



**CENTRAL BANK OF  
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**News Release**

**Central Bank pumps US\$500 million into the system**

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The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago is aware of the difficulty some businessmen and members the public have been experiencing in obtaining foreign currency, in particular US dollars from commercial banks.

The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago has been actively and aggressively taking steps to address this situation. In the last three and a half months Central Bank has sold five hundred million US dollars (US\$500,000,000.00) to the banking sector to alleviate tensions in the domestic foreign exchange market.

The following is a breakdown of these sales:

Month	Sum sold (US\$)
November, 2013	US\$160,000,000.00
December, 2013	US\$40,000,000.00
January, 2014	US\$160,000,000.00
February, 2014	US\$140,000,000.00
<b>Total sold as of 21-2-14</b>	<b>US\$500,000,000.00</b>

*Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, 21-2-14*

The Central Bank typically supplies 25% of the total foreign exchange needs of the market, with the remaining 75% supplied by the banking system.

The Central Bank is assuring the public that other initiatives are currently being pursued to strengthen the operational efficiency of the domestic foreign exchange market. The Bank continues to monitor developments in the foreign exchange market and will take appropriate action as needed.

END