



# WATTS HAPPENING

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ELECTRICITY COMMISSION  
Vol. 40 Expanded edition /May - December, 2023

VISION - Powering the nation  
into the next generation.

MISSION - To deliver  
world-class electricity service,  
through engaged and  
empowered employees, using  
clean, sustainable energy,  
technologically advanced  
systems and a highly reliable,  
safe and modern electrical grid.



- Procurement revamp after proclamation of new Act
- Record number of employees achieve 40 years of service
- T&TEC records historical electricity demand

# Extract of GM's Address at Long Service Luncheon 2023



It is with pride and gratitude that we have once again planned this intimate gathering to ensure that we continue to publicly recognise the contributions

of our longest serving employees. This format, which we adopted in 2017, is a shift from the longstanding gala Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony but is still necessitated by our financial circumstances.

As you may know, this has been an eventful year for us at T&TEC. Through the collective

hard work of our employees, we have kept pace with a world seeking to regain its footing after the devastating impact of the pandemic. While we have returned to some level of normalcy, we are acutely aware that life is no longer the same. As your General Manager, I am sincerely proud of the efforts of all our employees to realise the successes achieved and to prevail against the setbacks faced. Thanks to you, we have scored a number of wins for 2023, including:

- The commissioning of the second Union/ Gandhi 220 kV double circuit, which has improved the reliability and stability of the national electricity grid as well as the fuel efficiency of our generation
- The launch of our amphibious responder to aid in disaster response efforts

**COVER** - Esteemed recipients of T&TEC's Long Service Awards for 2023 held on December 8, 2023, pose with their awards. See pages 20-25.

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This edition of the *Watts Happening* is posted on T&TEC's intranet and website: [www.ttec.co.tt](http://www.ttec.co.tt)

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- We have upgraded our IT infrastructure to the extent that we now have a hyperconverged solution (private cloud) and continue to work on enhancing its security and resilience
- We partnered with PowerGen to host the annual CARILEC Engineering & Procurement Conference and Exhibition at the Hyatt Regency Hotel
- During last month's plant shutdown at Trinidad Generation Unlimited, our customers did not experience any disruption to their electricity supply. This was no small feat, but largely the result of our employees ensuring that our nation was adequately supplied by the other IPPs
- Use of Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency measures (90% of the lighting systems at Head Office, Mt. Hope, King Village have already been converted to LEDs and we are continuing with all of our operating centres)

Added to these, was the publication of the Final Determination on the Rate Review by the RIC – a major development with far reaching implications for the Commission. This opens the door to a long-anticipated adjustment in electricity rates. Currently, we are awaiting Cabinet approval for implementation.

While this rate adjustment will afford T&TEC an increased revenue flow, it will only be in the fourth and fifth year that our balance sheet and income statements would show a positive result. The RIC themselves have stated that in the first year the rate increase will only cover 75% of our costs. This means that the Commission must continue to implement efficiency and cost reduction initiatives if we are to successfully navigate the next few years. To this end we will be implementing the following:

- A vehicle replacement policy that would enable timely replacement of our vehicles before they become a financial burden (in terms of lost productivity and increase vehicle costs)
- Reduce technical system losses with the installation of Substation Capacitors
- Productivity improvement through the value-added use of technology

On the cusp of 2024, we do look with anticipation towards another exciting year where the Commission will enter a new phase of our evolution. We expect to witness the completion of the country's first utility scale solar PV project, for which we signed a Power Purchase Agreement with a consortium comprising bpTT, Shell Trinidad and Tobago Limited and Lightsource bp, to provide 112 megawatts of solar power. Once in operation, this plant is expected to reduce our carbon emissions and our annual natural gas requirements, which equates to savings of US \$3 Million per annum for T&TEC. This initiative is certainly great news, and it signals a positive step towards energy efficiency, energy sustainability and energy security.

In the same way our 15 award recipients also anticipate entering a new phase in your lives. As you embark on this journey, I applaud you for remaining steadfast in your duties, when it could have been easy to adopt the less-stressful, laid-back approach to your last days on the job. It truly speaks to your work ethic and commitment to the organisation; values which we can only hope, will transfer to those who remain in your stead.

# Executive appointments

## New General Manager

Following the retirement of General Manager, Kelvin Ramsook, the Board of Commissioners appointed former Chief Operating Officer, Curvis Francois as General Manager, effective July 1, 2023.

Mr. Francois is an electrical engineer who joined the Commission in 1986 as an Engineer-in-Training. He holds an Executive MBA, a BSc in Electrical Engineering, and certification in Project Management and Reliability Engineering.

Over the course of his career, Mr Francois gained extensive experience in all aspects of Distribution Plant design, construction, operations and maintenance. He also pioneered the implementation of an Enterprise Geographic Information System (GIS) within the Commission and has held several managerial roles, including Manager of the Public Lighting Department, Supplies Department and Area Manager – Distribution North.



In announcing Mr. Francois' appointment, Chairman Romney Thomas acknowledged the contribution of Mr. Ramsook who gave 37 years of service, with the last 11 as General Manager. "We thank him for his service and contribution to the Commission and, by extension, the country and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement," wrote Mr. Thomas.



## New Chief Human Resources Officer

Effective May 15, 2023, Carmela Sarjeant is the new Chief Human Resources Officer, having replaced Jacqueline Cheesman, who retired in April.

Ms. Sarjeant is an Attorney-at-Law and holds an EMBA and BSc in Human Ecology. She is also a Human Resources and Industrial Relations Partner, with over 20 years experience in the private and other sectors.

## New Chief Operating Officer

Effective July 1, 2023, T&TEC's new Chief Operating Officer is Shaun Chase. The former Operations Manager – North, has served in the Commission for 29 years.

Mr. Chase, who started at T&TEC as an Engineer-in-Training, holds an MSc in Energy Systems and a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He spent the first few years of his career as an Engineer in Distribution East and Distribution North, while progressing up the ranks to his appointment as Senior Engineer in 2006. After subsequent promotions to Assistant

Area Manager (2008) and Area Manager (2016), he was appointed Operations Manager – North in 2020.



Mr. Chase also acted as Chief Technical Officer and Chief Operating Officer on several occasions.



**John Colthrust** was appointed Engineering Controller, effective December 1, 2023. Mr. Colthrust has enjoyed over 33 years at T&TEC, since starting as an Engineer-in-Training in 1990. He

spent most of his career in the System Planning

and Control Department and was appointed its Manager in 2012. Six years later, in 2018, he was transferred to the Transmission Maintenance Department and in 2020 was appointed Manager, System Control and Generation Interface Department, his position prior to his current promotion.

Mr. Colthrust holds a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

**Kenson Nero** is the new Manager, Public Lighting Department, effective December 1, 2023. Mr. Nero's 31-year career at T&TEC started as a Clerk III (Temp) at Distribution Tobago in December 1992, with subsequent promotions, from Auxiliary Plant Attendant in 1993, Shift Operator in 1998, to Control Operator in 1999. He joined the Engineer-in-Training Programme in 2005, after which he was assigned to the Transmission Maintenance Department, where he moved up the ranks,

from Engineer II in 2007, to Senior Engineer in 2020.

Mr. Nero has qualifications in Electrical Engineering from the Society of Engineers UK, a BSc in Computing and Information Systems and an MBA.





**Sean Mendonca** was promoted to Manager, System Control and Generation Interface, effective December 1, 2023. He replaces John Colthrust, who was appointed as the

Engineering Controller following the departure of Nigel Bobb.

Mr. Mendonca was previously the Manager, Public Lighting Department. The former

Technical Assistant and Shift Control Engineer joined T&TEC in 1995 as an Engineer-in-Training and started his 27-year career in the Northern Distribution Area. Apart from an earlier stint in the System Control and Generation Interface Department, Mr. Mendonca has also worked in the Communications and System Planning and Control Departments, and also acted as Assistant Area Manager, Distribution East on several occasions.

Mr. Mendonca is the holder of a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

**Dion Ewing** is the new Plant Manager, Cove Power Station, effective October 1, 2023.

Mr. Ewing joined T&TEC in 2010 as an Engineer-in-Training and was subsequently assigned to Distribution Tobago where he has remained since. The holder of a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mr. Ewing's last position was that of Senior Engineer, Distribution Tobago.



**Shazard Mohammed** was promoted to Operations Manager, Distribution North, effective August 1, 2023. Mr. Mohammed, who joined T&TEC in 1992, last held the position of Area

Manager, Distribution Central. Throughout his

31-year career, Mr. Mohammed progressed through the engineering stream after starting as an Engineer-in-Training, with subsequent assignments as Assistant Area Manager, Distributions Tobago and South; Manager, Public Lighting Department and Manager, Transmission Maintenance.

Mr. Mohammed holds a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Former Assistant Area Manager, **Sean Giles**, was promoted to Area Manager, Distribution Tobago, effective August 1, 2023.

After a few stints as a Vacation Employee, Mr. Giles joined the Commission as an Engineer-in-Training in 1998, following which he was appointed as an Engineer II in Distribution Central. Several promotions through the engineering stream culminated with his appointment in 2013 as Senior Engineer in the Transmission Maintenance Department. In

2020, Mr. Giles was promoted to Assistant Area Manager, first in Distribution East, then Distribution Tobago.

Mr. Giles holds an EMBA (with distinction), an MSc in Project Management and a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.





the Engineer-in-Training programme in 2008.

**Kurlan Hackett** was promoted to Assistant Area Manager, Distribution Tobago, effective August 1, 2023. Mr. Hackett joined T&TEC as a vacation employee in 2006, then joined

He was subsequently assigned to Distribution Tobago and moved up the ranks to Technical Assistant 1 in 2017, the last position before his recent promotion. Mr. Hackett is the Assistant Area Manager responsible for Administration, Development and Projects.

He holds an MBA in Innovation and Entrepreneurship Specialisation (with Distinction) and a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Effective July 1, 2023 **Marvin Buchoon** is the new Protection & SCADA Manager.

Mr. Buchoon has spent 20 years at T&TEC – first as a Vacation Employee in 2001, then permanently as an Engineer-in-Training in 2003. He was then assigned to the Protection & SCADA Department, where he has remained to date, moving up the ranks from Engineer

II in 2005, to Senior Engineer in 2014.

Mr. Buchoon is the holder of a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering.



**Sonia Alkhal** was appointed the new Head Manager, Regulatory and Compliance on June 1, 2023. The former Senior Commercial Officer replaced Wendell Mayers following his retirement.

Ms. Alkhal joined the Commission on contract as a Computer Programmer-in-Training in the Information Systems Department in 2003 and was made permanent a year later. She attained several promotions over the years, leading to the position of Systems Analyst II in 2014, and in 2015, was promoted to Senior Commercial Officer in the Commercial Department.

Ms. Alkhal is the holder of a BSc in Computer Science and Management and an MSc in Computer Science.

#### **The following executive redesignations were also made:**

**Murvie Charles**, who was Area Manager, Distribution East, has been reassigned to Distribution Central as its Area Manager effective July 1, 2023.

**Kendel Francis**, has been reassigned from Area Manager, Distribution Tobago to Area Manager, Distribution East, effective July 1, 2023.

# Solutions to utility challenges shared at CARILEC Engineering Conference



The significance of smart designed electricity grids—seamless integration of intermittent renewables, energy storage technology, energy modelling and power system simulation and data collection efforts— cannot be overstated, says the Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the UWI, Professor Sanjay Bahadoorsingh. He made the statement when delivering the keynote address at the opening ceremony of the Caribbean Electric Utility Services Corporation’s (CARILEC) annual Engineering & Procurement Conference and Exhibition on July 23. The five-day event was staged at the Hyatt Regency, Trinidad, under

the theme **“Powering Transition in the Caribbean Energy Sector through Smart Designs, Efficient Procurement and Effective Design”**.

Using the theme as the thesis for his address, Professor Bahadoorsingh emphasised that smart designed systems can all be strengthened through regional consensus.

“Collaboration, mutual

assistance, and exchanges should not be reserved for emergencies or disasters; they should be ingrained as routine practices to strengthen our collective efforts and support one another,” he reminded the audience of utility engineers, IPPs, manufacturers and other industry partners, including 15 employees from T&TEC.

The conference, which was co-hosted by T&TEC and PowerGen, examined innovative approaches and solutions to the challenges currently faced in the development of future power generation in the region.

While working on the challenge of getting to 100% Renewable Energy by 2023, Barbados Light and Power has chosen to construct an interim 33-megawatt diesel power generation station. Dubbed the Clean Energy Bridge, the plant will maintain reliability on their grid during the country’s transition to full renewable energy generation. Gail Inniss and Dave Skeete explained that the station was necessary “to address immediate concerns brought about by aging plant and the declining reliability of that plant.” They noted that the new plant, while currently running on diesel, is also capable of being converted to burn a cleaner fuel in the future. It is now the most efficient plant on the island.

