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Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment, and sports, Hon. Olivia Grange (Right) Presents Dr. Conrad Douglas with the Silver Musgrave Medal in Science for his work in the area of science and technology and innovation in industry and the environment.

## Agro-Industry

### Denbigh Agricultural Food Show Set for August 4-6



The upcoming Denbigh Agricultural, Industrial and Food Show, is attracting a record number of interests from potential exhibitors, according to Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining, Hon. Floyd Green. "In terms of exhibits and people asking questions to be exhibitors, we are already at 20 per cent above the requests that we got last year. Denbigh is looking extremely good," Mr. Green said. [...]

### Jamaica Ripe for Business



Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce, Senator the Hon. Aubyn Hill, says Jamaica is one of the most attractive investment destinations in the Caribbean and is urging more diaspora members to do business in the country. Senator Hill was addressing a panel discussion on Monday (June 17) on the topic 'Jamaica Open for Business: Transforming Investment and Enterprise in Jamaica [...]

### Jamaica's Food Security Remains a Key Government Priority



The Government has been instituting the necessary measures to ensure food security remains a top priority, says Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining, Hon. Floyd Green. Minister Green, who was addressing local farmers and other stakeholders during a recent Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) agricultural show in Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth, said it is against this backdrop that significant financing [...]

### Agriculture Ministry Revitalising Dairy Industry



The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining has announced a new programme to revitalise the dairy industry to meet local and international demand for milk and milk products. Portfolio Minister, Hon. Floyd Green, in his contribution to the 2024/25 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives recently, said that under the Dairy Livestock and Innovation Nutrition Programme, solar-powered cooling systems [...]

### Agriculture Ministry to Employ Sit to Reduce Fruit Fly Population



The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining is aiming to employ the sterile insect technique (SIT), through the Plant Quarantine Produce Inspection (PQPI) unit, to reduce the island's fruit fly population. This technique involves the mass production and release of sterilised male insects into the wild, where they mate with wild females but produce no offspring, thereby reducing the overall population over time. [...]

### Farmers Urged to Prevent Heat Stress in Animals



The Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) is encouraging livestock owners to be proactive in preventing heat stress in their animals. According to the University of Minnesota, heat stress occurs when animals generate and absorb more heat than they can easily get rid of by respiration, sweating and air blowing. Senior livestock Specialist at RADA, Maxine Brown, . [...]

### Government Allocates \$60 Million to Support Onion Farmers



The Government has allocated \$60 million to continue supporting onion farmers and boost local production of the crop. [Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining, Hon. Floyd Green, said the allocation will be used to increase the use of technology by installing driers to sustain and enhance onion production. He was making his contribution to the 2024/25 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives, recently. [...]

### Brewing a Greener Future: Mavis Bank Coffee Factory Upgrades Waste Treatment



Jamaica Blue Mountain Coffee is tapping into the environmentally conscious European coffee market, resulting in a significant investment of \$100 million in upgrading the Mavis Bank Coffee Factory waste treatment facility. As the largest single location processing plant in the region, the upgraded waste treatment facility will make it the first of its kind in the Caribbean.

## **Business News**

### Economy Able to Withstand Some Shocks – PM



The island's economic growth over the last decade has improved its ability to respond to shocks, says Prime Minister the Most Hon. Andrew Holness. "Jamaica has changed quite a bit in the last decade to the point where we are able to withstand some shocks. It's not every shock that we will be able to withstand, but if we continue to grow our economy and run our public bodies well so that they have strong balance sheets, [...]"

### Diaspora Conference to Stimulate Increased Trade and Commerce



Members in the diaspora and Jamaican businesses can expect to benefit from increased opportunities for trade and commerce at this year's 10th Biennial Diaspora Conference, to be held from June 16 to 19. The staging of the conference will offer participants the opportunity to connect in person at the Montego Bay Convention Centre in St. James. [...]

## Climate Change

### Upcoming Diaspora Conference to Feature Panel Discussion on Green Entrepreneurship



A distinguished panel of experts will explore issues related to climate change and entrepreneurship at the upcoming 10th Biennial Jamaica Diaspora Conference, which will be held from June 16 to 19 at the Montego Bay Convention Centre in St James. The 45-minute panel discussion, which is scheduled for June 17, will underscore critical areas of concern and identify where innovative solutions [...]

### Nature in Crisis: Rethinking Development Pathways



As we mark World Environment Day it is clear that the planet's ecosystems are in an accelerating state of flux, and that a course correction is urgently needed if countries are to maintain and sustain their hard-won development gains in coming decades. Together, the changing climate, loss of ecosystems, and escalating toxicity and pollution, known as the triple planetary crisis, have emerged as an existential threat to lives [...]

