

## THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S MANIFESTO: THE NATION WE DESERVE BUILT FROM THE GROUND UP



THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WE DREAM OF

A COUNTRY WE DESERVE ----



## THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S MANIFESTO: THE NATION WE DESERVE BUILT FROM THE GROUND UP

#### THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S

### MANIFESTO HIGHLIGHTS

#### THE NATION WE DESERVE: BUILT FROM THE GROUND UP

A VISION FOR REAL CHANGE BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT

#### OUR VISION

We envision a Trinidad and Tobago where every citizen lives with dignity, every community thrives with opportunities, and every child believes in the future of their homeland.

A nation no longer defined by promises broken or trust betrayed but by bold ideas, honest leadership, and shared progress.

#### OUR MISSION

We, the Patriotic Front, are on a mission to reshape Trinidad and Tobago's destiny not through promises but through purpose. We believe the future belongs to all of us, not just the privileged few. Our mission is to lead a transparent national transformation that puts people before politics, dignity before division, and progress before partisanship.



#### A Plan the Nation Can Afford - With the Results We Deserve

Trinidad and Tobago spends TT\$59 billion annually to manage its affairs. The **Patriotic Front's** plan is practical, responsible, and fully costed, redirecting just 4.2% of the national budget (TT\$2.5 billion) toward safer communities, affordable housing, youth employment, and lower food prices.

And here's the best part, it's fully funded and leaves a TT\$300 million buffer.

We've identified TT\$2.8 billion in available resources by:

- Reallocating underperforming programmes
- Enforcing fair tax compliance
- Cutting government waste
- Leveraging innovative tools like diaspora bonds and energy windfalls

#### No new taxes. No reckless borrowing. No gimmicks.

This plan won't increase the deficit. In fact, with disciplined execution, we will **reduce Trinidad** and **Tobago's debt-to-GDP ratio from 75% to 55% by 2030,** restoring fiscal strength while meeting urgent social and economic needs.

This is not about spending more, it's about spending smarter and delivering real results for the people.

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### FORWARD

Trinidad and Tobago stands at a historic crossroads - a moment that demands not more recycled slogans or short-term solutions but a bold new path rooted in truth, vision, and people-first governance.

For too long, successive governments have failed to deliver people-centered development, leaving citizens without the opportunities and security they deserve. We believe real progress demands more than temporary fixes. It requires a bold, holistic vision that addresses systemic challenges while providing immediate relief. For decades, citizens have heard promises of safer communities, better schools, functioning hospitals, jobs for young people, and respect for the elderly. But year after year, they have waited and watched as those promises dissolved into politics as usual. The Patriotic Front was born out of this frustration and this hope.

This manifesto is not the product of a think tank or a distant boardroom. It was built from the **ground up** through months of deep engagement across every community in Trinidad and Tobago. The Patriotic Front's manifesto is not just a plan but a fundamental transformation in governance: **redefining how the state serves its people**, how our economy empowers every citizen, and how we secure a thriving, sustainable future for Trinidad and Tobago in the 21st century and beyond. This document reflects the policy direction of the **Patriotic Front** and the voices of a nation ready for transformation. It is **your manifesto**.

The Patriotic Front's platform for our nation delivers a vision driven by progress, renewal, and a transformative mindset. Our 9-point plan is a blueprint for national transformation designed to unlock the full potential of our people. Each pillar tackles critical challenges while fostering collaboration across every sector of society. Our plan is practical and achievable, fully and independently costed, and ready for implementation. Together, we will build resilience, seize opportunity, and position our nation as a competitive actor in the global arena. The time for change is now, and the Patriotic Front is ready to deliver.

We invite you to read, reflect, and reclaim your role in shaping a better Trinidad and Tobago. This is **The Nation We Deserve** — and Real Change begins with you. We can build a brighter, more equitable nation for future generations with unity, determination, and decisive action. The time to act is now.