Grid hardening is one of the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority’s (WAPA) solutions to natural disasters, which has led to the

1. Minister of Public Utilities, the Hon. Marvin Gonzales (centre), General Manager of PowerGen, Dr. Haydn Furlonge (left) and General Manager of T&TEC, Curvis Francois, arrive at the conference opening ceremony.

2. Keynote Speaker, Professor Sanjay Bahadoorsingh.

3. Minister Gonzales (centre) with other dignitaries (l-r) CARILEC Executive Director, Dr. Cletus Bertin; Dr. Haydn Furlonge; Professor Sanjay Bahadoorsingh; T&TEC Deputy Chairman, Anthony Peyson; GM, Curvis Francois; and CARILEC Director, Hugo Hodge.

introduction of Composite Utility Poles (CUP). Company representative, Cordell Phillip, said that the use of the poles is just one of several strategies to reduce the impact of windstorm events on the system. The poles are made of mixed materials, including fiberglass and epoxy, with an outer casing of thermoplastic. They are virtually maintenance-free as they do not rot or corrode, have very low conductivity (safer) and last longer than conventional wood, metal and concrete poles (up to 80+ years). They are also safe for the environment (non-leaching). WAPA

plans to install 8,000 new poles, each with a wind rating of over 180 mph.

T&TEC's

participants and presenters generally reported that the sessions were motivating. Technical Assistant I, Vivian Narine, said he felt inspired and motivated after the conference, saying that "[The conference] truly highlighted the significance of embracing smart design principles and how their effective implementation can lead to transformative outcomes in the engineering industry". Mr. Narine delivered two presentations during the conference – A Comparison of Ultrasonic Devices for Inspection of High Voltage Insulators on the Distribution System and A Guide for Improving the Lightning Performance of Electric Power Overhead Distribution Lines.

Brendon James, HSE Coordinator I, who discussed Beyond Net Metering: The Virtual Power Plant, noted that being able to add value in such an environment was the highlight of his conference experience, as professionals with different areas of expertise who are based in different countries were able to share insights and everyone was able to learn.

The concept of the virtual power plant was of particular interest to Linesman 'B', Aamon

Pierre, an MSc student of renewable energy technology who registered for the conference on his own. "It highlights the small, but effective roles these systems can play in supporting the electrical grid," he said.

Indeed, the knowledge gained and connections made will augur well for the young industry professionals who will help lead the Commission in the future, such as Engineer I, Stephen La Guerre, who presented an *Algorithm for Distribution Feeder Deployment and Sectionalising*. He was inspired to "continue driving positive change in the energy sector, not only for the benefit of Trinidad and Tobago but also as a model for the Caribbean region and beyond."

The last two days of the conference focused on Effective Procurement. Supplies Manager, Nasilee Smart, as part of a panel discussion on "The Role of Procurement in Powering Transition and Effective Execution in the Caribbean Energy Sector", reinforced the importance of regional collaboration, as regional utility companies, who all face supply chain challenges, aim for a smoother and more effective procurement system.

The CARILEC Engineering and Procurement Conference and Exhibition has proven to be a must attend event for professionals of regional electric utilities seeking to learn and develop, share knowledge and build capacity. It is hoped that the discussions will help to hasten the region's advancement to more sustainable energy systems.



Technical Assistant I, Vivian Narine



Procurement and Supplies Manager, Nasilee Smart

# Procurement revamp with Act proclamation

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act 2015 (PPDPPA) was proclaimed on April 26, 2023 bringing fundamental changes to the way T&TEC does business.

T&TEC had already begun to streamline its procurement process in anticipation of the proclamation, most notably by establishing a Compliance Unit and updating its Procurement Procedures General Instruction A12/2306, to reflect the Act and its associated regulations. The shift to the PPDPPA occurred without a transitional period, resulting in a sharp learning curve for operational staff and, after almost four months, Manager Procurement and Supplies, Nasilee Smart said that most Departments have a handle on the new rules.

At the forefront of the changes is the establishment of a Procurement and Disposal Advisory Committee (PDAC), an Executive Procurement and Award Committee (EPAC) and the replacement of the Board Tenders and Contracts Committee with a Board Procurement

Oversight Committee. The latter will function in a “non-objection” capacity whenever the recommended price for procurement over \$5Million exceeds the budgeted/estimated cost by more than ten percent. The Board also retains its responsibility for approving policies related to procurement.

The PDAC is responsible for reviewing and recommending procurement over \$500,000, and disposals. It comprises the Chief Financial Officer (Chairman), Head Legal (Corporate Secretary), a Technical Expert (depending on the subject matter) and the Secretary (Procurement Officer). Other persons may be co-opted according to the matter being reviewed.

The EPAC reviews and approves the PDAC’s recommendations and will review any amendments to the procurement procedures and make recommendations to the Board. The EPAC comprises the General Manager (Chairman), Chief Operating Officer, Chief Technical Officer, Chief Human Resource Officer, Engineering Controller and Procurement and Supplies

Manager (Secretary).

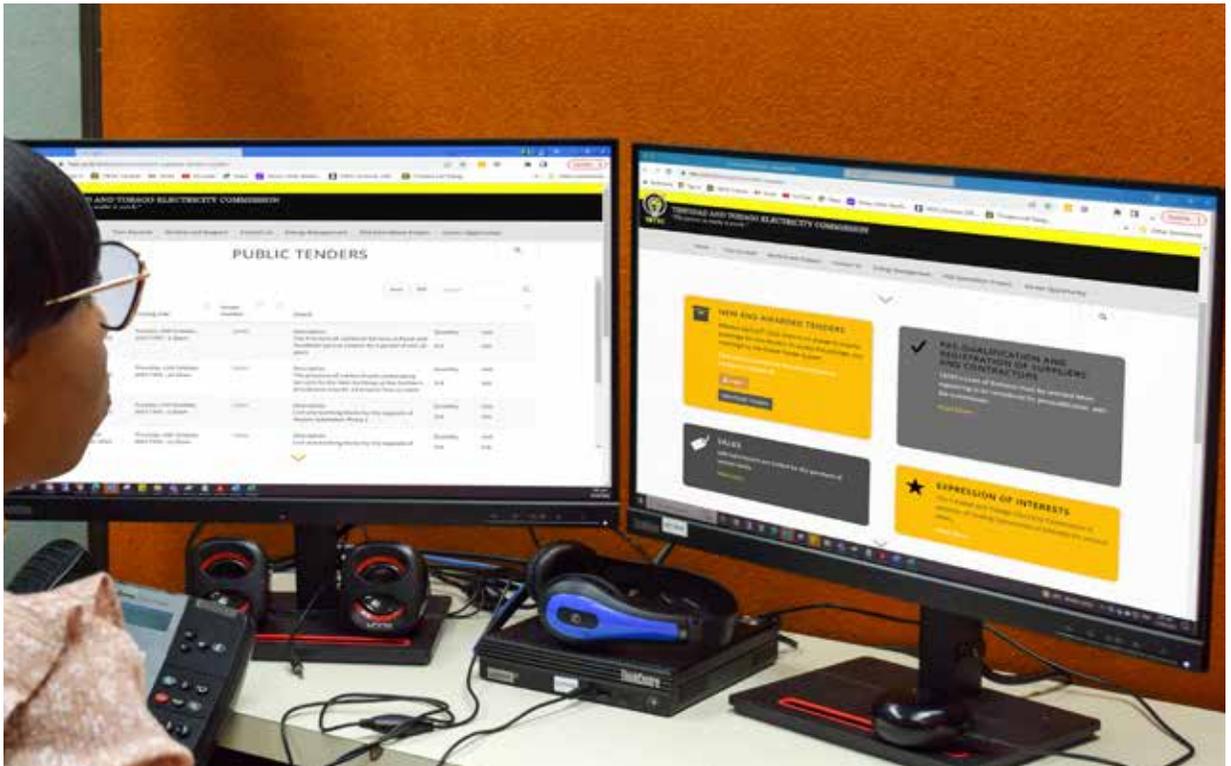
The Compliance Unit will review and advise HODs on procurements between \$100,001 to \$500,000.

New reporting guidelines have also been established to allow the Board and OPR to monitor general compliance with the new procedures.

The Procurement Act also requires all contractors and suppliers desirous of doing business with T&TEC (as with all State bodies) to be registered on the Office of Procurement Regulation’s Procurement Depository to be considered for prequalification and be invited to participate in the procurement process.

## About the Act:

The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Act 2015 speaks to securing value of taxpayers’ money in terms of expenditure, accountability, integrity and transparency. It also encourages development of local contractors and local content. It also seeks sustainable development and procurement.



*An employee reviews some of the new procurement processes on the T&TEC website.*

The Annual Procurement Plan (APP), a publicly available listing of all planned procurement activities for the financial year, was effective September 18 and incorporated into the PeopleSoft Financial system, replacing the first generation excel spread sheets that were used to ensure compliance with the OPR even before the proclamation of the Act.

To ensure compliance with the new Act's spirit of probity, an e-Submission system for Request for Quotes (RFQs) was launched on August 21. The system, developed by Arshad Hosein, Software Developer II, under the supervision of Nichelle Jagdeo, Systems Analyst I, facilitates the secure issuing of RFQs

and receipt of submissions within a pre-established timeframe. This removes human interaction from the most sensitive parts of the RFQ process. As the system is being used by hundreds of employees, evaluators and suppliers, the IS and Procurement and Supplies teams are already planning an upgrade that will incorporate other programmes on the backend to fully digitise the RFQ process.

Additionally, the Tenders system, which is already partially automated, will soon be updated to accept electronic bid submissions, confirmed Ms. Smart. In the interim, in keeping with the Procurement Act, the Commission has eliminated all

tender fees.

Ms. Smart further noted that one key take away is that the new processes require longer timeframes for processing purchases of goods and services, and more strategic planning is necessary to, not only ensure full compliance with the Act, but also improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the procurement process.

Employees are encouraged to consult the General Instruction A12/2307 for further information on the Commission's Procurement Procedures.



Instructors (from l-r, in black) with their charges. Constable Kyle Crichlow, Corporal Rahim John (Head Instructor), Corporal Tyrel Alexander and Corporal Ramesh Kassie.

# Security recruits graduate

There were several damp eyes in the audience as a group of 27 security recruits did a final march past and routine to mark an emotional end to their training. At the grounds of the S.P. Ottley Building, Mt. Hope on June 30, 2023, T&TEC's latest batch of young men and women culminated their training with the moving chant, "One Team, One Sound!" demonstrating unity and passion among the newest members of T&TEC's Security Department.

The display by the newly minted Estate Constables was a fitting end to their four weeks of instruction which included daily early morning physical training sessions in and around the Queen's Park Savannah.



Recruits and instructors take a group photo after a morning training exercise.

Classroom sessions covered a wide range of policing principles and techniques, including Criminal Law, Laws of Evidence and Procedures, Police Duties, Traffic Duties and the Supplemental Police Act Chapter 15:02. The 24 men and 3 women are expected to provide the Department with a tremendous boost, as T&TEC aims to optimise the level

and quality of the service provided by all security personnel. This includes providing manpower for more Rapid Response Unit teams and streamlining

administrative processes like leave and work scheduling. These will in turn reduce the psychological and emotional pressures associated with working multiple shifts and the inflexibility of scheduling annual leave.



T&TEC's General Manager, Curvis Francois, inspects the recruits on graduation day.

Then acting General Manager, Curvis Francois, advised that this recruitment is critical for the operational efficiency of the department charged with protecting staff, customers and plant. He acknowledged the recruits' dedication and positive attitude throughout this process, commending them for being "attentive, appreciative and respectful," as described by their seniors.

Valedictorian Wendell Chapman expressed gratitude to the instructors and senior officers of the Security Department, led by Head, Security Jovan Abraham, for instilling in them "unparalleled" pride and discipline, honesty, respect and commitment. "The Commission did not just place us in a job," he said. "They showed us a path...where we have pushed and will always push to give and do our best."

Senior Superintendent of the TTPS, Allister Guevaro, delivered a feature address commending T&TEC for responding to the changes in the environment by strengthening its human resources and its commitment to training and development which reflects its

dedication to providing high quality service. He encouraged the recruits to prioritise their wellbeing, "seek support when you need it, maintain healthy habits and practice self-care."

Another batch of seven recruits completed training on July 31.

