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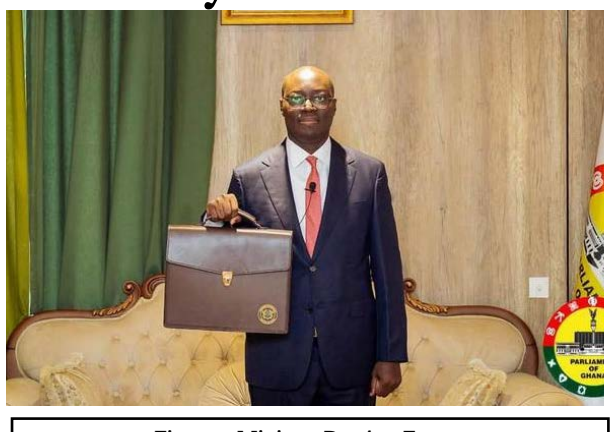

Finance Minister Dr. Ato Forson

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Women's Development Bank begins staff recruitment ahead of 2027 operational launch

The Women's Development Bank has commenced the recruitment of management and staff as preparations intensify for the institution to begin full operations by the end of the first quarter of 2027.

Deputy Finance Minister Thomas Nyarko Ampem disclosed this during the parliamentary debate on the 2027 Budget, indicating that the government had completed the bank's funding arrangements and was making progress towards its operational take-off.

He said the building designated as the bank's head office was expected to be handed over by early December.

"We have fully funded the Women's Development Bank. And by early next month, the building for the head office will be handed over to them," he told Parliament.

Mr Ampem added that the recruitment of personnel had already started, with the government targeting the commencement of full operations before the end of March 2027.

"We have started the process of recruiting management and staff of the bank, and we are on course to commence full operation by the end of the first quarter of next year," he said.

The Deputy Finance Minister said the completion of the bank's capitalisation, together with the ongoing recruitment and infrastructure preparations, would pave the way for its operational launch.



Deputy Finance Minister Thomas Nyarko Ampem

Mahama selects Kwenyako for US$1bn pharmaceutical hub expected to create 20,000 jobs

President John Dramani Mahama has announced Kwenyako in the Asuogyaman District of the Eastern Region as the proposed location for a pharmaceutical and biomanufacturing hub expected to generate about 20,000 direct and indirect jobs.

The President made the announcement on Sunday during the Odwira Akyi Akwasidae Kese durbar at Akwamufie, organised to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the enstoolment of Odeneho Kwafo Akoto III as Akwamuhene.

He said the facility would host factories for the production of medicines and vaccines for Ghana and the wider African market, alongside research, innovation and investment facilities.

The proposed hub is expected to bring together traditional authorities, pharmaceutical companies and research institutions to establish a centre for local drug and vaccine manufacturing.

The 2027 Budget identified the Eastern and Central Regions as locations for two pharmaceutical and biomanufacturing hubs under the US$1 billion Pharmaceutical and Biomanufacturing Compact. A state-owned company is expected to commence construction of the facilities in 2027.

The selection of Kwenyako provides the designated location for the Eastern Region component of the initiative.

According to the Information Services Department, up to US$1 billion has been allocated to the pharmaceutical component of the government's New Economy Programme.

The project is expected to create approximately 20,000 jobs across manufacturing, scientific research, logistics and technical services.

Mr Mahama said Ghana was targeting local production of between 70 and 80 per cent of its essential medicines by 2030, reducing the country's dependence on imported pharmaceutical products.

The compact had earlier outlined a target of producing between 60 and 80 per cent of essential medicines locally, against the background of annual pharmaceutical import costs estimated at about GH¢5 billion.

The President also disclosed that United States pharmaceutical company Arriva had visited the area in the week preceding the durbar to undertake preparations for its proposed investment, describing the company as the project's first anchor investor.

The pharmaceutical hub forms part of the New Economy Programme, through which the government intends to mobilise US$10 billion in investments between 2027 and 2030.

At the same event, Mr Mahama announced plans for a US$1 billion investment in tourism and hospitality development within the Volta River enclave.

The latest announcement follows an appeal the President made in October to Indian companies to explore investment opportunities in Ghana's pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing industries.

For his part, the Akwamuhene expressed appreciation to the President for improvements to roads in the area but appealed for Akwamu's representation on the board of the Volta River Authority (VRA) and the settlement of outstanding compensation owed to the traditional area.

The Presidency recalled that Odeneho Kwafo Akoto III's reign began in 2011 following a chieftaincy dispute during which a police officer was killed.

No specific cost breakdown or detailed construction schedule for the Kwenyako facility has been announced, beyond the proposed 2027 commencement of construction under the pharmaceutical compact.



President John Dramani Mahama

Govt to recruit additional 10,000 health professionals next week – Akandoh

Health Minister Kwabena Mintah Akandoh has announced plans to recruit another 10,000 health professionals within the next week, bringing the total number employed under the Mahama administration to more than 18,000.

He said the government had already recruited approximately 8,600 health workers between 2025 and 2026 as part of efforts to address staffing gaps and strengthen healthcare delivery across the country.

Speaking during the debate on the 2027 Budget in Parliament, Mr Akandoh explained that the upcoming recruitment would cover various categories of health professionals and would not be restricted to nurses and midwives.

"In the next one week, we are going to recruit 10,000 health professionals again. I dare any of them to tell me that any government in the history of Ghana has recruited more than 18,000 health professionals in less than two years," he said.

The Minister also disclosed that the Ministries of Health and Finance had introduced a new arrangement to facilitate the immediate employment of medical doctors after completing their housemanship.

He said the initiative would end the situation where newly qualified doctors had to remain at home for extended periods while waiting for employment in the public health sector.

"You no longer have to wait at home before you are recruited. There is a smooth transition, and that is exactly what we are doing at the moment," he said.

Mr Akandoh further revealed that the government inherited a backlog of more than 100,000 unemployed health professionals, including 13,500 nurses and midwives who had been recruited but were not receiving salaries through the government payroll.

He said the affected nurses and midwives had since been placed on the payroll, with all outstanding salary arrears settled.



Health Minister Kwabena Mintah Akandoh

Ghana is ideal destination for German companies – President Steinmeier

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier has praised Ghana's record of peace and stability in West Africa, describing the country as an attractive destination for foreign investment and a strategic location for German companies seeking to expand their operations across the region.

He made the remarks during a meeting with President John Dramani Mahama in Accra on Tuesday, November 24, ahead of the 6th German-African Business Summit, which Ghana is hosting for the second time.

President Steinmeier congratulated Ghana on securing the opportunity to host the summit, saying the country's stability had strengthened its appeal to international investors.

"For so many years in the recent past, Ghana is, in our view, a beacon of peace and stability in the region, an ideal place for foreign investment and also an ideal location for all the activities of German companies here in the region," he said.

He expressed hope that the summit would deepen economic relations between Germany and Ghana, as well as expand cooperation with other African countries.

According to him, the gathering provides an important opportunity for business executives, policymakers and experts to explore investment opportunities and strengthen commercial partnerships.

