04 Current Transfers & Subsidies over the period 2017-2021. Comparing 2020 to 2021 there was an increase of $19,099,476 or 9.8%.

- Minor Equipment Purchases received the lowest portion of the total allocation over the period 2014 to 2021. Comparing 2020 to 2021, there was an increase of $122,912.

- Goods and Services received the second largest portion of the allocation over the period 2017-2021. However, this allocation experienced an increase in the allocation of $17,997,993 or 20.9% in fiscal 2021 compared to fiscal 2020.

- The actual/estimated expenditure for the four (4) Sub-Heads has been fluctuating over the eight (8) year period, from a low of $192,381,979 in 2017 to a high of $376,982,322 in 2015.
Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for fiscal year 2020 is $67,026,855 which is an increase of approximately 44.9% from the last fiscal year 2020. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff and pay for 2018-2021.

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$33,013,894</td>
<td>$21,061,457</td>
<td>$6,299,732</td>
<td>$10,111,953</td>
<td>$10,845,472</td>
<td>$8,022,179</td>
<td>$2,336,632</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Security Council

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Security Council</td>
<td>$107,545,200</td>
<td>$93,000,000</td>
<td>$93,000,000</td>
<td>$29,000,000</td>
<td>$42,250,000</td>
<td>$31,570,356</td>
<td>$32,588,517</td>
<td>$34,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 $119,231,000 for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2021 is presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = $12,709,000 and represent (10.7%) of the total development programme allocation to the Ministry; and
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = $106,522,000 and represent (89.3%) of the total development programme allocation to the Ministry.

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Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2014-2021

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>004 Social infrastructure (CF)</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,056,989</td>
<td>$24,418</td>
<td>$4,411,593</td>
<td>$4,640,430</td>
<td>$99,707</td>
<td>$2,859,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services (CF)</strong></td>
<td>$3,859,113</td>
<td>$234,038,709</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,670,150</td>
<td>$753,083</td>
<td>$410,500</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$9,850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>004 Social infrastructure (IDF)</strong></td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$9,650,015</td>
<td>$7,068,101</td>
<td>$885,923</td>
<td>$22,256,977</td>
<td>$24,450,474</td>
<td>$3,918,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>005 Multi Sectoral and Other Services (IDF)</strong></td>
<td>$3,971,087</td>
<td>$8,635,281</td>
<td>$5,502,847</td>
<td>$13,204,896</td>
<td>$20,322,534</td>
<td>$25,431,618</td>
<td>$73,214,212</td>
<td>$102,604,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$7,830,200</td>
<td>$242,673,990</td>
<td>$18,209,851</td>
<td>$21,967,565</td>
<td>$26,373,133</td>
<td>$58,509,391</td>
<td>$97,764,393</td>
<td>$119,231,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

**Historical Buildings**

A total of $36.1 million will be provided to fulfill payments following the completion of restoration work at a number of historical buildings including Mille Fleurs, President’s House, Whitehall Building and Stollmeyer’s Castle. Funds will also be provided for the payment of outstanding bills for the completion of construction of the Prime Minister’s Residence in Tobago.

**Child Development**

The National Children’s Registry will provide a more efficient and effective method of monitoring child development specifically aimed at reducing child abuse, neglect and exclusion. The Registry will be a database to collect and store information on all children (persons under the age of 18 years) in Trinidad and Tobago. The Office of the Prime Minister will embark on the build phase of the

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Registry in 2021 with an allocation of $1 million. The build phase will involve the selection of a vendor to supply an electronic data management system and development of software to operate the registry.

**Refurbishment of Safe Houses**

The National Policy on Gender Development identifies domestic violence as a major factor that hinders the growth and development of women in society. As such, the Office of the Prime Minister will continue renovation of residential properties for the establishment of two (2) safe houses for survivors of domestic violence. Once operational, the safe houses will provide accommodation and social support services for survivors to ensure a smooth reintegration into society.
Noteworthy Development Programme Estimates in 2017-2019

The table below lists the projects that have been noted due to uncharacteristic variances in estimates for funding over the period 2017-2019:

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F010 (IDF)</td>
<td>Restoration of President’s Residence(^{17})</td>
<td>2,206,685</td>
<td>9,930,821</td>
<td>3,629,022</td>
<td>15,869,917</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0004-14-C084</td>
<td>Refurbishment of two Safe Houses</td>
<td>8,398</td>
<td>238,829</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,114</td>
<td>725,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C085</td>
<td>Customisation and Outfitting of an Assessment Center in Tobago</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,060,560</td>
<td>2,220,900</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDF-13-004-14-C010</td>
<td>Refurbishment of the Salvation Army-Josephine Show House</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>759,709</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDF-13-005-06-F011</td>
<td>Construction of Prime Minister’s (Tobago) Residence(^{18})</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,371,229</td>
<td>3,937,742</td>
<td>761,194</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C101</td>
<td>Case Management Database Software</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>990,219</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C103</td>
<td>Records Management Systems – Phase 2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


## Status of New Projects for the Financial Year 2020

The status of new projects that received funding in the 2020 financial year:

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C104</td>
<td>Establishment of Two Reception Centres[^20]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C105</td>
<td>National AIDS Coordinating Committee Secretariat – Survey on HIV, IDS, STI’s etc.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C106</td>
<td>Finalization, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C107</td>
<td>Establishment of Drug Rehabilitation Centres</td>
<td>1,593</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F014 (IDF)</td>
<td>Construction of Baptist Cathedral[^21]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F015 (IDF)</td>
<td>San Fernando Waterfront Re-development Project[^22]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


New Projects for the Financial Year 2021

The new projects that received funding in the 2021 financial year\(^2\):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Development Programme 2021 Projects</th>
<th>2021 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A003</td>
<td>Storage Area Network</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A004</td>
<td>Upgrading of NALIS ICT Infrastructure</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C017 (IDF)</td>
<td>Establishment of Two (2) Drug Rehabilitation Community Residences in Tobago</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F017 (IDF)</td>
<td>Remedial Works at Queen’s Royal College</td>
<td>112,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F018 (IDF)</td>
<td>Update and Way Forward for the Revitalization of Port-of-Spain Project</td>
<td>1,924,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F025 (IDF)</td>
<td>Construction of La Horquetta Library</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F026 (IDF)</td>
<td>Relocation of Solicitor General of CLICO</td>
<td>2,421,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F027 (IDF)</td>
<td>Restoration of Trinity Cathedral</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Committee Inquires Related to the Office of the Prime Minister

Reports from the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Report Status</th>
<th>Ministerial Response</th>
<th>Key Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Report on an inquiry into the Support Programs and Services for children whose parent or guardian was the perpetrator or victim of a violent offence.</td>
<td>Report Laid HOR: 09.09.2016 SENATE: 07.07.2016</td>
<td>Presented HOR: 06.01.2017 SENATE: 09.12.2016</td>
<td>The Office of the Prime Minister to commission local research on the impact on primary and secondary school children, whose parent or guardian was the victim or perpetrator of a violent offence including the collection of data from the prison population. The employment of additional research staff and funding to the Children’s Authority to advance its research priorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Report on an inquiry into the Treatment of Child Offenders at the Youth Training Centre, St. Michael’s Interim Rehabilitation Centre for Young Male Offenders and St. Jude’s Interim rehabilitation Centre for Young Female Offenders.</td>
<td>Report Laid HOR: 03.02.2017 SENATE: 31.01.2017</td>
<td>Presented HOR: 21.04.2017 SENATE: 25.04.2017</td>
<td>Priority be placed on the creation of a long term solution for placement and rehabilitation of female child offenders. The Office of the Prime Minister treat with the five (5) outstanding recommended works and conducts an assessment of works yet to be completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Report on an inquiry into the Systems in Place to Protect Children from Abuse.</td>
<td>Report Laid HOR: 02.06.2017 SENATE:</td>
<td>Presented HOR: 08.09.2017 SENATE:</td>
<td>The Office of the Prime Minister seek additional funding to address the infrastructural deficits at the Community Residences and Rehabilitation Centres. The Office of the Prime Minister increase the funding to the Children’s Authority to allow for increased child abuse programmes and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Title</td>
<td>Date of Report</td>
<td>Date of Presentation</td>
<td>Date of Adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity, the Environment and Sustainable Development on the Examination of Programmes and Services which provide Support to Victims of Domestic Violence</td>
<td>13.03.2018</td>
<td>2018.</td>
<td>2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Report on an inquiry into the Examination of the Perceived Inequality Faced by Single Fathers in Trinidad and Tobago With Specific Focus on Custody Matters, Policies and Access to Programmes and Services</td>
<td>Report Laid HOR: 26.09.2018</td>
<td>Presented HOR: 23.11.2018</td>
<td>2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twelfth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity, Fourth Session (2018/2019), Eleventh Parliament on the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Trinidad and Tobago with</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>2018.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
specific focus on Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