### Jamaica Committed to Resilient Ocean Ecosystem



Director General of the Maritime Authority of Jamaica, Bertrand Smith has reiterated Jamaica's commitment to fostering a resilient ocean ecosystem for future generations. Speaking at a recent World Oceans Day ceremony hosted by Earth Ambassadors at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Mr. Smith outlined Jamaica's proactive measures in marine conservation, [...]

### Jamaica Well Ahead in Meeting Land Mass Protection Target – Minister Samuda



Jamaica remains five years ahead of schedule to meet the 2030 target for land mass protection, says Minister without portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, Senator the Hon. Matthew Samuda. The Government has committed to complete legal protection for 30 per cent of land mass and coastal marine ecosystems by 2030 as part of measures to halt biodiversity loss and limit climate change. [...]

## Energy

### Workshop on Nuclear Energy in Progress



A five-day workshop on the development of a nuclear energy programme in Jamaica is now under way, marking a significant step in Jamaica's exploration of sustainable energy practices. The event, which is taking place at the Regional Headquarters of the University of the West Indies, Mona, began on June 10 and will end on June 14. [...]



### GER Makes Considerable Progress



The Government Electrical Regulator (GER), established under the Electricity Act, has made considerable progress since its inception on November 1, 2021, says Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport, Hon. Daryl Vaz. Making his contribution to the 2024/25 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives on June 4, the Minister said the GER has licensed 290 private electrical inspectors, [...]

## **Health and Wellness**

### Fish Adulteration a Growing Food Crime and Public Health Concern



According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, fish consumption globally is estimated to be 20.5 per cent per capita and is expected to increase in years to come as fish is an important source of nutrition for many people across the world, providing required protein and other nutrients such as vitamin A, calcium, iron and omega 3 fatty . [...]

### Health Ministry Continues to Prioritize Care and Management of Sickle Cell Disease



The Ministry of Health and Wellness continues to prioritise the care and management of sickle cell disease (SCD) in Jamaica, ensuring comprehensive screening and early interventions to improve outcomes for affected individuals. Sickle cell disease is a genetic disorder passed from parents to children, affecting approximately one in every 170 persons, while one in 10 carries the sickle cell trait [...]

### Jamaicans Urged to Donate More Blood



Members of the public are being encouraged to make giving blood a regular routine, so that the island can move the annual 30,000 litres of blood collected to 60,000 litres. Making the call, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Dunstan Bryan, said that “the very donation that you provide could save your life, or the life of someone you love. Every donation saves three lives”. [...]

### Parents Urged to Keep Medications and Chemicals Out of Children's



As the summer holidays approach, parents are being implored to properly store medication and household chemicals to prevent them from being ingested by children. Health Promotion and Education Officer for Westmoreland, Gerald Miller, in making the call, said that accidental poisoning among children remains an issue. [...]

## Science and Technology

### Educators Encouraged to Participate in Summer Attachment Programme of SRC



Educators are being encouraged to participate in the Scientific Research Council (SRC) 2024 Summer Attachment Programme. The initiative is scheduled for July 23 to 26 and is open to teachers in training and professionals already in the classroom at the primary and secondary levels. Acting Coordinator of the SRC's Science and Technology Education Unit, Latanniya Johnson, told JIS News that the annual . [...]

### Dr. Conrad Douglas Contributing to Science and Technology Development



Jamaican Scientist, Dr. Conrad Douglas is the recipient of the Silver Musgrave Medal in Science for his work in the area of science and technology and innovation in industry and the environment. He received the award during a ceremony hosted recently by the Institute of Jamaica (IOJ) at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. [...]

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### Industry Minister Encourages Companies to Embrace Technology



Minister of Industry, Investment and Commerce, Senator the Hon. Aubyn Hill, is encouraging companies to embrace the use of technology across sectors for increased productivity, to meet international demand and drive Jamaica's global competitiveness. "The use of smart technology helps to streamline processes, automate tasks and optimize resource allocation across industries, such as manufacturing, agriculture, [...]"

### Government Unveils Two Groundbreaking Virtual Platforms to Enhance Diaspora Engagement



The Government has unveiled two groundbreaking virtual platforms – the Diaspora Registration portal, 'ConnectMeJa', and the Jamaica Diaspora Engagement Model (Jam-Dem), which aim to enhance diaspora engagement and connectivity globally. The innovative platforms were officially launched by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Senator the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith, [...]

The Science Resource Centre  
invites you to our

# Visibility Series

## Theme:

**The Use of Technology to Mitigate  
Potential Risks in the Transportation  
System, Including Ridesharing Apps**

## Guest Speaker:

**Michael Edwards**

**Sub-Officer, Jamaica Constabulary Force**



**Date: July 17, 2024**



**Time: 1:00 p.m.**

## SPECIAL PRIZE GIVEAWAYS!



**Zoom ID: 843 8009 5342**

**Zoom Passcode: 206890**



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