

Thursday 16th



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs

Articles on 2025 Budget for Sport – Monday 13th October –
Thursday 16th October
Prepared by: Comms Unit

Division	Media House	Type of Article	Headline and Page No	Article Summary/ Issue Raised	Hyperlinks	Action Required
Sport Division	Trinidad and Tobago Guardian	Sport News Monday 13 th October, 2025	Despite economic challenges, more resources for sports - NGBs Use sports as an income generator	NGBs view sport as an income generator and hoping for a decent allocation to go towards sport in the national budget. Comments from TTFA's Kieron Edwards, Badminton's Chandrika Ramsubhag, Boxing Association's Cecil Forde, and Tennis TT's Hayden Mitchell.	https://www.guardian.co.tt/sports/desktop-economic-challenges-more-resources-for-sports-ngbs-6.2.2422724.b0215bb735	

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Sport Division	TTT News	Sport News Monday 13 th October, 2025	'Youth, Sport, and Communities At Core of 2026 Budget'	Finance Minister Davendranath Tancoo has placed sport, youth development, and community infrastructure at the heart of Trinidad and Tobago's 2026 fiscal agenda, unveiling upgrades across the country and a new push to leverage sport as an economic driver — particularly in Tobago.	https://www.ttt.liv/e/youth-sport-and-communities-at-core-of-2026-budget/	
Sport Division	Daily Express	Sport News Tuesday 14 th October, 2025	'Tancoo: Sport a budget priority... pools, gyms, grassroots programmes funded for fiscal 2025-26'	In his presentation of the Appropriation (Financial Year 2025–2026) the Minister of Finance, Davendranath Tancoo, signalled a clear focus on sport—describing it as a driver of “unity and national pride” and promising a string of facility upgrades and development programmes. Minister Tancoo outlined a package of projects and partnerships intended to boost participation, performance and coaching across Trinidad and Tobago: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pool rehabilitation • National stadia upgrades • Community grounds and centres • Elite training provision • Scholarships and capacity building • Grassroots programming 	https://trinidadexpress.com/sports/local/tancoo-sport-a-budget-priority/article_d2c23dbf-be1a-4e5e-b5fd-40586ce4f18f.html	

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Sport Division	Trinidad and Tobago Newsday	Sport News Tuesday 14 th October, 2025	‘Tancoo: Sport, tourism to go hand-in-hand’	<p>The government proposes to open ten new community centres for fiscal 2026, as announced by Finance Minister Davendranath Tancoo during his 2025/26 national budget presentation at the Red House on October 13.</p> <p>During his presentation, Minister Tancoo touched on the role sports could play in boosting the tourism sector. "Tourism remains a hybrid sector. We will develop new products in the medical, sport and cultural tourism sectors and facilitate the completion of hotels," he said.</p> <p>Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs Phillip Watts said the allocation and the finer details and plans under his ministry will be revealed during the budget debate on October 17.</p>	https://newsday.co.tt/2025/10/14/tancoo-sport-tourism-to-go-hand-in-hand/	

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<p>Sport Division</p>	<p>Trinidad and Tobago Guardian</p>	<p>Sport News Tuesday 14th October, 2025</p>	<p>‘\$328M handed to sport in National Budget’</p> <p>Page 38</p>	<p>The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) will receive \$328,652,400 for recurrent spending in 2025-2026. However, the Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SporTT) will see its allocation raised by \$27 million to \$147 million.</p> <p>Among other areas to be funded from the 2025-2026 allocation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Lara Cricket Academy - \$1,000,000 Indoor arenas and the National Racquet Centre (Tacarigua) - \$1,300,000 Capital injection for development programmes - \$38,000,000 <p>Minister Tancoo declared that sports are a driver of unity and national pride. As well as stating plans for continued rehabilitation works at community swimming pools alongside national stadia.</p>		

\$328M handed to sport in national Budget

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The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) will receive \$328,652,400 for recurrent spending in 2025-2026.

This amount, outlined in the Draft Estimate of Expenditure from Minister of Finance Davendranath Tancoo's national Budget, is a slight decrease from what was previously allocated to the Ministry of Sport and Community Development for 2024-2025, which received a revised estimated total of \$338,623,184.

However, the Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SportTT), the MSYA's delivery arm, will see its allocation raised by \$27 million to \$147 million.

Among other areas to be funded from the 2025-2026 allocation are \$1,000,000 to the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba and \$1,300,000 to indoor arenas and the National Hockey Centre in Tacarigua.

The overall 2025-2026 allocation includes a supplemental \$10,700,000 in capital injection for development programmes



Minister of Finance Dave Tancoo gesticulates as he delivers his maiden 2025/26 National Budget, Red House, Abercromby Street, Port-of-Spain yesterday.

PHOTO BY ABRAHAM DIAZ

from the consolidated fund and \$38,000,000 of development programme expenditure funded from the Infrastructure Development Fund.

Yesterday in Parliament, Minister Tancoo delivered a \$59 billion national Budget in his maiden Budget presentation since being

sworn into office in May. Minister Tancoo declared that sports are a driver of unity and national pride. As well as stating plans for continued rehabilitation works at community swimming pools in Maloney, Morvant, Tunapuna, Biche, and Rio Claro, alongside upgrades at national stadia, Tan-

coo also promised, "New community grounds and the elite athletes' gym at Tacarigua will enhance performance and health. Scholarships through UTT and partnerships with GC Foster in Jamaica and India are developing coaching and sporting administration, including women's cricket."

The Samuel Badree Cricket Academy facility at the University of T&T (UTT) in San Fernando will serve as a national training base. Programmes such as Java Cricket, which serve 2,000 youths with these hands and with practical and entrepreneurial skills. Ten new community centres, with full accessibility features, will open in fiscal 2026, Tancoo assured.

In 2024, the national Budget allocation to sports included significant investment aimed at community and elite-level sports development. Through the ministry, an allocation of \$39 million was given to support community sports, which also aided local sporting clubs and organisations in hosting and managing events.

In an immediate response to the Budget yesterday, Hayden Mitchell, the TennisTT president who was once a director on the

board of SporTT, called for the execution of the promises being made.

He said, "First, let me commend the Government for their attempt to achieve balance in terms of equity. But I need more details, and this is for the bigger budget, so I'll leave that to the economists. However, for sports, there were very few details given, and I think I may have to look to see when the honourable Minister makes his contribution for me to get the details. But a couple of the things that they mentioned were already in train from the last administration, so when they spoke about the gyms and so on, those were from the last administration."

"So I am quite curious to see what new measures they're going to put in place, and I will get those details, I guess, when the honourable Minister makes his contribution to the Budget."

In a Guardian article on Sunday, Mitchell had hoped for a significant part of the Budget to be handed to the Sports Company, which he said could be used for sports and sports development through the National Governing Bodies (NGBs).

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