

# NEWSREEL WORLD



## 2022-10-01

Programmanus av Artemis Irvine

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Hi, I'm Alanna Leslie and welcome to Newsreel World...

Today we're talking about Ireland, India and Australia. But first...

**ALANNA LESLIE:** The cost of living in Jamaica is skyrocketing.

Like many places in the world, the Caribbean island is seeing a huge rise in the cost of oil, partly as a result of the war between Russia and Ukraine.

Russia is one of the world's largest oil exporters, but sanctions placed on the country after its invasion of Ukraine has increased demand and prices for oil from other sources.

Giovanni Dennis has this report from Kingston.

**Giovanni Dennis:** A pump attendant fills one of several vehicles at this FESCO gas station in Kingston. Queues are long. This is one of the cheapest petrol stations, as gas prices in Jamaica continue to rise. Taxi operators like Leon are finding it difficult to make a profit.

**Leon:** With the traffic on top you actually lose what the gas just in traffic. As a taximan, it no pay off, it is somewhat stagnant.

**Giovanni Dennis:** The price of food has also gone up significantly and salaries for much of the working class is the same.

**Vox:** What we used to buy, we can't buy that amount anymore. So if you used to buy two pounds of rice, you can't buy two pounds of rice because it's increased, you can now buy one and half.

**Giovanni Dennis:** Economist Dr. Andre Haughton believes the war between Russia and Ukraine is causing most of the price increases currently facing Jamaicans.

**Dr. Andre Haughton:** War between Russia and Ukraine has escalated the price of oil, as well as the price of wheat and other commodities that are globally traded. So these global geopolitical occurrences have been having an impact on the price of goods.

**Giovanni Dennis:** For the first half of 2022 alone, The Statistical Institute of Jamaica reports inflation at just under 11%. This means in the last three years; the Jamaican dollar has lost nearly a quarter of its value. Young people are finding it difficult to manage.

So it's an overcast afternoon today in the heart of Kingston. I'm in Emancipation Park and I see many young people sitting and talking and I just want to speak to a few of them to get a feel as to how they're coping with the increase in the cost of living.

**Tajera:** Deciding whether to have breakfast or lunch,

**Giovanni Dennis:** Tajera is an intern and has to make tough choices each day.

**Tajera:** knowing the fact that some days I can't have both.

**Giovanni Dennis:** Sitting across from Tajera, I saw Mikalia.

**Mikalia:** I cook less, I get picky in terms of the brands, in terms of food and stuff that I buy. Typically, I take strictly taxis. Now I try to break it up, take the bus since that's a little bit cheaper. I opt to carry lunch instead of buying lunch.

**Giovanni Dennis:** Dr Haughton insists that for Jamaica to reverse this current crisis, productivity has to increase and Jamaica must export more than it imports.

**Dr. Andre Haughton:** Productivity and production has to increase in the country in order for us to create more value for ourselves and in order for us to create wealth.

**Giovanni Dennis:** Reporting for Newsreel World from Kingston, Jamaica, I'm Giovanni Dennis.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Thanks Giovanni.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Indigenous leaders in Australia are protesting against the renaming of a hospital in the state of Victoria.

Currently the hospital is called Maroondah, an indigenous word meaning “leaf”, but Daniel Andrews, the head of government in Victoria, wants to change it in honour of Queen Elizabeth II.

As a member of the Commonwealth, Australia shares a monarch with the United Kingdom, but protesters say naming the hospital after a colonial figure is culturally insensitive.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Eight cheetahs from Namibia have arrived in India as part of a plan to reintroduce the feline to the country after it was declared extinct there in 1952.

It’s the world’s first inter-continental translocation of cheetahs, who made the 11-hour journey to India via a Boeing 747 dubbed “Cat Plane”.

Despite criticism that not enough has been done to ensure that the cheetahs adapt to their new environment, organisers are confident the project will be a success.

[MUSICAL INTERLUDE]

**ALANNA LESLIE:** That was Sunset by the Ugandan afro-pop singer and songwriter Cindy Sanyu.

Cindy started her career back in 2003 at age 18 when she took part in a music competition and ended up joining the girl group Blu 3, who went on to become one of the biggest acts in Africa.

Since going solo Cindy has won three national awards and recently performed at the Nyege Nyege festival in Uganda, attended by 12,000 people.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** The Irish government is offering free contraception to women aged between 17 and 25.

The scheme includes prescription contraception, as well as the fitting of different types of long-acting contraceptive devices and regular appointments with doctors to check up on them.

Currently, costs for the pill and repeat prescriptions can be as much as 65 to 100 euros every six months.

Caroline Mudingo Dipanda tells us more.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipanda:** Things are changing for women in Ireland. Sarah is twenty. She's one of the thousands of women who are now eligible for free contraception.

**Sarah:** When I was younger, you know, I grew up in rural Ireland in the early 2000s, and there was a massive taboo around sex and sexual health and nothing was ever talked about. I was never given the sex talk at school, like just never, until I got to secondary school.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** Fay White is woman's health officer at the Irish National Women's Council. Fay specialises in policies about women's mental and physical health. I asked her how the scheme began.

**Fay White:** So we had a referendum to introduce abortion services in Ireland in 2018 and as part of that there was a citizen's assembly which took place to make recommendations to form part of that referendum. And one of the key recommendations that came out of that in 2017 was the provision of free universal contraception.

**Ruby Arozamena:** I'm Ruby Arozamena and I'm seventeen. I have had a close friend who tried to buy the morning after pill and she was told, "You're underage." She was almost 17, but she wasn't 17 yet. They said you're underage or under 18 or something, so we can't sell it to you. It was shocking because she's not a little child and even furthermore, if she was, if she did look like a child, and she was looking for that, like it's contraception, it's preventative, it should be offered. So I think it's good that now it's accessible.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** Would you say you have easy access to support in all matters of sexual health, sexuality, wellbeing services?

**Ruby Arozamena:** I was raised by my mother and she's pretty good with all of that. She's great. It's never been awkward with her. I have friends who don't have the same kind of relationship with their parents. Like, they I have one friend whose mother found that she was having sex. So, she grounded her for a few weeks. You know, it doesn't seem like the best option? Like I think there should be more talking but it is very common here, for that kind of thing - punishment when it comes to sex instead of understanding.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** I asked Fay from the National Women's Council why this scheme is so significant for young women like Ruby and her friends.

**Fay White:** So I think it's really important towards advancing women's reproductive rights. You know ultimately, this gives women bodily autonomy and it gives more choices to women, particularly from marginalised backgrounds for whom the cost of contraception was a big barrier. And we know that now in the cost-of-living crisis, the cost of things like this are really prohibitive.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** But Fay also told me this should only be the beginning.

**Fay White:** At the National Women's Council, we are advocating for extending that so that it's available to any woman who needs it, including below seventeen, and of course, extending it to women who are over twenty five as well.



**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** For now, twenty-year-old Sarah is feeling hopeful about what the scheme means for Ireland's future.

**Sarah:** I think it's a really, really good idea. I think it's definitely something that's needed within the country, especially given our history, you know.

**Caroline Mudingo Dipana:** Caroline Mudingo Dipana reporting from Ireland.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Thanks Caroline.

That's all from me today, speak to you soon, bye!