



**HEADQUARTERS
POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
6 – 10 SOUTH CAMP ROAD, C.S.O., JAMAICA W. I**

Telephone No. 876-829-5779 or 876-772-0338
Email: publicrelations@jamaicapost.gov.jm
Website: www.jamaicapost.gov.jm

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Press Release
For Immediate Release

**JAMAICA POST 350TH ANNIVERSARY
COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

On October 31, 2021, Jamaica Post commemorated its 350th anniversary, a momentous achievement that was proudly celebrated under the theme, *Transformation through Innovation*. As part of the celebratory activities, the following members of the executive team Professor Felix Akinladejo, Chairman, Postal Corporation of Jamaica; Mr. Lincoln Allen, Postmaster General, Post and Telecommunications Department/ Chief Executive Officer, Postal Corporation of Jamaica and Mrs. Sophia Hamilton-Brown, Deputy Postmaster General made a Courtesy Call on His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick L. Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J, Governor-General of Jamaica on May 3, 2022, at King's House.

His Excellency was presented with three large frames, each displaying a sample from the 350th anniversary commemorative stamp series. This special edition stamp set provides a glimpse of the past while signalling the future of Jamaica Post. The set encompasses iconic stamps depicting early modes of transportation, employees and buildings. In contrast, the stamp set also shows the initiation of modernisation activities to include the use of modern delivery systems such as the Mobile Post and motor cycles, renovated postal locations, integration of information and communication technology infrastructure and the continuous improvement of human resource capacity in a modern space.

The Call which lasted approximately one hour, covered topics ranging from the history of the postal service, and recent achievements, to plans that will enable the continued evolution of Jamaica Post. Historically, the post office is seen as a social space where members of the public not only transacted business, but also one of a few institutions that served to establish a community and built lasting relationships. The post office still remains relevant to many communities, even today.

The Chairman, Postal Corporation of Jamaica, Professor Felix Akinladejo informed his Excellency that the thrust of Jamaica Post will be anchored on three pillars: profitability, modernisation and efficiency (PME).

The Postmaster General/ Chief Executive Officer of Jamaica Post, Mr. Lincoln Allen, added that despite the advent of the CoVid-19 pandemic Jamaica Post processed over twenty-five (25) million mail pieces i.e. both local and international.

Furthermore, he stated that over the last financial year, Jamaica Post engaged in several core activities, to include:

Digital Transformation of the Department

The Postmaster General noted that “Internet access is currently available at seventy-three (73) post offices island-wide and will be increased to one hundred (100) locations during this Financial Year. This will enable the adaption and implementation by Jamaica Post of Counter Automation technology that will be acquired in this financial year. The Counter Automation technology is intended to automate the services offered at the post office counters to improve efficiency, accountability as well as service delivery to the public. This technology is the fulcrum that will launch the postal service into the twenty-first century.”

E-learning Electronic Devices Distribution

He added that there is an existing partnership between the Jamaica Post and E-Learning Jamaica Company Limited for the distribution of tablets and laptops to students and teachers within the education system. This is done through the Tablets in Schools Programme which is managed by E-Learning Jamaica Company Limited. For the Financial Year 2021/2022, Jamaica Post distributed 33,410 devices.

✓ Tablets	23,216
✓ Laptops	10,194

Over the period June 2020 to March 2022, Jamaica Post has safely and efficiently distributed a total of **91,806** devices. The distribution is broken down as follows:

✓ Tablets	76,766
✓ Laptops	15,040

Zip Mail

His Excellency was informed of the Zip Mail service, established in 2003, being among the first ‘next business day’ courier service in Jamaica.

It was expressed that, for the financial year ending 2021/ 2022, the number of post offices receiving packages for the ‘next business day’ delivery service, grew by 49% i.e. from 49 locations to 73 locations. Packages can now be collected/ picked up from 104 post offices island-wide.

