



**PRESS RELEASE
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Tuesday, December 10, 2024



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang in conversation with Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Yasuhiro Atsumi and Deputy Commissioner of Police Karina Powell-Hood at the Handover Ceremony for 27 Toyota Land Cruiser Pickup Trucks donated by the Government of Japan. The event was held at the Office of the Commissioner of Police earlier today (December 10).

Driving security forward: Japan donates vehicles to boost policing capabilities

“Mobility is a critical part of modern-day policing,” Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang emphasised.

He was delivering remarks at the Handover Ceremony for 27 Toyota Land Cruiser Pickup Trucks donated by the Government of Japan. The event was held at the Office of the Commissioner of Police earlier today (December 10).

This significant gesture, a part of the Japan Grant Aid Programme for Economic and Social Development, accentuates the enduring partnership between the two nations as they celebrate 60 years of diplomatic relations.

The vehicles, handed over to the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), and facilitated by the Ministry of National Security, will enhance the Force’s operational capacity, particularly in



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community policing efforts. The collaboration, reflects the shared commitment of both governments to advancing security and fostering sustainable development.

Minister Chang in highlighting the importance of this contribution shared that: **“the JCF has undergone a comprehensive transformation to become a stronger, more effective force. Mobility, alongside communication and training, forms the backbone of modern policing, and these vehicles will strengthen their ability to serve and protect.”**



Two of twenty-seven Toyota Land Cruiser Pickup Trucks donated by the Government of Japan on display at the Handover Ceremony held at the Office of the Commissioner of Police earlier today (December 10).

The fleet of vehicles comes at a crucial time, ahead of the busy festive season, when the need for patrols is heightened. These new vehicles will bolster the JCF’s efforts to secure communities, deter criminal activities, and ensure the safety of citizens and visitors alike.

Over the long term, the fleet is expected to play a pivotal role in combating gang violence, reducing crime rates, and fostering a secure environment for economic growth and social cohesion.

Ambassador of Japan to Jamaica, His Excellency Yasuhiro Atsumi, underscored the significance of the partnership, stating, **“Japan has long been a dependable and steadfast partner of Jamaica, supporting your country’s development in various areas. This handover ceremony marks another landmark in the special relationship between our two nations.”**

The Security Minister expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan, emphasising plans for a comprehensive fleet management policy for the JCF to come in 2025 which will ensure the effective use and maintenance of these vital assets.



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As the vehicles are deployed across the island, they symbolise not only a tangible contribution to law enforcement but also the strength of a partnership dedicated to building a secure and prosperous Jamaica.

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