This election, you have a **once-in-a-generation**opportunity to make it happen. The time for real change is now, and it begins at the **ballot box.** 

WE STAND READY TO SERVE. AND WE ASK YOU TO STAND WITH US. - Mickela Panday

### FROM FEAR TO SAFETY: SAFER COMMUNITIES - OPERATION SAFE ZONE

## PILLAR 1 SAFER COMMUNITIES: OPERATION SAFE ZONE

#### The Challenge:

Several factors have fuelled the rise in crime nationwide, chief among them poverty, unemployment, and the unchecked spread of drug trafficking. Economic hardship and the lack of viable job opportunities, especially for young people, have created fertile ground for criminal activity. The drug trade has entrenched itself into our society, eroding national morale and weakening the economy. Gang violence, in particular, continues to devastate communities and remains one of the leading contributors to our alarmingly high homicide rate.

#### Our Solution:

Our mission is to reclaim every street, protect every home, and restore public trust. Our government will act boldly from day one to implement an all-encompassing security strategy, leaving no safe harbour for criminals. At the same time, we will address root causes through social investment - not just more police but smarter policing.

#### Prevention - Detection - Prosecution - Protecting Our Youth

Crime has no place in our future; progress only does. The Patriotic Front will decisively restore peace and rebuild trust so that every citizen can feel safe in their home, on their street, and in our country.

### A dual strategy combining immediate enforcement with long-term prevention:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

#### Ensure Timely and Adequate Funding for the Defence Force

Guarantee consistent financial support for operational readiness, training, and critical upgrades.

#### Unify National Security Operations

Integrate all national security agencies under one coordinated command structure, eliminating silos, streamlining response, and delivering one clear mission: national safety.

#### Restore Patrol Capacity Immediately

Recharge Police Fleet Cards without delay and increase continuous visible patrols across-high-risk zones.

#### Protect Those Who Protect Us

Conduct a full audit of all protective gear and immediately replace expired bulletproof vests to ensure officer safety on every shift.

#### Rebuild the Witness Protection Programme (WPP) from the Ground up

Implement a comprehensive overhaul of the WPP to guarantee safety, confidentiality, and confidence for every citizen willing to speak out against crime.

#### Launch the Beyond Bars Learning Academy

Introduce a national digital rehabilitation platform focused on life skills, education, and job readiness, transforming incarceration into meaningful second chances.

#### Establish Fast-Track Courts to Clear Case Backlogs

Create specialized courts with dedicated judicial resources to expedite long-pending criminal and civil cases, restoring trust and efficiency in our justice system.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

#### Significant Reduction in Violent Crime Within 18 Months

Deliver measurable progress in lowering gun violence, homicides, and gang-related crime through focused, data-driven interventions.

#### Fewer Repeat Offenders through True Rehabilitation

Break the cycle of crime with effective rehabilitation and reintegration programs that offer real second chances.

#### Restored Public Confidence in Law Enforcement

Rebuild trust through transparency, accountability, and consistent community engagment—so citizens feel protected, not forgotten.

Funding for these will come from...

ESTIMATED BUDGET: TT\$250M /YEAR

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Reallocating existing resources from low-priority security expenditures.
- Eliminating wasteful spending in non-essential procurement.

NO NEW TAXES. NO UNSUSTAINABLE DEBT.

JUST SMARTER SPENDING THAT PUTS YOUR MONEY
WHERE IT MATTERS MOST—DELIVERING REAL RESULTS.

PILLAR 1
SAFER COMMUNITIES:
OPERATION SAFE ZONE



## BALANCING WHAT WE HAVE WITH WHAT THE FUTURE NEEDS: CLEAN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT – POWERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

# PILLAR 2 CLEAN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT: POWERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

#### The Challenge:

Our overreliance on fossil fuels and traditional building methods leaves us vulnerable to price shocks, while environmental degradation threatens public health and future prosperity.

#### Our Solution:

Our energy transition will be both an environmental imperative and an economic opportunity. It will create thousands of jobs in renewables while protecting our precious ecosystems. Our government will make T&T the clean energy hub of the Caribbean.

### A multi-phase approach transitioning our economy and industries to sustainable energy:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Introduce a 50% Tax Credit for Residential Solar Installations
- Empower households to reduce energy costs and emissions with meaningful tax relief for going solar.
- Begin Immediate Relocation Planning for the Beetham Landfill

Prioritize public health and environmental restoration by transitioning to a modern, sustainable waste management facility.

