



T&TEC lights the heart of Arima

Delighted vendors and onlookers welcomed the installation of new lights on the Holly Betaudier Promenade, Arima at a formal ceremony hosted by T&TEC on February 9.

T&TEC's Chairman, Keith Sirju, announced that the twelve 150-watt streetlights will afford both vendors and shoppers opportunities to function in an expanded and safer environment. He also reminded the audience of the high level of commitment the Commission places on providing a safe and reliable electricity supply to all users, citing the Matelot disaster of last December. At that time, T&TEC crews worked non-stop for three days to complete reconstructive and restorative work, following major flooding and landslides in Matelot.

More recently, work was done in Calvary Hill as part of the preparation for new lines related to transformer upgrade works at both the Pinto Road and the O'Meara Substations. These upgrade works are expected to benefit customers that feed off the east ring comprising the O'Meara, Pinto Road, Five Rivers, Santa Rosa and San Rafael Substations. Mr. Sirju asked for

customers' indulgence and patience for any disruptions and inconvenience that may be caused during the exercise. These projects are designed to cope with load growth and improvements to the quality of the electricity supply to customers in these areas.

Also speaking at the ceremony was the Minister of Public Utilities, the Honourable Fitzgerald Hinds, noting that "tens of millions of dollars have been spent on the lighting of public spaces over the past decade" and giving recognition to "the contribution that T&TEC has made over the decades, to the continuing development of our country and the attainment of a certain quality of life for all." He added that the "investment into the development of our communities and the safety of our people is worth the while."

Mr. Sirju acknowledged the Ministry of Public Utilities' financial support which led to 18 community-based illumination projects being completed in 2016. The illumination of the Holly Betaudier Promenade marked the completion of the second such project for 2017. The promenade joins the list of facilities to

Happy smiles. A youngster shares in the switching on of lights at the Holly Betaudier Promenade. Also participating in this historic event was the Minister of Public Utilities, Hon. Fitzgerald Hinds; Member of Parliament for D'Abadie/O'Meara, Brig. Gen. (Ret'd), Ancil Antoine and Councillor Anthony Davis. Looking on, from left to right, are T&TEC's Chairman, Keith Sirju and Her Worship, the Mayor of Arima, Councillor Lisa Morris-Julian.

be illuminated in the area. Most recently enhanced were the Samaroo Village Recreation Ground and the Basketball Court in O'Meara and the Boys Lane Basketball Court in D'Abadie.

Her Worship, the Mayor of Arima, Councillor Lisa Morris-Julian used the opportunity to announce the pending launch of a new Arima drama festival which would be hosted at the amphitheatre just off the promenade.

Member of Parliament for D'Abadie/O'Meara, Brig. Gen. (Ret'd), Ancil Antoine was also in attendance and delivered remarks.

The ceremony concluded with the much anticipated switching on of the recreation lights which illuminated the 16 vendor huts that line the promenade.