

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago MINISTRY OF FINANCE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8th, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

FINANCE MINISTER NOT INVOLVED IN HDC PPP PROJECT

The Minister of Finance has taken note of statements made by Dr. Roodal Moonilal, MP for Oropouche East, which were published in the Daily Express of Wednesday November 8th 2017, regarding the alleged reason for the alleged delay in the execution of a housing project being undertaken by the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) as a public/private partnership development.

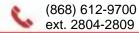
Dr. Moonilal has asked whether the Minister of Finance has declined to give a government guarantee to the contractor on the project because of a private dispute.

For the record, the Minister of Finance is not involved in this HDC project and is not required to give any guarantee of any kind for any purpose whatsoever. It should be noted that this project is under the purview of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, and not the Ministry of Finance.

Finally, the Minister of Finance would never act in the way suggested by Dr. Moonilal, and any such inference is rejected.

Accordingly, the allegation that the Minister of Finance has declined to give a guarantee for this housing project for personal reasons, or for any reason, is therefore entirely untrue.

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