Partner with the Private Sector on a National Clean Energy Awareness Campaign

Launch a public education initiative to increase awareness of the benefits of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable living.

Reform and Expand the Solar Grant Program

Remove financial barriers and accelerate adoption through simplified access, expanded eligibility, and increased funding.

Secure International Grant Funding to Pilot Solar Rooftops on Public Infrastructure

Launch pilot installations on 10 public buildings—beginning with high-impact utility and service hubs—as a model for national expansion

#### Partner with the Private Sector to Develop a National EV Charging Network

Build out electric vehicle infrastructure across Trinidad and Tobago to support clean transportation and reduce emissions.

#### Launch Green Job Training Boot camps

Equip citizens with future-ready skills in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable construction to power the green economy.

#### Invest in Strategic Habitat Restoration Projects

Rehabilitate degraded ecosystems to preserve biodiversity, reduce flood risks, and strengthen climate resilience.

#### Expand the Solar PV Pilot to 15 Additional Government Facilities

Lead by example by transitioning public buildings to renewable energy and reducing state electricity costs.

#### Attract Investment for a Local Lithium Battery Manufacturing Facility

Collaborate with private international partners. This plant will create jobs, lower renewable energy storage costs, and position Trinidad and Tobago as a hub for green innovation.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Thousands of new jobs created in Trinidad and Tobago's renewable energy and green innovation sectors.
- Rapid acceleration in nationwide electric vehicle adoption.
- Significant reduction in government energy and fuel expenditures.
- At least 40% of homes and businesses powered by solar energy by 2030.
- **Strengthened** local lithium battery supply to support and sustain a resilient national energy transition.

Funding for these will come from...



#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Energy Revenue Reinvestment Routing portions of windfall energy earnings toward national development.
- Strategic Partnerships (PPP) Collaborating with private sector innovators through win-win public-private partnerships.
- Green Future Funding (carbon offsets) Utilizing carbon credit mechanisms and sustainable investment incentives.

NO NEW TAXES. NO FINANCIAL GIMMICKS.

JUST RESPONSIBLE, FORWARD-THINKING FINANCING
THAT DELIVERS REAL RESULTS.

PILLAR 2
CLEAN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT:
POWERING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



## POWERING PROGRESS: WOMEN AND YOUTH AT THE HEART OF NATION-BUILDING

## PILLAR 3 WOMEN AND YOUTH: AT THE HEART OF NATION-BUILDING

#### The Challenge:

Youth unemployment remains stubbornly high at 24%. At the same time, persistent gender disparities continue to limit women's full participation in our economy and society. Outdated education models and underfunded training systems leave our most valuable resource - our people, underprepared for the demands of a modern, evolving economy.

#### Our Solution:

We will harness the power of strategic foresight to design and implement progressive policies that invest in the future of our youth and the empowerment of women and girls. This means aligning education and training with market needs, closing opportunity gaps, and reimagining national development through the lens of inclusive human capital growth. We believe that when young people and women are empowered to lead, innovate, and contribute, the entire nation moves forward - stronger, smarter, and more resilient.

### A multi-phase approach reprioritizing our human capital development:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

#### Launch the National Skills-to-Jobs App

A hybrid between LinkedIn and a recruitment platform, designed to match trained youth with real-world apprenticeships and job opportunities aligned with their skills, enabling immediate income generation.

#### Introduce a Future Ready Curriculum

Begin with a pilot in 50 schools, focusing on robotics, coding, and data analytics to equip students with skills for tomorrow's digital economy.

#### Deploy a 24/7 Domestic Violence Rapid Response App

Featuring a silent SOS button, live location tracking, and direct police link to provide immediate protection and support for victims.

#### Establish a National Youth Leadership Council

A formalized, youth-led body embedded in policymaking, giving young voices real influence on national development.

#### Implement a National Apprenticeship Program

Ensure every secondary school graduate gains practical, hands-on experience through structured placements across industries.

#### Conduct Equity Audits Across All Ministries

Guarantee fairness in recruitment, compensation, promotions, and service delivery—eliminating bias based on gender, race, or cultural background.

#### Build Innovation Pipelines

Forge strategic partnerships between local universities and leading global tech firms to drive research, internships, and breakthrough career pathways.

