

POST CABINET PRESS BRIEFING SUMMARY - Thursday 22nd September, 2016

The Minister of Public Utilities, Brigadier General Ancil Antoine (Ret'd), addressed members of the media during the Post Cabinet Press Briefing today (Thursday 22nd September, 2016) at the Office of the Prime Minister, St. Clair, Port of Spain.

Minister Antoine shed light on last evening's meeting with the management and employees of the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA).

At the meeting, issues discussed included the need for increased security and the provision of required materials e.g. overalls and face masks. Employees also advocated for repairs to chlorine tanks and extractor fans. Increased communication from remote areas, in light of security concerns, was also requested.

The Chairman and CEO of WASA met with the President of the PSA, Mr. Watson Duke, and together they were able to implement some quick fixes. It should be noted that additional patrols for increased security will also be implemented.

The Minister of Public Utilities assured that the water distribution system is "back up and running". However, he emphasised that, in accordance with the Industrial Relations Act, this type of action is not to be taken as the provision of water is an essential service. Moreover, regarding occupational safety and health concerns, there is an established procedure to address such issues.