

National steelband gets legal status

THE Trinidad and Tobago National Steel Orchestra is now a legally incorporated body. •

The band, which was set up by the Culture Ministry three years ago, has been incorporated by an Act of Parliament (Act No 19 of 1999) which was assented to recently.

Under the legislation there is a steel orchestra fund which will comprise money appropriated by Parliament or provided by the Ministry of Finance and similar sources.

The fund can also receive money by way of grants, covenants or donations, revenue from performances, royalties and loans raised by the orchestra's board.

The board must submit an annual financial statement to the Minister of Finance and the accounts must be audited by the Auditor General or by any auditor she authorises.

The legislation was passed in the House of Representatives on July 26 and the House amendments in the Senate on August 3.