The Committee recommends that the MOE, TTPS, OPM, MAGLA note the recommendations of the stakeholders provided in APPENDIX III.

The Committee recommends that MOE, TTPS, CATT and MOH note:

- the recommendations by UNICEF in APPENDIX III regarding the programmes and services be targeted to the treatment of the specific issue / symptoms of the child;
- that the programmes and services are targeted to areas with the highest cases of child pornography and child prostitution as identified in Table 8, Table 13 and Table 14.

The Committee recommends that the CATT, CTU, VWSU, CPU and NPTA collaborate with international organisations to conduct sensitisation and training sessions with the following stakeholders on the importance of treating, identifying and reporting suspected cases of child prostitution or child pornography:

- hotels;
- airlines;
- the general public;
- teachers;
- parents; and
- students.
## Recent Legislative Development

### Acts of Parliament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Act No.</th>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 of 2019</td>
<td><strong>The Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2019</strong></td>
<td>📇 31-Jan-20 Proclamation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 15 of 2018| **The Miscellaneous Provisions (Supreme Court of Judicature and Children) Act, 2018**<br>The Miscellaneous Provisions (Supreme Court of Judicature and Children) Bill, 2018 seeks to streamline the processes in relation to the treatment of children and children matters.<br>The Bill seeks to amend the following Acts:<br>  - The Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01  
  - The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01  
  - The Summary Courts Act, Chap. 4:20  
  - The Bail Act, Chap. 4:60  
  - The Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, Chap. 5:34  
  - The Legal Aid and Advice Act, Chap. 7:07  
  - The Child Rehabilitation Centre Act, Chap. 13:05  
  - The Family Law (Guardianship of Minors, Domicile and Maintenance) Act, Chap.46:08  
  - The Children Act, Chap. 46:01  
  - The Children’s Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, Chap. 46:04  
  - The Children’s Authority Act, Chap. 46:10  
  - The Family and Children Division Act, 2016 | 📇 31-Dec-18 Proclamation |
| 8 of 2017 | **The Miscellaneous Provisions (Marriage) Act, 2017**                         | 📇 02-Oct-17 Proclamation   |

The Bill seeks to amend the following Acts:<br>  - The Marriage Act, Chapter 45:01;  
  - The Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act, Chapter 45:02;  
  - The Hindu Marriage Act, Chapter 45:03;
The Orisa Marriage Act, Chapter 45:04; and
The Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Act, Chapter 45:51.
The Bill also seeks harmonise the aforementioned marriage statutes across the board by:
- raising the legal age of marriage to eighteen (18) years;
- repealing any parental consent for a marriage;
- creating an offence where it is illegal to solemnise a marriage of a person who is under the age of eighteen years, and
- extending the hours in which a marriage can be solemnised; 24

The Bill seeks to make jurisdiction for all family matters and children matters exercisable in a Division of the High Court to be called the Family and Children Division and to make provision for matters connected therewith 25.

Subsidiary Legislation

Third Session (2017/2018) of the Eleventh Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date Laid</th>
<th>HOR</th>
<th>Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>The Children’s Community Residences (Children’s Homes) Regulations, 2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>13.03.2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>The Children’s Community Residences (Rehabilitation Centres) Regulations, 2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>13.03.2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The Children Court Rules, 2018</td>
<td>23.03.2018</td>
<td>23.03.2018</td>
<td>20.03.2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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General Useful Information

- The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australia: [https://www.dpmc.gov.au/](https://www.dpmc.gov.au/)
- Office of the Prime Minister, St Lucia: [http://opm.govt.lc/](http://opm.govt.lc/)