#### Expand and Upgrade Safe Homes Nationwide

Develop larger, fully equipped shelters offering secure refuge, therapy, and reintegration support for women and teens affected by domestic violence.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Youth unemployment reduced by 40% through skills alignment and job placement initiatives.
- Faster, more effective domestic violence response with improved survivor outcomes.
- Domestic violence-related deaths reduced significantly by 2028.
- Bias-free hiring and promotion standards institutionalized across all government ministries.
- Modern tech curriculum launched in **50 schools**, with nationwide rollout to **200 schools by 2027.**

Funding for these will come from...

## BUDGET: TT\$280M

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Reallocating Underutilized Funds Redirecting resources from underperforming youth programs to higher-impact initiatives.
- **Re-design** how programmes are developed, supported and rolled- out, keeping it community-centered.
- Strategic Grant Partnerships Maximizing existing multilateral funding.
- Smarter Social Investment Restructuring development budgets to eliminate waste and focus on results.

NO NEW TAXES. NO BUDGET INCREASES.

JUST SMARTER USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES—
DELIVERING REAL RESULTS.





## FROM DEPENDENCY TO RESILIENCE: DIVERSIFICATION, JOB CREATION AND IMPROVING FAMILY LIVES

## PILLAR 4 DIVERSIFICATION, JOB CREATION AND IMPROVING FAMILY LIVES

#### The Challenge:

Trinidad and Tobago's overdependence on oil and gas has made our economy vulnerable to global market shocks and geopolitical instability. Decades of underinvestment in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and creative industries have stalled innovation, suppressed job creation, and deepened household insecurity. This narrow economic base has left families struggling with rising costs, limited employment opportunities, and uncertain futures.

#### Our Solution:

The Patriotic Front will end the boom-and-bust cycle by aggressively expanding into new, future-ready sectors. We will transform Trinidad and Tobago into a regional hub for advanced manufacturing, sport tourism, green industries, and cultural exports. By fostering innovation, empowering entrepreneurs, and investing in local talent, we will raise incomes, reduce inflationary pressures, and protect small and micro enterprises.

A multi-phase strategy focused on unlocking new growth sectors, expanding economic opportunity, and building a resilient, diversified economy:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Introduce a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for public sector workers to cushion the impact of inflation.
- Remove VAT on 20+ locally manufactured goods to reduce prices and stimulate local production.
- Accelerate public procurement access for small businesses, making it easier for them to bid and win government contracts.
- Establish a National Inflation Monitoring Committee using existing personnel to track prices and guide timely interventions.
- Launch a Trade Market Intelligence Unit to analyse global demand trends and connect local producers with international buyers.

- Establish data-driven agro-industrial zones to position Trinidad and Tobago as a global player in the super food market—starting with high-value crops like moringa.
- Host three major international sporting events—Cricket, Football, and Track & Field—to boost sports tourism and global visibility.
- Launch the "Twin Island Gateway" Global Campaign, promoting Trinidad and Tobago as an economic, cultural, and eco-adventure hub—featuring visa waivers and investor incentives.
- Create a \$100M Creative Industries Fund to provide grants for start-ups in music, film, fashion, and digital design—fuelling a new wave of cultural exports and creative jobs.
- •Introduce a National Retraining Scheme for workers 50+, with digital boot camps and job-matching to support re-skilling, career pivots, and upward mobility in key sectors.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Creation of thousands of new jobs in advanced manufacturing, tourism, and the creative industries.
- Significant growth in annual foreign investment driven by exports, cultural initiatives, and global tourism campaigns.
- Sustained non-energy sector GDP growth of 7% annually by 2026.
- At least 25% of government contracts under \$100K awarded to SMEs through streamlined, transparent processes.
- Monthly inflation updates and public briefings to ensure transparency and build trust in economic management.

Funding for these will come from...

## ESTIMATED BUDGET: TT\$800M

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Closing Tax Loopholes Increasing VAT/PAYE compliance to ensure everyone pays their fair share.
- Eliminating Government Waste Consolidating duplicate business support programs for maximum efficiency.
- Responsible Energy Surplus Use Investing windfall revenues in long-term national development.

