

Chamber: Honour campaign promises

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BUSINESS chambers and associations across Trinidad and Tobago have continued to express support for the democratic process and view the outcome of the 2025 general election as a clear call from the public for a change in leadership from the previous PNM administration.

At the same time, there is an appeal for the new UNC Government to honour its campaign promises.

Many stakeholders have also emphasised their readiness to collaborate with the incoming administration on national development priorities.

Chairman of the CRBC, Vivek Charran, along with several member organisations, conveyed congratulations in a media release Tuesday.

Charran observed that the electorate had decisively rejected the previous PNM Government, and that the UNC, together with its coalition partners, had built significant momentum across the country.

'I extend my deep congratulations to the incoming Government and the new Prime Minister-elect, Kamla Persad-Bissessar. We look forward to working closely with the incoming Government for the good and prosperity of T& T,' he stated.

Similarly, CRBC vice chairman Ricardo Mohammed said the Eastern Business Merchants Association (EBMA) and the CRBC stood ready to partner with the UNC administration to help steer the country toward sustainable success.

'As you embark on this new chapter, I am confident that your experience and dedication will guide T& T toward prosperity and unity. Your leadership has always been marked by a focus on progress, inclusivity, and social justice, and I am excited to see how you will build upon your previous successes to meet the challenges ahead. I wish you all the best in your term as Prime Minister. May your actions inspire hope and foster positive change for all citizens,' he said.

President of the Siparia Chamber, Emerson Chadee, stated, 'I am pleased to see the governance systems functioning well, and the Siparia Chamber, in the sincerest manner, congratulates Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar. We wish her all the very best in the future.'

Meanwhile, interim chairman of the Gasparillo Chamber of Commerce, Samuel George, commended the Prime Minister-elect's leadership.

'Mrs Persad-Bissessar has shown resilience, strength, foresight, and love for the people of T& T. The Gasparillo Chamber wishes her continued success in delivering on the promises made to the nation,' he said.

In a similar vein, president of the San Fernando Business Association, Daphne Bartlett, urged the new administration to prioritise economic revival, particularly the reopening of the Pointe-a-Pierre refinery.

'One of the main promises made by the incoming UNC Government was to restart the refinery to boost refining operations. The CRBC supports this initiative to revitalise the energy sector-something that would represent a significant leap forward for the national economy. However, we must ensure that opportunities are provided for former employees, contractors, and service providers alike,' she stressed. Also weighing in, Fyzabad Chamber of Commerce president Angie Jairam described the election as historic and praised the UNC's strategic approach. 'This election was well-organised, particularly in its use of technology and effective messaging. Our chamber looks forward to working with the new government on the implementation of policies outlined in their manifesto, especially those related to business and community development. We welcome our new MP, Dave Tancoo, and thank outgoing MP Dr Lackram Bodoie for his service. We remain committed to working with the government for the collective good,' she said.

Sectoral support

Leaders from various sectors have also voiced their readiness to support the new administration.

President of the Private Pharmacies Business Association (PPRBA), Glenwayne Suchit said, 'I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Kamla Persad-Bissessar on her recent appointment as Prime Minister. This milestone reflects your leadership and the trust the people have placed in you.'

He continued, 'As you embark on this vital journey, may you lead with vision, courage, and integrity. While the challenges ahead may be great, so too are the opportunities for positive, lasting change. I am confident that under your stewardship, we will face these challenges with unity and resilience.'

Meanwhile, president of the Supermarket Association of T& T (SATT), Biondi Bachew, offered congratulations to all elected Members of Parliament.

'SATT sincerely congratulates all Members of Parliament elected in the 2025 general election. We especially recognise the UNC on their majority win and congratulate Prime Minister-elect Kamla Persad-Bissessar. We also extend best wishes to the Tobago People's Party (TPP) and its leader, Farley C Augustine, for their continued commitment to Tobago's development.'

Bachew further stated, 'This election represents a pivotal moment in T& T's democratic journey. SATT commends all candidates and parties for their commitment to public service and the electoral process. We look forward to working with the new administration on key priorities such as food security, economic development, and the welfare of the population.'

The Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) also underscored its commitment to working with the new government to advance the manufacturing sector-a cornerstone of national economic resilience and diversification.

'We look forward to engaging with the administration to support initiatives that enhance the competitiveness of local industry, drive innovation, and expand exports. As always, the TTMA remains a steadfast partner in the pursuit of sustainable development and prosperity for all citizens of T& T,' the association stated in a release Tuesday.

The Greater Tunapuna Chamber of Industry and Commerce (GTCIC) also extended congratulations to the UNC and offered special commendation to Roger Alexander on winning the Tunapuna seat in the election.

'These results reflect the trust and hope that the people of T& T-and the Tunapuna constituency in particular-have placed in the leadership, vision, and promises of a brighter future. As a chamber committed to economic growth, enterprise support, and community strengthening, the GTCIC stands ready to collaborate with the new administration,' the release stated.

The GTCIC noted that it looked forward to engaging the Government on key priorities such as investment attraction, infrastructure development, public safety, youth advancement, digital transformation, and entrepreneurship.

President of the GTCIC, Ramon Gregorio, affirmed the chamber's intent to build on the momentum of the campaign period.

'We look forward to building on the foundation of dialogue established during the campaign and to forging actionable partnerships that uplift the Tunapuna constituency and contribute to national development. Our chamber remains a willing and constructive partner in advancing policies and initiatives that promote resilience, prosperity, and inclusive growth,' Gregorio said.