

## Gopee-Scoon leads trade mission to Dominica

MINISTER of Trade Paula Gopee- Scoon is leading Trinidad and Tobago's trade mission to Dominica.

The mission was scheduled to arrive yesterday and will be in Dominica until January 22.

Organised by the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) and supported by the ministry, the trade mission aims to create business opportunities for Trinidad and Tobago exporters to conduct business with buyers from Dominica, the ministry said in a media release.

'The delegation will consist of 29 companies across the food and beverage, printing and packing, chemical and household, construction and services sectors. These companies will participate in organised business- to- business meetings in their respective markets,' the ministry stated.

Among the participating companies are Advanced Commercial Equipment Ltd, Angostura Ltd, Aviaire Body Products, Blue Waters Ltd, BriCha Ltd, Cargo Consolidators Agency Ltd, DSB Marketing Ltd, Electrical Industries Group, Half Moon Vegan Ice Cream, Kennedy Agro Processing, New Wave Marketing Ltd, Novo Farms, Pepe's Marketing Ltd and Premier Label Company Ltd.

'Trinidad and Tobago currently maintains a positive trade balance with Dominica, presenting a significant opportunity to boost exports. The trade mission will create avenues for these companies to further penetrate the Dominican market and provide the opportunity for them to gain useful market intelligence,' the ministry said.

Additionally, the Ministry will engage in bilateral discussions with ministerial counterparts and other key officials in Dominica, it added. 'These discussions will seek to strengthen trade relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Dominica. The discussions will also aid in advancing the export prospects for local companies,' the statement said.

During the four-day mission, Gopee-Scoon will meet with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business, Trade and Energy, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Blue and Green Economy, the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce, and the Dominica Manufacturers Association.

Dominica is Trinidad and Tobago's eighth largest export market and 10th largest source of imports in Caricom.

Overall, it is the 35th largest export market and 88th import market amongst all of the country's trading partners, the ministry added.