



Olympic 100-Metres Champion, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, arrived in the island on September 8 to a warm reception from a large turnout of persons welcoming her home at the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston.

A fanfare, orchestrated by the Jamaica Combined Cadet Force (JCCF), announced the sprinter's arrival, moving her to intimate that she "felt the love" of all the persons receiving her.

Minister with responsibility for Sports, Hon. Natalie Neita Headley; Industry, Investment and Commerce Minister, Hon. Anthony Hylton; Jamaica Olympic Association (JOA) President, Michael Fennell; and Jamaica Athletics Administrative Association (JAAA) President, Dr. Warren Blake, headed the dignitaries, officials and other guests, who were on hand to meet the triple Olympic medallist.

Mrs. Fraser-Pryce is returning home for the first time since competing in the recently concluded London Olympic Games, where she successfully defended her Women's 100-Metres title. In addition to this, she mined a Silver medal in the Women's 200-Metres, and was part of the 4x100-Metres Women's sprint relay team that won the Silver medal, behind the United States.

During a brief reception for her in the airport's VIP Lounge, Mrs. Fraser-Pryce, said she was proud of her accomplishments and pleased to have represented Jamaica at the Olympics. She indicated that she and the other athletes had worked very hard to secure their achievements and were grateful for the appreciation being shown to them by the nation.

"We represent our country because we are proud to be Jamaican...we love Jamaica," she said, noting that all of the athletes are desirous of making the nation proud.

The “Pocket Rocket”, as she is affectionately called, expressed heartfelt gratitude to her husband, mother, grandmother, other members of her family, friends, sponsors, and her management team for their support of her pursuits, noting that this and her faith in God, are the factors that motivate her to strive for success.

In congratulating Mrs. Fraser-Pryce, Minister Neita Headley said the country was proud of her tremendous achievements and thanked her “for having executed so well. We thank you for being the fabulous role model you are for our young people here in Jamaica”.

The Minister informed that a special reception is being planned for the athletes who participated in the Olympic Games, “to let all of our Olympians know that Jamaica recognizes the value that you bring to the process of development of this country”.

She further noted that Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Portia Simpson Miller will also be hosting a special reception for the athletes at Jamaica House.