



**INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS**

The Professional Centre, 11-13, Fitzblackman Drive, Woodbrook,  
Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

Email [info@instituteofsurveyors.com](mailto:info@instituteofsurveyors.com) Web [www.instituteofsurveyors.com](http://www.instituteofsurveyors.com)

Telephone No: 468-3356

PRESS RELEASE (13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017)

The Institute of Surveyors of Trinidad and Tobago (ISTT) wishes to publicly express grave concern over statements made by Works and Transport Minister, The Honourable Mr. Rohan Sinanan, as published in recent media reports, concerning issues plaguing the compulsory land acquisition process by the State. The statements alluded to misconduct by a valuation surveyor who provided professional advice to a private land owner on a compulsory acquisition matter and then later acted on behalf of the State in a senior bureaucratic role in the Valuation Division (Ministry of Finance) on the same matter. These statements further suggested that as a result of this, the State, through the National Infrastructure Development Company (NIDCO), was saddled with a claim amounting to 79 million dollars for land that was initially valued at 7 million dollars.

The ISTT is deeply troubled by these reports as it brings disrepute to the surveying profession. If these accounts are accurate, they reflect not only a conflict of interest but a gross breach of professional ethics. The ISTT recommends that a formal complaint should be filed by the State or any other aggrieved party to the ISTT and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) so that a full investigation can be undertaken.

The ISTT strongly condemns any act or behaviour by our professional members that is inconsistent with ethical standards for professional practice.