

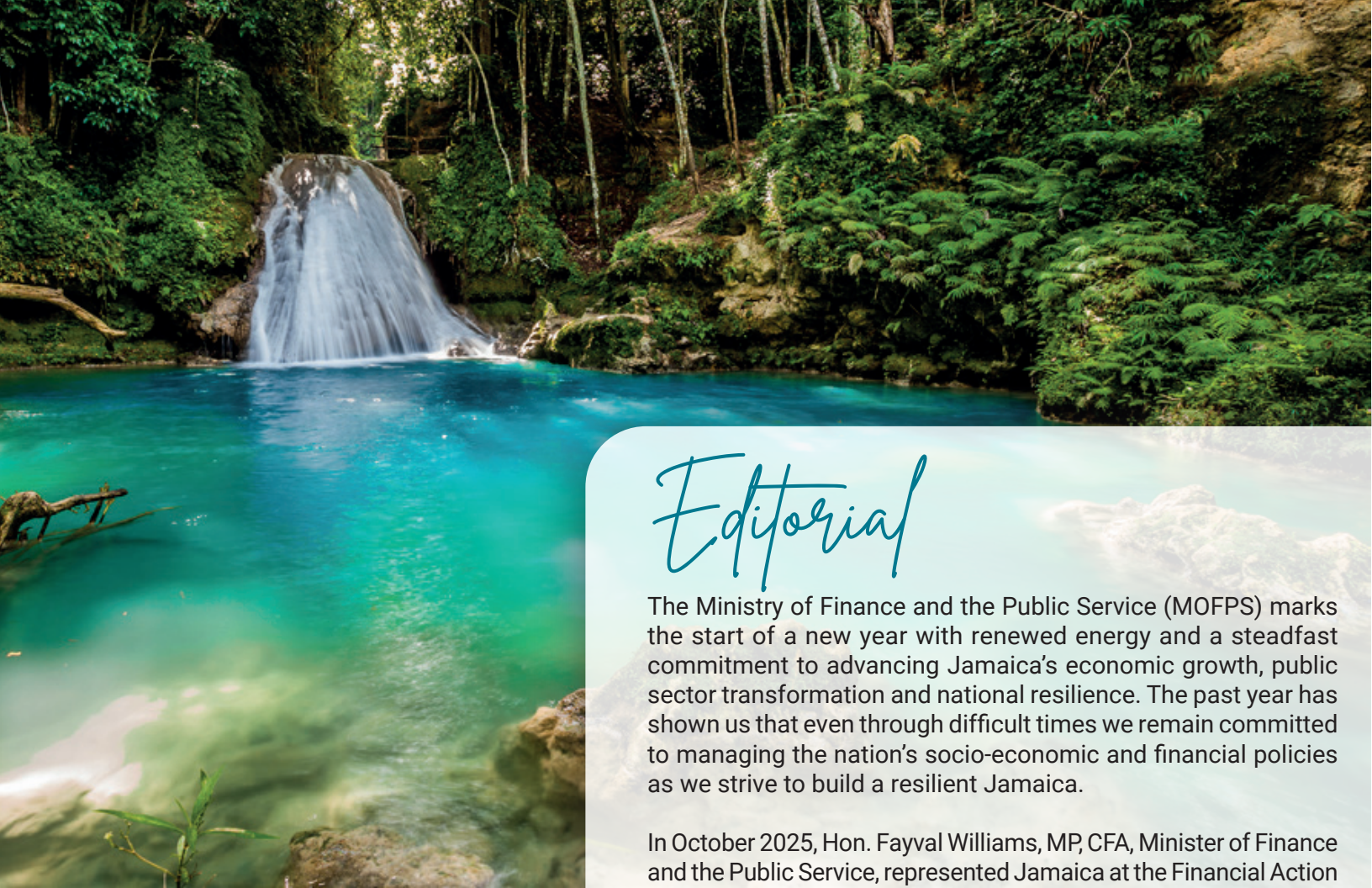
GOJEP

Emergency procurement done right

ALL PROCURING ENTITIES
NOW MANDATED TO
**PUBLISH DETAILS
OF EMERGENCY
CONTRACTS**

FINANCE MINISTER
ATTENDS
FATF
REGIONAL BODY
JURISDICTIONS
GUEST INITIATIVE

**CIVIL SERVICE WEEK
MAIN CHURCH SERVICE**



Editorial

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) marks the start of a new year with renewed energy and a steadfast commitment to advancing Jamaica's economic growth, public sector transformation and national resilience. The past year has shown us that even through difficult times we remain committed to managing the nation's socio-economic and financial policies as we strive to build a resilient Jamaica.

In October 2025, Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service, represented Jamaica at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Regional Body Jurisdictions Guest Initiative. Joining Kenya and Nigeria, Jamaica's participation under its own flag highlighted the country's growing role in shaping international policy on anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism, while demonstrating global recognition of our progress.

In addition, the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) through the MOFPS also continued its efforts to support Jamaica's recovery following the passage of Hurricane Melissa that has severely impacted the western belt of the island. Customs relief measures were implemented to facilitate the ongoing rebuilding process, demonstrating the GOJ's commitment to enabling swift recovery and resilience-building across affected communities. Complementing these measures, the Finance Minister met with the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility team to discuss further support for Jamaica's post-hurricane recovery, underscoring the importance of strategic partnerships in enhancing national resilience.

In this edition of the **MOFPS Insider**, we highlight the Students' Loan Bureau Debt Reset Program as well as the Launch of the Fundamentals of Countering Financial Crime Certificate Programme. We also highlight the Ministry's periodical Public Auction Sale.

If you wish to share feedback on this publication, please send an email to mofps.pr@mof.gov.jm.



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HARD STOP DATE OF JANUARY 15, 2026 FOR THE RELIEF OF IMPORT DUTY AND GENERAL CONSUMPTION TAX AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE MELISSA



Press Release Dated: Wednesday, December 31, 2025.

Reference is made to the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Press Release of November 6, 2025 regarding the relief of customs duty and general consumption tax (GCT) on a specified list of items.

The Government of Jamaica wholeheartedly thanks all those who responded to the devastation of the Category 5 Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica with the outpouring of relief supplies. We are grateful for the many efforts in cash and/or kind. This has helped families and Jamaica's relief effort significantly.

We understand that due to the Christmas season and the intervening holidays, the capacity of shippers, freight forwarders, brokers and the ports were significantly constrained. As a result, some donors may not have had their donations arrive on or before December 31, 2025, which is the cut-off date for relief of import duty and GCT upon importation of selected items. As such, the Government of Jamaica is extending the period of relief to **January 15, 2026**. This date will be a hard stop.

While the Government of Jamaica welcomes the gifts and donations, the decline in tax revenues at Customs since Hurricane Melissa has been significant, totaling approximately **JMD \$12 billion.**

As Jamaica transits from the relief phase to recovery & reconstruction, we ask our friends and families abroad to help by utilising the normal channels for items sent to Jamaica for relatives and friends as the **January 15, 2026 deadline is a hard stop** with respect to the relief of import duty and GCT that was provided as a result of Hurricane Melissa.





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*A fresh start for your
financial future is here!*

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- 2. Accept the Offer at
debtreset.slbja.com*



**(876) 588-6484
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Building Bridges, Transforming Dreams

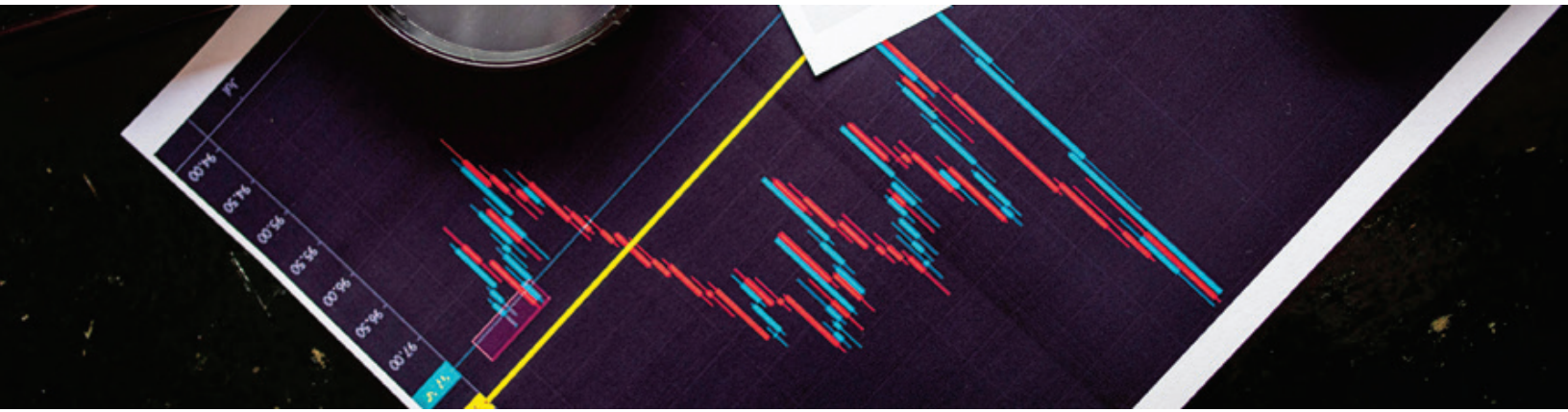


FINANCE MINISTER ATTENDS FATF REGIONAL BODY JURISDICTIONS GUEST INITIATIVE

Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service attended the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Regional Body Jurisdictions Guest Initiative in October 2025. The Plenary welcomed Jamaica and Nigeria as new participants, joining Kenya under the initiative. Through this mechanism, guest jurisdictions participate under their own flag at FATF

meetings, strengthening cohesion of the Global Network and broaden regional perspectives at FATF meetings. Minister Williams highlighted that the invitation reflected the international community's ongoing recognition of Jamaica's progress and an opportunity for Jamaica to contribute to global policy direction on anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism.

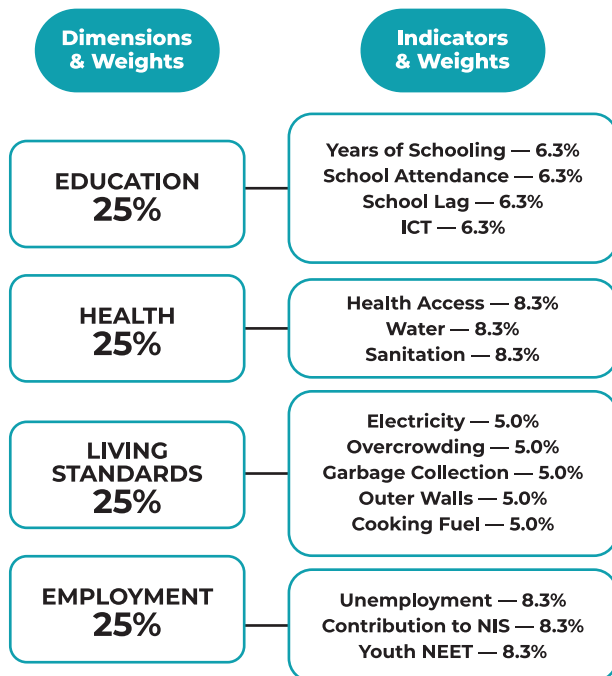




The Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) introduces the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) — a revolutionary tool that expands how poverty is measured and support provided for individuals.

How Does The MPI Measure Poverty?

The MPI measures poverty across four equally weighted dimensions, using 15 specific indicators:



An individual is identified as multidimensionally poor if he or she is deprived in 40% or more of the total indicators.

JAMAICA'S NEW POVERTY MEASURE GOES BEYOND MONEY

This approach uses the same data source as monetary poverty, enabling a deeper understanding and more precise delivery of interventions. The MPI identifies the specific, combined deprivations a person experiences, providing the data needed for precise, impactful interventions.

Why The MPI Matters?

The MPI is a key instrument in the National Poverty Reduction Programme (NPRP) and a resource for development partners. It targets social programmes more effectively, directing resources where they are needed most and identifies and tracks deprivations across regions and sectors over time. The MPI monitors poverty reduction efforts and supports Vision 2030 Jamaica alignment.

Understand The Data Driving Jamaica's Development

Download The Full Report



From the PIOJ Website or by Contacting Us at:

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Planning today ... Securing tomorrow





Civil Service Week

MAIN CHURCH SERVICE

Civil Service Week was commemorated with a main church service under the theme "The Public Sector: Beyond Artificial Intelligence AI" at the Eastwood Park Road New Testament Church of God on Sunday, November 16, 2025. The 2025 Civil Servant of the Year nominees were also affirmed for excellent service across the Managerial, Mid-Managerial and Technical Support Categories. All other activities were cancelled due to the impact of Hurricane Melissa.

