



MINISTRY PAPER NO. .... CS/49

JAMAICA OMNIBUS SERVICES LIMITED - ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1978

Submitted for the information of the House is the Annual Report of the Jamaica Omnibus Services Limited for the year ended 31st December, 1978. The following points in the report are noteworthy.

2. The Company had a total cash intake of \$38,220,955 including a subsidy of \$10,505,974. Operating expenses totaled \$37,910,200.

3. Losses on exchange amounting to \$2,403,824 were deferred. These are expected to be offset in 1979 when rolling stock is revalued.

4. The Industrial Disputes Tribunal made awards to weekly paid employees amounting to \$4m. The existing agreement with Unions will expire at the end of 1979.

5. At the end of December 1978 the Company's licensed fleet was 426 out of an operational fleet of 541 compared with 439 and 557 respectively at the end of December 1977. A lack of adequate maintenance facilities and an over-aged fleet and shortage of much needed spares contributed to a decline in vehicle run-out and breakdowns occurred at intolerable levels. The poor conditions of the fleet has increased the need for a third depot with adequate facilities and modern equipment, but although efforts to acquire a suitable site were intensified during the year and an ideal location identified negotiations for its acquisition have not been completed.

6. Purchasing arrangements were concluded for the supply of 105 chassis and body kits for assembly in Jamaica and a new company wholly owned by Government was formed in the latter part of the year to undertake the assembly operation. It is hoped that once the new vehicles are on stream fleet reliability will improve.

7. A major review of all schedules has been started in order to re-allocate buses on routes for maximum revenue and to increase service frequency during the mid-day off-peak periods.

8. Priority was given to the development of the Company's human resources through training at all levels of the organisation. A Training Department has been established and some 1,400 employees have received training.

9. The acquisition of new vehicles with improved maintenance procedures should provide a fleet sufficiently reliable to increase considerably the standard of service now offered to commuters of the Kingston Metropolitan Franchise area.

CARLYLE DUNKLEY  
Minister of Public Utilities  
and Transport  
12th October, 1979

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