

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



## LOCAL EXPORTERS SHOW PROMISE IN NEW MARKETS

**August 30, 2017:-** North America, South America, Europe and Asia are some of the markets being penetrated by eight (8) local exporters. This was disclosed during a recent meeting with Minister of Trade and Industry, Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, co-ordinated by ExporTT, the Government's export facilitation company. Minister Gopee-Scoon described the country's export prospects from these local entrepreneurs as impressive and encouraging.

The discussions revealed existing and potential export opportunities in high quality gourmet foods, information technology and security value added services, agro processing, wine and specialty tea making and indigenous craft. The constructive session pinpointed opportunities for the Ministry of Trade and Industry and other government agencies to partner with these and similar businesses to facilitate their expansion and operation at full capacity.

According to the Trade Minister *"the Government is very serious about entrepreneurship especially when it leads to foreign exchange earnings and import substitution. We have to introduce some other lines of assistance, providing you, the entrepreneurs with opportunities to bring your businesses to commercialisation. In order to scale up for export we must give consideration to product development, certification, facilities and other requirements cognisant of your potential to increase the country's earnings."* 

The Minister encouraged those involved in agro processing, in particular, to expand their involvement along the supply chain into raw material production. It was noted that one firm had processed over twenty (20) tonnes of local produce with prospects in Canada and Argentina.



