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# ‘We have to do soul-searching’ – Mahama orders nationwide flood assessment



**President John Dramani Mahama has instructed the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) flood taskforce, together with other relevant state agencies, to prepare a detailed presentation on Ghana's flooding situation following recent floods in several parts of the country, especially Accra.**

He said the report will enable government to properly identify flood-prone areas, including encroached or restricted waterways, and guide both immediate

response measures and long-term solutions to the recurring challenge.

The directive was issued on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at the Accra International Airport shortly after the President returned from an official trip to Belarus.

His comments come in the wake of widespread flooding that has affected multiple communities, with Accra recording some of the most severe cases after days of heavy and sustained rainfall.

President Mahama observed that the intensity and duration

of the rains, which began in May and have continued into June, have worsened the situation compared to previous years, leading to significant disruption in affected areas.

He also raised concern about the role of human activity in worsening the crisis, particularly the construction of buildings on waterways and other flood sensitive zones.

Questioning how some of these developments were approved, he called for greater scrutiny of the physical planning and development permitting system.

“But some of the houses have building permits. How did they get them? So we have to do some soul-searching,” he said.

The President stressed the need for stricter enforcement to prevent further encroachment on waterways and other vulnerable lands, warning that continued inaction would deepen the problem.

He further cautioned against

reactive governance, saying authorities must move away from responding only after disasters occur.

“We shouldn’t be like the vulture who says he will repair his roof when the rain stops,” he said, urging sustained and preventive action instead of temporary fixes.

President Mahama directed NADMO and partner agencies to work together to map all restricted waterways nationwide and implement corrective measures after the assessment is completed.

He also emphasised the need for stronger public education on flooding and environmental protection, urging the Government Communications Department and other relevant institutions to intensify awareness creation.

He added that effective flood control will require a combination of strict enforcement, improved urban planning, and consistent public education to reduce risks and prevent future disasters.

# ‘You had the effrontery to call me struggling lawyer, you won’t come back to power again’ – Martin Kpebu stings Titus Glover

**What began as a routine live discussion on Eyewitness News on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, quickly spiralled into a tense verbal showdown between former Greater Accra Regional Minister Daniel Nii Kwartey Titus Glover and private legal practitioner Martin Kpebu.**

The friction surfaced early in the programme after host Umaru Sanda Amadu prompted the guests to exchange greetings. The moment of courtesy, however, collapsed almost immediately when Kpebu brought up a past remark he attributed to Glover, where he was described as a “struggling lawyer.”

“We were once on TV, and Titus called me a struggling lawyer. He had the effrontery

to call me that. Now you have seen your real size. Next time, when you have power, you should not insult citizens like that,” Kpebu said.

From there, Kpebu widened his criticism beyond personal remarks, questioning Glover’s suitability for leadership and his reported interest in contesting for the position of National Organiser of the New Patriotic Party (NPP).

“I don’t think he should come back to lead us. I think we have other Ghanaians who will behave better. So the NDC will win the election, and by the time the NPP comes back, Titus will be too old. Then he would have learnt his lesson,” he stated.

He did not stop there, sharpening his stance further with an even more pointed

comment: “I pray he loses. Titus should not go anywhere near public office. It is as if the NPP has no talent.”

Glover, clearly provoked by the line of attack, responded with visible anger, accusing Kpebu of repeatedly attacking political figures and crossing the line with his public commentary.

“You were insulting Akufo-Addo. When I hit your adrenaline, you were not happy, and you think Akufo-Addo is happy with what you are doing?” Glover fired back.



Pushing back even harder, he added: “I can’t let this man run me down anyhow. He is totally wrong with what he is doing. It is as if, any chance he gets, he wants to run people down. If I deal with him right now, people will say that is not how we do it. You have not changed from this conduct. You decide to attack anybody anyhow?”

The broadcast briefly lost its calm atmosphere as the back-and-forth intensified, with neither side yielding ground for the remainder of the interview.



# ‘Don’t step foot here’ – Nkusukum Chiefs declare Mfantsiman MP persona non-grata

**The Nkusukum Traditional Council has performed traditional rituals, including the pouring of libation, to banish the Member of Parliament (MP) for the area, Dr. Ebenezer Arhin, from stepping foot on any Nkusukum land.**

The aggrieved Nkusukum chiefs, dressed in traditional black and red, and council members invoked the gods of the land to take severe action against the MP, citing persistent disrespect toward the traditional authority.