## Illuminations and other upgrades for communities in South and East

Two recreation grounds in the Mayaro region – the San Pedro Recreation Ground and the Mayaro Recreation Ground – were formally commissioned in May 2023 under the Public Lighting Programme. They were followed in August by illuminations in Malabar and Tamana.

Member of the Commission, Clifford Campbell, who hails from Mayaro, was especially pleased to represent T&TEC on his own turf, as he delivered welcome remarks at the Mayaro ground on Sunday May 7. This ceremony was preceded by the commissioning of lights, and photos, at the San Pedro Recreation Ground by a contingent including Mr. Campbell, the Minister of Public Utilities, the Honourable Marvin Gonzales and T&TEC's General Manager, Kelvin Ramsook. Member of Parliament for Mayaro, Rushton Paray, joined the group at Mayaro for the formal ceremony. In his remarks, Mr. Campbell shared with the audience some of T&TEC's efforts to enhance its service in the Mayaro region. These included the upgrade of the previously vandalised solar LED street lighting along a section of the Manzanilla stretch and a capacity upgrade at the Mayaro Substation.

Mr. Campbell also spoke at the Tamana (Four Roads) Recreation Ground on August 5, where he advised of T&TEC's efforts



Minister of Public Utilities, the Hon. Marvin Gonzales, flips the switch to illuminate the Mayaro Recreation Ground. Joining him are then GM Kelvin Ramsook; Advisor to the Minister, Anthony Bartholomew; then Chief Operating Officer, Curvis Francois; Councillor Wendell Perez, MP for Mayaro, Mr. Rushton Paray; and Commissioner Clifford Campbell.



Minister Gonzales is surrounded by residents, community representatives and T&TEC employees and officials to switch on the lights to the San Pedro Recreation Ground.

to reduce outages triggered by vegetation and wildlife, through the expansion of the vegetation management programme and installation of 4,000 metres of covered conductors in the Tamana/Cumuto area.

*continued on page 29*



# Central implements Loop Control Scheme for faster restoration times

On August 4, 2023 the Central Distribution Area implemented its first Loop Control Scheme to improve its restoration times in the event of outages caused by faults on the system.

Engineer I, Stephen Le Guerre, explained that the scheme provides an “automated re-configuration of the electrical system” by isolating the location of the fault and switching circuits to maintain the supply of power to other areas. The first Loop Control Scheme was applied to the TAP/ABEL 12 kV feeder out of the Longdenville 66 kV Substation and the Jerningham Junction 12 kV feeder out of the Charleville 66 kV Substation, “using auto reclosers, namely sectionalising reclosers and a tie point recloser,” he said.

The Scheme has helped to restore power faster, since employees no longer need to physically visit locations to restore supply. Instead, Distribution Central employees now coordinate with employees from the Control Room at Mt. Hope to monitor and operate the scheme. “It also allows the team to more precisely see



*Engineer I, Stephen Le Guerre, explains the operations of the Loop Control Scheme to his Distribution Central colleagues.*

where the problem is and monitor how much power is being used,” said Mr. Le Guerre.

The Area plans to apply the Loop Control Scheme to other 12 kV feeders in the future.

# Lightning detection software to reduce outages

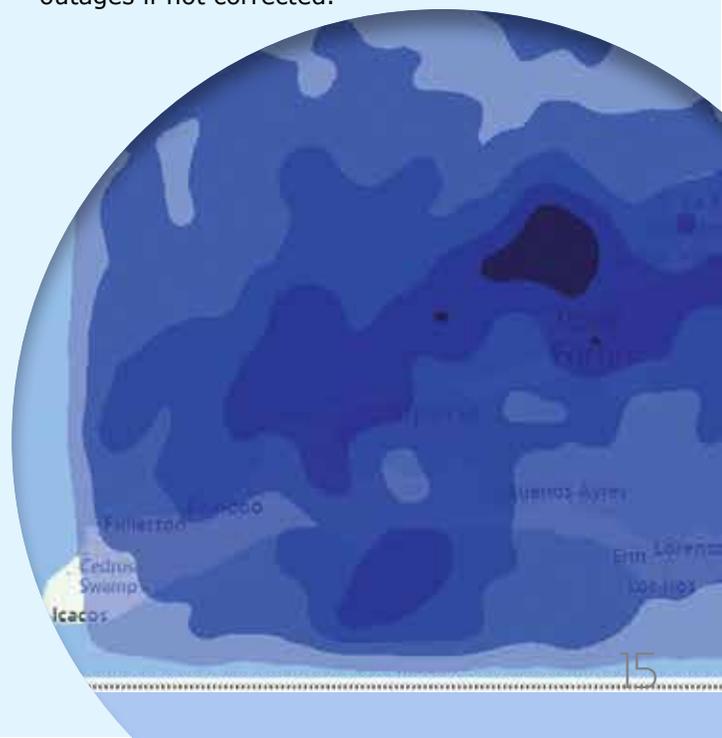
Lightning may not strike the same spot twice, but some areas are historically prone to its destructive forces. With this in mind, T&TEC has been using lightning strike data to see strike activity in relation to the overhead distribution line system in an effort to improve its reliability and safety.

Through lightning detection software newly acquired by the Distribution Planning & Support Department, the Commission is making strides towards reducing outages and creating a more reliable network for customers. The Vaisala Thunderstorm Manager application and Lightning Exporter application have been used since December 2022 to track lightning activity in real time. The software utilises ground and satellite-based lightning detection sensors to monitor real-time lightning strikes with an accuracy of plus or minus one kilometre to the location of a strike.

According to Senior Engineer, Distribution Planning & Support, Viren Ramrekersingh, lightning protection is an important consideration in distribution system design as it is a significant cause of power outages. He noted that the country has experienced an increase in stormy weather, with more frequent occurrences of lightning. In 2020, the Commission recorded 227 outages caused by lightning, 367 in 2021 and in 2022, there were 421 such outages. Improvements to the overhead distribution network were therefore recommended based on the IEEE Standard 1410 Guide for Improving the Lightning Performance of Electric Power Overhead Distribution Lines. "Data for lightning density across the two islands was sought in an effort to make informed, data driven decisions regarding proposed improvements (to the overhead distribution network)," he said.

Lightning density maps for various parts of the country were created by overlaying the historical lightning strike data from 2020-2022 in the Commission's Geographic Information System, and within Microsoft Power BI (Business Intelligence), to correlate the strike locations with the Commission's overhead circuits (see photo). The darker areas represent higher lightning density/more frequent occurrence of lightning, allowing users to see the strike activity in relation to the overhead distribution lines.

The data gathered influences how the Commission acquires and installs additional lightning arrestors or insulators with increased Critical Flashover Voltage Ratings on sections of feeders historically prone to lightning. Apart from improving system reliability and safety, the software is also used to correlate faults on the system with lightning activity, thus improving the accuracy of classifying faults. This allows for timely follow up inspection and corrective works within segments of a feeder impacted by lightning strikes, which will eventually result in outages if not corrected.





# T&TEC reaches historical electricity demand level

T&TEC recorded its highest ever consumer electricity demand of 1410 megawatts (MW) on Wednesday September 13, 2023. The following month, on October 28, Tobago recorded its peak demand of 61.9 MW. The historical levels were reached during a period of unusually high temperatures in Trinidad and Tobago. It also surpasses the average peak demand for the last five years of 1340 MW. Prior to this record-breaking activity, T&TEC's highest peak demand was 1376 MW, achieved in September 2019.

In a media statement, General Manager, Curvis Francois, acknowledged that the high temperatures would have likely caused increased usage of air conditioning units, which typically account for the highest percentage of electricity consumption in households. Coupled with the traditional increased usage during the July/August holidays, "the impact on demand is not unexpected", he said.

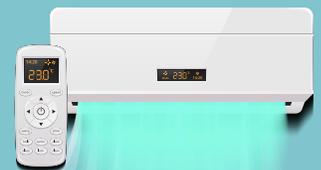
While T&TEC has more than enough installed capacity (2037 MW) to meet the surge in demand for electricity, the increased demand also resulted in increased natural gas usage. T&TEC encouraged consumers to therefore practice conservation, once safe to do so, to help reduce the impact on the availability of natural gas.

The Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF) reported in August that for the three months following, ocean temperatures would remain well above average, and continue to amplify heat stress in the Caribbean.

## Tips to manage your electricity usage even during soaring temperatures

The T&T Meteorological Office has advised that the temperature outlook for the Dry Season of 2024 favours above-normal temperatures over large sections of the country. Consider these tips to reduce the energy demand on the grid and lower your electricity bill:

- 1 Raise the temperature on air conditioning units by a few degrees to minimise the load and use fans to maintain comfort (every degree of cooling increases energy use by six to eight percent).



2

Shield the sun. Close window coverings like blinds and curtains to

shield the sun's rays so that your air conditioning unit does not work harder to keep your home cool.



3

Reduce water heating. Lower the temperature on your tank water heater or turn it off for one or two days; most outdoor water storage tanks will be sufficiently heated by the sun. Avoid using hot water for laundry and doing dishes.



Unplug appliances when not in use to prevent energy wastage. Turning off the ceiling fan and/or lights before leaving a room can help lower your energy usage. Common energy wasters include gaming consoles (e.g. Xbox, PS5), stereo systems, personal computers and desktop printers, and TVs. If these must remain plugged in, ensure they are in energy-saving mode.

4

5

Efficient Lighting. Switch to energy-efficient LEDs, which consume significantly less electricity and generate less heat.



**Every little bit helps, and collective action can make a difference.**

## Red light district in Grande Riviere



Turtle friendly street lights installed in the vicinity of the Grande Riviere beach has created an eco-friendly red-light district for the north coast community. T&TEC teamed up with the Environmental Management Authority, which procured the lights to improve eco-tourism and help protect the popular turtle nesting site.

The first such project in Trinidad and Tobago, it was completed by employees of the Public Lighting Department, who installed 17 LED roadway lighting 31-watt red luminaires, 14 of which replaced existing high pressure sodium HPS street lights. According to the National Sea Turtle Task Force, HPS street lights may deter



*One of the red street lights installed near turtle nesting sites along the Grand Riviere beach.*

or misdirect sea turtles in search of nesting areas, since they are most sensitive to the short-wavelength artificial light provided by the HPS lights. Lights of a lower wattage and longer wavelengths (usually red, orange or amber in colour) are recommended for use near turtle nesting beaches.

The project was completed in June 2023.

# Engineering 101



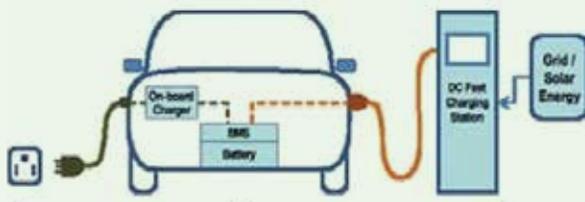
Welcome back to class! We're now at part four of our series, ENG. 101, where we simplify the electricity-related topics that make us non-engineers go "Eh?!"

Thinking about ditching your internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle and purchasing an electric vehicle (EV)? With 146 electric vehicle models on the market that can be legally imported into Trinidad and Tobago, there are many options for those seeking to go the green route.

See below some points to consider before you invest in an EV.

## Charging

### 1. What powers electric car charging stations?



The main difference among EV chargers is whether they provide alternating current (AC) or direct current (DC). AC chargers are the most common (and generally slower) type. This is because the conversion happens inside your vehicle and is limited to the power it can process.

With DC charging, the electricity is converted from AC to DC by the charging station before it reaches your car. This allows it to bypass the car's slower onboard converter and achieve much higher power outputs, as it feeds power 'directly' to the battery. As a result, charging an EV with a DC charger takes mere minutes rather than hours.

### 2. How often should I charge my electric car?

Keeping the vehicle's charge between 20 percent to 80 percent battery capacity and only charging when it is necessary, is best practice. While EV ranges (the distance the

car can travel before it needs to be recharged) vary greatly, the current average range is around 331 km on a full charge.



Taking this into account, you should only need to charge your EV fully approximately once per week. Of course, if you drive more or your car's range is significantly lower, you'll need to plug in more often.

### 3. Where can I charge my electric car?



There are several possibilities to charge your EV. Home charging is the most popular choice, since a key benefit of EVs is waking up in the morning and starting the day with a full charge. Additionally, there are not many commercial charging stations available - currently, there are seven publicly available EV charging stations in Trinidad and Tobago, five of which are commercial.

# Technology (ICE vs EV)

1. An Internal Combustion Engine (ICE), where chemical energy stored in fuel (gasoline or diesel) is translated to mechanical energy via the combustion process, has the advantage of taking a few minutes to fill up. Gas stations are everywhere. On the other hand, EVs take up to eight hours to charge.



