

## **Jamaica Needs Eddie Seaga**

Most marginal Governments under the Westminster model seek a new mandate in times of crisis. This must certainly be one of the options now open to the Prime Minister as the IMF Agreement remains elusive and local economic conditions deteriorate. Editorially speaking, all 3 major newspapers seem to lack confidence in the current Minister of Finance. He may very well be a scapegoat but the direction of the political wind is clear. A General Election ought to be called as soon as possible before the newly announced taxes cause serious social disorder and disruption.

If the Government of Jamaica does not seek a mandate they should look to take advice from the JLP's major resource, former Prime Minister Edward Seaga. Mr. Seaga's distinguished record as a Parliamentarian and leader of Government speaks for itself. Why entrust the Government to novices when the firm hand of experience and achievement is available at our doorstep? The current Cabinet as the instrument of policy has failed. During a storm we need to seek political safe harbour or risk destruction of the ship of state.

Free consultation is a feature of the Westminster democracy. It is a matter of record that former Prime Minister Portia Simpson has sought consultation with Mr. Seaga at appropriate times. It is sad that Mr. Seaga's own party does not request his assistance enthusiastically. I am sure that such assistance would be given with the professionalism and the effectiveness that we have always associated with Mr. Seaga. To some overseas observers it appears that the modern JLP lacks the capability to govern outside the framework of continuous crisis management and PR. The Cabinet is well dressed but most of the Jamaican people are naked in poverty

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