

## Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago MINISTRY OF FINANCE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12th 2018

## PRESS RELEASE

## ERRONEOUS NEWSDAY ARTICLE ON THE PURCHASE OF A 'CRUISEFERRY'

The Minister of Finance has taken note of an article in the Newsday of Friday January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, with the headline "Slow Boat To 'Bago". The article claims that the Government is negotiating with a company in Singapore by the name of Singapore Technologies Marine Limited to purchase what the newspaper has described as a very large and fancy cruise ferry, built in Singapore, and equipped with a helicopter landing pad and entertainment facilities, among other things.

This story is completely erroneous, false and misleading.

The reality is that the Government is in the process of finalising the acquisition of a suitable brand-new roll on/roll off (ROPAX) vessel to accommodate passengers and vehicles for the inter-island ferry service, and as further details become available, further information will be made public.

However, there is absolutely no truth in the Newsday story.

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Hon. Colm Imbert Minister of Finance



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