2. Performance-wise, EVs are quieter and better at acceleration and speed than ICE vehicles since their engines provide powerful torque and there are no gears to change. However, some may argue that ICE engines have more character, including sound/noise, lag, boost, induction, etc.



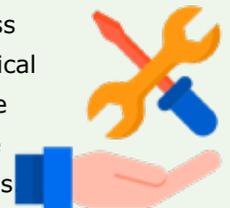
3. Environmental impact. ICE vehicles are a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, far more than electric cars. EVs have zero emissions.



2. **Fuel costs.** EVs do not require expensive fuel, so are much more affordable to run than ICE vehicles. According to the President of the Trinidad and Tobago Automotive Dealers Association, Visham Babwah, \$400 in gas for an ICE vehicle costs about \$10 worth of electricity to charge an EV for the same driving distance.



3. **Maintenance.** An EV engine has only two moving parts, so there is less wear and tear on parts. Typical EV maintenance includes the periodic upkeep of parts like the battery, brakes and tyres. EV batteries may need to be replaced after several years of use, although battery technology is constantly improving, so the lifespan of EV batteries is also increasing. An ICE vehicle has many more moving parts, requiring fluid changes and other regular part replacements.



## Operating costs

To determine which vehicle is more economical in the long term, consider the purchase price, running costs (fuel vs electricity) and ongoing maintenance.

1. **Purchase price.** The upfront cost savings for EVs are negligible. The prices for ICE vehicles seem to increase annually, and EVs also tend to be expensive. However, consumers in T&T can enjoy significant tax exemptions for purchasing some EVs and hybrid vehicles.



### A note on hybrids

Hybrid cars combine an electric motor and an internal combustion engine, so they require maintenance for both systems. Because the electric battery is charged with energy created while driving/braking, there is no need to plug in the vehicle. Hybrid systems use less fuel, therefore reducing overall operating costs.



# 16 celebrated for long and meritorious service

T&TEC's annual awards ceremony on December 8, 2023 once again recognised our longest serving employees for their dedication to their jobs and the organisation. This year, 16 award recipients collectively accumulated approximately 600 years of service to T&TEC, all of them ending their illustrious careers this year with pride. The group included 14 employees with 40 and over years of service – the largest such group in recent history.

Chairman, Romney Thomas, commended the awardees for their perseverance, as several of them entered the Commission at the lowest rung to rise to the top of their careers. Included were a Credit Control Officer, Crew Supervisor and Industrial Relations Manager who started as



Yameen Khan, Distribution East – 30 years



Hayden Ross, Head Office – 30 years



Daniel Arjoon, Distribution East – 40 years



Jeffrey Jones, Distribution East – 40 years



Andrew Macintyre, Distribution North – 40 years



Cornelius Richardson, Distribution East – 40 years



Alvin Ramsingh, Distribution South – 40 years

a Labourer, Apprentice and entry-level Clerk respectively. “[This is] a testament of your passion, and the quiet motivation that helped to keep you focused on our mission to deliver an electricity service that is world class,” said Mr. Thomas, who saluted them for exemplifying the “calibre of workers of which we at the Commission can be proud.”

In his welcome remarks, General Manager, Curvis Francois expressed that while he was happy to see his former colleagues reap the benefits of hard work, he was also saddened to see “the

end of [those] cherished work relationships and the loss of so many years of institutional knowledge.” He also gave invited guests an overview of the year and some insight into T&TEC’s future plans (see Editorial).

Congratulations to all awardees.

*See full list of long serving employees on page 22*



*Ivan Ramnarine, Head Office – 40 years*



*Garth Garraway, Head Office – 40 years*



*Francis Villafana, Distribution North – 40 years*



*Chabindranand Jagdeo, Distribution South – 40 years*



*Christopher Cato, Distribution North – 41 years*



*Edwin Edwards, Penal Training Facility – 41 years*

# Employees with milestone years of service

**T&TEC's financial circumstances did not allow for a gala Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony for 2023, but the General Manager awarded tokens to all employees who qualify for awards with 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service. See the full list of employees attaining milestone years of service below. (see the General Manager's remarks on page 2)**

## 10 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS

### HEAD OFFICE

1.	Natasha Gayadeen	2012-09-25
2.	Melissa Guevara	2013-02-20
3.	Alyssa Lee Son	2012-12-17
4.	Surindra Marajh	2012-11-27
5.	Shevelle Primus	2013-01-21
6.	Anya Ramkay	2012-09-28
7.	Aneela Ratan	2012-12-03
8.	Keyla Williams	2013-08-02

### COMMERCIAL

9.	Amy Boodram	2013-03-18
10.	Joel Dhanpaul	2013-02-04
11.	Leanna Gobinda	2013-01-16
12.	Keston Harradan	2013-02-04
13.	Daniel Khadoo	2013-07-11
14.	Deoraj Samaroo	2012-10-29
15.	Kimberly Jaggernauth	2012-09-04
16.	Jeanelle Forde	2012-12-17
17.	Lori Richardson	2013-08-26
18.	Denzel Springer	2013-05-21
19.	Sylvester Subrattee	2012-11-20

### ENGINEERING CONTROLLER

20.	Deonarine Kissoon	2013-03-15
21.	Bianca Prescod	2013-07-11
22.	Devorah John	2013-01-21

### TECHNICAL DIVISION

23.	Gerard Nina	2012-11-01
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### MOUNT HOPE

24.	Vijay Barbadeen	2013-03-11
25.	Kendall Birjue	2013-07-02
26.	Rhonda Cummins	2013-05-13
27.	Tracy Reid	2012-09-03
28.	Nares Shsepersad	2013-07-02
29.	Lindon Soondar	2013-03-02
30.	Hazelann Valdez	2013-03-11
31.	Kellsha Graham	2013-05-27

### SECURITY

32.	Nell Andrews Jr	2012-10-25
33.	Andrew Anthony	2012-11-16
34.	Kevin Baptiste	2012-11-09
35.	Devon Barlo	2012-10-04
36.	Denvor Bellasario	2012-09-15
37.	Emile Boisselle	2012-11-16
38.	Khristine Gopaul	2013-08-22
39.	Stephen Hall	2012-10-25
40.	Visham Harripersad	2012-10-04
41.	Zana Hypolite	2012-11-16

42.	Dexter Jeffrey	2012-10-12
43.	Aqeel John	2012-10-17
44.	Bevon Lewis	2012-10-11
45.	Anil Maharaj	2012-10-04
46.	La Toya Nesbit	2012-10-04
47.	Aden Sinanan	2012-10-04
48.	Nikisha Thomas-Coodie	2012-10-11

### TRANSMISSION

49.	Kern Dabideen	2013-04-23
50.	Alejandro Gonzalez	2012-11-20
51.	Kevin Heeradhan	2013-02-27
52.	Shawn Hosein	2013-01-29
53.	Jimi Jorsling	2012-12-13
54.	Steffun Joseph	2013-06-25
55.	Brenton Julien	2013-06-25
56.	Salisha Mussio-Seepersad	2012-09-03
57.	Rajesh Neebar	2012-11-16
58.	Andrew Pascall	2013-01-29
59.	Darlian Nehore	2013-02-27
60.	Brian Sookraj	2013-05-28
61.	Keron Hosein	2013-05-21

### SUPPLIES

62.	Adrian Bedasee	2013-05-09
63.	Michael Chong Kiaw	2013-02-18
64.	Kirn Ellies	2012-10-03
65.	Chad Gouvia	2012-10-12
66.	Matthew Henry	2013-07-02
67.	Kemuel Peters	2013-02-18

### HSE DEPARTMENT

68.	Kaleem Mohammed	2013-02-15
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### METERING SERVICES

69.	Brooke Basdeo	2013-03-01
70.	Hansley Baboolal	2012-10-02

### PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT

71.	Shivanand Bhagwat	2013-02-27
72.	Hernarine Harrilal	2013-04-09
73.	Anand Ramdath	2013-02-27

### DISTRIBUTION NORTH

74.	Kaylan Abraham	2013-01-31
75.	Justin Boodoo	2013-06-25
76.	Jared David	2013-06-25
77.	Kimberly Doyle-Biggette	2013-06-05
78.	Ronald Ferguson	2013-06-25
79.	Christopher Julien	2013-06-25
80.	Cindy Lutchman	2012-09-05
81.	Ricardo Mc Bain	2013-03-25
82.	Jovan Mendoza	2013-06-25
83.	Sadeeq Mohammed	2013-06-25
84.	Marlon Mohan	2013-06-25

85.	Sandino Nero	2013-06-25
86.	Robert Nicholls	2013-05-28
87.	Gary Ramdial	2012-12-20
88.	Kriss Gabriel	2013-06-25

**DISTRIBUTION EAST**

89.	Amit Bhagwandeem	2012-10-17
90.	Videsh Dookhoo	2013-05-07
91.	Brent Joseph	2013-08-23
92.	Nadira Khan	2013-01-28
93.	Tazim Khan	2013-06-28
94.	Saffia Mohammed	2013-02-19
95.	Davan Ramgattie	2013-05-07
96.	Joel De Mille	2013-03-21
97.	Keith De Freitas	2013-06-17

**DISTRIBUTION CENTRAL**

98.	Afraz Ali	2013-06-18
99.	Dennis Bangopaul	2013-06-18
100.	Reuel King	2013-06-18
101.	Rajendra Kisto	2013-07-02
102.	Shirvani Mahase	2013-03-11
103.	Naresh Ramasar	2013-07-23
104.	Paul Sewsankar	2013-06-18
105.	Shashi Shah	2013-07-04
106.	Tennessee Sombrah	2013-07-25
107.	Kereem Tesford	2013-07-23
108.	Kwasi Trim	2013-06-18
109.	Juancito Tang Yew	2013-05-06

**DISTRIBUTION SOUTH**

110.	Joel Bailey	2012-10-22
111.	Viney Balchan	2013-05-21
112.	Brenton De Leon	2012-10-25
113.	Darren Deonarine	2013-01-31
114.	Ryan Dwarika	2013-05-21
115.	Christopher Garib	2013-08-22
116.	Cordero Gould	2012-10-25
117.	Roger Gumai	2013-05-21
118.	Lendel Gunness	2013-05-07
119.	Devon Henry	2013-05-07
120.	Shane James	2013-05-21
121.	Farrel Jugmohan	2012-11-27
122.	Shane Kallicharan	2013-07-18
123.	Deepak Kumar	2013-02-25
124.	Sunita Maharaj	2013-07-29
125.	Maurice Mathura	2013-05-07
126.	Sharlon Mohammed	2012-09-03
127.	Anthony Noreiga	2012-10-25
128.	Arrun Ramtahal	2013-05-21
129.	Rajeev Sankar	2012-11-12
130.	Manoj Sirju	2012-10-25
131.	Alicia Sooknanan	2013-08-25
132.	Husani Thomas	2012-10-25

**DISTRIBUTION TOBAGO**

133.	Natoya Murray	2012-10-29
134.	Keyler-Whitlock-St. Hillaire	2012-11-15

**15 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****HEAD OFFICE**

135.	Dalia Anthony	2008-07-02
136.	Indra Budu Dass	2008-08-25
137.	Wendy Gill	2007-11-26
138.	Alicia Kangeloo	2008-01-14
139.	Melissa Lall	2008-01-14
140.	Amit Ramoutar	2007-12-10
141.	Kristin Ramroopsingh	2007-11-27
142.	Gennieve Romany	2007-12-03
143.	Sherece Serrette	2008-05-05

144.	Ricky Sewnath	2008-02-25
145.	Amar Singh	2008-03-03
146.	Valisha Sylvester	2007-10-29
147.	Fahim Mohammed	2007-12-20
148.	Kwame Chikuyu	2008-07-29

**COMMERCIAL**

149.	Taton Alexander	2008-05-01
150.	Crystal Hughes	2007-10-29
151.	Bevon George	2008-01-16

**ENGINEERING CONTROLLER**

152.	Ray Duncan	2008-01-16
153.	Sabrina Jacob	2007-11-15
154.	Donna Beharry	2007-09-17
155.	Donna Michelle Mc Donald-Forgenie	2008-05-01

**TECHNICAL DIVISION**

156.	Farrell Christopher	2008-01-14
157.	Jonathan Hinkson	2007-10-02

**MOUNT HOPE**

158.	Kevin Atwaroo	2008-01-03
159.	Amelia Bagaloo-Villafana	2008-07-01
160.	Kirk Christo	2008-01-03
161.	Sanjeev Harrinarine	2008-01-03
162.	Kurt Narine	2008-01-03
163.	Anil Joseph	2008-01-03
164.	Natasha Ransome-Felix	2008-08-14
165.	Vinood Singh	2008-01-03
166.	Susan Sookdeo	2008-01-03
167.	Kibwe Trim	2008-05-04
168.	Yogindra Arjoonsingh	2008-01-03

