



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE:

ALL ROADS LEAD TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Kent House, Maraval: September 28th 2016. The Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government has been vigorously pursuing its Rural Development agenda without fanfare since the creation of this new portfolio in September 2015.

According to Senator the Honourable Franklin Khan, Minister of Rural Development and Local Government, "Much has been said about discrimination in this country, but it is my view that if any discrimination has occurred in Trinidad and Tobago since independence, it is between rural and urban residents."

Over the last fiscal year, the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government has directly undertaken and completed twenty-eight (28) road rehabilitation and drainage projects across Trinidad at a total cost of roughly TT\$8.3million. This was successfully done on time and within the \$9 million budgetary allocation for Development Programmes. Additionally, the Rural Development Company (RDC), a special purpose company, also undertook forty-six (46) projects on behalf of the Ministry of Rural Development and Local Government, under its \$20 million Infrastructure Development Fund allocation.

Corporate Communications Unit

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Extensive works were carried out in rural areas such as Brasso Seco and Moruga, communities which have long been neglected. Additionally, areas such as Matelot, Fishing Pond, Paramin, Mayaro, Fyzabad, Las Lomas and Claxton Bay were all addressed to some extent in our programme for this fiscal year.

Minister Khan stated, "This Government understands that we must empower the local government agencies to take on a greater responsibility in the delivery of services because service is about you as a person within your community. At the same time, we are making targeted policy and practical interventions to ensure that citizens who live in the remote rural areas of our country can enjoy a better quality of life."

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