NO NEW TAXES ON WORKING FAMILIES — JUST SMARTER SYSTEMS THAT ENSURE FAIR CONTRIBUTION FROM ALL, DELIVERING REAL RESULTS.





#### LESS IMPORTING, MORE PRODUCING: FOOD SECURITY – FEEDING THE NATION

## PILLAR 5 FOOD SECURITY: FEEDING THE NATION

#### The Challenge:

Trinidad and Tobago's heavy dependence on imported food contributes to a soaring import bill and rising levels of food insecurity. Global shocks, geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions, and trade protectionism threaten our access to affordable food and compromise national resilience.

#### Our Solution:

The Patriotic Front will transform the agriculture and agri-food sector into a cornerstone of economic and nutritional security. We will empower farmers, fishers, and agri-entrepreneurs through modernization, innovation, and support, again making farming and fishing profitable, sustainable, and attractive career paths.

Our multi-phase strategy will drive high-quality food production, boost exports, and reduce food insecurity across the nation:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Expand and enhance incentives for climate-resilient, high-demand crops such as cassava, sweet potato, dasheen, hot peppers, moringa, and turmeric.
- Digitize agricultural land leases and registry systems to fast-track access to idle state lands for qualified farmers.
- Integrate NAMDEVCO, ADB, and MALF services into a single digital platform to streamline access to grants, training, and market opportunities.
- Activate and repurpose existing government committees to aggressively pursue international grant funding for youth and women in agriculture.

- Expand access to global markets through a National Halal Certification Programme for local producers.
- Implement a comprehensive land titling initiative targeting 10,000 small farmers to secure ownership and encourage long-term investment.
- Link national school feeding programmes to local, community-based farmers to create steady markets and support rural livelihoods.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 25% reduction in food imports by 2030 through increased local production.
- Creation of new agri-tech jobs across rural and urban communities.
- Significant annual savings on the national food import bill.
- Thousands of sustainable jobs created in farming, processing, and distribution.
- Successful mobilization of international grant funding via applications to FAO, IFAD, and GEF.

Funding for these will come from...



#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Optimized Agriculture Budgets Redirecting funds to high-impact food security initiatives.
- Land Access Revolution Lease-to-own programs creating new farming opportunities.
- CARICOM Collaboration Strengthening regional partnerships for stable food supply chains.

NO ADDED BURDEN ON TAXPAYERS—
JUST STRATEGIC REALLOCATION TO SECURE LASTING
FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND DELIVER REAL RESULTS.

PILLAR 5
FOOD SECURITY:
FEEDING THE NATION



## SERVICE, NOT FRUSTRATION: REBUILDING TRUST & IMPROVING GOVERNMENT SERVICES. SYSTEMS THAT SERVE

# PILLAR 6 REBUILDING TRUST & IMPROVING GOVERNMENT SERVICES. SYSTEMS THAT SERVE

#### The Challenge:

Years of mismanagement, broken promises, and systemic corruption have deeply eroded public trust. Citizens across Trinidad and Tobago continue to suffer the consequences of inefficient services, inaccessible leadership, and institutions that feel distant and unaccountable.

#### Our Solution:

The Patriotic Front is committed to rebuilding public confidence by establishing a people-centered, transparent, and performance-driven economy. We will decentralize services, digitize public administration, and train a new generation of responsive public servants. From housing to healthcare to social support, our systems will be re-engineered to work with urgency, fairness, and dignity. Governance will no longer be a distant promise. It will be visible, accessible, and accountable to every citizen.

Through a phased implementation strategy, we will restore integrity in governance, improve service delivery, and create a public sector that puts people first:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Establish Community Service Hubs across all regions to decentralize access to key government services, bringing the state closer to the people.
- Mandate Customer Service and Ethics Training for all frontline public servants to foster a culture of respect, responsiveness, and professionalism.
- Launch a National Mobile Service Delivery System to bridge the urban-rural divide ensuring every citizen, regardless of location, has access to essential services.
- End the Outdated Lottery System for public housing allocation, replacing it with transparent, merit-based selection criteria.
- Introduce a Rent-to-Own Housing Program targeting first-time homeowners under 40 eliminating the need for large down payments, while stimulating the economy by contracting local builders for construction.

