



# Media Release

## TRADE MINISTER PRAISES MOVIE TOWNE'S MANAGEMENT ON VISION AND FORESIGHT FOR DEVELOPMENT

**January 19, 2017:-** It was a proud moment for the management team of the Movietowne franchise as they officially opened their new Cineplex in San Fernando on Monday 16 January, 2017. Senator the Honourable Paula Gopee-Scoon, Minister of Trade and Industry congratulated Movietowne founder and Chairman, Mr. Derek Chin on his vision and foresight in understanding the interests of the viewing public and taking strategic steps to meet those needs.

In her address, Minister Gopee-Scoon also commended Movietowne on its continued support of the creative sector in particular the local film industry stating that ***'this facility will provide an additional distribution outlet for our local films to be viewed by a much wider audience in Trinidad and Tobago. Avenues of this nature are critical to the development of our local Film Industry and it gives local producers the added confidence that the production of films can be transformed into a commercially viable business enterprise'***. She added that the Ministry of Trade and Industry is in the process of identifying and implementing appropriate incentives to create an enabling environment which will foster the growth and development of the Film Industry.

The Minister noted that ***'the opening of this Movietowne branch in South Trinidad creates a springboard for the further development of the environment and encourages the decentralization of local and international businesses into the South Land. This Cineplex will also lead to additional opportunities for revenue generation and employment'***.

Mr. Derek Chin, founder and Chairman, Movietowne in welcoming the guests to the Opening, said that ***'Movietowne will continue to persevere, expanding locally and regionally'***. He expressed gratitude to all who supported and believed in his vision. Mr. Chin stated that ***'this is a T&T effort utilizing a large percentage of local content. The Movietowne chain has contributed greatly to the economic benefit of Trinidad and Tobago including significant employment generation where some 500 young persons will be employed at the south location'***.

Also delivering Greetings were the Honourable Faris Al Rawi, Attorney General and Member of Parliament for San Fernando West; the Honourable Randall Mitchell, Minister of Housing and Urban Development and Member of Parliament for San Fernando East and Senator the Honourable Kazim Hosein, Minister of Rural Development and Local Government. They all congratulated Mr. Chin and the Board of Directors for the positive impact the Movietowne franchise has continued to have on the local economy, the labour market and family life.