"I hope that the German-African Business Summit will serve again as an engine to further accelerate the business cooperation between Germany and Ghana, and between Germany and different other partners in Africa," he stated.

The German leader also highlighted improvements in trade relations between the two countries, revealing that bilateral trade increased by approximately 20 per cent in 2025.

"We are delighted to see that, since the last year when we met, Mr President, we are delighted to see the progress in our economic relations," he said.

"Last year, [2025], in particular, we saw a significant increase in our bilateral trade volume of around 20 per cent. I hope that this positive trend will be continued in the next years," he added.

President Steinmeier recalled that he and President Mahama had participated in the inaugural German-African Business Summit in Berlin in 2015, when Mr Mahama was serving his first term as President and he was Germany's Foreign Minister.

He described his latest visit as an opportunity to renew their engagement and reinforce the longstanding relationship between Ghana and Germany.

The German President, however, disclosed that the visit would be his final official trip to Ghana, as his tenure is expected to end in mid-March.

"I am afraid that I have to say this will be my last and final visit to Ghana, but we hope to welcome you, Mr President, as soon as possible in Germany," he said.

He noted that he would remain in office until the middle of March and invited President Mahama to visit Germany before the end of his tenure.



German President Steinmeier and Ghana's President Mahama

Speaker vex Mahama for cutting parliament's GHS2.95bn budget to GHS2.28bn



President Mahama and Speaker Bagbin

Parliament and the Parliamentary Service are set to receive about GH¢670 million less than their budget request for the 2027 fiscal year, a reduction Speaker Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin warns could affect the institution's operations, staff welfare and access to specialised expertise.

Mr Bagbin made this known on the floor of Parliament while presenting a communication from the Presidency dated November 19, 2026, on the approved budget allocation for Parliament and the Parliamentary Service.

He said the institution had submitted a proposal of GH¢2.95 billion to finance its constitutional responsibilities, administrative activities and planned programmes for 2027.

However, the Presidency approved GH¢2.28 billion, representing a shortfall of approximately GH¢670 million, with the reduction attributed to constraints on the country's fiscal space.

The Speaker warned that the lower allocation could undermine Parliament's ability to discharge its responsibilities effectively, particularly its legislative scrutiny and oversight functions, which often require the engagement of technical experts.

He also raised concerns about the potential impact on the salaries and welfare of Parliamentary Service staff, cautioning that the funding shortfall could affect productivity and the delivery of essential services to the House.

Mr Bagbin stressed that Parliament, as an independent arm of government, requires adequate financial resources to perform its lawmaking, oversight and representative duties.

The presidential communication was formally laid before the House in accordance with parliamentary procedures.

The Speaker subsequently referred the matter to the Finance Committee, Budget Committee, Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Independent Constitutional Bodies for further examination.

The four committees are expected to assess the approved allocation, consider its implications for Parliament and the Parliamentary Service, and submit recommendations to the House.

AG urges Parliament to pass revised Intestate Succession Bill to address inheritance gaps



Attorney-General, Dr Dominic Ayine

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Dr Dominic Akuritinga Ayine, has called on Parliament to expedite the passage of the revised Intestate Succession Bill to reform the distribution of estates when individuals die without leaving wills.

He made the appeal at the African Women Lawyers Association's 2026 international conference in Accra, held under the theme "Better Together".

Dr Ayine said the proposed legislation, which has already undergone its second reading, had been before Parliament in various forms since 2009, making it necessary for lawmakers to conclude the process.

"It is time to finish the work," he said.

He acknowledged that the Intestate Succession Law, 1985 (PNDCL 111), had provided legal protection for surviving spouses and children over the past four decades but argued that changes in family structures had exposed significant gaps in its provisions.

According to him, the existing law does not adequately address the realities of polygamous families, dependent parents, children pursuing their education and households with multiple matrimonial homes.

He also noted that the fractional system used to distribute estates had created practical difficulties in its application.

"The Intestate Succession Bill currently before Parliament is designed to fill those gaps," he said.

Limitations of the existing law

PNDCL 111 provides the framework for distributing the self-acquired property of a person who dies intestate, excluding stool, skin and family property.

Under the law, household chattels are inherited absolutely by the surviving spouse and children. Where the estate includes a house, the spouse and children hold it as tenants-in-common and, where there is more than one house, they are entitled to choose one.

The remaining estate is distributed according to prescribed fractions. Where a deceased person is survived by a spouse and children, the spouse receives three-sixteenths of the residue, the children take nine-sixteenths, while the parents and customary family each receive one-eighth.

Where only a spouse survives, the spouse is entitled to half of the residue, while children who survive without a spouse receive three-quarters.

The law also criminalises the eviction of a surviving spouse or child from the matrimonial home before the estate is distributed.

Despite these safeguards, disputes over inheritance continue to arise, with the Court of Appeal recently admitting fresh evidence in a widow's dispute involving the estate of the late musician Daddy Lumba.

Proposed reforms to inheritance rules

Dr Ayine said the revised bill would introduce a uniform national framework for intestate succession, regardless of the customary system followed by a family or the type of marriage from which the deceased's children were born.

The proposed legislation would replace the existing fractional allocations with clearer percentage-based shares, while prioritising the welfare and needs of the immediate family.

The Attorney-General also called for reforms to the law governing spousal property rights, an issue that has remained a longstanding concern for women lawyers.

He argued that judicial decisions alone could not provide the comprehensive legal framework needed to protect spouses.

"Judge-made law, however enlightened, is no substitute for a statute," he said.

However, Dr Ayine cautioned that legislative reforms would have limited impact without effective enforcement and public awareness.

"The best intestate succession law in the world means nothing to a widow who does not know it exists, or who cannot afford to enforce it against a powerful family," he said.

The African Women Lawyers Association marked the 40th anniversary of PNDCL 111 in November 2025, renewing calls for its urgent reform and passage of the revised bill. The broader campaign for changes to Ghana's inheritance framework has been ongoing for several years.

Ghana's national airline project advances as task force submits investor selection report

Plans to establish a new national airline are progressing, with the Presidential Task Force overseeing the project presenting an update to the Minister for Transport on efforts to identify a strategic investor.

Transport Minister Joseph Bukari Nikpe received the task force's report and expressed satisfaction with the progress made, commending members for their work so far.

He, however, urged the team to intensify efforts and complete the remaining phase of its assignment within the proposed timeframe.

The selection of a strategic investor represents a major step towards reviving Ghana's national carrier, with the government also receiving technical support from American aerospace company Boeing.

Boeing recently reaffirmed its commitment to the project following engagements between its officials and President John Dramani Mahama.

An implementation roadmap has been agreed upon, outlining key activities, including the selection of strategic and technical partners, acquisition of an Air Operator Certificate, fleet selection and financing arrangements.

The aerospace company has also assured the President of continued technical support throughout the establishment and operational stages of the proposed airline.

Government expects the national carrier to improve the utilisation of Ghana's airport infrastructure, strengthen Accra's ambition to become a major aviation hub in West Africa and create employment opportunities across the aviation industry.

President Mahama has previously expressed confidence that the airline will become operational before the end of his tenure in January 2029.

However, the successful selection of a strategic investor, alongside decisions on aircraft acquisition and financing, will be crucial to achieving the proposed timeline.



Transport Minister receivea the task force's report

Ghana to launch 5G network before end of 2026 – Sam George

President John Dramani Mahama is expected to officially launch Ghana's 5G network before the end of 2026, with commercial access to the service anticipated to begin early next year.

Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Samuel Nartey George, disclosed this during the debate on the 2027 Budget in Parliament, explaining that the government had revised the 5G policy inherited from the previous Akufo-Addo administration.

He said the revised policy allows government to sell spectrum to generate revenue for the state while creating opportunities for broader participation in the deployment of the technology.

According to the Minister, the sale of spectrum in the 700 megahertz, 2.3 gigahertz and 3 gigahertz bands has generated US$240 million for the country.

Mr George criticised the previous administration for launching its 5G policy in November 2024 without making the service available to consumers.

"November, this November, is exactly two years since the Akufo-Addo administration launched 5G. We are yet to see one 5G signal in this country," he said.

He said the current administration had adopted a more inclusive approach to spectrum allocation to democratise access to the technology and ensure that the benefits extended beyond a limited number of operators.

"We have sold the 5G spectrum, democratised it. We've raised $240 million for the Ghanaian taxpayer," he told Parliament.

Mr George expressed confidence that President Mahama would formally announce the launch of the network before the end of the year, paving the way for users to begin accessing 5G services in early 2027.

"Before the end of this year, His Excellency President Mahama will announce the launch of 5G in Ghana. And by the start of next year, you will see the 5G signal," he said.



Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Samuel Nartey George

PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

As of 23rd November, 2026

NPA
NATIONAL PETROLEUM AUTHORITY

	AVERAGE FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 16TH NOVEMBER 2026 (27TH OCTOBER - 11TH NOVEMBER 2026 AVERAGES)	AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 1ST DECEMBER 2026 (12TH - 26TH NOVEMBER 2026 AVERAGES)	% CHANGE
FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)	11.7500	11.8691	-1.00%
Crude Oil (USD/BBL)	104.25	91.41	-12.32%
Petrol (USD/MT)	998.21	840.66	-15.78%
Diesel (USD/MT)	1,389.73	1,211.59	-12.82%
LPG (USD/MT)	953.15	749.66	-21.35%
Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)	1,478.21	1,258.86	-14.84%
Fuel Oil (USD/MT)	631.48	570.82	-9.61%
*Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)			

Note: " Oil prices fell more than 3%, to settle at a three-month low on rising supplies from the Middle East and the restart of a Libyan oil pipeline, which offset worries about shipping and refinery attacks in the region." - Reuters

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‘Come for your money’ time runs out as GH¢28.58bn DDEP buyback deadline set for today

Finance Minister Dr Cassiel Ato Forson has urged investors holding Domestic Debt Exchange Programme (DDEP) bonds due in February 2027 to take advantage of the government’s voluntary buyback, which opened on Monday, November 23.

The exercise, which offers to repurchase up to GH¢28.58 billion in eligible bonds, is scheduled to close on Wednesday, November 25, at 3:00 p.m. GMT.

Bondholders interested in participating have been advised to contact an active Primary Dealer to submit their offers.

“It’s open! Come for your money!” the Minister declared in announcing the commencement of the exercise. “Our voluntary buyback for February 2027 DDEP bonds opened yesterday!”

According to the Ministry of Finance’s auction notice, the bonds eligible for the buyback are those maturing on February 16, 2027. Successful offers are expected to be settled on Thursday, November 26, 2026.

The voluntary arrangement allows investors to sell their bonds back to the government before their scheduled maturity, subject to the terms of the auction.

The exercise follows Dr Forson’s announcement during the presentation of the 2027 Budget on November 12 that government was prepared to facilitate the early redemption of DDEP bonds falling due in February 2027.

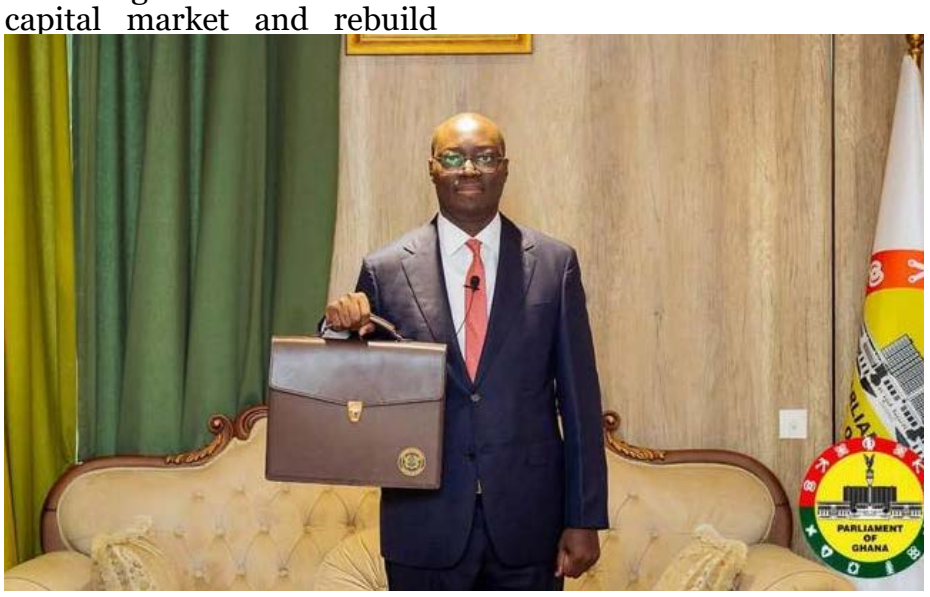
He told Parliament that the Cedi Sinking Fund Account had accumulated GH¢29 billion as of November 11, an amount sufficient to cover the principal repayment due in February.

“Your cash is ready. Come for your money!” he said during the budget presentation.

The Ministry of Finance has described the buyback as part of broader efforts to strengthen the domestic capital market and rebuild investor confidence.

Dr Forson reiterated that the exercise reflected government’s commitment to honouring its financial obligations to bondholders.

“Honouring our commitments. Restoring confidence,” he stated.



Finance Minister Dr. Ato Forson

‘We can’t release your client in France-linked cocaine case without court order’ — NACOC tells Lawyer Kpebu

Deputy Director-General of the Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC), Alexander Twum Barima Esq., has defended the continued detention of a suspect linked to the recent cocaine seizure involving France, insisting that the commission cannot release him without a court order.

Speaking on Asempa FM, Mr Twum Barima responded to concerns raised by lawyer Martin Kpebu over the continued custody of his client despite what he described as a lack of progress in the case.

He maintained that NACOC operates within the limits of the law and cannot detain suspects indefinitely, explaining that individuals arrested by the commission must either be granted bail or brought before a court after the legally permitted initial detention period.

“The law does not permit us to keep a suspect for more than two weeks. It is only two days. After the two days, all we can do is to give you bail or take you to court. It is the court that can make further decisions, which we will oblige,” he explained.

Addressing the specific case involving Mr Kpebu’s client, the NACOC official said the suspect had been remanded by the court and had appeared before it on more than three occasions.

He stressed that the commission had no authority to reverse the court’s decision or independently order the suspect’s release.

“Who am I to go and give a counter order?” he questioned.

Mr Twum Barima further confirmed that the suspect was linked to the France-related cocaine seizure, adding that individuals connected to the recent drug cases were currently undergoing court proceedings.

He insisted that NACOC had no personal interest in the detention of any suspect and would not deliberately violate the law by holding individuals unlawfully.

He said the commission remained committed to complying with court directives and would abide by any decisions made by the judiciary.



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Mahama urges Oti chiefs to identify lands for agriculture under US$10bn New Economy agenda



President Mahama meets Oti Region chiefs

President John Dramani Mahama has called on chiefs in the Oti Region to make suitable lands available for agricultural production to support the government's US$10 billion New Economy programme.

He said the initiative, which seeks to invest US$10 billion in the economy over four years, would place significant emphasis on agriculture and agribusiness, offering the region an opportunity to expand its productive capacity and create economic opportunities.

President Mahama made the appeal when he received a delegation of the Oti Regional House of Chiefs, led by its President, Nana Mprah Besemuna III, at the Jubilee House in Accra.

Nana Besemuna III is the Krachiwura and Paramount Chief of the Krachi Traditional Area.

"I can assure you that Oti will get its fair share. We will need our chiefs to identify lands that we can put under agriculture," the President said.

He urged the traditional authorities to take an active interest in the programme and support efforts to identify suitable lands that could be developed for large-scale agricultural activities.

President Mahama also assured the chiefs of the government's commitment to accelerating development in the Oti Region through infrastructure projects and other economic interventions, including the construction of a 160-bed regional hospital and the ongoing Dambai Bridge project.

Economic stabilisation

The President said the government had devoted its first year to stabilising an economy it inherited under difficult circumstances, with inflation standing at 23.4 per cent.

He said the government's interventions had helped restore macroeconomic stability, with inflation declining to 5.5 per cent and the cedi recording relative stability.

"With determination, we have managed to weather the storm, and I can confidently say that the macroeconomic situation is now stable," he said.

He added that improved economic conditions had boosted investor confidence, with Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) increasing from US$624 million in 2024 to US$2.6 billion by the end of 2025.

Infrastructure projects in Oti

President Mahama also outlined the government's infrastructure programme, indicating that about 3,000 kilometres of roads were being worked on simultaneously across the country.

In the Oti Region, he said particular attention was being given to the Eastern Corridor Road, sections of which had reportedly been abandoned for eight years.

He said work was ongoing on the remaining stretches from Asikuma Junction through Have to Hohoe, from Hohoe to Jasikan, as well as two sections near Nkwanta extending towards Asa and Damanko.

"Our expectation is that by next year, we should be able to open up much of that road to traffic," he said.

The President further disclosed that construction of the Dambai Bridge, a project that had remained on the drawing board for several years, was now underway.

On security, he said the government had deployed personnel to the Nkwanta area to address chieftaincy and land disputes.

He also pledged to prioritise the completion of the Regional House of Chiefs and district assembly offices, particularly in the Santrokofi, Akpafu, Lolobi and Likpe (SALL) area.

He noted that the communities, which had been disenfranchised for four years, could now participate in elections and have representation in Parliament.

Iron ore and nickel discoveries

On the region's mineral potential, President Mahama disclosed that the Ghana Integrated Iron and Steel Development Corporation (GIISDEC) had made significant discoveries of iron ore and nickel in the Kejebi area.

He said preliminary findings indicated that the iron ore deposits contained more than 50 per cent iron content, highlighting the area's potential for mineral development.

The President said the government remained committed to ensuring that the Oti Region benefited from its agricultural, infrastructure and mineral resources as part of the broader national development agenda.

Nadowli-Kaleo NPP chairman caught pants down for stealing Nkoko Nkitinkiti birds

The Minister for Food and Agriculture, Eric Opoku, has accused the New Patriotic Party (NPP) of undermining the government's Nkoko Nkitinkiti initiative, revealing that the party's Nadowli-Kaleo Constituency Chairman Joseph Kontomah has been arrested over the alleged theft of birds distributed under the programme.

According to the Minister, the Ghana Police Service has confirmed the arrest and recovered some of the birds allegedly stolen.

Mr Opoku made the revelation on Tuesday, November 24, during proceedings in Parliament, where he responded to concerns raised by the Minority about the implementation and effectiveness of the government's agricultural intervention.

The Minority has repeatedly questioned the programme's performance, arguing that it has fallen short of expectations.

However, the Minister challenged the opposition's criticism, suggesting that some individuals associated with the NPP were engaging in activities that could undermine the initiative.

Citing a report by Tolon TV, Mr Opoku told Parliament that the alleged theft had been brought to the attention of the authorities, leading to police intervention.

"We received reports that the NPP constituency Chairman for Nadowli-Kaleo was arrested for stealing Nkoko Nkitinkiti birds. The Police have confirmed the story and have retrieved some of the birds," he said.

The Minister further questioned what he described as the contradictory conduct of the opposition, accusing its parliamentary leadership of attacking the programme while some party members allegedly benefited from the unlawful removal of birds.

"While their leaders are in Parliament condemning the programme, their people back there are stealing the birds," he added.

His remarks introduced a fresh controversy into the parliamentary debate over the Nkoko Nkitinkiti initiative, with the Minister using the reported arrest to challenge the Minority's criticism of the programme.



NPP Nadowli-Kaleo Constituency Chairman Joseph Kontomah

Remove your 'bomb' SRC President; that 'unfit' boy is in bed with university management – Rent Commissioner

The Acting Rent Commissioner, Frederick Opoku, has called on University of Ghana students to remove their SRC President, Abraham Kofi Amudzegbe, accusing him of failing to defend their interests amid the controversy surrounding the 15 per cent increase in hostel fees.

Mr Opoku questioned the SRC president's leadership and commitment to the student body, arguing that his handling of the disagreement with university management had weakened efforts to address students' concerns.

Speaking in an interview with Radio Universe, the Acting Rent Commissioner said he had taken steps to intervene after receiving a petition from the SRC over fees and other charges introduced by the university.

He explained that he visited the Legon campus the day after receiving the petition to meet the SRC executives and discuss possible ways of addressing their grievances. However, he claimed that the leadership failed to follow up on the engagement despite his attempts to contact the president.

"I was in my office when this Abraham, whatever they call him, the University of Ghana president, petitioned me, saying the school was not listening to them and had introduced fees or charges they considered unfair.

"When I received their letter, the next day I stopped everything and went to the Legon campus to meet all the executives. If I didn't care, I wouldn't have come. I went there and met them and told them to come back for us to know what to do.

"They didn't come. Since then, this guy has never called. I called him three times. They must vote him out. This guy is not fit to become SRC president. They must pass a vote of no confidence and get him out," he said.

Mr Opoku further accused Amudzegbe of failing to support students who protested against the hostel fee increment, alleging that he discouraged others from joining the demonstration because he was engaged in discussions with university management.

