News Release
Consumer Price Index
October 2009

November 16, 2009

The **All Jamaica** 'All Divisions' Consumer Price Index for the month of October 2009 was 147.5. This figure represents a 0.8 per cent increase over the 146.3 recorded for the month of September 2009. This movement is 0.9 percentage point below the 1.7 per cent obtained the previous month. All divisions recorded increases except 'Communication' and 'Education'. However, 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' recorded the highest increase of 1.6 per cent during the period under review as a result of the 5.6 per cent movement in the index for group 'Rentals for Housing'.

The calendar year to date inflation stood at 8.1 per cent. This was 9.1 percentage points lower than the 17.2 per cent movement for the same period in 2008. The fiscal year to date was 6.7 per cent, 4.6 percentage points lower than the 11.3 per cent recorded for the corresponding period in 2008.The point to point inflation rate was 7.8 per cent.

 The All Jamaica indices showed movements in the following: 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' increased by 0.9 per cent, 'Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco'1.0 per cent, 'Clothing and Footwear' 1.3 per cent, 'Housing, Water Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' 1.6 per cent, 'Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance 0.6 per cent, 'Health' 0.3 per cent, 'Transport' 0.1 per cent 'Recreation and Culture' 1.5 per cent, 'Restaurants and Accommodation Services' 0.4 per cent, and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' 0.7 per cent.

The regional indices showed increases for all three regions, the '**Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area'** up by 1.1 per cent, '**Other Urban Centres'** 0.5 percent and '**Rural Areas'** up by 0.7 per cent.

The **Revised Consumer Price Index Bulletin October 2009** further outlines additional information and may be obtained from the Distribution office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10. Data are also available on the STATIN website at www.statinja.gov.jm.