



MEDIA RELEASE

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Acceleration of the transition to a paperless Parliament

Dear Media Colleagues,

The Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago has accelerated its transition to a paperless Parliament primarily because of the increased number of virtual committee meetings.

For the purpose of accessing parliamentary e-libraries, Apple iPad devices were issued to Members who do not already have devices provided by the state.

The transition to a paperless Parliament began in 2012 with the rollout of the Parliament's Strategic Plan 2013-2018 and that meant that the Parliament no longer accepts bulky hard copy documents from Ministries and external agencies. Additionally, all parliamentary documents, inclusive of Order Papers, Bills and Notices of Questions are distributed to Members electronically. Consequently, Parliament's reliance on paper was significantly reduced during the last Parliament.

In the current Parliament, the objective is to further reduce the Parliament's consumption of paper and to minimize the necessity to print documents. Members will be required to utilize their devices to access Chamber-related documents and participate at sittings.

Given the prevalence of virtual committee meetings, the transition to a paperless Parliament has been accelerated and all Committee-related documents must now be accessed electronically by Members.

Photo captions:

1. Member of Parliament for Tunapuna and Deputy Speaker of the House, Esmond Forde, MP receives his iPad from the Office of the Parliament's ICT Technical Officer, Kadesha Bruce during Friday's 8th Sitting of the House of Representatives.
2. Member of Parliament for Chaguanas East, Vandana Mohit, MP receives her iPad from the Office of the Parliament's ICT Technical Officer, Brandon Tobias during Friday's 8th Sitting of the House of Representatives.

Colleen Holder

Director, Corporate Communications and Productions

cholder@tparliament.org

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