Before banishing the MP, the Omanhen of Nkusukum Traditional Area, Okogyeman Okese Essandoh IX at a press conference stated that “If the Mfantsiman MP is only going to continue his political journey, then there is a bridge for him to cross, and the name of the bridge is the bridge of the Nkusukum land.”

According to the Omanhen, as part of the government’s 24-Hour economy market

project, the MP and his Municipal Chief Executive (MCE) came to the Nkusukum Traditional Council to inform them that he and his MCE had chosen Mankessim market for the 24-Hour economy market initiative, and they inspected the place with the consultants and contractors.

He added that two weeks after the inspection, the same MP sent an invitation letter to the Nkusukum Traditional Council to attend the sod cutting, but upon reading the letter, they found out that the site had been changed “without at least coming back to the chiefs for the changing of the site.”

Okogyeman Essandoh claimed the MP disrespected the chiefs of Nkusukum Traditional Council, a situation he called “a total disrespect.”

“The heartwarming part is that after the sod cutting ceremony, some market women poured powder on the MP,” Okogyeman Essandoh added.

He said the governing National Democratic Congress (NDC) party is always welcome to Nkusukum Traditional Council anytime, any day, without Dr. Prince Kojo Arhin.

Touching on the diversion of the Mankessim to Accra road, Okogyeman Essandoh hinted that he had been accused by some traditional authority of conniving with the Roads and Highways Minister as well as the President of Ghana to divert the road, but he claims he had no hand in the road diversion.

Okogyeman Essandoh again mentioned that he and his

chiefs will soon name the Mankessim roundabout as the Nkusukum Mankessim roundabout to redeem the image of the Nkusukum Traditional Council.

“Every Nkusukum town should prefix its signposts with Nkusukum, such as Nkusukum Yamoransa, Nkusukum Biriwa, Nkusukum Eguasi among others.”

Okogyeman Essandoh directed his chiefs that all the Nkusukum towns should prefix the word Nkusukum. “We are going to name the Mankessim roundabout Nkusukum Mankessim roundabout.”



*Nkusukum Traditional Council pouring libation*

# ‘Oga should be worried’ – Kwaku Azar reacts as pressure mounts on Ofori-Atta after Sedina extradition

Ghanaian legal scholar and social commentator Professor Stephen Kwaku Asare, known popularly as Kwaku Azar has suggested that the extradition of former MASLOC Chief Executive Officer Sedina Tamakloe-Attionu could increase pressure on former Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta to return to Ghana.

Ms. Tamakloe-Attionu was convicted in April 2024 by the High Court and sentenced in absentia for multiple offences, including causing financial loss to the state, stealing, conspiracy, money laundering and procurement breaches.

Following the conviction, Ghana formally submitted an extradition request to the United States in July 2024 for her to serve her sentence.

Upon her arrival in Ghana,

officials of the Ghana Police Service and the Ghana Prisons Service took her into custody and have begun the necessary processes for her to serve her sentence.

Reacting to the development in a social media post on Tuesday, June 9, the same day Ms. Tamakloe-Attionu arrived in the country, Kwaku Azar drew a connection between her extradition and the legal challenges facing Mr. Ofori-Atta.

“ORAL grabs Sedinam. Oga should be very worried,” he wrote.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Dr. Dominic Ayine, is set to engage his counterparts at the United States Department of Justice on pending extradition requests

between the two countries.

Among the notable extradition requests is that of former Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta, who is currently being sought by Ghanaian authorities.

Mr. Ofori-Atta is facing corruption-related allegations

being investigated by the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP).

He is also facing immigration-related issues after being detained by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).



# No nolle prosequi shenanigans with Sedinam's final journey to jail – Franklin Cudjoe warns govt



journey to jail. Abeg, no nolle prosequi shenanigans! no percentage reduction in the 10 year sentence! Certainly, and no setting her free.”

Sedina Tamakloe-Attionu was convicted and sentenced in absentia by the High Court in April 2024. In July 2024, the Government of Ghana submitted an extradition request to the United States for her transfer to serve her sentence.

After more than two years of legal processes, US authorities approved her surrender in January 2026. She arrived in Accra on Tuesday, June 9, 2026.

Officials of the Ghana Police Service and the Ghana Prisons Service have since taken her into custody and are preparing arrangements for her to begin serving her sentence.

**P**resident of policy think tank IMANI Africa, Franklin Cudjoe, has cautioned government against any move that could lead to the release of Sedina Tamakloe, insisting that she must fully serve her prison

sentence.

