



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism

Road to Transformation National Consultation Series

Tourism Sector Session

Closing Remarks

Dr. Colin N. Gosine, Parliamentary Secretary

Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism

Friday, August 14th, 2026

Salutations

- Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Tourism Trinidad Limited
- Mr Rudy Hanamji and the PSOTT Executive
- Mr John Hadad and members of the PSOTT Tourism Sub-Committee
- Mr Jesse James of MSATT
- Mr Bevan Narinesingh of the Fair Trading Commission
- Representatives from TIATT
- Members of the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism
- Executives of Hadco Limited
- Tourism practitioners
- Specially Invited Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning everyone,

Let me begin by extending sincere thanks to the Private Sector Organisation of Trinidad and Tobago (PSOTT) for organising today's consultation and for creating this important platform for Government and the business community, specifically Tourism Investors, to dialogue together. I also want to thank all of you for taking the time to be here this morning, to listen and to share your views about the future of tourism in Trinidad and Tobago.

Today's discussion on the **Tourism Re-Think: From Vision to Investment**, presented by the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism has given us an opportunity to look at tourism differently—not simply in the context of how many visitors we attract, but in terms of the value derived from every visitor and investor, the opportunities we create for businesses, and the benefits we generate for communities and the wider economy.

We have shared our targets, our markets, our tourism assets, and the priority areas in which we see significant potential. We have also looked at investment opportunities and some of the work already undertaken to create a stronger, more enabling environment for tourism to thrive.

The data is clear: Trinidad and Tobago has the assets. Our task now is to organise them, improve them, package them, and invest in them.

Whether it is our natural environment, our culinary offerings, our culture and entertainment, our sporting events, our yachting and marine services, our business

community, or our education and health-related opportunities, there is tremendous potential to create experiences that encourage visitors to stay longer, spend more, and spend more time.

But Government cannot do this alone.

The private sector is an essential partner in turning these opportunities into real products, real businesses, and real experiences. It is our businesses and communities that ultimately deliver the visitor's experience.

That is why these consultations are so important, and why I enjoy them so much. We want to hear from you. We want to understand the opportunities you see, the challenges you face, and what is needed to move ideas from concept to investment and delivery.

I also want to acknowledge the work of the Private Sector Organisation of Trinidad and Tobago in bringing this consultation series to business communities around Trinidad and Tobago. This partnership between Government and the private sector is critical to the transformation we are seeking.

Tourism creates opportunities in accommodation, food and beverage, transportation, entertainment, as well as agriculture, professional services, technology, and many other areas of the economy.

The opportunity is therefore much bigger than tourism itself. It is about creating stronger businesses, more jobs, greater investment, and more economic activities across the country, altogether to improve the quality of life enjoyed by our citizens. On behalf of the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism, I thank our presenters, our private-sector partners, our stakeholders, and most importantly, all of you who took the time to participate and share your perspectives today.

The conversation does not end here. This is where the work begins.

And as we continue to work together, let us move from vision to investment, and from investment to results.

Thank you, and I wish you all a great day and weekend ahead.

I thank you.