

THE MODERN GUIDE

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What should give you satisfaction is that your work has helped saved Ghana from Akufo-Addo's tyranny – Asiedu Nketiah tells NDC grassroots



National Chairman of NDC, Johnson Asiedu Nketiah

The National Chairman of the National Democratic Congress, Johnson Asiedu Nketiah, has praised grassroots members of the party for their decisive role in securing victory in the 2024 general election.

He said the commitment and sacrifices of supporters across the country were central to what he described as an unprecedented electoral success that helped “save Ghana from tyranny.”

Speaking during a Thank You Tour in Talensi in the Upper East Region, Mr Asiedu Nketiah noted that the

contributions of volunteers, polling agents, financiers and campaign teams went beyond politics and helped restore hope in the country.

“You stood up to ensure that this country is put back on the right path,” he said, adding that their efforts helped rescue Ghana from what he described as the excesses of the previous administration under former President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo.

He recalled how party members moved from community to community, canvassing for votes, mounting posters and mobilising support at the grassroots, often under difficult conditions.

Mr Asiedu Nketiah acknowledged that although not every individual could be immediately recognised or rewarded, their role in what he described as a historic political transition remains significant. “I was around during the campaign and saw how many of you struggled, moving from village to village, house to house, to canvass for votes. Though we cannot identify each individual, your efforts have not gone unnoticed,” he said.

He likened their sacrifices to seeds that would yield benefits over time and urged members to remain patient and committed to the party's long term vision.

The NDC Chairman also highlighted unity within the party as a key factor behind its success, commending members who put aside internal differences for the collective goal.

“A house divided cannot stand. The unity you demonstrated helped us win this election,” he said, encouraging members to sustain that spirit going

forward.

He explained that the tour was not only to express gratitude but also to engage supporters and gather feedback to guide governance under the new administration. He assured members that their views would continue to inform decision making.

Mr Asiedu Nketiah urged supporters to remain active and vigilant, stressing that their continued involvement is essential to sustaining progress and protecting the gains of the 2024 elections.

The Talensi District Chief Executive, John Nabwonya Millim, also outlined key development projects underway in the area, including the construction of health facilities, schools and roads.

The Paramount Chief of the Talensi Traditional Area, Tong Rana Kubilsong Nalebegtang, commended the government for ongoing development efforts and called for equitable distribution of national resources to the area, which he described as the gateway to the Upper East Region.

‘Who approved Karnival Kingdom Festival to go naked in Ghana?’ –Catholic Bishops’ Conference demands answers

The Ghana Catholic Bishops’ Conference has called for an investigation into alleged public nudity at the Karnival Kingdom Festival held in Accra.

The festival, a five-day Caribbean-African cultural event, took place from April 22 to 28, and featured activities including soca music, carnival displays and themed parties. In the statement dated May 4 and signed by Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi, the Conference questioned the approval processes behind the event and the deployment of police officers.

“Who approved the permit and the deployment of police to protect participants engage in public nudity. The Conference is deeply concerned that state agencies responsible for protecting public order may have facilitated rather than prevented this misconduct,” it stated.

The Bishops observed that aspects of the event breached Ghana's laws and offended national values, raising concerns about the role of state institutions.

“The Ghana Catholic Bishops’ Conference has taken note of the public nudity at the Karnival Kingdom Festival (22-28 April 2026), during which participants received police protection. The event was an eyesore, denigrated our values as a nation and breached the laws of our land (cf section 278 of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960, Act 29),” the statement read in part.

It also referenced concerns about the importation of foreign cultural practices without regard for local legal and moral standards.

“We, Pastors of our Land, unequivocally condemn the act of public nudity and call for immediate investigation into the role of State Institutions, and the importation of foreign cultural practices. The presence of police protection

for participants raises serious questions about official oversight,” the Bishops stated. They stressed that cultural exchange must align with Ghana's laws.

The Conference is also demanding a review of event permitting processes, clearer public decency guidelines and a national dialogue on acceptable cultural expression in public spaces.



Ghanaian evacuated from South Africa after viral xenophobic attack

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, has confirmed the safe return of a Ghanaian national, Emmanuel Akowuah Asamoah, who was assisted by government to leave South Africa following reports of xenophobic violence targeting foreign nationals.

In a statement, the Minister said the evacuation was facilitated by the state to ensure the citizen's safe relocation back home.

"We are delighted to welcome back home from South Africa our dear compatriot, Mr Emmanuel Akowuah Asamoah," he stated.

He also commended Ghana's diplomatic mission in South Africa for its role in the process, praising the High Commissioner, Benjamin

Quarshie, for personally accompanying the returnee back to Ghana.

"I commend our High Commissioner to South Africa... for accompanying our brother all the way," he added.

Mr Ablakwa further urged Ghanaians living abroad who may find themselves in distress to seek assistance from Ghana's diplomatic missions, assuring that government stands ready to support relocation efforts when necessary.

He emphasised that the current administration, led by President John Dramani Mahama, remains committed to protecting the welfare of citizens abroad.

