

STATEMENT FROM HON. MIA AMOR MOTTLEY Q.C., M.P.
Leader of the Opposition and the Barbados Labour Party
re: National Consultation on the Economy.

Yet another opportunity has been passed up to set out a plan or to inspire hope or confidence in our short and medium term national economic recovery efforts.

The authorities chose to come today with a blank slate; soliciting answers to the same questions which have been asked over and over across the length of Barbados.

We empathise with Barbadians of all walks who were looking to today with optimism for the unfolding of a plan of action. Once again we were told it's in the pipeline and we will have to wait.

Every sphere of social and economic activity in the country has once again been put in "freeze mode", as the government firms up the unveiling of its master plan.

We do hope for the sake of all Barbadians that come Budget Day there will be something for the productive sectors of this country to believe in and hold on to. It is doubtful how much more strain many groups in this country can carry.

Having failed to act on the problems of the public sector which many of the Government dismissed, the Government has now indicated that the scale of the public sector adjustment needed this year is approximately \$400 million. This situation has not arisen overnight and that is why the BLP has been calling for action for the last 4 years since 2009.

The Prime Minister and his government should be aware that many in the country are losing confidence and very importantly, are losing hope.

27th June 2013