**TRANSMISSION**

169.	Amos Lynch	2008-07-01
170.	Suresh Rampersad	2008-07-01
171.	Nekesa Sobers-Bullard	2008-05-28
172.	Yogaishwar Panchu	2008-03-03
173.	Ravindra Laltoo	2007-10-01

**SUPPLIES**

174.	Marisa Dickerson	2008-06-16
175.	Densil Gomez	2008-06-16

**METERING SERVICES**

176.	Richard Awai	2008-01-15
177.	Ravindra Bhaggan	2008-05-05
178.	Krishna Nandlal	2008-01-03
179.	Michael Ramesar	2007-10-01
180.	Nicole Alfred-Joefeld	2008-02-06

**PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT**

181.	Jerome Ramasar	2008-01-03
182.	Walter Kattick	2008-07-03

**HSE DEPARTMENT**

183.	Alyssa Homer-Harrison	2007-11-14
184.	Nakeisha Noel	2007-11-15
185.	Colette Daly	2008-06-16
186.	Chrystal Joseph	2008-01-03

**DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

187.	Tyran Bickram	2007-09-27
188.	Keith Burke	2008-01-03
189.	Julien Huggins	2007-09-06
190.	Vidyanand Kanhai	2008-07-29
191.	Imran Mohammed	2008-07-29
192.	Candace Barker	2008-08-25
193.	Deo Ramlal	2007-11-02
194.	Rohan Gangadeen	2007-10-18

**DISTRIBUTION EAST**

195. Charles Bain	2008-07-29
196. Ryan Boodoo	2008-07-31
197. Charles Edwards	2008-05-15
198. Kassie Harripersad	2008-07-29
199. Darren Lashley	2008-07-31
200. Stephen Lee Ying	2008-05-15
201. Junior Lewis	2008-05-23
202. Shawn Phillip	2008-08-04
203. Zahir Rahim	2008-01-03
204. Garvey Mc Carthy	2008-04-17
205. Anjay Balkaran	2008-08-12
206. Ishwar Balgobin	2008-07-01

**DISTRIBUTION CENTRAL**

207. Terrance Ali	2008-08-12
208. Navin Beharry	2007-10-22
209. Vitas Butkoon	2008-04-28
210. Tulsi Dookoo	2008-04-15
211. Sherwin Steve Francis	2008-02-28
212. Shastri Kissoon	2008-08-21
213. Trevor Rajkumar	2007-09-25
214. Coleen Paul	2008-08-25
215. Terrance Moore	2008-07-29

**DISTRIBUTION SOUTH**

216. Leon Abdullah	2008-07-29
217. Ria Ali	2008-01-11
218. Joel Badrie	2008-07-29
219. Sheldon Fabien	2008-01-31
220. Darius Hudson	2007-12-27
221. Maurice Jackson	2008-02-21
222. Alana Lee Ling-Bholai	2007-12-03
223. Sideek Mohammed	2007-09-06
224. Kern Nibbs	2008-05-29
225. Dion Ramsundarsingh	2008-05-01
226. Keron Roberts	2008-01-03
227. Kurt Toby	2008-02-14
228. Shivanand Persad	2008-07-23

**DISTRIBUTION TOBAGO**

229. Bianna Brebnoor	2008-03-03
230. Kurlan Hackett	2008-01-03
231. Michael John	2008-04-01
232. Akil Thomas	2008-04-01
233. Omilia Jarrott	2008-03-17

**20 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****HEAD OFFICE**

234. Sonia Alkhal	2003-03-19
235. Julia Brereton-Sammy	2002-09-02
236. Frances Hosein	2003-05-05
237. Monique Lewis	2002-11-18
238. Nigel Marquez	2002-10-30
239. Marlon Sinclair	2003-03-17
240. Rhonda Mohammed	2003-01-06
241. Ann-Marie Thompson	2003-06-16
242. Rhonda Pierre-Lewis	2002-09-16

**COMMERCIAL**

243. Michela Alexander	2002-11-18
244. Natasha G. George-Bompart	2003-04-28
245. Sunita Naipaul Singh	2003-07-09
246. Venise Parkinson	2003-06-23
247. Janelle Bennette-Wharton	2003-03-20
248. Jaime Bhual	2003-06-16
249. Tricia Dhani	2003-08-04
250. Lisa Felix	2003-07-01
251. Charlene Garcia	2003-08-18

252. Peter Lewis	2002-10-31
253. Christian Singh	2003-06-16
254. Kersha Williams	2003-03-20
255. Keisha Benoit-Lewis	2003-07-17
256. Sharon Dubar-Labadie	2003-04-22
257. Chilendra Ramdath	2003-03-10
258. Rackel Rampersadsingh	2003-06-03
259. Marisa Sirju	2003-05-22
260. Heidi Sumair	2003-06-03
261. Vimla Loutan	2002-11-01
262. Kerlene Philbert-Williams	2002-10-14

**ENGINEERING CONTROLLER**

263. Nigel Ochasingh	2002-11-18
264. Anthony Ramdath	2003-02-03

**MOUNT HOPE**

265. Marvin Boochoon	2003-07-14
266. Eric Daniel	2003-03-13
267. Alvin Deosaran	2003-06-02
268. Hemant Dharamdass	2003-01-20
269. Akida France	2003-08-14
270. Kerwin Jones	2003-03-13
271. Ingrid Mc Clatchie-Henry	2002-09-03
272. Anand Ramjit	2003-07-14
273. Barry Subar	2003-05-05
274. Donna Sylvester-Charles	2002-09-02
275. Kevin David	2003-07-15

**TRANSMISSION**

276. Deleshia George	2003-05-15
277. Allison Oliver	2003-02-17
278. Vijai Ramnanansingh	2003-07-14

**SUPPLIES**

279. Troy Renn	2003-07-10
280. Margaret Campo-James	2002-09-03

**HSE DEPARTMENT**

281. Shiria Ali	2003-05-12
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**DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

282. Sheldon Beam	2003-03-06
283. Roger James	2003-04-03
284. Barry Martin	2003-05-05
285. Wayne Pamphille	2003-05-01
286. Derrick Johnson	2003-01-06
287. Dale Ross	2002-11-11

**DISTRIBUTION EAST**

288. Denise Adams	2003-05-05
289. Adolph Andrews	2003-06-30
290. Chaitram C. D. Pollard	2003-07-08
291. Hugh Springer	2003-06-12
292. Amir Mohammed	2003-07-14

**DISTRIBUTION CENTRAL**

293. Ainsley Jackman	2002-11-01
294. Simone St. Cyr	2002-12-09

**DISTRIBUTION SOUTH**

295. Damian Amos	2002-09-12
296. Calvin Bhajan	2002-11-07
297. Louis Castillo	2003-02-27
298. Ralph Greaves	2003-07-31
299. Nigel Jagdeosingh	2002-10-31
300. Stacey-Ann Lucas-Esau	2002-11-01
301. Daren Mohammed	2002-11-07
302. Terrance Pitelal	2003-07-31
303. Nicky Ramdan	2003-07-31
304. Mukesh Ramsahai	2002-09-12

305. Suresh Singh	2003-08-28
306. Clay Thompson	2003-07-03
307. Aaron Wallace	2003-03-05
308. Keisha Williams	2002-09-02

**DISTRIBUTION TOBAGO**

309. Ruthven Benjamin	2003-01-16
310. Anthony Jack	2002-10-01
311. Sean Sheppard	2002-10-01
312. Keith Sumadh Jr.	2002-10-01

**25 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****HEAD OFFICE**

313. Octavia Fletcher-Forde	1998-07-20
314. Kurt Lopez	1997-09-02

**COMMERCIAL**

315. Rodney Latchman	1998-07-13
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**MOUNT HOPE**

316. Devecar Basdeo	1998-07-27
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**TRANSMISSION**

317. Michelle Cooper	1998-03-09
318. Jill Rosemond Rivas	1998-04-14

**HSE DEPARTMENT**

319. Hazel Mohan-George	1998-06-29
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**DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

320. Daymian Stewart	1998-04-20
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**DISTRIBUTION SOUTH**

321. Rickey Choon	1998-01-01
322. Sunil Deosaran	1998-06-13

**DISTRIBUTION TOBAGO**

323. Hendrick Alexander	1997-09-02
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**30 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****HEAD OFFICE**

324. Shelly-Ann Maharaj	1993-06-23
325. Arlene Maynard	1993-05-07
326. Shaughn Pryce	1993-06-28
327. Nigel Charles	1993-05-03

**COMMERCIAL**

328. Deryck Graham	1992-11-10
329. Marc Nunes	1992-10-27
330. Colleen Wallace	1993-04-01
331. Arthur Bobb	1993-03-02

**MOUNT HOPE**

332. Andy Charles	1992-11-23
333. Ramnath Jeboudsingh	1993-05-05
334. Wendy Mora-Richards	1993-04-21
335. Earl Sankar	1992-11-12

**TRANSMISSION**

336. Geoffrey Baptiste	1992-12-01
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**METERING DEPARTMENT**

337. Joel Kallicharan	1993-05-17
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**PUBLIC LIGHTING DEPARTMENT**

338. Kenson Nero	1992-12-01
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<b>DISTRIBUTION NORTH</b>	
339. Gary Gomez	1993-01-07

<b>DISTRIBUTION EAST</b>	
340. Baldatt Mowlah	1992-11-16

<b>DISTRIBUTION CENTRAL</b>	
341. Curt Pope	1993-06-03

<b>DISTRIBUTION SOUTH</b>	
342. Jerome Taitt	1992-09-17

<b>DISTRIBUTION TOBAGO</b>	
343. Garth Abraham	1993-01-21
344. Paul Dempster	1993-01-21
345. Michael Edwards	1993-01-21
346. Samuel Edwards	1993-01-21
347. Cossyle James-Abraham	1993-07-12

**35 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****HEAD OFFICE**

348. Charmaine Baptiste-Smith	1988-02-17
349. Arlene Maxime	1988-05-09
350. Lisa Mc Nicholls Sargeant	1988-01-25

**COMMERCIAL**

351. Gunesh Mahabir	1988-05-09
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**SECURITY**

352. Ashmead Khan	1987-10-15
353. Seepersad Roopnarine	1987-11-12

**SUPPLIES**

354. Ashram Sitram	1988-05-02
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**DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

355. Floyd Bartlett	1988-01-14
356. Sharon Foster	1988-02-22
357. Lisa Cazoe	1988-05-09

**DISTRIBUTION EAST**

358. Preston Nixon	1988-02-04
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**40 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****COMMERCIAL**

359. Ivan Ramnarine	1982-10-21
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**TRANSMISSION**

360. Joel Hyacenth	1982-09-05
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**DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

361. Joanne Clement-Hodge	1982-11-08
362. Mahadev Panday	1982-09-05

**DISTRIBUTION EAST**

363. Cornelius Richardson	1982-12-02
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**DISTRIBUTION SOUTH**

364. Chabindranand Jagdeo	1982-09-05
365. Alvin Ramsingh	1982-09-05

**41 YEAR LONG SERVICE AWARDS****DISTRIBUTION NORTH**

366. Christopher Cato	1977-02-21
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**HEAD OFFICE**

367. Edwin Edwards	1982-09-05
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# Emancipation

Employees came to work dressed in the spirit of Emancipation to mark the auspicious holiday observed on August 1. See some of the colourful outfits in the photos below:



*Public Lighting Department*



*Distribution Central*



*General Manager, Curvis Francois*



*Head Office (composite photo)*



*Distribution North*



*Distribution Tobago*

## Central Heroes

Employees from one of Distribution Central's tree trimming crews were recognised by citizens for going beyond the call of duty during a tragic fire in Cunupia in October, 2023. Risking their lives, they entered a burning house to alert and rescue its residents, including a baby. The baby unfortunately did not survive its injuries, but these employees were hailed as heroes for their valiant rescue efforts. Well done, guys! From left to right Kern Charles, Arion Mondasir, Rakesh Mohammed and Quami Knight.



## Diwali

Employees of Distribution Central (top) and Mt. Hope (below) were beautifully dressed at work in their East Indian regalia to commemorate the Diwali holiday observed on November 12.



# Rest in perfect peace



The T&TEC Family mourns the recent passing of four of our colleagues, Terrance Haynes, Keyon Jack, Nandi Senghor and Jeremiah Goddard.

Terrance Haynes was a Chainman of Distribution East, who served the Commission for 36 years. He died in May and was 56 years old.

