

**TO: THE NEWS EDITOR**

**DATE: 2010 JANUARY 15**

**New Public Passenger Vehicles fares to take effect tomorrow**

Commuters will have to pay the 20% increase in public passenger vehicle fares come tomorrow, **Saturday, January 16, 2010**. The 20% increase, which was announced on December 29, 2009 by the Minister of Transport and Works, Hon. L. Michael Henry will apply to users of three categories of public passenger vehicles namely Hackney Carriages, Rural Stage Carriages and Route Taxis.

Effective Saturday (January 16, 2010) travel on Hackney Carriages or chartered taxis will attract a base rate of \$187.50 and a rate of \$37.50 per kilometer. Travel on Route Taxis will attract a base rate of \$66.00 and a per kilometer rate of \$3.60. Meanwhile fares for Rural Stage Carriages will attract a base rate of \$26.40 and a per kilometer charge of \$3.40. The last fare increase was implemented in June 2008 resulting in a 25 % increase in travel costs.

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Special teams from the Transport Authority will be monitoring the implementation of the fare increase. In the meantime, the Authority urges commuters to report incidents of overcharging via its toll free line at 1-888-991-5687.

For further information persons may contact our Communication & Customer Services Department at 1-888-991-5687 toll-free, visit our website at [www.ta.org.jm](http://www.ta.org.jm) or visit the post offices in major townships island wide.

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