He said civil society actors will be closely monitoring developments to ensure the convicted former official serves her jail term without any reduction or intervention that could alter the court's decision.

Cudjoe argued that unlike previous cases involving other individuals where charges were discontinued, this matter should be handled strictly according to the law.

He made his position known in a post on social media, stating: “Dear AG, Please, no games with Sedinam Tamakloe's final

# Minority MPs thank Afenyo-Markin for capacity-building programme in Canada

**M**embers of Parliament from the Minority Caucus have expressed gratitude to Minority Leader Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin for sponsoring a capacity-building programme that took them to Canada.

directly with Ghana's diplomatic mission in Canada, creating space for in-depth discussions on national development issues and matters affecting the Ghanaian diaspora.

He said the engagement focused on Ghana's development priorities, the welfare of Ghanaians living in Canada, and ways to deepen bilateral relations between the two countries.

contributing to more informed decision-making.

Hon. Shaib also expressed appreciation to the High Commissioner for the warm reception and meaningful engagement.

He further commended Minority Leader Osahen

Alexander Afenyo-Markin for facilitating the programme, describing it as a strong demonstration of commitment to strengthening the capacity of Members of Parliament and enhancing their effectiveness in public service.

The delegation, led by the Member of Parliament for Weija Gbawe and Second Deputy Minority Whip, Hon. Jerry Ahmed Shaib, also paid a courtesy call on Ghana's High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Professor Dora Francisca Edu-Buandoh, at her official residence in Ottawa.

He added that the High Commissioner and the lawmakers also explored areas of cooperation aimed at advancing shared interests and supporting Ghana's broader development agenda.

According to him, the interaction was highly beneficial, as it helped connect parliamentary work with the lived experiences of Ghanaians abroad, thereby



NPP MPs in Canada for capacity building training

# Belarus manufacturers to storm Ghana next week after President's visit

**P**resident John Dramani Mahama has announced that Ghana has reached an agreement with Belarusian mining equipment manufacturers to send a delegation to Ghana next week to explore investment opportunities.

Speaking at the maiden Ghana-Belarus Business Forum in Minsk, President Mahama said Ghana offers investors access not only to its domestic market of about 34 million people but also to a much larger continental market under the African Continental Free Trade Area, which he said covers 1.3 billion people with a combined GDP of US\$1.3 trillion.

He highlighted infrastructure as a key pillar of Ghana's development agenda, noting

that the government is implementing the US\$10 billion five-year Big Push Infrastructure Programme, which focuses on roads, railways, ports, airports, energy, and logistics.

According to him, these investments are aimed at improving connectivity, lowering the cost of doing business, and strengthening national competitiveness. He added that Belarusian firms have technical expertise that could play an important role in supporting these development efforts.

President Mahama said there are significant opportunities for cooperation in areas such as transport infrastructure, power generation systems, industrial parks, logistics, road and railway construction, and renewable energy.

"Investors today seek certainty, stability, and market access, and I can

assure you Ghana provides all these three," he stated.

"Our political credentials are strong, our legal and regulatory systems are transparent, investor protection is robust, and we guarantee repatriation of profits."

He further assured investors that Ghana guarantees the protection of investments and

provides access to multiple layers of markets, including its domestic population, a wider regional market of over 400 million people, and the African Continental Free Trade Area market of more than 1.4 billion people.

He said Ghana remains one of Africa's most attractive investment destinations for businesses seeking a strategic entry point into the continent.



# Govt to offer tax incentives for factories located outside Accra

**T**he Deputy Minister of Finance, Thomas Ampem Nyarko, has announced that government will introduce tax incentives for companies and investors who set up factories outside the capital, Accra.

Speaking in Parliament on Tuesday, Mr Nyarko said the policy is part of a broader effort to decentralise industrial development and promote a more balanced distribution of economic opportunities across the country.

He explained that the overconcentration of industries in Accra has fueled rural-urban migration, congestion, and uneven development, adding that government is committed to reversing the trend by encouraging investment in other regions.

Mr Nyarko also stressed that government will rely on

data-driven decision-making to ensure that incentives are properly targeted and effective in driving growth in less developed areas.

He made the comments while appearing before Parliament's Committee on Economy and Development, alongside Dr Nii Moi Thompson, Chairman of the National Development Planning Commission.

Dr Thompson presented details of a long-term national development framework currently being prepared by the Commission.

He explained that the plan envisions balanced regional growth, with the establishment of industrial hubs in selected strategic locations to maximise local resources and create employment opportunities.