"The Mahama Administration values every Ghanaian life anywhere in the world, and we shall never abandon our citizens in distress. Your welfare remains our utmost priority," he said.

The development comes amid renewed xenophobic tensions

in parts of South Africa, where foreign nationals, including West Africans, have reportedly been targeted in attacks linked to unemployment concerns and allegations of job competition and crime.

Authorities in Ghana say they are closely monitoring the situation and engaging through diplomatic channels

to safeguard affected citizens.

Mr Ablakwa added that he looks forward to meeting the returnee upon his arrival.

"I look forward to hosting Mr Asamoah when I return to Ghana later this week. A warm Akwaaba to our cherished Ghanaian. It is well," he said.



Emmanuel Akowuah Asamoah returns home after xenophobic attack in South Africa

I'll transfer you to North as punishment if you approve illegal buildings—Linda Ocloo warns officers

The Greater Accra Regional Minister, Linda Obenewaa Akweley Ocloo, has issued a strong warning to officials who approve building permits for unauthorised developments, stating that such officers risk being reassigned to northern parts of Ghana as a disciplinary measure.

She made the remarks on May 5, 2026, while addressing the media during a demolition exercise at the Ramseyer site in Sakomono.

According to the Minister, the decision to transfer offending officers is intended to serve as a firm deterrent against the indiscriminate approval of developments on unapproved lands, a practice she says continues to undermine planning regulations and

worsen urban challenges.

She argued that relocating such officials to the northern sector of the country would discourage misconduct, as adapting to a new environment with different operational conditions would act as a corrective measure.

The Minister stressed that the move is aimed at tightening oversight within the system and curbing the issuance of permits for illegal construction.

"If you issue a permit knowing very well that the place is illegal, you'll also face the law. Some of them will be transferred to the North just to serve as a kind of punishment so that when they realize that what they did was wrong," she stated.



Greater Accra Regional Minister, Linda Obenewaa Akweley Ocloo

You will be blacklisted for registering SIM cards for others – Sam George



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

The Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovation, Samuel Nartey George, has cautioned that Ghanaians who register SIM cards on behalf of others could face severe penalties, including being blacklisted from essential public and financial services under a new digital security framework.

Speaking in an interview on ChannelOne TV, the Minister revealed that government is rolling out a stricter SIM

registration regime that will directly link biometric data from the Ghana Card to individual mobile devices, making it significantly harder for fraudsters to operate undetected.

He explained that the new system is designed to eliminate the growing black market for pre-registered SIM cards, where individuals purchase already activated numbers registered under unknown identities. According to him, such practices will be curtailed once the

upgraded system becomes fully operational.

Under the proposed framework, SIM cards, mobile devices, and Ghana Card details will be integrated into a centralised monitoring system to enhance tracking of fraudulent activities.

Mr George noted that unlike the current arrangement, where offenders can easily discard blocked SIM cards and acquire new ones, the new system will extend sanctions beyond SIM cards to the devices themselves.

He disclosed that any mobile device linked to fraudulent activity will be blocked using its unique identification number, rendering the handset unusable and increasing the cost of engaging in such crimes.

Additionally, the system will introduce a colour-coded compliance mechanism. Users with clean records will be classified as “green,” while those linked to suspicious activity will be flagged “yellow.” A second confirmed offence tied to a Ghana Card will result in a “red” status, effectively placing the individual on a blacklist.

The Minister stressed that even individuals who do not directly commit fraud could face consequences if they register SIM cards for others who later engage in criminal activity.

He warned that once a Ghana Card is blacklisted, the holder may be denied access to key services such as banking, driver’s licence renewal, and healthcare that requires identity verification. “We are raising the cost for fraud,” he stated, urging the public to avoid registering SIM cards for third parties.

Mr George added that the new system will strengthen accountability across Ghana’s digital space by ensuring that every SIM card is traceable to a verified individual and device, thereby supporting efforts to combat mobile money fraud and related offences.

He reiterated the need for caution, warning that allowing one’s identity to be used for SIM registration could result in unintended legal consequences, even for those not directly involved in criminal activity.

GIS intercepts 18 suspected Nigerians in Volta Region over illegal entry



Nigerian nationals intercepted for unlawful entry

The Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) in the Volta Region has intercepted 18 suspected Nigerian nationals, including three children, who entered the country through an unapproved route in the Aflao in the Ketu South Municipality.

According to the Volta Regional

Commander, Mr. Peter Yao Nkrumah, officers at Leklebi Darfo detained the group and informed him of the arrest. He instructed that the suspects be brought to the regional command in Ho for further interrogation.

Investigations revealed that the group first settled at Dzodze after crossing into Ghana. They later moved to Avedapa and

then to Hohoe before being apprehended at Golokuati by GIS officers. He revealed that, upon interrogation the GIS suspected that the suspects were aided and brought in by individuals posing as traditional medicine sellers.

