

ABSTRACT

The study examines some of the major management problems which affected the Junior Secondary School (JSS) building programme of the Jamaican Ministry of Education by examining the functions and principles of management which were breached. Since the programme was a major developmental one in a key area - education, it is thought that an examination of its management problems would reveal some of these problems which could be endemic in the planning and implementation of large, important developmental programmes in a developing society.

Three main hypotheses have been posited:

- (1) In developing countries such as Jamaica the public sector has a key role to play in development.
- (2) To play this key role the public sector must be efficiently managed.
- (3) Inefficient or inadequate management of important public programmes hinders development.

The examination is done within the context of development administration as it relates to dependent economies.

It discloses that all the functions and at least two principles of management were breached by the political and administrative sectors of the Ministry of Education.

The study suggests three mechanisms which might help to achieve efficient management of the public sector. These are:

- (a) management by objectives (MBO);
- (b) the use of indigenous training methods, personnel and training institutions; and

(c) worker participation.

It also suggests that both the abovementioned sectors of the public management system must be trained to be innovative and committed to change. In this way, the public bureaucracy would be efficiently and effectively managed.

The study covers the period December, 1966 to October, 1973.