"As for me, this boy does not deserve to become president for one minute. He's not fit to become president because I don't think that he really has the students at heart. When people were going for a protest, you went and even said that nobody should join because you are dealing with management," he added.

He also alleged that the SRC president had developed an inappropriate relationship with university management, raising concerns that students' interests were being compromised.

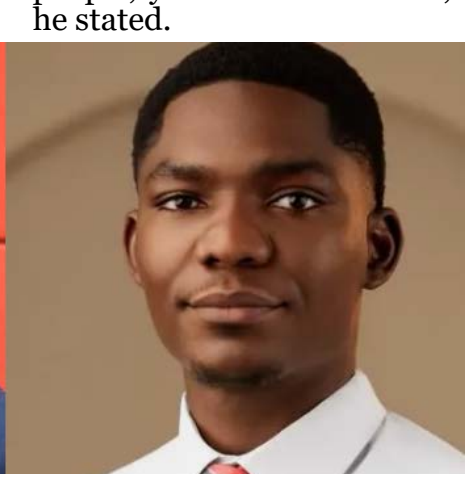
"This guy, if I were Legon, we should have now voted and get this boy out. He's in bed with these people. And I know maybe, maybe he may be benefiting," he alleged.

The Acting Rent Commissioner also took issue with comments attributed to the university's Public Relations Officer, whom he said had described his conduct as appalling. He rejected the characterisation, describing it as dishonest.

Renewing his call for the SRC president's removal, Mr Opoku maintained that Amudzegbe had failed to demonstrate the leadership required to represent the student body.

"From the PRO, is it Dr Elsie, something like that, the head of public relations, there's one doctor there like that, who says that my behaviour is appalling. Look at this kind of dishonest kind of statement. So what I'm saying is that, that Abraham, whatever they call him over there, they must even get him sacked. Legon people, you voted for bomb," he stated.





EDUCATION

Zenith law students visit GHAMRO, Copyright for practical lessons



Zenith University College law students at Copyright office

Level 300 law students of Zenith University College have visited the Copyright Office and the Ghana Music Rights Organization (GHAMRO) to gain practical insights into copyright administration, intellectual property protection and music-royalty management in Ghana.

The educational tour, led by Private Legal Practitioner and Intellectual Property Law Lecturer, Dr David Dodjie Olaga, Esq, was aimed at bridging the gap between classroom instruction and the practical demands of legal practice.

The tour provided the students with an opportunity to interact with professionals at the two institutions and understand the processes involved in protecting creative works, licensing music users and distributing royalties to rights holders.

Speaking during the engagement held at the GNAT Hall in Accra on Friday, November 20, Dr Olaga said the tour forms part of the requirements under the new legal education curriculum to expose students to the practical application of the courses they study.

"One of the requirements is to be able to introduce our students to the practical aspect of what we teach in class, and so that was the main brain behind this exercise. ... Last year we were here, and the report was very encouraging. Even today, I had few conversations with some of the students, and it's like all that I have been teaching in the class now, they have come to see the practicality of what we learn in the class," he told ModernGhana News on the sidelines.

During the session by the Copyright Office, the students were taken through an introduction to copyright, related rights, copyright in the digital era, infringements and available defences under Ghana's copyright law.

In remarks read on his behalf, Principal State Attorney and Head of the Copyright Office, Mr William Akwetey Bonsu, urged the students to develop a deeper understanding of intellectual property law and the emerging challenges posed by technology.

He said technological advancements are increasingly outpacing existing legal frameworks, particularly in areas such as generative artificial intelligence, digital content distribution and decentralised streaming, requiring lawyers to be equipped to interpret copyright principles in evolving circumstances.

"Technology will always move faster than the statute books and the determination in court. Technology is always far ahead of us, so we have to catch up with our knowledge. ... We need modern laws by way of amendments and so forth," he said.

Mr Bonsu also encouraged the students to understand the commercial and technological dimensions of copyright, particularly how creators' works are reproduced and monetised on digital platforms without their consent or proper compensation.

The GHAMRO session, led by Deputy Head of Licensing, Prince Shadrach Adu-Ameyaw, focused on the organisation's operations, including music licensing, the collection of royalties and the distribution of proceeds to music rights holders.

The students were taken through how GHAMRO licenses businesses and establishments that use music publicly, including restaurants, hotels, nightclubs and other commercial outlets, and how royalties are collected and then distributed to the rightful owners.

Mr Adu-Ameyaw explained that the organisation collects royalties from music users and relies on usage returns and music logs to determine how the proceeds are distributed to rights holders.

Dr Olaga, who noted that intellectual property law remains an area of opportunity for legal practitioners, urged lawyers to consider specialising in the field rather than concentrating largely on criminal cases and land litigation.

He further encouraged creatives whose rights are infringed upon to seek legal redress, while cautioning individuals and businesses against exploiting other people's works without permission.

Zenith University College Pre-Bar students observe Supreme Court proceedings



Zenith Pre-Bar students at the Supreme Court

Pre-Bar students of Zenith University College have observed proceedings at the Supreme Court as part of efforts to prepare them for the practical demands of legal practice ahead of their professional training.

Since the introduction of the pre-bar program as part of the new legal reform in Ghana, Zenith University College was the first faculty to introduce the operation of the apex court in realizing the aim and vision of the legal reform by practilizing legal education in Ghana.

The approximately 20 students, led by Private Legal Practitioner and Law Lecturer Dr David Dodjie Olaga, Esq., visited the apex court on Tuesday, November 24, where they witnessed hearings on applications invoking the court's supervisory jurisdiction under Article 132 of the 1992 Constitution.

The visit was aimed at bridging the gap between classroom instruction and courtroom practice, exposing the prospective lawyers to court procedures, advocacy, professional conduct and the demands of appearing before the bench.

The proceedings were heard by a panel of justices led by Justice Amadu Tanko, with Justices Samuel Kwame Adibu Asiedu, Anthony Forson and Edward Amoako Asante also sitting.

Following the proceedings, the students held an interactive session with the justices in their chambers, where they asked questions and sought clarification on aspects of the court's work and the legal processes they had witnessed.

Speaking to ModernGhana News after the visit, the Lecturer Dr Olaga said the tour was particularly important for the students, who had completed their LLB studies and are preparing for the Law Practice Training Course (LPTC).

"Some of them have read whatever it is in the classroom, but they have not had the first-hand information as to what happens. The essence of going with them is to introduce them, to expose them to what exactly happens in the courtroom, and also to prepare them for the task ahead," he said.

He added that the visit was also intended to help the students familiarise themselves with the courtroom environment before they are called to the Bar.

Also speaking to ModernGhana News, one of the students, Edmund Winston Brown, said the proceedings offered valuable lessons on courtroom advocacy, particularly the need for lawyers to thoroughly prepare their applications and arguments before appearing before the Supreme Court.

He said the dismissal of several applications during the proceedings reinforced the importance of preparation, knowledge of the law and the ability to respond to questions from the bench.

"Before you go to the apex court, you have to really prepare yourself. They will be asking you questions, and you should know what you are telling them and what you are about," he said.