In this Financial Year, Zip Mail will be expanded to 100 post office locations island-wide for the dropping off/ acceptance of items and to 130 post office locations for pick up/ collection.

Stamp Production

Expounding on the special 350th anniversary stamp series, Mrs. Sophia Hamilton-Brown, Deputy Postmaster General explained, “In celebration of the 350th anniversary of the postal service in Jamaica, on October 29, 2021 eighteen (18) postage stamps in denominations of \$60.00, \$100.00, \$120.00, \$180.00, \$200.00 and \$1,000.00 were released to the public to mark this occasion. Additionally, two (2) souvenir sheets consisting of the official 350th anniversary logo and the evolution of the mail transport system were released on October 29, 2021. This stamp set marks a significant time for postal operations in Jamaica as it serves as a reminder of the journey undertaken by the postal service.”

Also, the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport requested a ***60th Anniversary of the Independence of Jamaica*** stamp issue to commemorate Jamaica's Diamond Jubilee. During the month of August 2022 this stamp set will be released to the public. The stamp set will include two (2) postage stamps in the denominations of \$60.00 and \$120.00. Jamaica Post will host the launch ceremony where the commemorative stamp set will be unveiled in the Customer Service Lobby of the Central Sorting Office Post Office, which is now being renovated.

The Postmaster General stated that Jamaica Post is on a journey of modernisation and transformation and there are many more things to be expected from the postal service – “We have been strategic in our approach and will continue in our efforts to digitize our operations, strengthen the brand, retool and expand the service offerings of Jamaica Post in a bid to fulfill our vision to be an icon of excellence.”

The postal service was established in Jamaica in 1671 under the rulership of King Charles II, in the old capital of St. Jago De La Vega, now known as Spanish Town. The Head Office operations were relocated to the General Post Office in downtown Kingston by 1776 and was subsequently relocated and commissioned to the Central Sorting Office in 1980.

With a network of two hundred and thirty-seven post offices (237) and one hundred and sixty-four (164) postal agencies, Jamaica Post remains a keystone in the local logistics space, serving both the personal and business needs of our customers both locally and internationally.

- End -

Images from the Courtesy Call



Present for the courtesy call with His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick L. Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J, Governor-General of Jamaica (third from left), were Mrs. Sophia Hamilton-Brown, Deputy Postmaster General, Business and Regional Operations, Post and Telecommunications Department (first from left); Professor Felix Akinladejo, Chairman, Postal Corporation of Jamaica (second from left) and Mr. Lincoln Allen, Postmaster General, Post and Telecommunications Department / Chief Executive Officer, Postal Corporation of Jamaica (fourth from left).



His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick L. Allen, Governor-General of Jamaica points to Jamaica Post 350th anniversary stamps being presented to him by Deputy Postmaster General, Business and Regional Operations, Post and Telecommunications Department, Mrs. Sophia Hamilton-Brown.

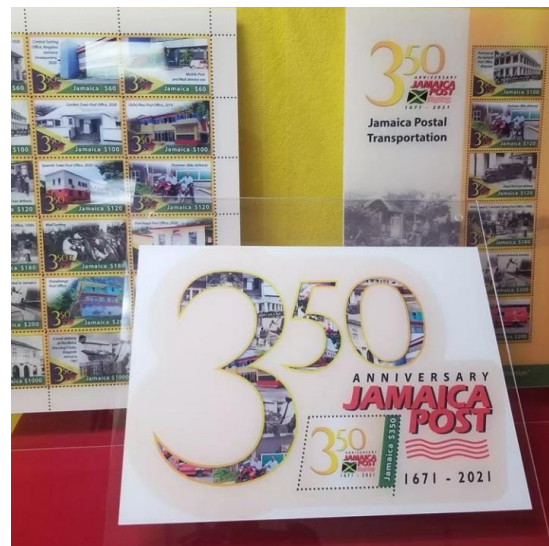


Image of one of the 350th anniversary commemorative stamps that were presented to His Excellency.