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ACCESS TIP

Remember that under the Access to Information Act, the public has a general right of access to official documents held by public authorities. However, if the documents are deemed to be exempt from disclosure, then the public does not have a right to access same.

An official document is exempt from disclosure if it:

- Affects security, defence or international relations
- Is a Cabinet document
- Relates to law enforcement
- Is subject to legal privilege
- Affects the national economy
- Reveals Government's deliberative processes
- Relates to business affairs & heritage

If you are uncertain as to whether a document is deemed to be an exempt document under the Act, consult the Access to Information Unit, Office of the Prime Minister.

Tel: 968-3166/968-8282

Email: ati@cwjamaica.com

Website: www.ati.gov.jm

 Access to Information Unit

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