

## Moonilal reaffirms commitment to Grenada energy pact

ENERGY Minister Dr Roodal Moonilal has reaffirmed Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to deepening energy collaboration with Grenada, following a meeting with executives from Global Petroleum Group (GPG) on Monday.

In a statement issued by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, Moonilal said the Government is intent on actively pursuing strategic discussions aimed at strengthening bilateral relations with Grenada in the energy sector.

'At the introductory meeting, GPG's executives thanked the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries for the opportunity to engage with the company,' the ministry said.

GPG is an oil and gas company involved in exploration and appraisal activities off Grenada's southern coast, in proximity to the Patao/Dragon fields in Venezuela and Trinidad's North Coast Marine Area (NCMA).

The ministry noted that in 2018, GPG successfully concluded a commercial agreement with the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago (NGC).

This partnership stemmed from the Energy Sector Development Framework Agreement, signed in 2012 by the governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada, it stated.

'The agreement was seen as a major step in Caricom's energy collaboration, fostering economic growth in the region,' the energy ministry stated.

The energy ministry stated that Monday's meeting focused on the continuation of GPG's drilling operations in Grenadian waters and the potential renewal of the GPG-NGC partnership.

Minister Moonilal also gave assurances that follow-up discussions would be held, involving all relevant local stakeholders and GPG, to explore all available options for advancing the partnership.

The GPG delegation was led by executive director Eduard Vasilyev and finance and corporate affairs officer Leonid Mironov.

Minister in the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries Ernesto Kesar, acting permanent secretary Karinsa Tulsie, and acting deputy permanent secretary Marc Rudder were also in attendance.