

**GOJ LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2011/2012
AS AT 25 JULY 2011**

PASSED IN BOTH HOUSES				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
1.		MF	Appropriations Act, 2011	To provide that the Accountant-General may, on the warrant of the Minister responsible for finance, issue out of the Consolidated Fund, a sum not exceeding in the aggregate two hundred and sixty four thousand, eight hundred and nine million, eight hundred and seventy nine thousand dollars for defraying the several charges and expenses of the Government of Jamaica, and for other purposes, for the financial year ending 31 March 2012.

Categories

- 1 Passed
- 4 Being considered/Approved by Legislation Committee
- 7 Cabinet Approval of Drafting instructions

- 2 Tabled
- 5 Being drafted
- 8 Policy being developed

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BEFORE PARLIAMENT				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
2.	1	MF	Financial Administration and Audit (Amendment) Bill	To further refine provisions relating to fiscal responsibility and to enable the making of regulations which will ensure that fiscal principles determine the formation of fiscal policy and evaluate fiscal performance.
3.	2	MF	Public Bodies (Management & Accountability) (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen existing legislative framework for corporate governance and accountability in public bodies and to strengthen provisions dealing with investment by public bodies.
4.	3	MF	Public Debt Management Bill	To amend, consolidate and modernise the law relating to the management of public debt and to provide a single statutory source for the Minister's authority to borrow money for and on behalf of the Government of Jamaica.
5.	4	MJ	Attestation of Instruments (Facilities) (Amendment) Bill	For persons elected as Parish Councillors and Mayors of Municipalities to be deemed JP's for the duration of the period that they hold such offices.
6.	5	MJ	Committal Proceedings Bill	To abolish the existing procedure of preliminary examinations in cases of indictable offences and seeks to put in its place a new committal proceedings regime in the Resident Magistrates Court.
7.	6	MJ	Constitution (Amendment) (No.2) Bill	To limit the period of time for which a person may hold office as Prime Minister to a period not exceeding nine (9) years in total; provided that an incumbent Prime Minister shall not be required to vacate his seat by reason only of the fact that after appointment he exceeds the nine (9) year limit.
8.	7	MJ	Corruption Prevention (Special Prosecutor) Bill	To: (a) repeal the Corruption (Prevention) Act and the Parliament (Integrity of Members) Act; and to provide for the establishment of the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Corruption as a Commission of Parliament; and (b) create an offence for the filing of late statutory declaration; to empower Commission to request information from certain Government departments and agencies, including the revenue services, banks, financial institutions, building societies, co-operative societies and registered Accountants; for statutory declarations to be filed on 31 st day of December in each year or at such other intervals as the Commission may direct; to update the fine imposed under section 6 (2).
9.	8	MJ	Custos Rotulorum Bill	To provide for the establishment of a legal framework within which the qualifications for appointment, mode of appointment, tenure and functions of the office of Custos could be formally structured and standardized.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
10.	9	MNS	Interception of Communications (Amendment) Bill	<p>A. To enable the disclosure of intercepted communication to a foreign government or any agency of such government:</p> <p>(i) where there exists an agreement for the mutual exchange of information and the Minister certifies that it is in public interest that such disclosure be made;</p> <p>(ii) if the Judge is satisfied that a foreign government or any agency of such government undertakes to keep the information confidential and use the communication solely for the purpose of the prevention, detection or prosecution of a criminal offence; and</p> <p>(iii) allow for such other conditions that the Judge thinks are appropriate to impose;</p> <p>B. To provide for extra-territorial application.</p>
11.	10	MT	Travel Agency Regulation (Amendment) Bill	To increase the penalties that may be imposed on a person who is convicted for breaching any of the provisions of the Travel Agency Regulation Act, 1956.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
12.	1	MF	Retiring Allowances (Legislative Service) (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) amend section 9 of the Act with provisions to permit the repayment of refunded contribution so as to allow for a Legislator to be eligible for a retiring allowance, subject to attaining the qualifying period for such payment; and (b) allow a legislator's service to be taken into account for the purposes of retiring benefits in circumstances where their election was overturned by the Court and there was no finding of electoral malpractice, and also where a legislator entered into office pursuant to the decision of the Supreme Court.
13.	2	MT	Tourism Enhancement (Amendment) Bill	To (a) redefine "traveller" to include persons who travel on one-way tickets or other specified document; and (b) increase the Tourism Enhancement Fee paid by airline passengers from US\$10.00 to US\$20.00.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
14.	1	MAF	Protection of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Bill	To provide a framework for the effective functioning of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources in Jamaica.
15.	2	ME	Council of Community Colleges (Validation and Amendment) Bill	To make express provision empowering the Council to: (i) grant and confer certificates, diplomas, degrees and other academic awards; and (ii) rescind such awards in the event that the necessity should arise.
16.	3	ME	Daryl Wesley Phillip Vaz (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To: (i) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Daryl Wesley Phillip Vaz in respect of his duties as Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister during the period in which he occupied that office as a consequence of his purported tenure as an elected member of the House of Representatives from 11 September 2007 to 27 February 2009; (ii) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Daryl Wesley Phillip Vaz in respect of his duties as Member of Parliament for Portland Western from 11 September 2007 to 27 February 2009; and (iii) provide indemnity to Daryl Wesley Phillip Vaz, the Crown and any other person who may have incurred liability in consequence of the invalidity of his appointment to the House of Representatives or in consequence of any emoluments received due to the appointment.
17.	4	ME	Desmond Gregory Mair (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To: (i) validate any acts performed in good faith by Desmond Gregory Mair as an elected Member of the House of Representatives from 11 September 2007 to 21 May 2009; and (ii) provide indemnity to Desmond Gregory Mair, the Crown and any other person who may have incurred liability in consequence of the invalidity of his appointment to the House of Representatives or in consequence of any emoluments received due to the appointment.
18.	5	ME	Michael Anthony Stern (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To: (i) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Michael Anthony Stern in respect of his duties as Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Investment during the period in which he occupied that office as a consequence of his purported tenure as an elected member of the House of Representatives from 11 September 2007 to 27 July 2009; (ii) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Michael Anthony Stern in

