

PRESS RELEASE

HYBRID VEHICLE DELIVERED TO MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY AFFAIRS

4th October 2012

Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs Senator the Hon. Kevin C. Ramnarine took delivery of a hybrid vehicle which his ministry has purchased in order to boost energy efficiency awareness in Trinidad and Tobago.

The vehicle was handed over to the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs (MEEA) in front of it's office at Tower C of the International Financial Centre, Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain, today (Thursday October 4th 2012).

The Toyota Prius was purchased to be used as an awareness tool in the MEEA **Energy Awareness National Communication Campaign** that was launched on September 17, 2012.

Given that several Ministries currently use low efficiency diesel vehicles, the MEEA has taken a leading role in increasing energy efficiency by incorporating the Prius into its fleet. Minister Ramnarine has recommended that MEEA vehicles purchased in the future be CNG powered or Hybrid vehicles.

Hybrid vehicles reduce the consumption of fuel by using the vehicle's own motion to provide power. The energy is then stored in specially designed battery compartments. Using this technology, the Prius can achieve an economy rate of 50 miles per gallon. A traditional similar size vehicle typically uses 25 to 30 miles per gallon.

Minister Ramnarine has also expressed his willingness to take a proposal to Cabinet to seek incentives toward increasing the affordability of energy Hybrid vehicles. This is expected to assist the public in purchasing more energy efficient cars.

Captions

Hybrid

Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs Senator Kevin C. Ramnarine looks at the engine of the energy-efficient Toyota Prius purchased by his ministry. Courtesy Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs.

Hybrid 4

Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs Senator Kevin C. Ramnarine, left, look on as Permanent Secretary in his ministry Selwyn Lashley take possession of the keys for a Toyota Prius from Chad De Nobriga, corporate sales executive of Toyota. Photo: Courtesy Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs.

Hybrid 5

Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs Senator Kevin C. Ramnarine sits behind the wheels of the energy-efficient Toyota Prius purchased by his ministry. Courtesy Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs.