



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

**Ministry of Public Administration
and Digital Transformation**

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 June, 2021

A Message from Senator the Honourable Allyson West,

**Minister of Public Administration and Digital Transformation on the occasion of
Public Service Day 2021**

Public Service is a high calling!

In March 2003, the United Nations (UN) adopted Resolution 57/277 and designated June 23rd as Public Service Day for “celebrating the value and virtue of public service to the community; highlights the contribution of public service in the development process; recognizes the work of public servants, and encourages young people to pursue careers in the public sector.”

In modern society, public officers are the ones who deliver the benefits of governance to citizens – health, education, social protection, security, infrastructure, indeed almost anything that impacts on the standard of living and the quality of life of the society.

Over the last year, we have seen the benefit of the Public Service in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. The exemplary performance of our country’s health care professionals and the resilience of our health care system is a clear demonstration of good public service delivery.

The Honourable Prime Minister has had cause to remark repeatedly that the benefits we are reaping as we face this existential threat, is the result of the investments that our country has made in the education of our people. In other words, the excellence demonstrated by the health care professionals is the result of a process that started with excellence among our teaching professionals.

In 2021, the theme of the celebration is ***‘Leaving no one behind through innovative Public Service Delivery’***. The policy of the Government of Republic Trinidad and Tobago is consistent with this focus. In August 2020, on his return to office, the Hon. Dr. Keith Rowley restructured the Cabinet and created a Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation (MDPDT). The Prime Minister, in doing so, recognised that the citizens of the country deserve the highest quality of customer service delivered by well-trained, motivated and rewarded public officers, ably supported by a robust digital infrastructure.

This year the Ministry has undertaken to display the resilience of the public officer, who has performed extraordinarily well under trying circumstances, particularly during the last year. The theme ***'Proud to Serve T&T'*** showcases the commitment of our public officers, especially during the last year and a half when they have had to operate in unprecedented conditions for an extended period of time. We saw the pivots in education, social security, national security, public utilities and all the others areas of service where delivery was almost uninterrupted.

At the Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation, we are committed to improving the working environment to empower public officers, even within the severe economic constraints facing the country. As we invest in technology, we will enable public workers to work smarter and to deliver exponential benefits to the population, while finding increased professional fulfilment.

The Public Service remains the largest single employer in our country. As countries experience hardships, we have witnessed them cut back numbers in the public service or reduce salaries of public officers. In Trinidad and Tobago, this Government has consistently delivered commitment to preserve the jobs of public officers and ensure that salaries are paid on time. This is our recognition of the importance of the Public Service and our commitment to public servants.

Happy Public Service Day!

END

*Should you require any further information feel free to contact Ms. Sharon Farrell,
Senior Corporate Communications Officer at sharon.farrell@gov.tt.*