The Commander said the Service believes some earlier arrivals who presented themselves as local medicine vendors are now facilitating the entry of others to either continue their trade or engage in different activities. He added that the group appeared to lack adequate funds and may have resorted to street begging if not intercepted.

In response, GIS plans to repatriate the 18 individuals to their point of entry. The Commander stated that the suspects will be asked to identify the exact route they used so that officers can be deployed to

secure those border areas and prevent similar incidents.

He appealed to residents of border communities, especially in Dzodze, to report any suspicious persons to the nearest immigration office. He noted that community members may have seen the group during their stay and urged them to cooperate with security agencies to protect the borders.

The Commander also disclosed that about 417 GIS officers are currently stationed in Aflao to strengthen surveillance. He expressed concern over interference from some foreign nationals already settled in communities like Gali Tsorfe, who often claim new arrivals are their relatives and resist immigration operations. He warned that such actions undermine border security and called for public cooperation to address the challenge.

Dog meat can't cure heartbreak – ICS debunks viral claim

The Institute of Community Sustainability (ICS) has dismissed claims that consuming dog meat, particularly the head, can protect individuals from emotional heartbreak or marital breakdown.

In a statement issued on Monday, May 4, the organisation said the assertion, reportedly gaining traction in parts of Accra, has no scientific or psychological basis.

According to ICS, findings from a recent community outreach and fact-finding exercise revealed that some women consume dog heads based on the belief that it strengthens emotional resilience and guards against infidelity.

The group further noted that some respondents claimed

they were advised by pastors and spiritual leaders to adopt the practice as a form of akwankyer (spiritual direction) to sustain their marriages.

Executive Director of ICS, Eric Jerry Aidoo, described the claim as misleading and harmful.

“Heartbreak is a psychological and emotional challenge, not a biological or spiritual condition that can be cured by consuming an animal. There is no scientific or logical basis to this claim,” he stated.

He warned that such beliefs exploit vulnerable individuals, promote cruelty toward animals, and offer a false sense of security.

The organisation has therefore called on religious leaders to refrain from promoting what it describes as unsubstantiated practices and instead focus on providing sound emotional and marital counselling.

ICS also raised public health concerns, cautioning that the consumption of dogs and cats could expose individuals to zoonotic diseases.

Beyond the health risks, the group emphasised that dogs and cats should be regarded as companion animals rather than food.

Following its findings in Accra, ICS says it will extend

its awareness campaign to the Volta Region, where it plans to engage communities on emotional well-being, animal welfare, and the dangers of harmful myths.

The campaign will also aim to equip women with practical tools for building emotional resilience without resorting to unverified spiritual practices.



Dog meat

African countries must ratify free movement protocol without further delay – Osahen Afenyo-Markin

The Third Deputy Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament and Minority Leader in Ghana's Parliament, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin, has urged African countries to urgently ratify protocols on the free movement of persons.

ECOWAS has had a Protocol on Free Movement of Persons since 1979, while the African Union also introduced a similar framework in 2018.

However, implementation has stalled due to what Osahen Afenyo-Markin described as a lack of political will.

In a statement delivered before the ECOWAS Parliament in Abuja on Tuesday, May 5, the lawmaker noted that the situation has created barriers to trade and migration across the continent.

“We cannot build a true African Continental Free Trade Area if people cannot move with their goods,” he observed.

He stressed that the failure to fully implement existing protocols has led to the proliferation of illegal border points and the exploitation of traders by some officials.

Osahen Afenyo-Markin also linked weak enforcement of free movement rules to broader security and humanitarian challenges facing Africans across the continent.

“I say to Ghana — and to every ECOWAS Member State

that has yet to act — that December 2027 must be a ceiling... The instrument must be ratified and deposited at the AU without further delay,” he stated.