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				respect of his duties as Member of Parliament for Clarendon North Western from 11 September 2007 until 27 July 2009; and (iii) provide indemnity to Michael Anthony Stern, the Crown and any other person who may have incurred liability in consequence of the invalidity of his appointment to the House of Representatives or in consequence of any emoluments received.
19.	6	ME	Shahine Robinson (Validation and Indemnification) Bill	To: (i) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Shahine Robinson in respect of her duties as Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister during the period in which she occupied that office as a consequence of her purported tenure as an elected member of the House of Representatives from 11 September 2007 to 17 September 2010; (ii) validate any acts performed in good faith and appointments made by Shahine Robinson in respect of her duties as Member of Parliament for St. Ann North Eastern from 11 September 2007 to 17 September 2010; and (iii) provide indemnity to Shahine Robinson, the Crown and any other person who may have incurred liability in consequence of the invalidity of her appointment to the House of Representatives or in consequence of any emoluments received due to the appointment.
20.	7	MF	Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) provide for the harmonization of certain provisions with other financial sector legislation; and (b) address weaknesses identified in the legislation.
21.	8	MHEW	Water Resources (Amendment) Bill Flood Water Control (Amendment) Bill	To rationalise responsibility for Flood Water Control between Water Resources Authority and Ministry of Transport and Works (National Works Agency); repeal the Flood Control Water Act.
22.	9	MIIC	Metal and Jewellery (Control of Second-Hand) (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) increase penalties; (b) increase the application fee for a licence under the Act; and (c) provide for the Minister to amend monetary penalties under the Act by Order subject to affirmative resolution.

