

## Cushe Village ground illuminated



*Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Sen. the Hon. Clarence Rambharat (centre), with Councillor for Rio Claro North, Hazarie Ramdeen (2nd from left); T&TEC Chairman, Keith Sirju and Commissioner, Clifford Campbell (2nd and 3rd from right respectively), at the switching on of the lights at the Cushe Recreation Ground. Looking on are Councillors of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation.*

Sporting and recreation enthusiasts were anxious to take to the field in celebration, as they awaited conclusion of T&TEC's latest public lighting project on Wednesday August 9—the illumination of the Cushe Recreation Ground in Rio Claro.

Speaking at the formal ceremony to commission the lights, Chairman, Keith Sirju noted the pace of T&TEC's delivery and revealed that the illumination was just 18 days after the commissioning of lights on the Ortoire Recreation Ground in Mayaro. The Cushe project consists of seventy-two 1500 watt flood lights on six - 21-meter poles. The custom designed lighting system promises residents and their families extended hours of use for sporting and recreation activities.

Mr Sirju urged residents to use “discretion and a sense of civic responsibility” to guide the use of the lights and warned that whenever the lights remain on when the field is not in use, “unnecessary waste of electricity and shortened life of the lights result.” He also informed residents of T&TEC's projects to improve the reliability of supply in the Mayaro/Rio Claro area.

There are ongoing exercises to replace aged poles and remove electrical hazards by clearing overhead lines in areas such as Biche. Furthermore, the Commission has also worked with the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' National Social Development Programme to provide electricity to residents in Sumair Trace, Rio Claro who were

unable to cover the capital contribution costs for electricity infrastructure in and around their homes and communities. These are just some of the Commission's programmes and plans in the south-eastern part of Trinidad as T&TEC works to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

As beneficiaries of the lighting programme, residents of Cushe and environs now have the advantage of lights for night time recreational and social activities. The illumination marked the seventh in the Mayaro/Rio Claro region.

Also speaking at the event, Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Senator the Honourable Clarence Rambharat said that the delivery of the lights at Cushe and Ortoire were among his top priorities for the communities. He also listed his other priorities on the local government level which included other types on upgrades on recreation grounds, a home work centre in Cushe and road repairs. Former Chairman of the Mayaro/ Rio Claro Regional Corporation, and current Councillor for Rio Claro North, Hazarie Ramdeen brought greetings and urged residents to continue to take care of the facilities being made available to them.

The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and the much anticipated switching on of the recreation lights.