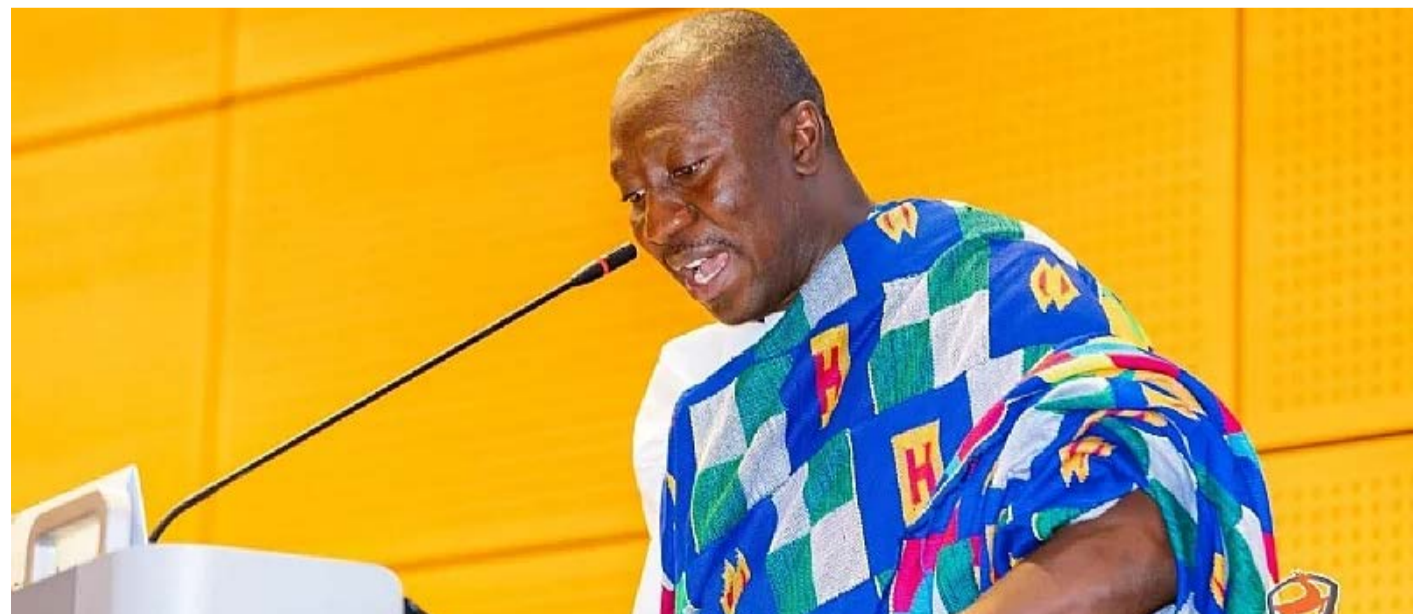
“I am asking this House to develop a West African Parliamentary Action Plan on Free Movement and Border Governance — with binding timelines for the elimination of illegal checkpoints and border harassment,” he added.

He further cited recent xenophobic attacks in South

Africa as evidence of the urgent need for stronger continental solidarity and legal protections for African citizens.

The Minority Leader in Ghana's Parliament also raised concerns about insecurity in the region, particularly the killing of traders by terrorists in Mali and Burkina Faso.

He called for the introduction of an ECOWAS Civilian Protection Framework, “covering our traders and workers in conflict zones.”



Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin

Perpetrators of xenophobic attacks in South Africa must be prosecuted - Osahen Afenyo-Markin

The Third Deputy Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament and Minority Leader in Ghana's Parliament, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin, has called for the prosecution of those behind ongoing xenophobic attacks against African migrants in South Africa.

His comments come amid reports of violent assaults on foreign nationals in parts of South Africa over the past two weeks, where groups of locals have allegedly attacked and chased away Africans over job-related tensions.

The attacks have resulted in the killings of some Africans, with others displaced.

Addressing the ECOWAS Parliament in Abuja on

Tuesday, May 5, Osahen Afenyo-Markin acknowledged condemnation from the South African government but noted that stronger action is needed beyond statements.

“South Africa must move from speeches to action. The South African Police Service, the National Prosecuting Authority, and the Independent Police Investigative Directorate must investigate every documented incident,” he said.

He stressed that perpetrators of the attacks must not be shielded from accountability but justice should be applied without exception.

“The perpetrators must be identified, arrested, charged, and prosecuted to conviction, without fear or favour and without impunity. Not some of them. All of them,” the

lawmaker stressed.

The Third Deputy Speaker further urged the House to transmit a former statement of deep concern to the South African Parliament, the African Union Commission and the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

Besides the xenophobic

attacks, Osahen further raised concerns about citizens who have lost their lives in terrorist attacks in the Sahel region.

He urged ECOWAS member states to strengthen protections for their citizens abroad and ensure that regional protocols on free movement are fully implemented.



Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin

Any landlord breaching 6month rent advance limit will face prosecution – Rent Commissioner

The Acting Rent Commissioner, Frederick Opoku, has cautioned landlords across the country that they risk prosecution if they demand rent advance beyond the legally permitted six months.

His warning comes amid increasing concerns that some landlords are demanding up to two years' rent in advance, with others reportedly rejecting even one-year payments from tenants.

The issue has long been a challenge in the housing sector, driven largely by high demand and limited supply of accommodation in urban centres.

Mr Opoku, speaking on Accra-based Starr FM on Tuesday, May 5, said the law is clear and must be enforced without exception.

“Under section 25 of the Rent Act, it is a criminal offence for landlords to demand more than six months rent from tenants,” he stated.

He noted that enforcement efforts will be strengthened,

adding that government support is key to ensuring compliance.

“Any landlord who takes rent allowance beyond six months will face the law,” he warned.

Mr Opoku further indicated that President John Dramani Mahama has expressed

support for strict enforcement of rent regulations to protect tenants.

Meanwhile, some commentators have raised concerns that strict enforcement of the law may be difficult due to the imbalance between housing demand and supply, which often pushes

tenants into unfavourable agreements.

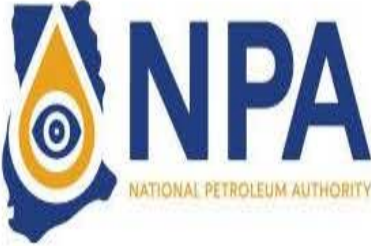
Despite these challenges, the Rent Commissioner stressed that the law remains binding and will be applied accordingly.