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23.	10	MTW	Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To: (i) provide for comprehensive revision of Act; (ii) repeal and replace the current Road Traffic Act and Regulations (1938) and Companion Acts and Regulations; and (iii) establish Island Traffic Authority as a statutory body.
24.	11	MTW	Transport Authority (Collection of Fees) (Validation and Indemnity) Bill	Validation of the collection of fees

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25.	1	MAF	Animal Disease and Importation of (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate importation, distribution, storage of animal products including milk and by-products with regard to disease and safety
26.	2	MAF	Aquaculture Inland and Marine Products and By-Products (Inspection, Licensing and Export) (Amendment) Bill	To plug loopholes discovered in the Act since the opening of the conch season in 2001 and make provision for imports.
27.	3	MAF	Fishing Industry (Amendment) Bill	To repeal and replace existing Act for the better management of the fishing industry
28.	4	MAF	Plants (Quarantine) (Amendment) Bill	To harmonise sanitary and phytosanitary measures with WTO requirements
29.	5	ME	Jamaica Teaching Council Bill	To provide for the establishment of the Jamaica Teaching Council, consequential amendments to the provisions of the Education Act dealing with the Teachers Service Commission, and for the introduction of a system of teacher licensing.
30.	6	ME	National Council on Education (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Schedule to the Act to facilitate the Ministry's alignment with the new accountability framework for the appointment of a suitable representative of the Ministry to the Board instead of the Permanent Secretary.
31.	7	ME	National Parenting Support Commission Bill	To provide for the establishment of a National Parenting Support Commission to oversee the implementation and operation of the National Parenting Policy.
32.	8	MEM	Petroleum (Quality Control) Bill Petroleum (Quality Control) Regulations	To provide for the regulation of the petroleum sector as it relates to petroleum safety.
33.	9	MEM	Petroleum and Oil (Conveyance) Bill	To provide for safety measures for conveyance of petroleum.
34.	10	MEM	Petroleum and Oil Fuel (Landing and Storage) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the regulation of the petroleum sector as it pertains to the storage of petroleum. Bureau of Standards to be responsible for testing imported petroleum.
35.	11	MEM	Quarries Control Bill	To regulate, manage and develop the quarrying sector
36.	12	MF	Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Bank of Jamaica Act to designate the Bank of Jamaica with overall responsibility for financial stability and establish the required Institutional arrangements for safeguarding financial stability
37.	13	MF	Banking (Amendment) Bill, Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill Bank of Jamaica (Building Societies) Bill	To enact a single new legislation to merge the provisions of the Banking Act , the Financial Institutions Act and the Bank of Jamaica (Building Societies) Act & Regulations and to amend to existing provisions to enhance the supervision of deposit taking institutions.

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38.	14	MF	Charities Bill	To facilitate the proper supervision of entities carrying out charitable activities
39.	15	MF	Contractor General (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To legally separate that National Contracts Commission from the Office of the Contractor General.
40.	16	MF	Contractor General (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To: (a) validate the actions of the National Contracts Commission with respect to its mandate to register and classify contractors pursuant to section 23 G (1) and (2) of the Act; and (b) provide for the registration of contractors.
41.	17	MF	Customs (Validation and Indemnification) (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) validate the implementation of the Customs User Fee (CUF) and the amendment of the Customs Regulations to unequivocally reflect the use of the Fee; and (b) redesign the CUF so that it accords with GATT Standards.
42.	18	MF	Customs (Amendment) Bill	To restructure proposed tax measures on imported motor vehicles
43.	19	MF	General Consumption Tax Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for: (i) a definition of Imported Services to be included in the legislation; (ii) a Time of Supply of an imported service to be specified in the legislation; (iii) certainty in the application of GCT to Imported Services, by deleting 'a taxable activity' in section 23B(1) and replacing it with 'an activity which would have been subject to tax if provided locally'; (iv) where there was no consideration for a taxable supply, the value of the taxable supply, for tax purposes, to be the open market value; (v) a threshold of J\$90,000.00 (US\$1000.00) for purposes of charging GCT on Imported Services; (vi) the specification that imported services secured locally but completely performed, utilized or consumed outside of Jamaica are exempt from GCT; and (vii) a Standard Method of Calculating Input Tax Credits w.r.t. a combination of taxable and exempt supplies.
44.	20	MF	General Consumption Tax Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To provide for: (i) fixed penalties for not displaying the General Consumption Tax Certificate and failure to return said Certificate; (ii) section 28 to be amended to compel the taxpayer to come forward and be registered whether

