

Bln - Seaga, Edward (Rt. Hon.)

Jamaica salutes

THE RT. HON.
EDWARD SEAGA

a
true
and
proven
Leader
for

The Sunday Gleaner, May 10, 1992

“A record 30 years of service to Parliament and the Nation”

The Jamaica Labour Party, its officers, members, supporters, affiliates, well-wishers and the people of Jamaica, today salute you as the only Jamaican to achieve 30 years of distinguished Parliamentary service since Jamaica's Independence.

You have served with distinction and dedication as Party Leader, Opposition Leader and Prime Minister.

You have made a lasting contribution to our democratic system through your long-fought battle for electoral reform.

Your vision for the upliftment of the people is founded in the wide-range of sustainable programmes you conceived and implemented for economic, social, cultural and physical development.

*May God give you strength to continue your great work
for the Jamaican people.*

Edward Seaga

“Man of enduring
accomplishments”

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Seaga has established and encouraged the development of several institutions which have contributed to the growth and modernization of the financial sector. These include the Jamaica Stock Exchange (1968), Jamaica Unit Trust (1970), Jamaica Mortgage Bank (1973), Jamaica Development Bank (1969), National Development Bank (1981), The Agricultural Credit Bank (1981), the Ex-Im Bank (1986), and the Student's Bank Loan Bureau.

The highly successful Jamaica Promotions Corporation Ltd. (JAMPRO) was created by him as a one-stop investment organisation to promote local and overseas investment in Jamaica.

Under his Administration, in the 1980's the Income and Corporate Tax system has been comprehensively reformed to make it more modern, equitable and efficient.

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

In the 1960's Mr. Seaga transformed the country's then worst slum — "Back-O-Wall" — into a modern, low-income residential community re-named Tivoli Gardens. Tivoli Gardens remains a model of urban community development.

Mr. Seaga established the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) in 1968. Through the UDC the waterfronts of Kingston, Ocho Rios, Montego Bay and Negril have been developed into major resort areas.

In 1985, Mr. Seaga established Metropolitan Parks and Markets (MPM) to be responsible for public cleansing, beautification and the maintenance of the parks and markets.

Environmentally, Mr. Seaga, successfully beautified the major parks and highways where others failed. He also successfully promoted the "One Million Trees Campaign" to reverse the degradation of the environment.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

In the late 1960's Mr. Seaga revolutionised the national budget as an instrument of social policy, laying the foundation for programmes such as the family court system, adult literacy early childhood education and rural electrification.

In the 1980's Mr. Seaga created the Human Employment and Resource Training Programme (HEART) which provides job-related training for school leavers and drop-outs, and the SOLIDARITY, programme to finance and stimulate entrepreneurship among young people.

The Food Aid Programme was established by Mr. Seaga in 1983 to assist the poorest groups in the society. Under this programme Primary School children receive a high protein lunch daily, pregnant and nursing mothers, children under 3, the indigent, disabled and elderly receive Food Stamps to supplement their food supplies. The School Textbook Programme was also introduced to provide textbooks to Primary School children.

Golden Age Homes to care for the aged was launched by Mr. Seaga in 1985.