## **Emergency Declared in Trinidad and Tobago**

## Source: IE

**Trinidad and Tobago** has declared a state of **emergency** following a surge in gang violence in the country, which has led to raising the annual death toll to the highest since 2013.

- Trinidad and Tobago has a population of 1.5 million and records one of the highest murder rates.
- Previous states of emergency were declared in 2014 for gang violence and in 2021 for <u>Covid-19</u> restrictions.

## Engagements with India:

- Trinidad and Tobago became the first Caribbean country to adopt India's UPI platform.
- Both countries granted each other Most Favored Nation (MFN) status in 1997.
- Bilateral trade reached a record USD 368.96 million in FY 2023-24.
- The Indian Diaspora constitutes about 42% of the total population of the country.

## About Trinidad and Tobago:

- Capital: Port of Spain.
- Location: Island nation in the southeastern West Indies, near Venezuela and Guyana.
- Independence: Gaining independence from the UK on 31st August 1962, and becoming a republic in 1976, the nation is a member of the <u>Caribbean Community (CARICOM)</u>.
- Geographical Features:
  - Highest Point: Mount Aripo.
  - Major Rivers: Ortoire and Caroni.
  - Natural Resource: Pitch Lake, the world's largest asphalt reservoir.
  - Mountain Range: Northern Range, part of the Andes extension.

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