



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 14 October 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: **HIGH**

MSDFS: Flood Relief Cheques to be distributed soon

Port-of-Spain --- The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services wishes to advise residents of Beetham and environs, that the cheques related to flood relief for their area and other affected areas, are still being finalized and will be distributed soon. This decision is in light of recent overcrowding at the Ministry's Head Office on St Vincent Street, Port of Spain which is not in compliance with the established COVID-19 guidelines and protocols, outlined by the Ministry of Health.

At present, the Ministry, on a daily basis, coordinates the distribution of rental assistance cheques related to COVID-19 Social Support, to the Landlords of tenants who were financially affected by the COVID-19 restrictions and may have been terminated, retrenched, or experienced a reduction in income. Therefore, in order to ensure that protocols on social and physical distancing, are observed, in order to curb the spread of COVID-19; the Ministry will make separate arrangements for all flood relief cheques to be distributed via localized distribution spaces for Beetham and all other associated areas.

The Ministry wishes to assure persons affected by flooding and all other natural disasters that efforts were made to ensure that cheques were prepared at the end of the financial year, so that these claims could be satisfied. At present, all of the cheques are still being sorted for distribution.

The Ministry reminds the public that all measures must be taken in order to safeguard its staff and the public, from the spread of the coronavirus. Persons are therefore advised to avoid gathering in large crowds, at all of the Ministry's offices, inclusive of local board district offices. For all enquiries, persons may contact the toll-free call centre at 800 – 1673 and the Tobago Desk at **627-8918(Direct Line), Mobile/Whatsapp:489-5004 or 489-5105 and email: tobagodesk@social.gov.tt.**

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For more information:

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