



MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

Gopee-Scoon calls for more innovation in the manufacturing sector



October 08 2015:- On Wednesday 7 October, 2015, senior TTMA officials led by Dr. Rolph Balgobin, President TTMA paid a courtesy visit to Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry at her Nicholas Tower Office. During the visit, frank discussions were held about the current state of the local manufacturing sector and plans to 'ramp up' the business model and variety of goods being produced in the sector and increasing the manufacturers' export opportunities.

Minister Gopee-Scoon chairs the meeting

Senator Gopee-Scoon called on the manufacturers to assume their critical role in the nation's diversification agenda. She said *'given the current economic climate, the private sector, in particular the manufacturing sector, is integral to the Government's diversification agenda. We need to see the sector grow more and to do this, it is imperative that innovation is present in the development of new products. We need to utilize opportunities in our Trade Agreements and penetrate new markets for our local exporters'*.

Dr. Balgobin gave the commitment of the TTMA to support the diversification thrust stating *'the sector is prepared to work together to ensure the best economic interests of Trinidad and Tobago'*. Dr. Balgobin also made mention of the need to work more closely with the Ministry's State Agencies exporTT and TTBS to ensure smooth access into untapped markets of interest. Accompanying Dr. Balgobin were Directors Ashmeer Mohamed and Christopher Alcazar and CEO of TTMA, Mr. Ramesh Ramdeen.

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