Acting Rent Commissioner, Frederick Opoku

PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

(As of 1st May, 2026)

	AVERAGE FOB PRICES FOR THE PERIOD 1ST - 15TH MAY 2026 WINDOW (12TH - 26TH APRIL 2026)	AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 16TH MAY 2026 (27TH APRIL - 11TH MAY 2026 AVERAGES)	% CHANGE
FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)	11.2057	11.2790	-0.65%
Crude Oil (USD/BBL)	113.80	118.48	4.12%
Petrol (USD/MT)	1032.75	1,156.13	11.95%
Gasoil (USD/MT)	1199.30	1,298.28	8.25%
LPG (USD/MT)	813.58	898.08	10.39%
Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)	1505.70	1,466.73	-2.59%
Fuel Oil (USD/MT)	567.60	615.20	8.39%
Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)			

Note: "Oil prices jumped 6% and stocks fell as Iran escalated its military campaign, hitting several ships in the Strait of Hormuz and setting a UAE oil port ablaze."—Reuters

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Amaniampong SHS student allegedly beaten for refusing to attend all-night service



The student with a swollen eye

Police in Mampong in the Ashanti Region are investigating the alleged assault of a final-year student at Amaniampong Senior High School.

He was reportedly beaten by a

housemaster after refusing to attend a compulsory all-night church service.

The student, Emmanuel Kwarteng, is receiving treatment at Ejisu Government Hospital after his family say he suffered serious injuries during the incident.

Relatives say the case has

been formally reported to the police, who are awaiting a medical report to support their investigations.

According to accounts gathered by JoyNews, the incident happened in the student's dormitory when the housemaster, Gyamfi Charles of Asenso House, confronted him over his refusal to take part in the religious activity.

The exchange is said to have escalated, after which the teacher allegedly assaulted the student.

Images and videos circulating on social media appear to show the student on the floor while being attacked. Other pictures show visible injuries, including swelling around his eye.

Emmanuel's mother, Vida Kwarteng, said she was deeply worried about her son's condition.

"No student deserves to be treated this way, regardless of the circumstances," she said.

His father, Tony Kofi Kwarteng, confirmed that medical documentation has

been prepared following treatment.

"The police requested a medical report. We obtained it after visiting the hospital and it will be submitted to support the investigation," he said.

The family is calling for the immediate interdiction of the teacher and compensation, pending the outcome of the case.

School authorities say they have submitted a detailed report, including recommendations for possible sanctions, to the Municipal Ghana Education Service.

Prempeh William Osei, the assistant headmaster in charge of administration, said staff have been visiting the student and are focused on his recovery.

"There is a GES structure and we have reported the matter to the municipality and the regional director. Our priority is the boy's wellbeing and recovery," he said.

The school has not yet issued a full public statement as investigations continue.

Three pregnant candidates sit for 2026 BECE in Adaklu District

Three pregnant girls are among the 565 candidates who on Monday began writing the Basic Education Certificate Examination in the Adaklu District, with three other candidates also reported to have physical challenges.

The examination is being conducted at three centres, namely Adaklu Senior High School at Adaklu Waya, and Adaklu Abuadi Junior High School Centres 'A' and 'B'.

The Adaklu District Director of Education, Mr Mac Peter Dumatonu, disclosed this in a telephone interview, indicating that the total number of candidates comprises 289 boys and 276 girls drawn from 33 public and three private schools.

According to him, the three private schools presented 31 candidates, made up of 14 boys

and 17 girls, while the public schools accounted for 534 candidates, comprising 275 boys and 259 girls.

He further explained that 285 candidates, including 149 boys and 136 girls, are writing the examination at the Adaklu Senior High School centre.

At the Adaklu Abuadi JHS 'A'

centre, 151 candidates made up of 74 boys and 77 girls are sitting the exams, while the 'B' centre has 130 candidates, consisting of 66 boys and 64 girls.

Mr Dumatonu noted that one candidate was absent at the Adaklu Senior High School centre at the start of the examination.

He added that no incidents had been recorded across the three centres during his visit and advised candidates to remain calm, focused, and conduct themselves independently, encouraging them to approach the examination as they would normal classroom work.



BECE candidates in the exam hall



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Six pregnant candidates sit for 2026 BECE in Anloga District

Six pregnant girls are among the 1,640 candidates taking part in the ongoing 2026 Basic Education Certificate Examination in the Anloga District of the Volta Region.

According to the Anloga District Education Directorate, arrangements have been put in place to ensure the smooth conduct of the examination, with all candidates, invigilators, supervisors, and security personnel present across the centres.

The District Chief Inspector of Schools, Togbi Doda III, also known as Appoh John, disclosed that the total number of candidates comprises 827 males and 813 females spread across eight examination centres.

