



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, December 3, 2024



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang declares an additional one-hundred and eighty day extension of the seven Zones of Special Operations (ZOSOs) in four parishes during the sitting of the House of Representatives today (December 3).

Government extends all seven Zones of Special Operations until June 2025

The Government of Jamaica has announced the extension of all seven Zones of Special Operations (ZOSOs) for an additional 180 days, set to expire on June 23, 2025.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, the Hon. Dr. Horace Chang in his opening remarks in Parliament today (December 3) noted that: **“the decision reflects the administration’s commitment to sustaining the tangible progress achieved in communities targeted under the ZOSO initiative.”**

He highlighted that the ZOSO framework has effectively addressed the root causes of crime while fostering safer and more resilient communities. Over the past six months, significant strides have been made in the seven ZOSO communities of Mount Salem, Denham Town, August Town, Greenwich Town, Norwood, Parade Gardens, and Savanna-la-Mar.

Minister Chang shared that the **“programme has also prioritised human development, offering birth certificate registration, summer camps, and academic enrichment opportunities for residents.”**



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These efforts underscore the Government's recognition that crime stems from socio-economic disparities and a lack of opportunities, requiring a holistic approach to community transformation.

The extension of the ZOSOs reaffirms the government's dedication to maintaining peace, stability and development across Jamaica.

Acting on the advice of the National Security Council and in accordance with the Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) Act, the Prime Minister in Council, in consultation with the Joint Command, has secured Parliamentary approval for this extension.

The Government remains steadfast in its vision of creating communities where citizens can live, work, and raise their families with dignity.

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