Mr. Haynes, regarded by his colleagues as "helpful and polite", started as a Temporary Labourer at Distribution East in March 1986 and later that year became permanently employed as a Line Clearer. In 1991 he was promoted to Climber/Line Clearer, then finally to his last position, Chainman, in 2011.

Surveying Assistant, Adolph Andrews, who last Supervised Mr. Haynes, described "Cox", as he was called, as a team

player. "He was a real T&TEC guy. I have the greatest respect for employees like him, who hold up the Commission," he said. He added that the staff of the Utilisation Department will miss seeing him sitting in his usual spot, outside the office on a concrete block, in his trademark slouch.



Keyon Jack was a Telecom Operator of Distribution South, who died on July 25 after ailing for some time. He was 39 years old.

Mr. Jack joined the Commission in July 2007 as a Temporary Clerk and spent his entire career at Distribution South. He became permanently employed as a Clerk III in May 2010 and was promoted

in July that year to his last position of Telecom Operator.

Area Manager, Ashmeed Ali said that he was shocked to learn about the passing of "a young, vibrant and

conscientious employee." Mr. Jack was also an avid artist and Mr. Ali recalled that he won first place in the Area's Employee Engagement activity in February, 2022. "During his victory speech, Keyon reflected on the "T&TEC family" of years ago...as he uttered, "the camaraderie was a welcome change... it's a new normal we could get used to," said Mr. Ali.

Close friend of Mr. Jack, Clerk II, Bernel Rennie, described Keyon as a straightforward person, an employee with a strong work ethic and family oriented. He remembers him being the first friend he made upon joining T&TEC.

Nandi Senghor, a 35-year-old Labourer of Distribution North, died on August 12 in a vehicular accident.

Mr. Senghor joined T&TEC in July 2014 as a Temporary Clerk in the Accounts Department. He was transferred to PLD as a Temporary Labourer in 2017 and, three months later, to Distribution North. He was made permanent in March 2021.

On his colleagues, Mr. Senghor left an indelible impression. Supervisor, Field Controller Barry Martin, described him

as one of the most determined persons that he ever met, "he was strong willed and would always end his conversions with 'have a blessed one'," he said. Similarly, Assistant Area Manager, Kizzy Ramdhanie said that he displayed "quiet strength,



self-confidence and [an] ability to maintain a pleasant disposition regardless of the situation". She said that he would definitely be missed by the Northern Area Family. Labourer Jeremiah Goddard,

with whom he shared a close connection, called him a "bona fide friend" and another friend, Helper Cupid Parsons referred to Mr. Senghor as a warrior in life and an inspiration to all.



Distribution North Labourer, Jeremiah Goddard, died on August 20, just one day after the funeral of his colleague and close friend, Nandi Senghor. Mr. Goddard was 34 years old and worked at T&TEC for 11 years.

He joined the Distribution

Division in March 2010 as a temporary Labourer, held a stint in the Administration Division (now Operations) at Head Office and, after becoming permanent in August 2012, was transferred to Distribution North, where he remained until his passing.

Mr. Goddard was a long-standing member of the Northern Area Sports Club and Captain of its football team. President of the NASC, Richard De Leon, said his passing hit the team really hard. "I cannot think of any sports club activity where Jerry was not a participator...he was a very active member," he said.

Assistant Area Manager, Kizzy Ramdhanie described Mr. Goddard as a "valued member of the Northern Area family" who will be greatly missed. "He had a strong presence and was certainly a 'live wire' who approached most issues with great passion and enthusiasm," she said.

The T&TEC Family joins with the families and colleagues of Terrance Haynes, Keon Jack, Nandi Senghor and Jeremiah Goddard, in mourning their passing.

May they rest in peace.

## Illuminations and other upgrades for communities in South and East

*continued from page 13*

Upgrade work was also ongoing in the Malabar area. Deputy Chairman, Anthony Peyson, who delivered remarks at the ceremony to commission lights to the Croton/Gardenia Recreation Ground on August 6, spoke of routine maintenance and a two-year project to upgrade the Five Rivers Sub Station from 33,000 volts (33 kV) to 66,000 volts (66 kV). This project is expected to be completed in

2024 and will increase capacity and flexibility to seamlessly transfer loads to other areas without disrupting the supply to Arouca and environs.

After the formalities at each ground, the Minister and other officials switched on the new lights, and conversed with residents and the sporting groups who will be utilising the lights.

# Employee update

Appointments, Promotions, Re-designations and Departures

## APPOINTMENT

NAME	POSITION	AREA/DEPARTMENT
Amanda Mendonca	Engineer I	Distribution Central
Candice Chariandy	Internal Auditor	Internal Audit
Candice Attong	Software Developer II	Information Systems

## PROMOTIONS

NAME	POSITION	AREA/DEPARTMENT
Aavishkah Rampersad	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Adesh Sinanan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Adesh Singh	Met & Rel Tech II – In-Train	Protection & SCADA
Adrian Jack	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Tobago
Adrian Warren	Engineer I	Distribution Tobago
Adwin Burrell	Senior Engineer	Communications
Afraz Ali	Linesman 'A' (Hotline)	Distribution Central
Ajay Sinanan	Snr. Instructor	Human Resources Manager
Alicia Kangaloo	Systems Analyst III	Information Systems
Alisa Alexander	Senior Clerk	Commercial
Allan Beharry	Assistant Cable Supervisor	Distribution North
Allan Gunpat	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Alyssa Lee Son	Senior Clerk	Chief Accountant
Amanda Zama	HR Officer-in-Training	Human Resources
Amit Bhagwandeem	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Amrisha Maywalal	Crew Supervisor	Transmission Maintenance
Ancil Cuthbert	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution North
Andre Mohammed	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Andrew Glasgow	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution South
Aneela Ratan	Senior Clerk	Pensions & Investments
Anil Bhaggan	Senior Clerk	Distribution South
Amit Ramoutar	HR Officer-in-Training	Human Resources
Anita Latchman	Senior Accountant	Finance Division
Annisa Alexander	Stenotypist	Chief Accountant
Ansil Bhagan	Meter Inspector	Commercial
Anthony Cooper	Climber/Line Clearer	Distribution North
Anthony David	Communications Technician IV	Communications
Anthony Mc Letchie	Climber/Line Clearer	Distribution North
Anthony Timothy	Ganger (Distribution)	Distribution North
Anton Joseph	Senior Engineer	Protection & SCADA
Arlene Seales-King	Admin. Asst. II	Finance Division
Arshad Hosein	Software Developer II	Information Systems
Arthurton George	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Tobago
Ashwan Bissoondial	Linesman 'A'	Distribution Central
Avinash Samlal	Linesman 'A'	Distribution Central
Avish Johnsingh	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution South
Avry Mitchell	Meter & Relay Technician II	Protection & SCADA
Bainet Hamlet	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Tobago
Bhim Balliram	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Brandon Harribhajan	Crew Supervisor	Distribution East
Brandon Jagdeo	Telecom Operator	Distribution South
Brandon Khan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Brendon Kennedy	Met & Rel Tech II – In-Train	Protection & SCADA
Brent Joseph	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Brian Bachoo	Senior Commercial Officer	Commercial
Camille Dindial	Risk Management Assistant I	Risk Management
Candice Shortte	Clerk Typist	Human Resources
Carl Manswell	Mechanic Foreman	Distribution Tobago
Cebastian Bailey	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South

# Employee update

## Appointments, Promotions, Re-designations and Departures

Cecil Chambers	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Chad Gouvia	Linesman 'C'	Distribution East
Charmaine Baptiste-Smith	Senior HR Officer	Human Resources
Christon Dindial	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution Central
Christopher Philip	Crew Supervisor	Distribution South
Christopher-Dane Awai	Telecom Operator	Distribution Central
Clint Emmanuel	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Clyde Khan	Control Operator	System Control & Gen Interface
Colin Sylvan	Substation Supervisor	Distribution Tobago
Cordero Gould	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Crystal Ganase	Senior Clerk	Chief Accountant
Curtis Edwards	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Curtis Louis	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Tobago
Dale Hercules	Meter & Relay Technician II	Protection & SCADA
Dale Patrice	Clerk I	Commercial
Daniel Khadoo	Meter Inspector	Commercial
Darendra Ramdatt	Electrician 'A'	Distribution South
Darnell Desrameaux	Electrician 'C'	Distribution South
Darrell Chautilal	Senior Engineer	Transmission Maintenance
Darren Berahzer	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution North
Darren Lashley	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution East
Darriel Mungal	Engineer I	Distribution South
Darryl Ganga	Linesman 'A' (Hotline)	Distribution Central
Davan Deoraj	Engineer I	Engineering Controller
David Guillen	Mechanic 'B'	Distribution Tobago
Deena Roopan	Senior Clerk	Internal Audit
Delano Prevatt	Estate Corporal	Security – Head Office
Deleshia George	Technical Assistant II	Transmission Maintenance
Denzel Springer	Meter Inspector	Commercial
Deochand Chanan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Deolal Gangabissoon	Welder 'B'	Supplies
Dereck Edwards	Electrician 'C'	Distribution East
Desil Lewis	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Devon Rooplal	Climber/Line Clearer	Distribution North
Dexter Adams	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Dexter Delancy	Assistant Warehouse Supervisor	Cove Power Station
Diana Maraj	Stenotypist	Secretarial
Dominique Doyle	Senior Clerk	Chief Accountant
Donny Bedase	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Earnest Sargeant	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution Central
Eric Williams	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Fareed Mohammed	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Fergus Cudjoe	Crew Supervisor	Distribution North
Gaiatree Dilraj-Bobb	System Analyst III	Information Systems
Garvey Mc Carthy	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Greg Paul	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution East
Hasan Khan	Engineer I	Engineering Controller
Hazel Mohan-George	H.S.E Co-ordinator I	Health, Safety & Environment
Hazelann Valdez	Senior Clerk	Secretarial
Hollis Carrington	Crew Supervisor	Distribution East
Inshan Mohammed	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Janel Beharry	Estate Corporal	Security – Distribution North
Jason Wright-Missette	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Jean-Paul Inniss	Electrician 'A'	Distribution North
Jelani Holder	Electrician 'C'	Distribution Tobago
Jeron Campbell	Instructor I	Human Resources
Jesse Cardinez	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Jhwel Thompson	Subsection Leader	Protection & SCADA
Joanne Corneille-Mugabe	Procurement Officer	Supplies

*continued...*

Jody Phillip	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Joel De Mille	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Junior Nelson	Instructor I	Human Resources
Kaleem Mohammed	H.S.E. Inspector	Health, Safety & Environment
Kearn Noel	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Keilon Edwards	Electrician 'A'	Distribution Tobago
Keith Gill	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Kenneth Taylor	Climber/Line Clearer	Distribution North
Keon Mc Neil	Welder 'B'	Distribution South
Kerlan Parris	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Kern Blake	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Tobago
Keron Wilson	Linesman 'B'	Distribution East
Kerron Hackshaw	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution East
Keston Irish	Stationery Room Attendant	Supplies
Kevin Bissoondath	Estate Corporal	Security – Distribution North
Kevin Briceno	Crew Supervisor	Distribution East
Kevin Duntin	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Kevin Ramsook	Tech Ast I	Transmission Maintenance
Khadja Antoine	HR Officer-in-Training	Human Resources
Khalid Mohammed	Met & Rel Tech II –In-Train	Protection & SCADA
Kiran Sahadeo	Linesman 'B'	Distribution Central
Kirt Thomas	Consumers Investigator	Distribution North
Kodi Romero	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Kris Balkaransingh	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Kriss Gabriel	Maintenance Technician III	Distribution North
Kyle Gomez	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution North
Laurel Bhairosingh-Harrinarine	Engineer I	Business Development & Admin.
Lauren John	Estate Corporal	Security – Distribution East
Lavon Russell	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution North
Leigh-Ann Davis	Senior Clerk	Chief Accountant
Lindon Soondar	Communications Technician II	Communications
Luis Maitland	Meter & Relay Technician I	Protection & SCADA
Makesi Corbin	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Tobago
Maquada Serries	Stenotypist	Technical Division
Marcus Ballantyne	Linesman 'B'	Distribution East
Markus Alleyne	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Marlon Rampersad	Welder 'A'	Distribution South
Marlon Roopansingh	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Martin Martinez	Dr – Lr. Ldr./Lift Comb.	Distribution North
Matthew Peters	Linesman 'B'	Distribution Central
Maurice Wright	Climber/Line Clearer	Distribution North
Michael Brereton	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution Central
Michael Popplewell	Technical Assistant I	Distribution North
Michael Toby	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Tobago
Miguel Pompey	Ganger (Distribution)	Distribution North
Mordecai La Cario	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Mukesh Ramsahai	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Mychal Williams	Electrician 'C'	Distribution Tobago
Naresh Jeewan	Field Controller	Distribution South
Nathaniel Frederick	Electrician 'C'	Distribution Tobago
Navin Dabiesingh	Systems Administrator I	Information Systems
Navindra Kissoon	Tech Ast I	Transm Devel & Eng Services
Neil Keizer	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Central
Nelton Lewis	Technical Assistant II	Cove Power Station
Nickyle Graham	Surveying Assistant	Distribution North
Nicole Alexander	Insurance Assistant I	Risk Management
Nigel Jardine	Dr – Lr. Ldr./Lft Comb.	Distribution East
Nigel Licourish	Maintenance Technician II	Distribution South
Nixon Prescod	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution East
Nkosi Ifill	Jointer 'B'	Distribution North
Nsilo John	Systems Assistant	Supplies
Omilton John	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Tobago
Paul Sewsankar	Electrician 'A'	Distribution Central
Raesen Williams	Linesman 'B'	Distribution Central
Rakesh Bharatsingh	Drawing Office Supv.	Engineering Controller
Rawlston Daniel	Jointer 'B'	Distribution North
Rayaz Mohamed	Meter & Relay Technician I	Protection & SCADA
Rendell Seenath	Linesman 'A'	Distribution Central
Rene Hanumansingh	Technical Assistant II	Transm Devel & Eng Services