He listed the centres as Anlo Technical Institute, Zion College Anloga, Anlo Senior High School, Tegbi Kpota EP, Anyanui LA Junior High School, Kaledzi Memorial JHS, Agortoe EP Basic, and Atito EP Basic.

Among the centres, Anlo Senior High School recorded the highest number of candidates with 298, followed closely by Zion College Anloga with 297 candidates, while Agortoe EP Basic had the

lowest number at 77.

Togbi Doda indicated that eight supervisors and four assistant supervisors have been deployed across the centres, supported by 57 invigilators to ensure the smooth administration of the examination.

He further noted that 320 candidates, made up of 148 males and 172 females, registered for the French paper, reflecting growing interest in the subject among pupils in the district.

Additionally, 1,619 candidates, comprising 788 males and 831 females, are writing the Information and Communication Technology paper, indicating near universal participation in the subject across all centres.

He encouraged all candidates, including the pregnant girls, to remain focused and determined.

“The journey of your education success begins from here and that is why you need to be more focused and determined,” he said.

He also commended the perseverance and commitment of the girls, urging them not to allow their condition to hinder their academic progress but to remain committed to their educational ambitions.

The Ghana Education Service in the district has assured all candidates, including those in special circumstances, of the necessary support to enable them to sit the examination under conducive conditions.



BECE candidates entering the exam hall

Ghana's education system needs structured formula to improve WASSCE results – Former Education Minister



Former Education Minister Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum

Former Education Minister Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum has attributed the decline in the 2025 West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) performance

to the absence of a structured learning formula in the education system.

His comments come after widespread concern over

the latest Ghana-only WASSCE results, which showed a significant drop in performance, particularly in Core Mathematics.

Out of 461,736 candidates who sat the examination, more than half scored between D7 and F9 in Core Mathematics.

Only 48.73 per cent obtained grades A1 to C6, compared to 66.86 per cent in 2024, marking the worst performance in about eight years.

English Language, Social Studies and Integrated Science also recorded declines.

Speaking on Accra-based JoyNews' Career Trail, Dr. Osei Adutwum said consistent application of a structured method is key to improving academic outcomes.

“That for you to succeed in everything... you need to have a formula. When you apply the formula and you don't get 100%, you may get 90, you may get 80, but things go wrong when you don't have a formula,” he said.

The Bosomtwe MP explained that during his tenure as Education Minister, data-driven evaluation was central to improving teaching and learning outcomes.

“At the end of the year, when the results come out, we do analysis of it by statisticians to see the most difficult questions... once we get that, we bring in examiners to come and teach the teachers so that in the future, when a question like that comes, the children will be able to solve them,” he added.

The educationist stressed that strengthening feedback systems between exam bodies, teachers and policymakers is essential to reversing declining performance trends.

He, however, cautioned against the politicisation of the results and encouraged students who may not have the opportunity to resit their papers to consider venturing into entrepreneurship.

NAGRAT Volta Region threatens to withdraw teachers over rising Nkwanta shootings



Violent scene

The National Association of Graduate Teachers (NAGRAT), Volta Region, has expressed deep concern over a fresh shooting incident in Nkwanta that

left a 26-year-old rider, Mr. Bright Nkpah, in critical condition after he was allegedly caught in crossfire targeting travelers.

In a press statement released on May 5, 2026 signed by William Kwame Ahiave, Regional Chairman of NAGRAT Volta Region, NAGRAT said the incident underscores the growing insecurity in the area and poses a grave threat to innocent civilians, including teachers and students. The Association noted that the situation has created an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty that is not conducive for academic work.

in the Nkwanta conflict to immediately cease fire and allow peace to prevail. It stressed that calm must be restored to ensure students can write their examinations in a safe and secure environment.

NAGRAT warned that if the violence persists, it will have no option but to advise its members in the affected areas to suspend teaching and return to their families for safety. The Association stated that teachers will only resume duties when full calm and security are guaranteed.

The timing of the violence is particularly alarming, NAGRAT added, as candidates across the region are currently sitting for the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) and the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE).

In the meantime, NAGRAT has urged its members to remain calm, vigilant, and take all necessary safety precautions to protect themselves. It reaffirmed its commitment to prioritizing the safety and well-being of teachers in the region.

The Association is therefore calling on all feuding factions

BECE 2026: Anyone involved in malpractice is an enemy of the state – Dr. Apaak

The Deputy Minister for Education, Dr. Clement Abas Apaak, has stated that the Ministry of Education will deal decisively with anyone found culpable of examination malpractice.

an enemy of the state.

“We will not rest. Anyone complicit in examination malpractice is an enemy of the state, an enemy of progress and will be dealt with severely,” he wrote.

His remarks come amid growing concerns over misconduct in the ongoing 2026 Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE), which has already recorded incidents of alleged cheating.

Meanwhile, officials of the Ghana Education Service (GES) have assured that adequate measures have been put in place to ensure a smooth and credible examination process.

The Ghana Education Service has confirmed the arrest of seven invigilators following reported malpractice on the first day of the examination on Monday, May 4.

