

Remarks
Mr. Cecil McCain
Director, Post & Telecommunications
Jamaica Civil Service Association 100th Commemorative Stamp Launch
May 6, 2019 at 10 am

Salutations:

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Ladies and gentlemen, it is my distinct pleasure to convey remarks on behalf of Minister of Science, Energy & Technology the Hon. Fayval Williams, who is unavoidably absent.

Today is a historic day, as not only is the Jamaica Civil Service Association (JCSA) celebrating its 100th year of existence, but the Association is also taking its place in the annals of Jamaica's postal history with the launch of this commemorative stamp.

I must commend the Post and Telecommunications Department for capturing pieces of Jamaican history through philately over the years.

Jamaica's Postal History

Jamaica has had a rich postal history having been one of the first British colony to have an established Post Office. Established in 1671 the postal service in Jamaica is one of the largest geographically dispersed organization

in Jamaica, having a presence in almost every nook and cranny across Jamaica.

For many years, the postal service has occupied a prominent place in the lives of many Jamaicans, being at one point the only form of communication both in-land and overseas. The Postal service also provide vital logistical support enabling many businesses to reach their customers or business partners.

The dawn of the digital age has significantly changed the way we use the postal service but despite these changes, I must commend the Department for implementing new and innovative ways of serving its clients and remaining relevant in the digital age.

I must make mention of your very popular products such as Zip Mail which allows for the pick-up and delivery of packages and other postal items from your door to their door or the nearest participating post office.

More recently, in response to the demands of a modern ecommerce enabled society the Klick N' Ship service was introduced. Klick N' Ship provides a professional, quick, reliable services and hassle free experience for shipping goods purchased in the US online to Jamaica by Jamaica's online shoppers.

The department also offers tracking features so that you can keep pace with your mail.

Importance of JCSA Commemorative Stamp

Stamps denote not just the postage value or the jurisdiction with which they are associated, they are also used to capture pieces of history. This commemorative stamp allows the JCSA to join a long list of individuals, organizations or partnerships that have been memorialized in this way.

Founded in 1919, the JCSA as a formal organization predates Trade Unions which were not formally founded until the late 1930's. The JCSA was founded in response to the need for strong advocacy to represent and negotiate on behalf of public servants.

As an Association, you provide an invaluable service to your members by representing and safeguarding their legitimate interests.

Like other trade unions, your work over the years has empowered our people, lobbying on their behalf. Today, you are an important stakeholder in the modernization of the public sector which demands greater accountability and transparency in the way Government does business.

These two organizations, with a long and strong history, evolving with the times to make a mark in a digital and constantly changing world.

Conclusion

My commendations once again to the Post and Telecommunications Department and the JCSA for this historic partnership.

My hope is for Jamaicans to hold and value this as a piece of our history so that the generations to come will get an opportunity to appreciate the milestone that we are celebrating today.

Thank you.