Reynold Harper	Driver – Class 5 Vehicle	Distribution East
Rhonda Villaroel	Draughtsman II	Distribution East
Ricardo Soverall	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Rishi Ramroosingh	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Robert Lucas	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Robin Pustam	Crew Supervisor	Distribution South
Roger Ghisyawan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Rohit Mungroo	Linesman 'B'	Distribution Central
Ronnie Moonilal	Customer Services Officer	Commercial
Roshan Ramcharan	Stores Assistant	Supplies
Ryan Naipaul	Linesman 'B'	Distribution East
Salisha Mussio-Seepersad	Technical Assistant II	Transm Devel & Eng Services
Samuel Ramgewan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Sean Francis	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Sean Mohan	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Setty Ramesar	Subsection Leader	Distribution South
Shane Harry	Software Developer I	Information Systems
Shane Pedro	Accounting Assistant	Pensions & Investments
Sharon Birch	Area Administrative Officer	Supplies
Shashi Shah	Linesman 'B'	Distribution Central
Sherman Ramsaran	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Shevon Des Vignes	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Shiva R. Dukharan	Dr – Pole Hole Borer Comb.	Distribution East
Shiva Sitahal	Jointer 'B'	Distribution North
Sian Loubon	Telecom Operator	Distribution South
Stacy Richards	Engineer I	Metering Services
Stefan Boodoosingh	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Stephen Sankar	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Public Lighting
Stephon Mainingot	Linesman 'A'	Distribution Central
Sunil Mahangroo	Crew Supervisor	Distribution South
Sunil Singh	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution South
Tasha Bernard	Stenotypist	Corporate Secretary
Terrance Jaikaran	Communications Technician II	Communications
Travis Harrilal	Electrician 'A'	Distribution North
Trevor Benjamin	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East
Trevorn Felix	Engineer I	Engineering Controller
Trinell Solomon	Sup – Tobago Training Facility	Human Resources
Udesh Seepersadsingh	Quality Control Officer	Supplies
Vanessa Peters	Stenotypist	Human Resources
Vedash Seegobin	Senior Engineer	Transm Devel & Eng Services
Verindra Kalpoo	Substation Supervisor	Distribution North
Wayne Dwarmpaul	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Wendel Boodhai	Network Technician II	Information Systems
Yaseen Rahaman	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution South
Yogaishwar Panchu	Tech Ast I	Transmission Maintenance
Yohance Brown	Linesman 'A'	Distribution East

## DEPARTURES

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>AREA/DEPARTMENT</b>
Ainsley Jackman	Field Controller	Distribution Central
Albert Nicholson	Stores Attendant	Supplies
Allison Maharaj	Stenotypist	Corporate Secretary
Alvin Ramsingh	Maintenance Technician I	Distribution North
Amresh Singh	Draughtsman II	Transmission Maintenance
Ann-Marie Forbes-Richardson	Accounting Assistant	Chief Accountant
Anthony Crichlow	Maintenance Technician II	Dist Tobago
Ashram Sitram	Warehouse Supervisor I	Supplies
Barry Nunes	Maintenance Technician II	Distribution North
Bertrum Ramlal	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution East
Brandon Bryce	Helper	Public Lighting
Carlton Ellis	Estate Corporal	Security – Distribution East
Carol Ashby-Johnson	Receptionist	Commercial
Chantal Hospedales	Senior Legal Officer	Corporate Secretary
Christopher Cato	Crew Supervisor	Distribution North
Christopher Guevara	Estate Constable	Security – Distribution Central
Christopher Hylegar	HR Specialist III	Human Resources
Clyde Melville	Meter Reader	Commercial

Colin Harold	Drawing Office Supervisor.	Engineering Controller
Collin Blackman	Crew Supervisor	Distribution East
Craig Bachoo	Helper	Commercial
Crys Sanichar	Clerk II	Metering Services
Curt Pope	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Central
Daniel Arjoon	Maintenance Technician II	Distribution East
Dave Cowan	Cleaner	Cove Power Station
Devin Mc Vorrان	Linesman 'A' (Hotline)	Distribution North
Eastern Garib	Snr. Supervisor Trans. & Dist.	Distribution South
Edward Charles	Clerk II	Commercial
Edwin Edwards	Supv – Penal Training Facility	Human Resources
Eshwar Seejor	Dispatcher	Supplies
Francis Villafana	Maintenance Technician I	Distribution North
Gerard Nina	Head of Projects – Dist.	Technical Division
Glendon Roberts	Consumer Investigator	Distribution North
Hayden Homeward	Linesman 'A'	Distribution North
Hayden Ross	Systems Analyst I	Information Systems
Hubert Daniel	Estate Corporal	Security – Distribution North
Jacqueline Branker-Cheesman	Chief Human Resources Officer	Human Resources Division
James Castillo	Systems Administrator I	Information Systems
Jeffery Jones	Snr. Supervisor Trans. & Dist.	Distribution East
Jeremy Kailah	Clerk II	Distribution Central
Joanne Clement-Hodge	Subsection Leader	Commercial
Joell Barclay	Telecom Operator	Distribution Central
Karl Woods	Infor. Tech Support Supv (Trv)	Information Systems
Kelvin Ramsook	General Manager	General Manager
Kenel Seucharan	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution Central
Kenrick Nigel Bobb	Engineering Controller	Engineering Controller
Keon Quashie	Climber/ Line Clearer	Distribution Tobago
Kevin Atwaroo	Technical Assistant I	System Control & Gen Interface
Kevin Mahabir	Meter & Relay Technician III	Metering Services
Khemrah Harrinarine	Maintenance Technician II	Distribution South
Loren Bayne	Crew Supervisor	Distribution South
Madho Gosein	Driver – Aerial Lift Truck	Distribution North
Mahadev Panday	Consumers Investigator	Distribution North
Marcilla David	Telephonist	Distribution Central
Marisa Maharaj	Clerk II	Health, Safety & Environment
Mark Hamel-Smith	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Engineering Controller
Melanie Gonzalez	Legal Officer	Corporate Secretary
Michael Mc Clean	Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.	Distribution South
Michael Sobers	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Tobago
Muniram Ramesar	Clerk III	Distribution East
Nizam Baksh	Area Administrative Officer	Supplies
Oumardath Maharaj	Cable Supervisor	Distribution North
Patrick Bascombe	Estate Sergeant	Security – Distribution South
Persad Ramoutar	Mechanical Assistant	Distribution South
Peter Thomas	Substation Supervisor	Distribution North
Peter Thomas	Substation Supervisor	Distribution North
Pradip Balkaran	Cleaner	Distribution South
Ramish Ramsundar	Linesman 'B'	Distribution South
Ramona Gonsalves	Clerk II	Distribution East
Randolph Pierre	Subsection Leader	Distribution North
Roland Haynes	Crew Supervisor	Distribution Central
Ryan Gangaram	Electrician 'C'	Distribution East
Saied Mohammed	Estate Corporal	Security – Mount Hope
Sarah Hosein	Clerk II	Distribution Central
Seepersad Roopnarine	Estate Police Inspector	Security – Head Office
Sharon Cunningham	Clerk Typist	Pensions & Investments
Shelley-Ann Boyce	Customer Services Officer	Commercial
Sunita Naipaul Singh	Clerk I	Commercial
Thomas Inkim	Protection & SCADA Manager	Protect & SCADA
Wendell Mayers	Head Manager – Reg. & Compl.	Regulatory & Compliance
Yameen Khan	Driver – Class 5 Vehicle	Distribution East

## RE-DESIGNATIONS

NAME	POSITION	AREA/DEPARTMENT
Anderson Julien	Electrician 'C'	Distribution East

Anthony Seerattan  
 Barry Hernandez  
 Che' Thomas  
 Christen Blanchfield  
 Emmanuel Joseph  
 Errol Mc Kenna  
 Jason Boodram  
 Jeremy Chapman  
 Kervon Debisette  
 Kwesi Jackman  
 Larry Shockness  
 Leon Bourne  
 Malcolm Charles  
 Marc Look Loy  
 Michael Peters  
 Richard Seales  
 Rydell Prescod  
 Samlal Saroop  
 Sheldon Nandah  
 Simba Byron  
 Sterling Mc Kenzie  
 Tracy Reid  
 Wendell Jeffrey

Maintenance Technician II  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Meter Inspector  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Maintenance Technician II  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Electrician 'C'  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Linesman 'C'  
 Maintenance Technician II  
 Maintenance Technician II  
 Linesman 'C'  
 Driver – Aerial Lift Truck  
 Maintenance Technician II  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.  
 Driver – Aerial Lift Truck  
 Technical Assistant I  
 Dr – Vehicles < 25000 Lbs.

Distribution Central  
 Transmission Maintenance  
 Transmission Maintenance  
 Distribution North  
 Distribution North  
 Commercial  
 Transmission Maintenance  
 Distribution Central  
 Distribution Central  
 Transmission Maintenance  
 Distribution North  
 Distribution South  
 Distribution North  
 Distribution East  
 Distribution Central  
 Distribution North  
 Distribution East  
 Distribution South  
 Distribution Central  
 Distribution North  
 Distribution East  
 System Control & Gen Interface  
 Distribution Central

## Vacation employees

Twenty-nine students pursuing higher education joined T&TEC as employees during their July-August vacation for the annual vacation employee programme. The annual programme is part of T&TEC's corporate social responsibility to assist the youth with gaining necessary work experience over a two-month period between June and August, said Human Resources Manager, Nigel Marquez. He explained that the programme is important for not only building their resumes and marrying their academic experience with work, it also "allows them to build a level of confidence and maturity as it prepares them for the world of work."

The employees, whose ages ranged from 18 to 24, are pursuing studies in a range of fields,



*Head Office vacation employees took a break from their duties for a group photo.*

including International Relations, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Computer Science & Mathematics, Banking & Finance, Information Technology and Economics & Finance.

Mark Lessey Jr, a third year student of Information Technology, was assigned to the Corporate Communications Department and completed the fun page on Artificial Intelligence (see page 36).



# Fun page - AI is here to stay!

**In recent years, artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force, revolutionizing various aspects of our lives. With its ability to mimic human intelligence and automate complex tasks, AI has become a powerful tool with wide-ranging applications. From healthcare to finance, transportation to manufacturing, AI has been instrumental in unlocking new possibilities, enhancing efficiency, and fostering innovation.**

The above paragraph was generated using Google's AI chatbot, Bard, after being given the prompt "Generate the intro to a paper that talks about AI technology."

Bard is a large language model chatbot developed by Google AI. The Chatbot is very similar to the famous ChatGPT and seems to be Google's answer to its success. The two have their differences but the Bard has introduced the internet into its system, giving it a wider range of information to draw from. Which also means that the quality of its answers is influenced by the quality of internet data. Being connected to the internet also gives Bard more relevant information as ChatGPT cannot, at this time, access information dated after September of 2021.

The name "Bard" is a reference to the ancient meaning of a Bard, poets and storytellers with some association to spiritual power. Bard, similarly to other AI programmes, is still under development and as such, can provide responses that may be slightly inaccurate, so be careful with the information you receive.