2025 Civil Servants of the Year Nominees



Congratulations





**Jamaica
Customs
Agency**
'Country Above Self'

PRIVACY TIP

YOUR PRIVACY MATTERS!

As we work together to rebuild following the passage of Hurricane Melissa, please stay alert to potential scams and fake requests for your personal information. During times of disruption, there may be a higher risk for fraudsters to exploit your trust.

Important reminders:

- Share personal data only with verified JCA representatives carrying out their official duties.
- Check the sender of emails, calls, or messages before responding.
- Keep important documents secure and report any that are lost.

The JCA remains committed to protecting your personal information while delivering trusted and high-quality service.

For more information:

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🌐 jca.gov.jm

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✉ @jamaicacustoms

FID AND UWI MONA LAUNCH FUNDAMENTALS OF COUNTERING FINANCIAL CRIME CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service delivered remarks at the launch of the Fundamentals of Countering Financial Crime Certificate Programme held at the UWI Mona Campus on Monday, December 8, 2025.

The Programme is a collaborative effort between the Financial Investigations Division and the University of the West Indies, Mona that targets professionals in law enforcement and persons with an interest in law enforcement and financial crime.

Minister Williams in her remarks said, 'This programme is the first of its kind in the region, as prior to this all certification in financial crimes needed to be done outside the region. The course will start on January 6, 2026 with the first cohort of 30 persons, which is 5 persons from each participating law enforcement agency.'



THE NUMBERS ARE IN!

Jamaica's **Census** **Results** Are Here

STATIN has published data from the 2022 Population and Housing Census—your source for accurate population data and insights.



Explore the findings on our website



Watch the official press conference
on YouTube



Contact STATIN for expert guidance
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ALL PROCURING ENTITIES NOW MANDATED TO PUBLISH DETAILS OF *EMERGENCY CONTRACTS*



Press Release Dated: Tuesday, December 9, 2025.

The Government of Jamaica (GOJ) has introduced a new requirement for procuring entities to publicly disclose contracts awarded in situations of emergency or extreme urgency on the Government of Jamaica Electronic Procurement (GOJEP) system at www.gojep.gov.jm. This new requirement reinforces the GOJ's commitment to transparency, accountability and public oversight.

Pursuant to the Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2025, all procuring entities are now required to publish Emergency Contract Award Notices within one month of the date of award. The measure ensures that Jamaicans can see how public funds are spent during emergencies and why fast-tracked procurement decisions are made.

The requirement for publication of emergency contract notices on the GOJEP system became effective on Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

While emergencies often require swift action, the Government emphasises that speed must not come at the expense of transparency. This new requirement allows the public to view what goods, works and/or services are being procured, who is receiving the contracts and the justification for the award, even in times of crisis.

Each Emergency Contract Award Notice is required to provide clear and essential details to ensure full public accountability. At a minimum, the published notice must include the name of the contract, the name of the contractor(s) along with the justification for their selection, the date the contract was awarded, the total value of the contract, the duration and current status of engagement, a description of the emergency or extreme urgency that necessitated the procurement and a summary of the goods, works, or services procured.

This new publication requirement strengthens the Government's commitment to transparency, integrity, accountability, fairness and value for money in public procurement. By centralising all emergency contract awards on the GOJEP, the Government is ensuring that the public, civil society and the media have early and equal access to information, helping to build greater trust and confidence in how urgent public spending decisions are made.

For further guidance and support, both procuring entities and members of the public can access Guidance Note 2 of 2025 – Procurement in Situations of Emergency or Extreme Urgency on the Office of Public Procurement Policy website at www.procureja.gov.jm. This guidance provides detailed information on the rules governing emergency procurement in Jamaica.



PENSION LIFE CERTIFICATE SCHEDULE

JANUARY-MARCH

1ST QUARTER

Due for submission: 31st of January

APRIL-JUNE

2ND QUARTER

Due for submission: 30th of April

JULY-SEPTEMBER

3RD QUARTER

Due for submission: 31st of July

OCTOBER- DECEMBER

4TH QUARTER

Due for submission: 31st of October

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THE PEOPLE INSIDE **THE MOFPS**

Barrington Thomas



Meet Barrington Thomas, Principal Director in the Public Expenditure Policy Coordination Division at the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service. Mr Thomas has been employed to the public service for over 15 years.