- Introduce Annual Service Delivery Scorecards for every Ministry to track performance, improve accountability, and keep citizens informed.
- Launch a National Digital Health Appointment System to streamline access to public healthcare and reduce long wait times.
- Implement a User-Friendly Online School Enrolment Platform for all government and government-assisted schools, ensuring transparency and ease for parents.
- Develop Affordable Smart Housing Communities featuring climate-resilient designs and integrated services such as childcare, digital connectivity, and community health support.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Renewed public trust through decentralized, transparent, and citizen-first service delivery.
- · Reduced wait times and bureaucracy eliminating long lines and cutting red tape.
- A responsive public sector where citizen feedback informs leadership reviews and service improvements.
- Expanded access to sustainable housing, including increased solar-powered HDC homes.
- Higher rates of home ownership among young people, driven by fair, accessible housing programs.

Funding for these will come from...

#### ESTIMATED BUILDET:

TT\$750M/YEAR

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- State Land Activation Responsibly monetizing underused government properties.
- Diaspora Investment Bonds Empowering overseas nationals to build hometown communities.
- HDC Efficiency Reform Modernizing systems to deliver more homes faster.

NO BUDGET OVERRUNS — JUST SMART SOLUTIONS TO OUR HOUSING CHALLENGES AND A GOVERNMENT THAT DELIVERS REAL RESULTS.

PILLAR 6
REBUILDING TRUST & IMPROVING
GOVERNMENT SERVICES.
SYSTEMS THAT SERVE



### MORE THAN AN AFTERTHOUGHT: TOBAGO RISING – A NATION WITHIN A NATION

## PILLAR 7 TOBAGO RISING: A NATION WITHIN A NATION

#### The Challenge:

Tobago's promise has been celebrated but never fully delivered. Despite decades of lofty pledges, Tobagonians continue to face crumbling infrastructure, high youth unemployment, limited access to capital investment, and increasing crime. The result? A generation feels forced to leave the island in search of better opportunities. That ends now. "Tobago Rising" is more than a slogan; it is our solemn commitment to transform Tobago into a self-sustaining economic and social powerhouse, a Tobago where thriving agriculture, modernized fisheries, eco-driven tourism, youth innovation, and resilient infrastructure are not dreams but realities, a Tobago where no one feels they have to leave home to succeed.

#### **Our Solution:**

The Patriotic Front will work in full partnership with the Tobago House of Assembly to unlock the island's full potential through smarter governance, expanded land access, targeted skills training, tourism development, and strong business support. We will do it all within existing national budgets, ensuring prudent, impactful investment with no additional financial burden.

#### A multi-phase approach focused on Tobago:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Upgrade 10 high-impact tourism sites and launch a global digital campaign: "Welcome to the Greatest Little Island" to drive visitor traffic and brand Tobago as a premium destination.
- Modernize farming and fishing infrastructure, including immediate upgrades to key depots and cold storage facilities.
- Launch the "Tobago Skills for Tobago Jobs" initiative, establishing vocational and technical training centres tailored to the island's economic needs.
- Establish a Tobago Cargo Priority System, ensuring faster and more reliable movement of Tobago-produced goods to Trinidad and export markets.
- Upgrade the Tobago Cargo Management Hub to enhance trade efficiency and support local business expansion.
- Collaborate with the THA to roll out the "Tobago Export-Ready Programme," providing certification, branding support, and capacity building for small producers to meet international standards.

- **Position Tobago on the world stage** through international cultural expos, tourism roadshows, and investment forums to attract visitors, investors, and global recognition.
- Establish a Tobago National Data Platform to track all development projects, monitor THA performance, and publish budget spending. Real-time data will guide smarter national allocations and enhance public service delivery.
- Partner with the Tobago House of Assembly to create virtual university hubs, allowing Tobagonians to pursue globally accredited degrees and certifications from within the island—reducing brain drain and boosting local expertise.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- A more robust, competitive, and innovation-driven Tobago economy.
- Strengthened local self-sufficiency and reduced dependence on Central Government.
- Deeper, more effective partnership with the Tobago House of Assembly.
- Stronger, more influential representation of Tobago's interests in Parliament.