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				or not he had been served a notice by the Commissioner; (iii) relevant sections of the Act to be amended to restrict the periods and circumstances in which tax credits may be paid; (iv) General Consumption Tax to be payable on one-off major entertainment events; (v) persons who are registered to notify the Commissioner of any changes which affect registration; (vi) the unauthorized collection of tax and not paying over the tax collected to the Revenue to be made offences; (vii) section 61 of the General Consumption Tax Act to be amended to expand the powers of the Commissioner with respect to anti-avoidance; (viii) elimination of the requirement for registration of persons below the threshold; (ix) removal of the disparity between the treatment of imported raw materials and the procurement of raw materials locally by manufacturers; (x) shortening of the period for claiming tax credits on capital goods; (xi) execution of documents (returns and other declarations); (xii) expansion of the provisions of section 23(2) as regards transfer/sale of a business as a going concern; and (xiii) the offences and penalties.
45.	25	MF	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide incentives to companies listed on the Jamaica Stock Exchange Junior Market
46.	22	MF	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To: (a) increase Income Tax threshold and to provide for increase in income rate by individuals; and (b) make permanent the legislation that imposed the progressive rates of Income Tax by Provisional Order.
47.	23	MF	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.3)	To institute a reduction from the current 40% to 20% in the rate of interest being charged on Income Tax due and payable under section 79(1) (b) of the Act.
48.	24	MF	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.4)	To establish a preferential tax rate of 25% for Group Headquarters Services being offered to non-residents by residents.

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49.	21	MF	Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No.5)	To: (i) resolve a conflict between section 70 of the Income Tax Act which allowed expansive power to obtain information and the Revenue Administration Act which was more restrictive; and (ii) adopt the recommendations of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, an affiliate of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, that Jamaica amend its tax laws to eliminate the current position where, under the Revenue Administration Act, information was obtained on persons of interest to the Jamaican tax authorities only.
50.	26	MF	International Insurance Bill	To support the services/suite of products to be provide by the international financial services centre.
51.	27	MF	International Securities Investment Bill	To support the services/suite of products to be provide by the International Financial Services Centre.
52.	28	MF	Loans (Repeal and Replacement) Bill	To have a single legislation for raising loans and public debt management and to repeal the Loans Act, 1964, and the subsidiary Loans Acts.
53.	29	MF	Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	I. To address: (i) the licensing of investment managers; (ii) the inclusion of conditional registration of pension schemes; conditional approval; (iii) fees for Investment Managers; and (iv) harmonization of contribution limit with limits in Income Tax Amendment, 2008. II. To validate the actions of the Financial Services Commission for collecting licensing fees for investment managers.
54.	30	MF	Pensions (Superannuation Funds and Retirement Schemes) (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	Regulation of National Pension Scheme - vesting, portability and indexation
55.	31	MF	Property Tax (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) increase property tax rates with effect from 1 st April 2010; and (b) implement other measures to significantly improve the compliance rate for property taxes.
56.	32	MF	Public Enterprises (Removal of Tax Concessions) (Amendment) Bill	To remove tax exemptions from certain public enterprises.

