
MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

T&T Chamber concerned about businesses that remain closed

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Today, the Government has taken some steps they deem as cautious. They have reopened additional sectors with reduced customer densities and limited services. The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce remains very concerned about the minimal positive impact this will have on the economy.

We are disappointed that our recommendations were not accepted even after the submissions of detailed protocols by various sectors to the Ministry of Health which in many instances were more stringent than their guidelines. We indicated, our willingness to meet to discuss any additional measures required to alleviate any apprehensions to facilitate reopening.

While some sectors have been reopened, there are many businesses in the food and beverage sector, among others, who remain severely affected by the full or partial closure, some for over 7 months.

Our Government plays a vital role, in setting the conditions essential to recovery and strengthening the economy. The decisions our government leaders make can positively or negatively impact not only the strength and speed of the recovery, but whether entire industries, businesses, and segments of our workforce get left behind. The impact is not just on these businesses but the ripple effect it can have across our economy from landlords, banks, suppliers, employees, crime, mental health and domestic violence.

It is a challenging financial environment for many businesses. It is therefore crucial that the Government target the appropriate fiscal support for tax compliant businesses due to the debilitating impact this is having on them.

We must work together to keep our citizens safe, restore economic growth and help people rebuild their lives in the months and years to come. We have the collective capacity to make it happen. The T&T Chamber stands as a key stakeholder and the voice of business, ready to do

our part. Our belief is that strong businesses are the foundation of a prosperous and equitable T&T.

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FROM THE MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT