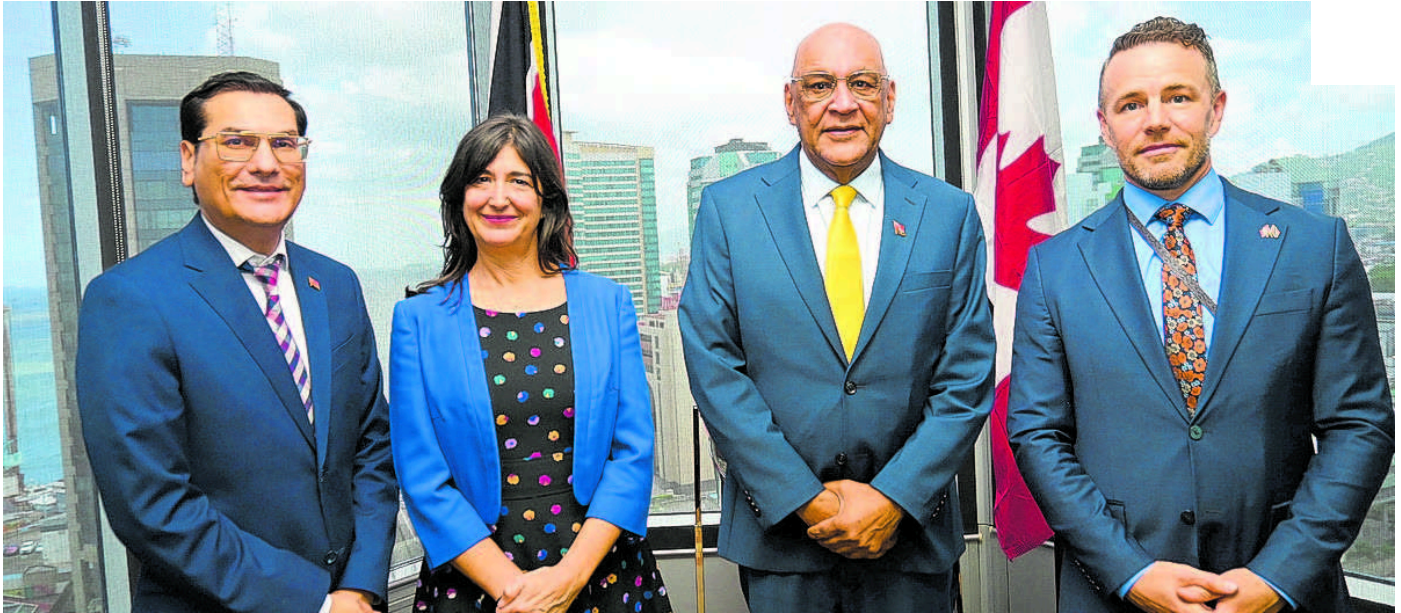


# Minister meets with diplomats from India, Canada



Minister of Trade, Investment and Tourism Satyakama Maharaj, second from right, with High Commissioner for Canada to T&T Michael Callan, right, Central America and the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada director general Sylvie Bédard and Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Trade Dr Colin Neil Gosine. PHOTO COURTESY MINISTRY OF TRADE, INVESTMENT AND TOURISM

Diversification of the national economy, with emphasis on trade and investment was among the discussions when Minister of Trade, Investment and Tourism Satyakama Maharaj and other ministry officials met with representatives of the High Commission for Canada and India.

A release from the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism said yesterday the meeting with Michael Callan, High Commissioner for Canada to T&T, underscored the shared commitment of both countries to further deepening bilateral cooperation and unlocking new avenues for economic and cultural exchange.

It said both parties agreed to continue dialogue as they work toward mutually beneficial outcomes.

Callan was accompanied by Sylvie Bédard, director general for Central America and the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada, Stuart Shaw, counsellor, Political and Public Affairs and Michaeline Narcisse, trade commissioner.

“The meeting underscored the shared commitment of both countries to further deepening bilateral cooperation and unlocking new avenues for economic and cultural exchange. Both parties agreed to continue dialogue as they work toward mutually beneficial outcomes,” the ministry said.

It added it remained dedicated to strengthening international partnerships that drive investment, support economic diversification, and align with this country’s national development agenda.

Talks with representatives of the High Commission for the Republic of India also echoed similar

sentiments, emphasising the growth of the manufacturing sector and tourism.

The ministry added the engagement served as a reaffirmation of the strong partnership between the two countries, and as an opportunity to explore avenues for cooperation in support of sustainable economic growth and diversification.

The meet between officials of the Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism and representatives of the Indian High Commission in T&T, comes shortly after it was confirmed that Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, is scheduled to make a diplomatic visit to Trinidad and Tobago in the first week of July. That visit aims to discuss strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries, officials in both countries said.

Prime Ministers Persad-Bissessar and Modi are expected to sign several Memorandums of Understanding will be signed to strengthen bilateral relationships.

The two countries are expected to be in talks of cultivating closer ties with the discussions expected in the fields of technology, digital transformation, trade, and cultural exchange.

After leaving Port-of-Spain, the Indian Prime Minister is expected to visit Argentina and Brazil, to attend the BRICS summit that will be hosted in Rio de Janeiro from 5-8 July.