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
57.	33	MF	Public Sector Procurement Bill	To provide for the framework for public sector procurement system
58.	34	MF	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill	To: (i) resolve a conflict between section 70 of the Income Tax Act which allowed expansive power to obtain information and the Revenue Administration Act which was more restrictive; and (ii) adopt the recommendations of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, an affiliate of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development that Jamaica amend its tax laws to eliminate the current position where, under the Revenue Administration Act, information was obtained on persons of interest to the Jamaican tax authorities only.
59.	35	MF	Revenue Administration (Amendment) Bill (No. 2)	I. To establish: (i) Revenue Appeals Division as separate entity under the Ministry of Finance reporting to Financial Secretary; (ii) The post of Commissioner and the posts of the two Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners; and (iii) The duties and functions and powers of the Division. II. To repeal of sections of the Revenue Administration Act that established the Taxpayer Appeals Department as a part of the Revenue Administration.
60.	36	MF	Secured Transactions Bill	A proposal for the introduction of a modern legislative framework for secured transactions with the objective of increasing access to finance especially for small and medium sized enterprises.
61.	37	MF	Stamp Duty (Amendment) Act	Reduction of Stamp Duty.
62.	38	MF	Transfer Tax (Amendment) Bill	Reduction of Transfer Tax
63.	39	MFAFT	Geneva Conventions and its Protocols Bill	To provide for implementing the obligations under the Convention
64.	40	MFAFT	Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction Bill	To implement obligations under the Convention.
65.	41	MH	Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Bill	To implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical weapons and on their destruction.

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66.	42	MH	Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill	To include and define over-the-counter products and five new categories of substances for human consumption.
67.	43	MH	Mental Health (Amendment) Bill	To provide for treatment of patients by Mental Health Officers without their consent.
68.	44	MH	National Registration Bill	To provide for the compulsory registration of all citizens ordinarily resident in Jamaica
69.	45	MH	Nurses and Midwives (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) establish a Nurse Practitioner Council to regulate control and monitor all categories of Nurse Practitioner; and (b) provide for the legal recognition of the clinical practice of Family Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Anesthetists and Mental Health Nurse Practitioners to enable them to prescribe a limited list of drugs set out in their practice protocols.
70.	46	MH	Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill	To authorise the prescribing of specified drugs by Nurse Practitioners.
71.	47	MH	Radiation (Safety & Control) Bill	To regulate safety of radiation to users & unsuspecting public
72.	48	MH	Rotterdam Convention Bill	To provide for prior informed consent for hazardous chemical and to make provision for the protection of human health and the environment from potential harm.
73.	49	MHEW	Rent Restriction (Change of Name & Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the provision of adequate legislation governing the rental of properties in Jamaica and to bring about greater efficiency in the processing of applications & complaints
74.	50	MHEW	Water Supply and Sewerage Service Bill	To provide the framework for multiple service providers in the water sector through a licensing regime, and to establish the appropriate institutional framework, responsibilities and roles of the various players in the water sector consistent with the Policy.
75.	51	MIIC	Companies (Amendment) Bill	To: i. improve transitional arrangements for those companies registered under 1965 Act; and ii. de-register companies that fail to file Articles of Continuation.
76.	52	MIIC	Cooperative & Friendly Societies (Amendment) Bill	To: (i) place the activities of Credit Unions within the regulatory ambit of BOJ; (ii) develop Youth Credit Unions, (iii) register deposit taking businesses, amalgamation, conversion and acquisitions etc; and (iv) restrict the deposit taking activities of the Co-operative Societies.