Funding for these will come from...



#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Whole-of-Government Collaboration Aligning budgets across Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Youth Development, and Ministry of Planning and THA.
- Priority Rebalancing Redirecting existing funds to highest-impact initiatives.
- **Tobago Partnership** Full coordination with Tobago House of Assembly.

NO NEW BUDGET INCREASES —
JUST SMARTER SPENDING FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT
AND REAL RESULTS.





BUILDING FORWARD WITH BETTER ROADS AND RELIABLE WATER:
RESTORING THE BASICS, REBUILDING A NATION FOR ALL

## PILLAR 8 RESTORING THE BASICS, REBUILDING A NATION FOR ALL

#### The Challenge:

Reliable infrastructure is the foundation of daily life and national progress. Yet too many citizens face chronic flooding, traffic congestion, crumbling roads, inconsistent water supply, and unreliable public transportation. These issues do more than frustrate, they erode dignity, limit opportunity, and hold back our nation's full potential.

#### Our Solution:

The Patriotic Front will lead a national infrastructure renewal, restoring the basics with urgency, clarity, and compassion. We will modernize critical systems and services to ensure every citizen has access to safe, reliable, and dignified infrastructure. This is not just about concrete and pipes, it's about rebuilding trust in a government that delivers.

A results-based, multi-phase strategy focused on measurable improvements in service delivery, anchored by clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that put citizens first:

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Deploy 250 community water tanks in the 50 most water-insecure communities to ensure immediate access to safe, reliable water.
- Modernize public transport by introducing real-time GPS tracking on public transport vehicles to reduce wait times and improve service reliability.
- Enforce mandatory disability access in all public buildings to promote inclusion and equal access for all citizens.
- Partner with schools and NGOs to plant bamboo and vetiver along key riverbanks—creating natural flood barriers while promoting environmental stewardship.
- Launch the "Fix Roads Fast" Programme to rapidly assess and repair critical potholes and deteriorated roads in high-traffic communities.

- Integrate community water tanks into national disaster preparedness protocols, especially during hurricane season, to ensure resilient emergency response.
- Launch a National After-School Support Programme, providing homework assistance, and enrichment activities—giving working parents, especially single mothers and fathers, critical support.
- Introduce mandatory early childhood learning assessments in all ECCE centres to identify developmental delays early and connect families with appropriate interventions and resources.
- Begin phased implementation of Electronic Health Records (EHR) to improve coordination, efficiency, and transparency in healthcare delivery across public facilities.
- Establish a Utilities Efficiency Task Force to address chronic service failures in water, electricity, and sanitation, ensuring timely responses and system-wide accountability.
- Install low-orbit satellite internet systems to activate public Wi-Fi hubs in digitally underserved rural communities, closing the digital divide and improving access to services.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

• Restored dignity, renewed trust, and stronger citizen engagement with public services.

Funding for these will come from...

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

#### Whole-of-Government Efficiency

- ESTIMATED BUDGET: TT\$2 OM/YEAR
- Every dollar sourced from responsible Ministries, Departments and Agencies.
- •Shared services and consolidated procurement across all entities.

#### **Priority Rebalancing**

- Redirecting funds from low-impact programs to essential services.
- Converting portions of emergency repair budgets to preventive maintenance.

NOT A SINGLE NEW TAX DOLLAR REQUIRED — WE'RE UNLOCKING VALUE ALREADY IN THE SYSTEM AND DELIVERING REAL RESULTS WHERE THEY MATTER MOST.

PILLAR 8
RESTORING THE BASICS,
REBUILDING A NATION FOR ALL



## PROTECTING WORKERS AND SECURING THE FUTURE: EMPOWERING LABOUR, BUILDING A FAIR AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

# PILLAR 9 EMPOWERING WORKERS, MODERNIZING LABOUR: BUILDING A FAIR AND RESILIENT ECONOMY

#### The Challenge:

Trinidad and Tobago's industrial relations framework is outdated, fragmented, and no longer fit for purpose in a modern economy. Workers face long delays in dispute resolution, inadequate protection during retrenchment or company closures, and rising insecurity through short-term and contract employment. Our regulatory institutions are under-resourced and overstretched, limiting their ability to enforce fair and consistent labour standards. From essential service workers to the unemployed and trade union members, too many are navigating a broken system that fails to protect their rights, undermines morale, and increases economic vulnerability.