Here are some things about him:

1. If you could change something about Jamaica what would it be? Why?

I would change the level of inequality in the distribution of wealth. If wealth is more evenly distributed then we would not have extreme poverty and marginalised groups in Jamaica.

2. What is your favourite way to spend a day off?

Doing fun activities with my family and shutting-in with God.

3. If money were no object, what would you do?

I would ensure that the entire Jamaican populace is educated and job opportunities with liveable wages exist for all.

4. What is your favourite thing about your job?

The far reaching impact within the public sector and by extension the reassurance it may give to citizens regarding the use of public funds.

5. Top 3 lessons you would teach your younger self:

- Your response is your responsibility, as such there is no one to blame for your reaction but yourself.
- With Christ in the vessel you can smile at and through the storm.
- The heights of great people reached and kept were not attained without hard work; but hard work and no rest is a fool's folly.



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MINISTRY MATTERS

FINANCE MINISTER MEETS WITH CCRIF TEAM POST HURRICANE MELISSA



Hon. Fayval Williams (center), MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service met with the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) team on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 to discuss how the CCRIF can continue to support Jamaica's recovery and resilience-building efforts post Hurricane Melissa. Captured are, Issac Anthony (2nd right), Chief Executive Officer, CCRIF, Sandra Bailey (2nd left), Vice Chairperson of the Board, CCRIF, Trevor Anderson (left), Principal Director of the Fiscal Policy Management Branch, MOFPS and Elizabeth Emanuel (right), Technical Assistance and Development & Corporate Communications Manager, CCRIF

AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE TO JAMAICA COURTESY CALL TO THE MOFPS



Her Excellency Marianne Ziss, Ambassador of France to Jamaica and her delegation paid a courtesy call to Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, CFA, Minister of Finance and the Public Service on Friday, December 12, 2025.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service's Asset Management and Disposal Services Branch hosted its quarterly Public Auction Sale at 1 Shalimar Avenue on Friday, December 5, 2025.



Branch Spotlight

MOFPS ASSET MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL SERVICES BRANCH



The team is led by

Ms Stephanie Matthews

Director, Asset Management and
Disposal Services Branch.

Meet the Asset Management and Disposal Services Branch (AMDSB)
within the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service.



1. What is the staff complement of the Asset Management and Disposal Services Branch?

10

2. What are the Branch's core responsibilities and function?

The Asset Management and Disposal Services Branch is central to ensuring the efficient assessment of government-owned non-financial assets for both internal and external customers. The Branch is entrusted with assessing non-financial assets removed from operational use across GOJ entities and arriving at pricing thresholds to facilitate the sale of the assets to public sector workers and the public, mainly through live auctions.

3. How is the AMDSB Driven by Service Excellence?

The AMDSB's commitment to service excellence has led them to set time-bound targets for responding to customers. They demonstrate commitment to internal and external customers by ensuring the agreed service levels communicated are maintained and quality is standard in the delivery of service.



Suzell Wray, Host



The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service's flagship programme, Finance Matters, is a current affairs programme that is set to demystify the economic and fiscal policies and initiatives implemented by the Government to empower Jamaicans as we chart a path to Jamaica's economic prosperity. The feature is produced by the MOFPS and is broadcast on all local TV channels.



► **EPISODE 1**
TAJ's New Electronic Motor Vehicle Registration System
Meris Haughton



► **EPISODE 2**
SLB's Extended Loan Repayment Period
Nickeisha Walsh



► **EPISODE 3**
ICT Authority Digitising the Public Service
Anika Shuttleworth



► **EPISODE 4**
Services Offered By JDIC
Sharlene Hendricks



► **EPISODE 5**
JCA's Productive Input Relief Programme
Orane Thompson



► **EPISODE 6**
DBJ's ORBIT Loan Programme
Dr. David Lowe



► **EPISODE 7**
JSE's Micro Market
Andre' Gooden



► **EPISODE 8**
Changes to Jamaica's Public Procurement Act
Jovell Barrett



► **EPISODE 8**
AGD's New Customer Touch Points
David King



► **EPISODE 10**
SEASON RECAP

Farmer's Market

The MOFPS Farmers' Market happens every last Friday of each month.