Mr. Brown described the experience as insightful, noting that observing the justices and lawyers in action gave himself and his colleagues a better appreciation of the procedures and expectations of the Supreme Court.

GTEC's audit exposes public business school offering admission for 'unaccredited' Public Health PhD programme



Director-General of GTEC, Prof Ahmed Jinapor Abdulai

The Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC) has directed a public institution with a focus on business education to revoke admission letters issued to students for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programme in Public Health, which it is not accredited or adequately equipped to offer.

The institution, whose name has not been disclosed, allegedly admitted students into the programme despite failing to meet the minimum requirements for its delivery.

GTEC has since written to the institution, instructing it to withdraw the admissions because it lacks the necessary accreditation and capacity to run the programme.

The Director-General of GTEC, Prof Ahmed Jinapor Abdulai, disclosed this during an interview with Accra-based Citi FM on Monday evening, November 23, 2026.

He explained that the Commission's ongoing audit of PhD programmes across Ghanaian universities was intended to establish whether institutions had the infrastructure and academic capacity they initially presented when seeking approval to operate the programmes.

Prof Jinapor Abdulai also dismissed reports suggesting that GTEC had suspended admissions into all PhD programmes in the country, clarifying that the temporary restriction applied only to applications for accreditation to introduce new doctoral programmes.

He said the Commission was assessing existing programmes before allowing universities to expand their doctoral offerings.

"So it is not as if we are asking institutions not to admit PhD students, no, we are saying that we are conducting an audit to determine what is being done, vis-a-vis, what they [universities] brought to us (GTEC), informed by the infrastructure and capacity, for us to make a determination whether they should move forward," he said.

"But in the meantime, whiles we do that we are putting a temporary freeze on the acceptance of new applications for PhD programmes. Once the audit is completed for each individual institution and the institution is fit for purpose, that institution will be allowed to submit new applications," he added.

GTEC raises concerns over PhD numbers and quality

The Director-General said the case involving the business-focused public institution was among the concerns that had informed the decision to examine doctoral programmes nationwide.

He indicated that preliminary findings pointed to a growing emphasis on increasing student numbers rather than maintaining the academic standards required for PhD training.

Prof Jinapor Abdulai warned that Ghana could face a situation where universities produce more doctoral graduates than the country and the available job market can accommodate, particularly if institutions lack the capacity to provide quality supervision.

He said the Commission would assess whether the number of PhD graduates being produced annually was consistent with the capacity of universities and the country's actual needs.

"I think that at the end of the day, when this exercise is done, the commission will have to take a decision whether the numbers that are being churned out is more or less in sync with the capacity of these institutions or whether as a country, we need those number of people with PhD. We don't want a situation whereby we have unemployed PhD graduates in this country as we've seen in some areas historically," Prof Jinapor Abdulai observed.

He stressed that GTEC would prioritise academic standards and institutional capacity over the expansion of enrolment figures.

Education Minister Haruna Iddrisu has also expressed similar concerns about the need to protect the quality of doctoral education rather than focus on increasing the number of graduates, and has endorsed the Commission's audit.

Audit underway across universities

Prof Jinapor Abdulai said the exercise began about two weeks ago, with GTEC formally writing to universities to submit information on all their existing PhD programmes for assessment.

He maintained that the Commission would not consider applications for accreditation of new doctoral programmes from an institution until the audit of its existing programmes had been completed.

Universities that satisfy the Commission's requirements will be cleared to apply for additional programmes, while those found to have shortcomings could face restrictions.

He explained that where an existing programme is found not to meet the required standards, GTEC could direct the institution to stop admitting students into it.

The Director-General said the assessment was being conducted through a peer-review process involving academics from other universities with expertise in the relevant disciplines.

He further disclosed that preliminary information available to the Commission suggested that some institutions were admitting more than 250 PhD students annually, with certain programmes taking in over 50 candidates in a single year.

Prof Jinapor Abdulai questioned whether universities admitting such numbers had enough qualified academic staff to provide the supervision required for doctoral research.

He said the audit would establish whether the facilities, staffing and other resources presented by institutions when they obtained accreditation remained available and adequate for the programmes they were running.

He reiterated that the temporary freeze was not a ban on PhD admissions but a measure to ensure that universities met the required standards before expanding their doctoral programmes.

About 5,000 pupils register prematurely for BECE annually – Education Ministry justifies ban



Education Minister, Haruna Iddrisu

The Ministry of Education says approximately 5,000 learners are registered for the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) before becoming eligible each year, describing the practice as a violation of established examination regulations.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, November 24, and signed by its Press Secretary, Hashmin Mohammed, the Ministry defended its directive prohibiting Junior High School (JHS) 1 and 2 pupils from registering for the examination.

It explained that the BECE is designed for learners who have completed the three-year JHS programme, making the registration of pupils in lower classes irregular.

"Existing examination regulations provide for school candidates in their final year of JHS to register for the examination. Consequently, the registration of JHS 1 and JHS 2 learners who have not satisfied the established eligibility requirements constitutes an irregularity that must be addressed," the statement said.

The Ministry also warned that the practice could impose unnecessary financial costs on the government, which pays examination registration fees for eligible candidates in public schools.

It explained that learners who sit the examination before completing JHS and fail to secure the grades required for admission to senior high school may have to return to their respective academic levels and register again when they meet the eligibility requirements.

"Across several schools and districts, such practices could result in avoidable public expenditure that could otherwise support classroom infrastructure, teaching and learning materials and other educational priorities," it said.

Beyond the financial implications, the Ministry said premature examination registration and irregular academic progression could undermine education planning by distorting enrolment projections.

It noted that inaccurate projections could affect decisions on classroom construction, teacher recruitment, textbook distribution and the implementation of the school feeding programme.

The Ministry said the two-year examination suspension imposed on learners found to have registered prematurely was intended to enforce compliance with the existing eligibility requirements.

It acknowledged that parents, school authorities and examination officials shared responsibility for ensuring that only qualified candidates were registered for the BECE.

To strengthen enforcement, the Ministry said it would collaborate with the Ghana Education Service (GES) and the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) to introduce clear procedures for verifying candidates' eligibility, ensuring institutional accountability and applying appropriate sanctions.

The arrangements, it added, would also provide mechanisms for reviewing decisions and handling appeals in exceptional circumstances.

The Ministry further clarified that the directive was not designed to prevent academically gifted learners from progressing ahead of their peers.

It said exceptional cases could still be considered for academic acceleration where there was professional justification and formal approval.

I have more to offer Ghana despite pressure of expectations, says Jordan Ayew

Ghana captain Jordan Ayew says he has more to offer the Black Stars despite reaching 125 international appearances, insisting he has learned to handle the expectations that come with representing his country.

The 35-year-old Sheffield United forward reached the milestone during Ghana's 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifying campaign against Somalia.

Ayew scored the only goal in Ghana's return-leg victory at the Essipong Sports Stadium, having also featured in their 2-0 win in the first meeting.

His latest appearance further strengthened his place among Ghana's most-capped players, having surpassed the international appearance record of his older brother, Andre Ayew, earlier this year.