A total of 620,141 candidates from 20,395 schools across the country began writing the exams on Monday, May 4.

Reacting to the development in a social media post on Tuesday, Dr. Abas Apaak asserted that anyone engaged in examination malpractice is

The candidates, comprising 304,349 boys and 315,792 girls, are expected to sit for the examination at centres nationwide.



Deputy Minister for Education, Dr. Clement Abas Apaak

BoG gets clean audit opinion but KPMG flags investment risk areas



The Bank of Ghana has received an unmodified audit opinion on its 2025 financial statements, although auditors have highlighted key areas of risk that required significant judgement, particularly in relation to investment impairments.

In its independent report, KPMG stated that the central bank's financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects and prepared in line with the stated basis of accounting.

Despite the clean opinion, the auditors identified impairment on investment securities as

a critical audit matter. As at December 31, 2025, the Bank's investments measured at amortised cost exceeded GH¢116 billion, with an expected credit loss allowance estimated at about GH¢17.26 billion.

According to the report, determining these losses involves complex modelling and substantial judgement, making it a high-risk area for potential misstatement. Key assumptions underpinning the calculations include default probabilities, loss given default, and forward-looking macroeconomic indicators such as inflation and exchange rates.

To address these risks, KPMG said it undertook extensive audit procedures, including testing internal controls, verifying data inputs against source documents, and independently recalculating impairment figures for selected samples.

The auditors also evaluated

whether the methodologies applied by the central bank are consistent with International Financial Reporting Standards.

KPMG further drew attention to the Bank's unique accounting framework, which is influenced by statutory requirements. While IFRS is used as a guide, certain provisions under national legislation, particularly those relating to gold holdings, foreign exchange, and special drawing rights, take precedence.

As a result, the auditors cautioned that the financial statements may not be suitable for purposes outside their intended scope.

Despite these complexities and identified risk areas, KPMG concluded that there were no material misstatements in the financial statements and reported no inconsistencies between the audited accounts and accompanying information.

SPORTS

CAF faces backlash over referee appointment for Champions League final

The decision by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) to appoint Jean Jacques Ndala Ngambo as referee for the first leg of the CAF Champions League final has sparked strong criticism from several members of its executive committee.

Some officials are calling for the appointment to be reversed, citing concerns over Ndala's handling of the recent Africa Cup of Nations final, which remains the subject of a legal dispute.

Ndala, who officiated the controversial match between Senegal and Morocco, has been selected to oversee the clash between Mamelodi Sundowns and AS FAR scheduled for May 17 in Tshwane.

According to a CAF executive committee member who spoke anonymously, Ndala's involvement in the disputed Afcon final makes his selection

inappropriate, particularly as aspects of his officiating are under review at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

"We have had a discussion among ourselves and many of us have made it very clear that the appointment of Ndala is not acceptable and that we want a change of referee," the official said.

The source added that some committee members believe Ndala should be facing disciplinary action over his handling of the Afcon final, describing the current situation as damaging to the image of African football.

At least five members of the executive committee are said to strongly oppose the appointment.

The controversy stems from the Afcon final, where Senegal's head coach, Pape Thiaw, and some players temporarily left the pitch in protest after Morocco were awarded a penalty following a VAR

review. Earlier in the match, a Senegal goal was disallowed after Ndala penalised a foul in the build up.

Although Morocco lost 1-0 after extra time, CAF later awarded them a 3-0 victory in March, a decision that has since been challenged by Senegal at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

A senior CAF administrative official reportedly described Ndala's appointment for the Champions League final as a public relations setback for the organisation.

However, the official noted that CAF regulations protect the independence of the referees committee, limiting interference from political authorities in referee appointments.

Further criticism has also been directed at Olivier Safari Kabene, chairman of CAF's referees committee, whose decision to serve as a referee assessor for the same final has raised concerns among some executive members over a possible conflict of interest.



Referee, Jean Jacques Ndala Ngambo

Stephen Appiah's call helped me through dark injury spell – Daniel Kofi Kyereh

Ghana midfielder Daniel Kofi Kyereh has opened up on how a timely phone call from former Black Stars captain Stephen Appiah played a key role in lifting his spirits during a long injury setback.

Kyereh, who earned his Ghana debut in 2021, was sidelined in 2022 after suffering a serious cruciate ligament injury that kept him out of action for close to three years.

The 28-year-old has only recently returned to competitive football, making a few appearances for SC Freiburg II as he continues

his recovery and rebuilds match fitness.

Speaking in an interview with JoySports, Kyereh revealed that a surprise call from Appiah came at a moment when he needed motivation the most.

Appiah, who endured similar knee injury struggles during his own career, offered encouragement and shared personal experiences of recovery.

“During my time in rehab, he called me. I was so surprised and honoured to receive his call,” he said.

“He’s such a nice guy. He gave me some really encouraging words

and motivated me to come back stronger,” Kyereh added.

The midfielder is now expected

to be in contention for a place in Ghana’s squad ahead of the 2026 World Cup.