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77.	53	MIIC	Copyright (Amendment) Bill (No. 1)	To ensure Jamaica's accession to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Copyright Treaty. To incorporate provisions of the WIPO Copyright Treaty to protect authors, composers and creators of literature.
78.	54	MIIC	Customs Duties (Dumping & Subsidies) (Amendment) Bill	To bring Act in close harmony with WTO anti-dumping agreement
79.	55	MIIC	Fair Competition (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficacy of Act, following 2001 case of Jamaica Stock Exchange vs. Fair Trading Commission
80.	56	MIIC	Patents & Industrial Designs Bill	To: (i) replace and repeal Patents Act and the Design Act, in order to fulfil all the provisions of the Trade-Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement and the USA/Jamaica Bilateral Treaty on Intellectual Property; and (ii) bring Act into conformity with international standards of protection for inventors and innovators.
81.	57	MIIC	Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill	To improve efficiency of Act and amend typographical errors
82.	58	MJ	Constitutional (Amendment) Bill [Critical Bodies]	Proposing legislation to include the Contractor General, the Public Defender, the Political Ombudsman, The Electoral Commission of Jamaica and Local Government in the Constitution.
83.	59	MJ	Constitutional (Amendment) Bill [Impeachment]	To amend the Constitution to make provisions to govern the impeachment of certain public officers for misconduct while in office.
84.	60	MJ	Constitutional (Amendment) Bills	I. Removal of Power from the Prime Minister to call elections. II. Establishing fixed election dates.
85.	61	MJ	Coroner's (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	Introduction to Court Reporters.
86.	62	MJ	Evidence (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for admissibility of evidence in Criminal and Civil proceedings by way of television links and video link; Removal of certain procedural requirements to the admissibility of computer generated evidence in proceedings generally.
87.	63	MJ	Judicature (Supreme Court) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording proceedings of by Official Court Reporters.
88.	64	MJ	Judicature (Resident Magistrates) (Amendment) Bill	To facilitate the recording of proceedings in the Resident Magistrates Court by Official Court Reporters.

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89.	65	MJ	Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill (No.1)	To provide for mandatory continuing legal education and to provide for intervention by the General Legal Council in the practice of an Attorney-at-Law.
90.	66	MLSS	National Assistance Bill	To incorporate institutional changes under the Social Safety Net Reform (a Unified Benefits Programme) and repeal the Poor Relief Law of 1886.
91.	67	MLSS	National Disabilities Bill	To provide for further protection and legal entrenchment of rights of persons with disabilities
92.	68	MLSS	Occupational Health & Safety Bill	To provide for safety standards at workplace
93.	69	MNS	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill	To amend section 5 of the Act to provide for a term of enlistment for gazetted officers and to increase applicable fine for contravention.
94.	70	MNS	DNA Evidence Bill	To provide for the taking of DNA samples from persons arrested in relation to specified offences.
95.	71	MNS	Passport Immigration and Citizenship Agency Bill	To introduce legislation to validate and confirm the establishment of Passport Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA) as an Executive Agency.
96.	72	MNS	Police Authority Bill	The establishment of a Police Authority as an oversight mechanism for policing functions.
97.	73	MNS	Port Security Bill	To grant jurisdiction to MNS for port security standards and regulations and to set up Security Agency
98.	74	MNS	Private Security Regulations Authority (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) increase fees and fines; (b) amend Section 12 to widen the circumstances under which licences can be revoked or refused; (c) amend Section 17 to provide an exception under the Companies Act for lifting the corporate veil to ascertain the identities of company directors and shareholder.
99.	75	MNS	Suppression and Disruption of Criminal Gangs Bill	To introduce legislation for the suppression and disruption of criminal gangs criminal gang-related activities and make consequential amendments to existing legislation as necessary.
100.	76	MT	Hotel (Incentives) Bill	To: (a) provide clarity in definitions given to some aspects of the Act; (b) request 'approved building plans' instead of 'certified drawings'; (c) encourage investors to purchase, items included under Second Schedule of the Act, locally; (d) give the Minister the authority to amend the Second Schedule.

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**GOJ LEGISLATION PROGRAMME 2011/2012
AS AT 25 JULY 2011**