## Can you spot the difference?

Below are two images of Emancipation Day celebrations. One image was generated using an AI text-to-image generator, but can you tell which one it is?



Great job using your AEye, if you spotted that the second image was the "odd one out". Below is a QR code that, when scanned with your smart phone, leads to Google's Bard chatbot. It is free for use by anyone with a google account, so we invite you to use the following prompt in the software and share with us the responses you have received. **"Write a short story for kids based on the solar system"**



# Watty says



## Protect yourself against heat stress

The return of unusually high outdoor temperatures in 2024 can place you at risk for heat-related illnesses such as heat stroke, heat exhaustion, or heat cramps. These illnesses occur when the body becomes dehydrated and is unable to cool itself enough to maintain a healthy temperature.

**To protect yourself during high temperatures follow these steps.**



Avoid going outside during the hottest time of the day.



When working or exercising outdoors, take frequent breaks and stay in the shade as much as possible.



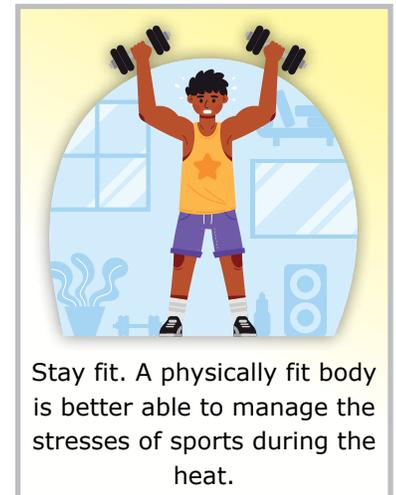
Increase fluid intake. Avoid alcohol and excessive caffeine.



Use sunblock with at least SPF 15 and re-apply every two hours.



Wear light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing made from natural fibres like cotton and linen. Wear a hat and sunglasses.



Stay fit. A physically fit body is better able to manage the stresses of sports during the heat.



Replace salt and minerals. A sports beverage can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.



## Taking action for a trash free ocean

Team T&TEC maintained its annual commitment to the International Coastal Cleanup effort as one of three groups to help rid the Mayaro Beach of garbage on September 16.

The group of 71, comprising employees and their families, joined with teams from Island Finance and the Lions Club to clean three locations along the nine miles of Mayaro Beach. The collaborative effort yielded 3,074 pounds of garbage, including a baby stroller, toilet base and a food cart.

Across in Tobago, about 20 T&TEC volunteers teamed up with the Tobago House of Assembly to remove trash from Minister Bay, Bacolet.

The Ocean Conservancy ICC is the world's largest beach and waterway cleanup effort, mobilising more than 17 million volunteers to remove over 350 million pounds of trash worldwide since 1986.



# How do I Celebrate? ART COMPETITION Winners



## Kudos to our young artists!

We asked your kids to show us how they celebrated the festivals of Eid-ul-Fitr, Emancipation and Divali using their artistic talents and they delivered!

Congratulations to eight-year-old **Zaeda Chautilal**, the winner in the 7-10 years category for all three competitions. The young artist, with moral support from her father, Senior Engineer, Transmission Maintenance, Darrell Chautilal, impressed with her acrylic paintings on canvas.

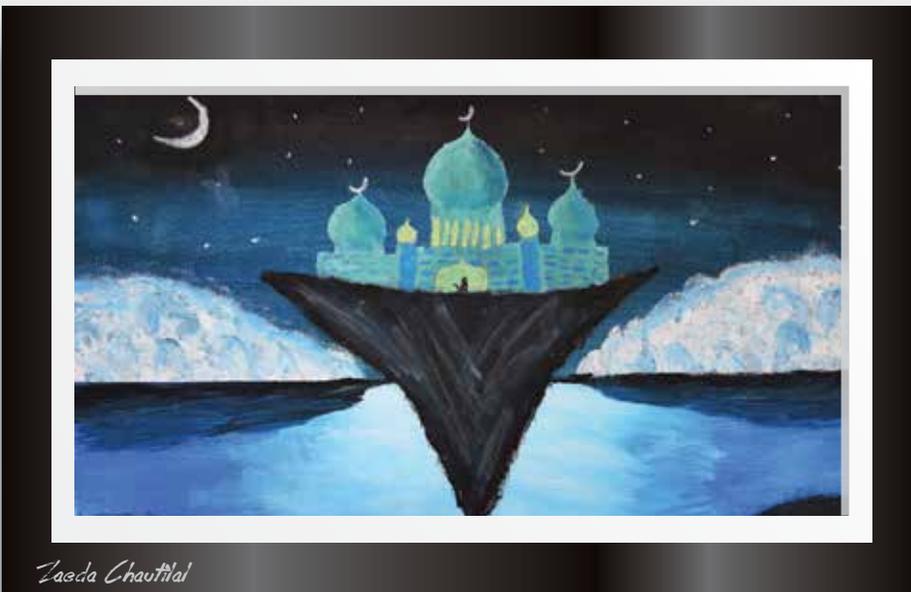
In the 11-16 years category, 11-year-old **Hannah Senhouse**, daughter of Senior Clerk, Head Office,

Tanya Senhouse was named the winner of the Eid-ul-Fitr competition and 14-year-old **Kaitlyn Yip Ngow**, daughter of Marlene Yip Ngow, Clerk II of Distribution South, was declared the winner for the Emancipation instalment.

For the final competition, How Do I Celebrate Divali, 11-year-old **Vivek Rajpaulsingh** delivered the winning piece in his category – a colourful painting depicting children lighting deyas.

See some of their beautiful creations below.

## Eid-ul-Fitr



*Zaeda Chautilal*

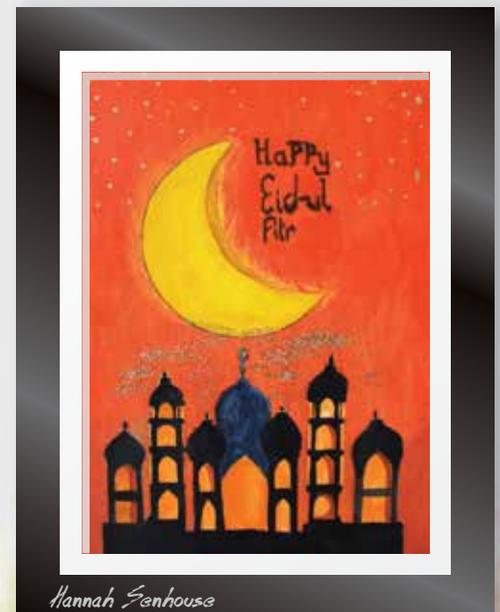
### Ages 7-10 - Zaeda Chautilal

(daughter of Senior Engineer, Transmission Maintenance, Darrell Chautilal)

## Ages 11-16

### Hannah Senhouse

(daughter of Senior Clerk, Head Office, Tanya Senhouse)



*Hannah Senhouse*

# How do i Celebrate? ART COMPETITION Winners

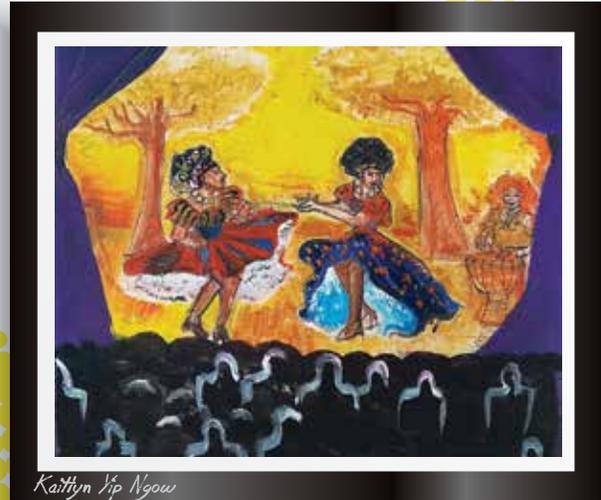


## Emancipation

**Ages 7-10**

**Zaeda Chautilal**

(daughter of Senior Engineer, Transmission Maintenance, Darrell Chautilal)

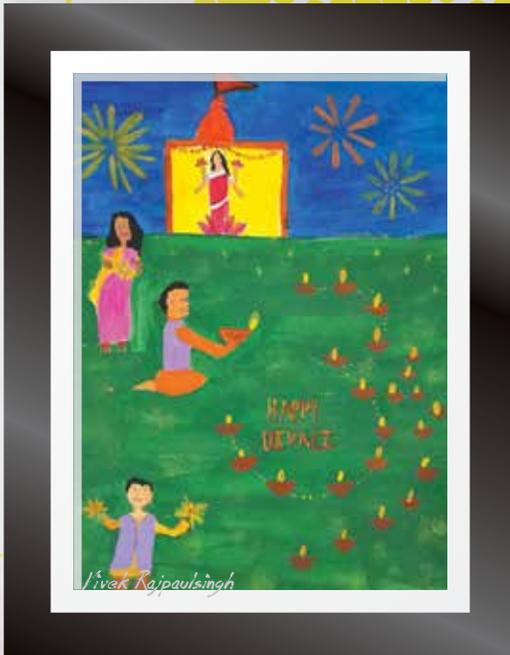


**Ages 11-16**

**Kaitlyn Yip Ngow**

(daughter of Clerk II, Distribution South, Marlene Yip Ngow)

## Diwali



**Ages 7-10**

**Zaeda Chautilal**

(daughter of Senior Engineer, Transmission Maintenance, Darrell Chautilal)

**Ages 11-16**

**Vivek Rajpaulsingh**

(son of Systems Analyst I, Head Office, Nichelle Jagdeo and Senior Clerk, Distribution South, Vishal Rajpaulsingh)



# Customer commendations

The following are excerpts of letters, emails and messages that have been received over the last three months. Correspondence may have been edited for length or clarity.

April 12, 2023

The General Manager, T&TEC

Dear Sir,

The residents of Midas Avenue, El Dorado Gardens, Tunapuna, will like to convey our sincere thanks to (Crew Supervisor) Mr. Baldath Mowlah and his crew for their swift response to a problem which occurred at LP #52.

The residents of Midas Avenue  
El Dorado Gardens.

*The following was submitted via T&TEC's online customer feedback platform:*

May 7, 2023

I am writing to express my appreciation and gratitude for the quick and efficient service provided by your team in repairing the street light on my street. I was pleasantly surprised at how swiftly the repair was carried out, and I am grateful for the timely response.

The street light was out for a few days, which made it difficult for pedestrians and motorists to navigate the area safely at night. However, your team responded promptly to my request for repair and fixed the problem in no time. The light is now shining bright, and the area is much safer for everyone.

Your team's professionalism and promptness in addressing this issue are commendable. I am impressed with the level of service that you have provided, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts in making our community a safer place.

Fazal Backredee  
Bank Village, Carapichaima.

May 29, 2023

Dear Mr. Ramsook, et al

On behalf of the 11th Point Fortin Borough Council and our Corporation's Administration,

we express our heartfelt appreciation for your support towards our 43rd Anniversary Commemoration. Your support has had a significant impact on the success of our event and has helped us achieve our community-serving goals.

We acknowledge and admire your commitment to our celebrations, which has not gone unnoticed. T&TEC has contributed to creating a memorable and impactful event for our community members, including burgesses, visitors, performers, students, sportsmen, and all stakeholders.

We also express our admiration for your company's values and dedication to community engagement. Your partnership has not only made "Borough 2023" possible but has also strengthened our community relations. We are honoured to have you as our valued partner.

Thank you once again.  
Her Worship the Mayor  
Alderman Saleema Thomas

*The following Letter to the Editor appeared in the Newsday newspaper on August 29, 2023:*

I highly commend T&TEC for the repair works it did on August 21 on our Prince Street block at Woodford Square, Port of Spain.

Around 7.30 am electricity supply was cut due to

equipment failures at the buildings involved. The T&TEC phone receptionist was courteous and quick. T&TEC responded to the call within the hour. The initial assessment was done and a crew was called in without delay.

There was, during a long period, at least four crews plus supervisors on the job; all these people were in attendance from the word go. They were seen plying non-stop through lunch, aiming for successful results. As it turned out, this was achieved at 11 pm with parts of the teams staying on through what was their dinner time.

T&TEC crews showed mastery of safety, skills and knowledge. They co-ordinated their actions at each step. They separated equipment for testing. They shut off location mains for the final test. They ensured the power-up didn't give in the end. They followed through the next day.

People wish to publicly acknowledge them and their know-how, efficiency and dedication. So many of those affected convey many thanks.

E Galy  
via e-mail



# 2024

Electricity... a cost you can control

### JANUARY

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### FEBRUARY

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### OCTOBER

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### NOVEMBER

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### DECEMBER

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