However, representing Ghana has also brought significant pressure for the forward, who is the son of legendary former Black Stars captain Abedi Pele.

His father, a European Cup winner with Marseille in 1993, is regarded as one of Africa's greatest footballers, leaving Jordan with considerable expectations from an early age.

Speaking about the pressure of living up to his family's legacy and the demands of Ghanaian supporters, Ayew admitted that he has dealt with such expectations since he was a teenager.

"I've been in that since I was maybe 12, and expectations back home were very big – a bit too much, but it is what it is," he said, as reported by the Yorkshire Post.

"I think so far I've given a good account of myself. There's more to come, in my opinion.

"Everything is in God's hands, so I try to do my best on the pitch, and give myself the best opportunity to perform every time for club and country."

Beyond his international commitments, Ayew has continued to contribute at club level, scoring for Sheffield United in their Championship encounter against Watford over the weekend.

He will hope to maintain that form when Sheffield United face Southampton on Tuesday night.

With 125 appearances for Ghana already to his name, Ayew remains an influential figure in the Black Stars set-up and is determined to make further contributions to the national team.



Ghana captain, Jordan Ayew

Black Challenge players to receive $10,000 each after Amputee Football World Cup triumph

Ghana's Sports and Recreation Minister, Kofi Adams, has announced an additional US$10,000 bonus for each member of the Black Challenge following their historic triumph at the 2026 Amputee Football World Cup in Mexico.

The Black Challenge defeated Morocco 1-0 in Sunday's final to win the tournament for the first time, with an own goal in the second half proving decisive.

In recognition of the team's achievement, the Sports Minister dispatched a delegation to the team's hotel in Mexico to congratulate the players and engage with them.

The delegation comprised the Ministry's Sports Protocol Officer, Dinah Boateng, and Chief Director, Fati Lily Soale. Adams, who is also the Member of Parliament for Buem, joined the engagement virtually via Zoom, where he congratulated the team before announcing the additional financial reward.

"Aside from all the bonuses and other monies that have been paid to the team, we as a ministry are also adding an extra US$10,000 for each player of the team," he said.

The Black Challenge are expected to return to Ghana on Thursday at 13:00 GMT, with their arrival scheduled at the Kotoka International Airport following their World Cup success.

Ghana's victory marks a significant milestone in the country's sporting history, making the Black Challenge only the second African side to win the Amputee Football World Cup.

Angola was the first African nation to claim the title, achieving the feat in 2018.



Black Challenge

CAF pledges to implement CAS ruling reinstating Senegal as 2025 AFCON champions



The Confederation of African Football (CAF) says it will implement the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) ruling that reinstates Senegal as winners of the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

In a statement issued on Tuesday, 24 November 2026, CAF confirmed that it respects the decision delivered by the Lausanne-based tribunal following the dispute between the Senegalese Football Federation (FSF) and the Royal Moroccan Football Federation (FRMF).

"CAF respects the CAS Award and will take all the necessary measures to implement it," the statement read.

The ruling overturns the CAF Appeal Board's decision to strip Senegal of the title and award Morocco a 3-0 victory after the Teranga Lions were found guilty of abandoning the final.

CAS instead upheld the original decision of CAF's Disciplinary Board, restoring Senegal's 1-0 victory over Morocco in the final played in Rabat on 18 January.

The decision brings an end to months of uncertainty over the outcome of the tournament and confirms Senegal as African champions.

In its ruling, CAS set aside the decision of the CAF Appeal Board, delivered on 17 March 2026, which had declared Morocco winners of the competition.

The tribunal reinstated the decision of CAF's Disciplinary Board, issued on 11 February 2026.

At the centre of the dispute was Senegal's temporary walk-off during the final after Morocco were awarded a late penalty in regulation time.

Senegal's players left the pitch for approximately 14 minutes in protest before eventually returning to continue the match.

Morocco captain Brahim Diaz missed the resulting penalty, while Pape Gueye scored the decisive goal in extra time to give Senegal a 1-0 victory.

Morocco subsequently challenged the result, arguing that Senegal had breached Articles 82 and 84 of the AFCON regulations, which deal with teams abandoning or refusing to continue a match.

However, CAS ruled that those provisions were not applicable because the referee had not permanently abandoned the contest.

The panel also concluded that the referee acted within his authority when he allowed the match to resume, bringing the incident under the field of play doctrine.

CAS Secretary General Matthieu Reeb confirmed that the decision was unanimous, with the panel finding no legal error in the referee's handling of the incident.

The tribunal also acknowledged that CAF had imposed separate disciplinary sanctions on the Senegalese Football Federation, coach Pape Thiaw and players Iliman Ndiaye and Ismaila Sarr following incidents during the final.

Senegal's reinstatement means they retain the trophy they originally won on the pitch, ending the controversy surrounding the tournament's final result.

The Senegalese Football Federation celebrated the verdict on social media with the message: "Again and Always African Champions."

Lawyer Sidy Diagne, who represented the Senegalese federation, described the ruling as a major victory for the country and the integrity of football.

The decision is a significant setback for Morocco, who had been declared champions following CAF's Appeal Board ruling in March.

Following the verdict, attention has shifted to CAF and the administrative measures required to give effect to the decision.

Although the African football governing body has pledged to comply with the ruling, it has yet to outline the specific steps it will take or provide a timeline for implementation.

CAS also confirmed that the full grounds for its decision had been communicated to the parties on Tuesday.

The award is expected to be made public in due course, unless the parties request that it remain confidential.

The ruling restores the outcome of the 18 January final and officially confirms Senegal as 2025 Africa Cup of Nations champions.

‘I will celebrate you whiles you are alive’ — Mahama recounts how Uncle Chris saved Ghana’s old films from being destroyed



President Mahama visits veteran Ghanaian filmmaker Chris Essie

President John Dramani Mahama has praised veteran Ghanaian filmmaker Chris Essie, popularly known as Uncle Chris, for his contribution to preserving the country’s film history.

During a visit to honour the filmmaker, Mahama recounted how Uncle Chris helped him recover and preserve old Ghanaian films that were deteriorating at the Information Services Department.

The President said he first knew Uncle Chris from a distance because of his work promoting Ghana’s film industry but became closer to him when he served as Deputy Minister of Communications.

He recalled that Uncle Chris once took him to the Information Services Department, where they found kilometres of old film reels that were deteriorating because of their age.

“When I became Deputy Minister of Communications, he came to me one day and said, ‘Come, let me go and show you something.’ I went to the Information Services Department and there were miles and miles, kilometres of real film that were deteriorating,” Mahama recounted.

He explained that some of the films had developed mould and could no longer be recovered. The situation followed the sale of Ghana’s film industry, when Malaysian investors took over and focused on modernising the facility rather than preserving its historical archives.

Mahama said Uncle Chris later informed him that well-preserved copies of some of the films were being kept at Rank Xerox’s laboratory in London.

The President recalled that Ghana owed the company about £10,000 at the time and risked losing the films if the debt was not paid.

“Uncle Chris told me, ‘You know what? We have copies of these films that are well preserved, and they are in the Rank Xerox laboratory in London.’ At that time, we owed Rank Xerox about £10,000, and they said if we didn’t pay, they would throw the films away,” he said.