BEING DRAFTED

NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
101.	77	MTW	Ballast Water Management Convention Bill	To implement the requirements of the Ballast Water Management Convention adopted by the International Maritime Organisation in 2004 and provide a legal framework for the regulation and management of ships' ballast water and the sediments which remained in the tanks of vessels after the ballast water had been discharged.
102.	78	MTW	Port Authority of Jamaica Bill	To; (a) repeal and replace existing Act, to ensure that the legislation relating to the Authority was in keeping with the Shipping Act, 1998; (b) bring together several Acts relating to maritime activities and port operations and repeal a number of existing Acts, viz, the Harbour Fees Act, the Harbour Lights and Lighthouse Act and the Port Authority Act; and (c) address the weakness in power and functions of the Port Authority of Jamaica.
103.	79	MTW	Public Passenger KMTR (Amendment) Bill Public Passenger Rural Areas (Amendment) Bill Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) consolidate the Public Passenger (KMTR) Act and Public Passenger (Rural Areas) Act to remove duplication; (b) include in the Transport Authority Act all provisions relating to public transport vehicles which were removed from the Road Traffic Act consequent on its amendment; and (c) ensure consistency between the Transport Authority Act and Road Traffic Act re monitoring and regulatory functions for public passenger vehicles.
104.	80	MTW	Road Maintenance Fund (Amendment) Bill	To: (a) facilitate the Road Maintenance Fund using funds received from the Special Consumption Tax on fuel or any other source except the motor vehicle licensing fees to undertake road construction works inclusive of bridges, retaining walls, sea defence works, river training and any other related infrastructure road works; (b) change the name of the Road Maintenance Fund to the Jamaica Road Fund; and (c) amend the definition of the word maintenance to include parochial roads.
105.	81	MTW	Shipping (Pollution and Control) Bill [Marine Pollution]	To implement several international conventions: (i) International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Damage; (ii) International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness & Response Cooperation (ICOPP & R);

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NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
				(iii) Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) to protect shipping and preserve the marine environment from pollution by ships.
106.	82	OPM	Crown Property (Vesting) (Amendment) Bill	To establish a National Divestment Committee to advise Minister responsible for <i>land and the environment</i> ; To provide for the Minister making an Order to exempt certain categories of divestment being routed through the Committee. (to move to MHEW)
107.	83	OPM	Disaster Management & Mitigation Bill	To provide for a strengthened legislative framework for disaster management; To replace Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act. (to move to MHEW)
108.	84	OPM	National Building Bill	To: (i) improve the efficiency of the building approval process and provide a framework for the effective management of the building industry. (ii) incorporate the Kingston and St. Andrew Building Act and the Parish Council Building Act.
109.	85	OPM	Postal Services Bill [Post Office (Repeal) Bill]	To: (i) repeal the Post Office Act; and (ii) facilitate modernisation & commercialisation of post offices by transferring the Postal Corporation into a statutory body, Jamaica Post.
110.	86	OPM	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill Amendment	The establishment of Mandatory Registration of Subscriber Information for all users of telecommunication services in Jamaica.

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APPROVAL FOR ISSUE OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
111.	1	CO	National Youth Service (Amendment) Bill	The deletion of the definition of "Minister" as it appears in Section 2 of the National Youth Service Act, to enable the Governor General, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister, to determine where the administrative responsibility for the National Youth Service should be placed.
112.	2	ME	Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission Bill	To provide for the establishment of a national oversight body for tertiary education in Jamaica (J-TEC).
113.	3	ME	Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill <i>Companion Bills:</i> Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation (Amendment) Bill; Parish Councils (Amendment) Bill; General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill; Jury (Amendment) Bill	To amend in any statute containing a reference to the Electoral Advisory Committee, with its replacement body the Electoral Commission, consequent on the repeal of the representation of the People (Interim Electoral Reform) Act and its replacement by the Electoral Commission (Interim) Act.
114.	4	MF	Constabulary Force (Amendment) Bill Constables (Special) (Amendment) Bill Pensions (Amendment) Bill Pensions (Parochial Officers) (Amendment) Bill Pension (Teachers) (Amendment) Bill Defence (Retired Pay, Pensions and other Grants) Regulations (Amendment) Bill	(i) To increase the minimum gratuity payable to dependents or legal personal representatives of a Constable or Public Officer, who died as a result of injury attributable to duty as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • w.e.f. 01.10.1999 - \$1,750,000.00; • w.e.f. 01.04.2000 - \$4,000,000.00 ; • w.e.f. 01.04.2005 - \$4,500,000.00 ; • w.e.f. 01.04.2006 - \$6,000,000.00 ; and • w.e.f. 01.04.2008 - \$8,000,000.00. (ii) To allow the Minister responsible for the Public Service to increase by order subject to affirmative resolution the amount as agreed on.
115.	5	MF	Customs (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To give effect to the CARICOM/Costa Rica Free Trade Agreement in respect of goods originating in Costa Rica for which concessionary rates of import duty had been negotiated.

