



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

For immediate release

June 21<sup>st</sup> 2024

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**MINISTER OF FINANCE TO SEEK LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL**  
**THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEAL**  
**IN CIVIL APPEAL C. A. NO. P-177 OF 2024**  
**JAIWANTE RAMDASS - V – THE MINISTER OF FINANCE & THE CABINET**

The Minister of Finance, Hon. Colm Imbert, MP, has taken note of the decision of the Court of Appeal today in the matter of *Jaiwante Ramdass (the Auditor General) - v – The Minister of Finance and the Cabinet of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago* regarding an investigation into issues associated with the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts for the Financial Year 2023.

The Court of Appeal allowed the Auditor General's appeal of the trial judge's decision in the related High Court matter. The trial judge had refused to grant leave earlier this month to the Auditor General to apply, inter alia, for judicial review of the Cabinet's decision to appoint an investigation team to investigate, make findings and recommendations, and report to the Minister of Finance on a number of issues related to the said Report. The Court of Appeal overturned the trial judge's decision.

Having read the decision of the Honourable Court of Appeal and sought advice from Senior Counsel, the Minister of Finance is the firm view that the issues and points of law in this matter are of sufficient public interest and importance that an application should be made for this

matter to be taken to our highest court, the Privy Council, for final determination, without delay.

Accordingly, the Minister of Finance has instructed the Government's Attorneys to immediately apply for leave to appeal the Court of Appeal's decision to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as an urgent matter.

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The Honourable Colm Imbert M.P.

Minister of Finance