Mahama said he helped make a case for the payment, allowing the films to be preserved for some time. However, after his government left office in 2001, payments reportedly stopped, and the films were eventually dumped at Ghana’s embassy in London.

He said Uncle Chris then took up the responsibility of ensuring that the old film reels were digitised so they could be preserved for future generations.

Mahama noted that some of the historical footage is now available on social media, allowing Ghanaians to watch old films dating back to the era of Kwame Nkrumah.

“Today, I see some of that footage. If you go on social media, you see some very early films from Nkrumah’s time. It is all the work of this man,” he said.

The President said the visit was to recognise Uncle Chris while he was alive rather than wait until his death to celebrate his contribution.

“Uncle, we came to honour you. We must honour you, not possibly when you die and then we’ll start crying. We must do it while you’re alive,” Mahama stated.

Cecilia Marfo begs for financial support to revive dead gospel music career after 'washawasay' hit

Gospel musician and evangelist Cecilia Marfo has appealed to individuals and potential sponsors for financial assistance, revealing that a lack of support has affected her ability to remain active in the gospel music industry.

In an emotional account of her struggles, the musician explained that although she remains passionate about her ministry and believes in the work of the Holy Spirit, financial difficulties have made it challenging to continue her musical activities.

According to Cecilia, she has consistently prayed for a breakthrough but needs financial support from individuals who believe in her ministry and are willing to help her return to active music work.

She noted that her songs have inspired and blessed many people over the years, but she has struggled to enjoy the benefits of her contributions to gospel music.

Despite the challenges, Cecilia insists that she has not abandoned her calling and remains hopeful that God will provide the support she needs to continue her work.

Cecilia Marfo trended massively in the news in 2021 following her popular Washawasay challenge that went viral.

She wanted to sing the gospel song: "What Shall I say unto the Lord", but got the words wrong. This caused a public stir with many people joining in the challenge.



Gospel musician and evangelist Cecilia Marfo

'They say body no be firewood, but my body has been firewood long ago' — Adwoa Smart rejects relationship

55-year-old Ghanaian actress, Adwoa Smart, says she is in no rush to find a romantic partner, revealing that she has remained celibate for several years.

The actress, who says she is open to finding love, explained that she is now comfortable being on her own and would not enter a relationship simply to have a man in her life.

Speaking in an interview on Okay FM, Adwoa Smart used humour to describe how long she had stayed away from intimacy, saying her body had moved beyond the stage of being called firewood.

"They say body no be firewood, but my body has been firewood long ago. It has even advanced to fire, ash, and now it is metal. Is it now that I will have an interest in a man", she said.

She attributed her relaxed approach to relationships partly to her improved financial circumstances, explaining that she no longer needs a man to provide for her.

According to her, the period when she was struggling financially and emotionally would have been the ideal time to have a supportive partner.

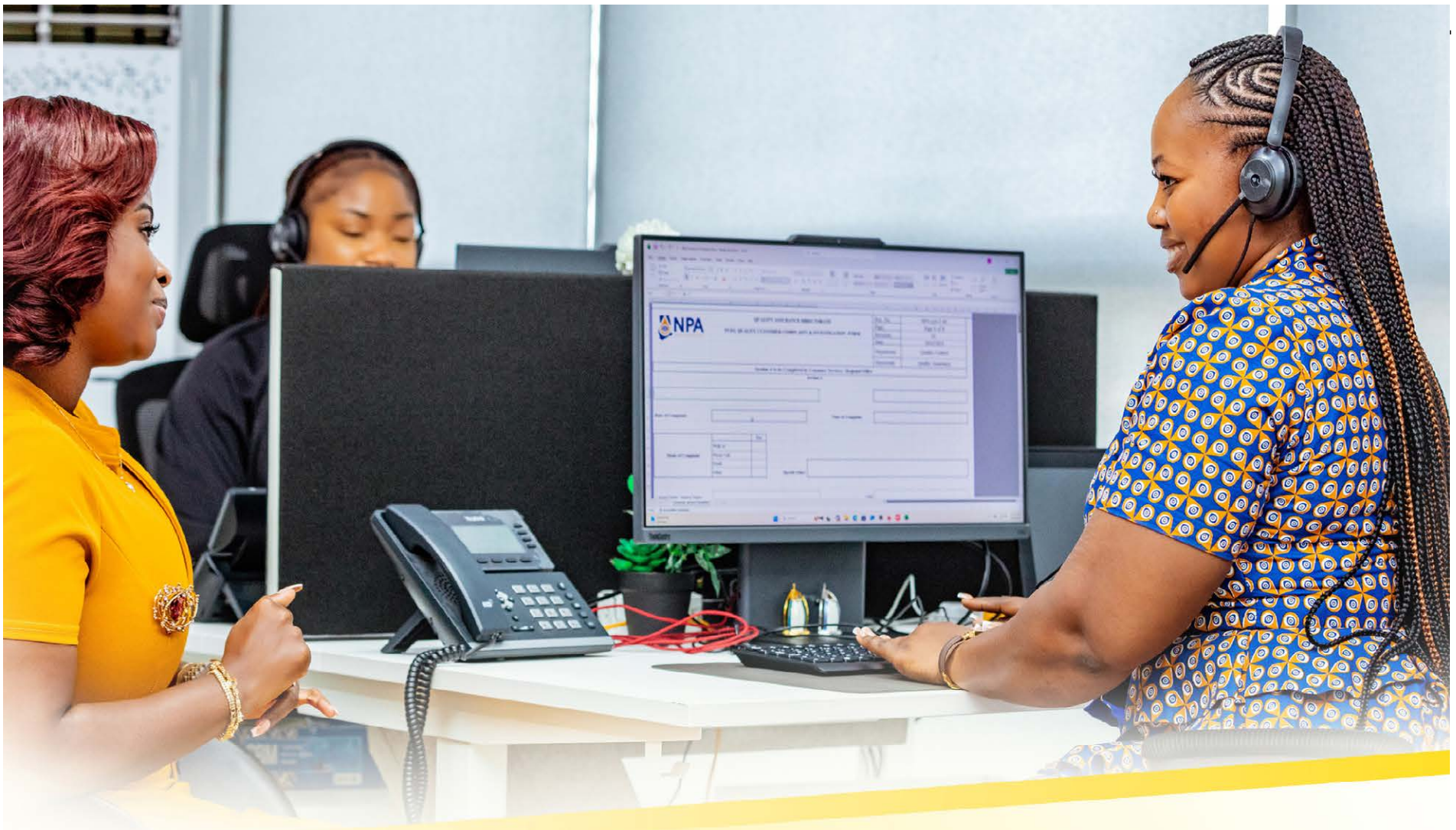
"When I was struggling, that was when I needed a man to uplift me, not now that I am comfortable," she stated.

Adwoa Smart, however, clarified that she has not ruled out marriage or a romantic relationship, but would rather wait for someone who meets her expectations.

She maintained that she was no longer interested in relationship games and would only consider a man whose intentions and character are right for her.



Actress Adwoa Smart



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