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APPROVAL FOR ISSUE OF DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS				
NO	#	MINISTRY	NAME OF LEGISLATION	PURPOSE
116.	6	MF	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To establish that as of 1 June 2011, the Levy would be equivalent to 3% of the 25% GCT, which is applicable to specified telecommunications products and services listed under the Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) Order, 2011
117.	7	MF	General Consumption Tax (Amendment) Bill	To reduce the 15% ad valorem Special Consumption Tax rate to approximately 10.0%, with effect from Thursday, 14 April 2011.
118.	8	MH	Registration (Births and Deaths) (Amendment) Bill	To make provision for the compulsory registration of the names of unmarried fathers.
119.	9	MIIC	Copyright (Amendment) Bill (No.2)	To allow for: (a) access to copyright works by the print and hearing disabled; (b) establishment of a voluntary deposit system for copyright works to be hosted by the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office; (c) establishment of the duration of copyright for works created by the Crown and corporate bodies; (d) provision for access to "orphan works;" (e) clarification of the rights in adapted works; (f) extension of the rights of libraries and archivists to archive material that was in digital format; and (g) protection of first importers of sound recordings in Jamaica by ensuring them the first right of distribution of same.
120.	10	MIIC	General and Limited Partnership Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre
121.	11	MIIC	Holding Company and International Business Company Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre
122.	12	MIIC	Insolvency Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre
123.	13	MIIC	Processed Food (Amendment) Bill and Regulations	To increase the penalties and fines for breaches to more realistic levels and to make them more effective in deterring unlawful trends and practices in the processed food industry
124.	14	MIIC	Split Cell Companies Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre

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125.	15	MIIC	Standards (Amendment) Bill	To increase the penalties and fines for breaches to more realistic levels and to make them more effective in deterring unlawful trends and practices in the processed food industry
126.	16	MIIC	Trusts and Corporate Service Providers Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre
127.	17	MIIC	Trusts Bill	To support the suite of services offered by the Jamaica International Financial Services Centre
128.	18	MJ	Arbitration Bill	Cabinet approved the repeal and replacement of the Arbitration Act (1900) , the Arbitration Clauses Act (1931) , and the Arbitration (Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Awards) Act (2001) and consequential implementation of a new comprehensive Arbitration Act to govern the conduct and practice of domestic as well as international arbitration in Jamaica.
129.	19	MJ	Defamation Law Reform Bill	To modernize the laws relating to libel and slander.
130.	20	MJ	Judicial review of decisions of the Director of Public Prosecutions	To make express provision declaratory of the common law, in such terms as Parliamentary Counsel may deem appropriate, for judicial review of decisions of the Director of Public Prosecutions in the exercise of his constitutional functions
131.	21	MJ	Mutual Legal Assistance (Criminal Matters) (Amendment) Bill	To include: (i) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography in the Second Schedule of the Act; and (ii) the offences under the Second Optional Protocol as prescribed offences.
132.	22	MJ	Right of appeal by the prosecution against an acquittal in criminal cases	To provide for the grant of a right of appeal to the Prosecution against a verdict of acquittal from the Resident Magistrate's Court or the Circuit Court in criminal cases.
133.	23	MLSS	Caribbean Community (Free Movement of Skilled Persons) Bill	To increase fines and penalties, allow for charging of fees for skill certificates and to expand the categories of persons approved for movement under the regime.
134.	25	OPM	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	To include the provision that the Government will promote information literacy through programmes and the encouragement of the citizenry to utilise ICT particularly through Government's delivery of e-services; and to make the quantum of the Universal Service Levy the subject of Affirmative Resolution of the House of Representatives.

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