

## Japan's State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sonoura visited the Jamaica Association for Intellectual Disabilities (JAID)

On Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Hon. Kentaro Sonoura, State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan arrived in Jamaica for a one-day working visit. He met with Sen. the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica as well as Sen. the Hon. Ruel Reid, Minister of Education Youth & Information and the Hon. Olivia Grange, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment & Sport.

During his brief tour at the Randolph Lopez School of Hope, which is also home of the JAID, State Minister Sonoura, observed some of the industrious and talented Jamaican youth who were busy on the production line in making their well-known "Chupse" accessories. This brand of products utilizes by-products such as coffee beans and fish scales to make its unique brand of accessories.

The State Minister also visited the facility of occupational therapy at the JAID. In the facility, JICA Volunteer Ms. Aya Nakashima has been assisting the students of the Randolph Lopez School of Hope as an occupational therapist.



(left) Ms. Rashida Tennant, Production Supervisor holding a custom order of a key ring  
(right) The Hon. Sonoura observing the production line



(left) Ms. Tennant demonstrating different ways in the "lap over" bracelet could be worn  
(right) Ms. Tennant introducing a crafter Mr. Omar Williams



The Hon. Sonoura on the left and Ms. Nakashima on the right