Ghana midfielder Daniel Kofi Kyereh

Sports Ministry denies changing 4x100 relay team travel schedule

The Ministry of Sports and Recreation has rejected claims that it altered the travel schedule of Ghana’s 4x100 relay team ahead of the World Athletics Relays 2026.

The clarification follows concerns raised by some members of the team, including Benjamin Azamati and Saminu Abdul Rasheed, who expressed frustration over travel arrangements prior to the competition, despite the team securing qualification for the 2027 World Athletics Championships.

In response, the Ghana Athletics Association (GAA) issued a statement taking responsibility for the difficulties encountered by the athletes and assured that better arrangements would be made in future.

However, in a separate statement, the Ministry’s Public Relations Officer, Bagbara Tanko, insisted that the Ministry did not interfere with the travel itinerary submitted for the team.

“The role of the Ministry, upon receipt of recommendations from the National Sports Authority and the relevant federation, is to facilitate the procurement of travel arrangement in line with the approved schedule,” the statement said.

“With specific reference to the World Athletics Relays, the Ministry did not vary or alter the travel schedule as submitted by the Ghana Athletics Association,” it added.

The Ministry further emphasised that decisions regarding arrival timelines and competition preparation are determined by the respective sports federations, not the Ministry.

It reaffirmed its commitment to supporting national teams within established procedures and pledged continued collaboration with the National Sports Authority and other federations to ensure adequate preparation for athletes.

The statement also congratulated the relay team on qualifying for the 2027 World Athletics Championships in Beijing and wished them continued success.



Sports Minister, Kofi Adams

I'm 40, not under pressure to give birth – Nikki Samonas

Ghanaian actress **Nikki Samonas**, has stated that **childbirth is not in her bucket list of priorities at this stage of her life, despite being open to motherhood in the future.**

Speaking in an interview with Nana Romeo on Okay FM on April 29, 2026, the actress said she is not under pressure to have a child.

“Giving birth is not really a priority to me. When it comes, I’m good and when it doesn’t, I’m okay,” she said.

Nikki explained that she is particularly cautious in her relationships due to what she describes as high fertility within her family. “I’m very fertile, so I’m very careful. All the women in my

family are all fertile, so the slightest mistake we make, we would be pregnant. Because of that, I’m very careful about who I get involved with,” she noted.

At 40, the actress revealed she has never been pregnant and emphasised that she is intentional about choosing the right partner before having a child.

“As for having a child, I will, but not now. I’m 40, but I’ve never been pregnant before. I have to be very sure the person I will give birth with will not abandon us,” she said.

She added that she relies on contraceptives and other methods to manage her reproductive health.

“Contraceptives have never failed me and I have herbs I use too, so I’m much grounded.

The herbs alone can solve my problems,” she stated.



Ghanaian actress Nikki Samonas

“I was forced to become a pastor, but I have stopped – Antwi Himighty returns to secular music

Ghanaian musician **Antwi Himighty**, one-half of the legendary hiplife/highlife duo **Antwi ne Antwi**, has revealed a major turning point in his life and career, announcing his return to secular music after years in the gospel ministry.

According to him, his decision to become a pastor was not entirely voluntary.

“I was forced to become a pastor, but I’ve stopped. Now, I’m returning to secular music,” he stated.

Antwi ne Antwi are widely known for producing several classic songs that remain popular among old-school hiplife and highlife fans. Some of their notable songs include:

- Sekina

- Uncle Ebo
- Fe Mano
- Odo Nkomo
- Congo Sodja
- African Girls

These songs, characterized by rich storytelling, cultural themes, and traditional

rhythms, earned the duo recognition in Ghana’s music industry. Tracks like Sekina and Uncle Ebo are often cited among their most prominent works, gaining significant airplay and enduring popularity over the years.

They also contributed to collaborative projects and appeared on songs such as

The Hustle, further cementing their presence in the evolving hiplife space.

At the peak of their influence, Antwi Himighty stepped away from mainstream music and transitioned into ministry, a move that surprised many fans. His latest statement now confirms that the transition was not entirely by choice.



Efia Odo's political involvement kept me awake at nights – Adombi Serwaa



Afia Odo and mother (right)

Adombi Serwaa, a mother to social media personality Efia Odo has opened up about the emotional toll her daughter's involvement in political discourse has had on her, revealing that it once left her deeply worried and unable to sleep.

Speaking during a panel discussion on United Showbiz, Adombi Serwaa disclosed that she received numerous calls from concerned individuals urging her to caution her daughter against speaking on political matters. According to her, some of these messages went beyond concern and included threats, which

heightened her fears for Efia Odo's safety.

She admitted that at the peak of the situation, the anxiety became overwhelming, as she constantly feared for her daughter's life due to the nature of Ghana's often heated political environment.

However, Adombi Serwaa noted that with time, her perspective

has changed. She expressed admiration for Efia Odo's resilience and courage, acknowledging that her daughter has proven to be strong enough to handle the pressures and backlash that come with expressing her views publicly.



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