



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Tourism

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05 April 2018

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No. of pages: 2

Attention: HEAD OF NEWS and EDITOR IN CHIEF

Accurate figures stated by Minister of Tourism

The Minister of Tourism, the Honourable Shamfa Cudjoe, stands firmly by her response given at last Wednesday's (March 28th, 2018) sitting of the House of Representatives, with regard to the number of tourist arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago for the period January 1st to February 28th for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018.

In an article in today's (Thursday 5th April 2018) Newsday, Member of Parliament for Couva North, the Honourable Ramona Ramdial stated that Minister Cudjoe's response "greatly exceeded" information she had received from the group, TDC Employees Speak.

However, under the section "*Questions for Oral Answer*" on the Order Paper of Wednesday March 28th 2018; Question No 169 to the Minister of Tourism is quite specific in asking:

Could the Minister state the number of tourist arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago for the periods: (a) January 1, 2016 to February 28, 2016; (b) January 1, 2017 to February 28, 2017 and; (c) January 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018?

In answer to the question the Minister stated as follows:

- (a) 2016 - 82,114 persons
- (b) 2017 - 78,672 persons
- (c) 2018 - 74,191 persons

For additional information, please contact:

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The lower figures quoted in the article by Ms Ramdial represent a subset of the period January 1 to February 28. In fact, the lower figures are the CSO designated Carnival period of -19 days prior and up to Carnival Tuesday. The question posed to the Minister of Tourism asked for tourist arrivals for the full period January 1, to February 28— a period of 59 days - and was answered accordingly.

All tourist arrivals data received by the Ministry of Tourism is sent on a monthly basis from the Immigration Division of the Ministry of National Security.

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