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**National Security Minister says Zones of Special Operations
legislation will be game changer**

National Security Minister, Hon. Robert Montague says the Government's Zones of Special Operations legislation will be a game changer and will have far reaching effect on communities.

The National Security Minister was speaking on Friday at the closing ceremony for the Youth Empowerment and Mentorship Residential Summer Camp held yesterday (August 4) at the Iona High School in St. Mary.

He pointed to the special training which members of the Jamaica Constabulary and Jamaica Defence Forces have received in preparation to carry out the clear and hold aspects of the programme.

“The security forces have undergone intensive training to ensure they respect the human rights of all citizens said Minister Montague.

He explained that an intervention committee comprising the Custos, Member of Parliament, Councillor, the Church, social agencies, among other groups will enter the community and conduct a needs analysis in preparation for sustainable development.

“The intervention committee will move in five days after the security forces have cleared it with a view to normalizing the area. I am encouraging the participants of the IPAD camp to participate in these activities, which will be of great benefit to every resident. It is not about taking over the community, it is about staying with the community and growing with the community,” stated Minister Montague.

The National Security Minister said the aim is to make all communities governable and can be accessed by state agencies.

“Every square inch of Jamaica must be governable and is accessible to states agencies” he noted.

The Zones of Special Operations legislation is part of the National Security Five Pillar Strategy, covering the pillars of crime prevention through social intervention, situational prevention and effective policing.