#### Our Solution:

The Patriotic Front will champion the rights, dignity, and security of every working citizen. We will modernize outdated labour laws, strengthen key regulatory institutions, and ensure that workers have real protection, a real voice, and access to real opportunity. From comprehensive legislative reform to the creation of a National Unemployment Fund, we will act with urgency and fairness to restore balance and trust in the labour system. Industrial peace, built on equity and respect, will be the foundation of a stronger, more resilient economy.

#### SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- Fast-track resolution of outstanding public sector negotiations through a transparent, time-bound process rooted in fairness, data-driven analysis, and mutual accountability.
- Establish a National Unemployment Security Fund to support citizens who have contributed to the workforce for at least five consecutive years, providing financial protection during periods of unexpected job loss.
- Initiate national consultations to modernize severance and pension legislation, ensuring these protections reflect today's economic realities and uphold the dignity of retirees and displaced workers.
- Extend maternity leave to six months, with the final three months offering flexible work-from-home options to support the health, well-being, and economic stability of new mothers.
- Implement six weeks of fully paid paternity leave, recognizing the importance of shared parenting responsibilities and strengthening family support systems from birth.

- Modernize the Industrial Relations Act to grant the Industrial Court stronger enforcement powers, ensuring timely and binding resolution of disputes.
- Reform the appointment and tenure process for Industrial Court Judges and the Special Tribunal to enhance transparency, independence, and continuity in labour justice.
- Introduce sectoral labour orders that mandate minimum standards for sick leave, vacation leave, and uniform provision across key industries, ensuring consistent protection for all workers.
- Amend national pension legislation to guarantee equitable access to deferred earnings, surplus distributions, and retirement benefits for all eligible beneficiaries.
- Overhaul staffing and tenure policies within the Ministry of Labour, the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA), and the Conciliation Division to improve efficiency, capacity, and responsiveness in safeguarding workers' rights.

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Enhanced worker protection in cases of retrenchment, liquidation, or company closure, ensuring fair treatment and timely compensation.
- Standardized, transparent labour practices across all sectors, fostering equity and reducing exploitation.
- Greater job security and satisfaction, leading to improved productivity and stronger employee-employer relations.
- A modernized Industrial Court with the authority to deliver binding, efficient, and timely resolutions to labour disputes.
- Sustainable industrial peace, positioned as a cornerstone of national economic recovery, resilience, and inclusive growth.

Funding for these will come from...

## ESTIMATED BUDGET: TT\$2 OM/YEAR

#### FUNDING STRATEGY:

- Reallocate underutilized allocations.
- Streamline outdated programmes.
- Secure Development Grants & Technical Assistance from International Institutions (ILO International Labour Organization / IDB and Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) UN Women and UNICEF).

NOT A SINGLE NEW TAX DOLLAR REQUIRED — WE'RE UNLOCKING VALUE ALREADY IN THE SYSTEM AND DELIVERING REAL RESULTS WHERE THEY MATTER MOST.

PILLAR 9
EMPOWERING WORKERS,
MODERNIZING LABOUR:
BUILDING A FAIR AND RESILIENT ECONOMY





## THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S MANIFESTO: THE NATION WE DESERVE BUILT FROM THE GROUND UP

#### A promise forged in trust

This manifesto represents more than policies - It's our binding commitment to every citizen of Trinidad and Tobago.

#### We will:

Publish quarterly progress reports with verifiable metrics

Establish citizen oversight committees for each pillar

Implement a national suggestion platform for continuous improvement

With this plan, we will deliver:
Safer neighborhoods
Thriving local businesses
A stabilized economy resulting in improved family lives
Transparent corruption-free governance
Quality healthcare and education
Sustainable development

A government that finally works for you.

THE TIME FOR EMPTY PROMISES IS OVER.
THE ERA OF REAL CHANGE BEGINS NOW.

NO RETREAT. NO EXCUSES.

JUST RESULTS.