

## **INVESTING IN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES**

The Chairman of the Scientific Research Council (SRC) James Moss-Solomon called on the Jamaican private sector to use its financial and creative might to invest in alternative energy sources.

This approach, according to Moss-Solomon, would help the island wean itself of its oil dependency while creating scores of jobs.

Moss-Solomon, who was speaking at a Rotary Club Kingston luncheon at the Jamaica Pegasus hotel on Thursday, believes that the private sector of Jamaica could look into areas such as solar energy, liquid natural gas, bio-fuels, hydro and wind energy.

According to figures presented by Moss-Solomon, in 2008, Jamaica's oil-import bill was \$2.7 billion, fell to \$1.2 billion in 2009, and is projected to reach \$2.49 billion in 2010.

### **FALLOUT IN BAUXITE**

The significant reduction in the oil import bill in 2009 occurred as a result of the major fallout in the bauxite sector due to the global recession.

Looking at the major users of oil in the island, such as the transport sector, the Utilities and bauxite, Moss-Solomon said that Jamaicans could invest in alternative energy to supply those sectors.