He further noted that the NDPC is working closely with relevant ministries and agencies to align sector policies with the country's long-term development vision.

Mr Nyarko reiterated that the tax incentive programme will be designed to attract serious investors committed to sustainable operations, adding that government will

closely monitor compliance to ensure beneficiaries contribute meaningfully to local economies.

He said the initiative is expected to ease pressure on infrastructure in Accra while stimulating development in other parts of the country, ultimately helping to reduce inequality and improve living standards.

He added that the policy goes beyond tax relief, focusing also on creating a conducive environment for business growth.

According to him,

infrastructure expansion, improved access to credit, and skills development programmes will complement the incentives.

Mr Nyarko assured the Committee that government remains committed to building a resilient and inclusive economy anchored on evidence-based policies.

He called on stakeholders to support the long-term development agenda, describing it as a blueprint for Ghana's sustainable future.



Deputy Minister of Finance, Thomas Ampem Nyarko

# Talensi DCE courts investors for revival of Pwalugu Tomato Factory



*Talensi DCE engages investors*

**The District Chief Executive (DCE) for Talensi, Hon. John Millim Nabwomya, has intensified efforts to revive the long-dormant Pwalugu Northern Star Tomato Factory following a strategic engagement with a delegation from Nutrifood Ghana Limited, a leading food processing company known for products such as Tasty Tom Tomato Paste and NutriSnax Biscuits.**

The delegation, which included representatives from Feed Ghana and an agricultural engineer and researcher from Nigeria, visited the Talensi District to inspect the factory and assess its viability for possible rehabilitation and operationalization.

According to the team, preliminary discussions had already been held with the Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture regarding the future of the factory and potential investment opportunities.

During the engagement, the delegation stressed the importance of ensuring a sustainable supply of tomatoes and other raw materials before any investment decision could be made. As part of their

assessment, the team visited the Tono Irrigation Scheme to evaluate its capacity to support large-scale tomato production for industrial processing.

Hon. Nabwomya welcomed the delegation and expressed optimism that their assessment would pave the way for the revival of the factory, which has remained inactive for years despite its strategic importance to northern Ghana's agricultural economy.

He noted that farmers in Pwalugu and surrounding communities continue to cultivate tomatoes along the White Volta and could be organized into production groups to guarantee a steady supply of raw materials for processing.

The DCE further revealed that the Assembly is engaging experts from the University of Ghana and a Swiss agricultural specialist to explore improved and organic high-yield tomato seed varieties capable of significantly increasing yields in the district.

The Country Director of Nutrifood Ghana explained that the company would undertake a detailed assessment of the facility, including the condition of existing machinery, production capacity,

operational efficiency and the level of investment required before reaching a final decision.

He also encouraged the DCE to maintain close collaboration with relevant ministries and stakeholders to facilitate the factory's eventual reopening.

In response, Hon. Nabwomya assured the delegation of the Assembly's full support and pledged to work closely with the Upper East Regional Minister and the Member of Parliament for Talensi to advocate for the factory's revival.

The visiting team commended the DCE for his proactive leadership and commitment to attracting investments aimed at promoting industrial development, agricultural transformation and job creation within the district.

The Pwalugu Tomato Factory, also known as the Northern Star Tomato Company, was established during the era of Ghana's first President, Kwame Nkrumah. The facility was originally constructed in the early 1960s to process tomatoes into paste and puree for both local consumption and export markets. Over the years, however, it faced operational and financial challenges, including inadequate raw

material supply, leading to repeated shutdowns and unsuccessful revival attempts. The factory was rehabilitated and resumed operations in 2006 under the name Northern Star Tomato Company but struggled to sustain production.

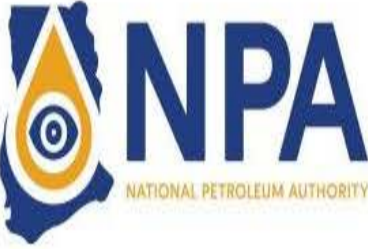
Industry observers believe that restoring the factory could provide a reliable market for tomato farmers, reduce post-harvest losses and create employment opportunities across the Upper East Region. Previous studies and reports have identified consistent tomato supply as one of the critical factors necessary for the factory's long-term success.

The latest visit by Nutrifood Ghana follows a recent inspection tour of the facility by Hon. Nabwomya and the subsequent publication by the Talensi District Assembly highlighting the factory's condition, challenges and investment potential.

The growing interest shown by private investors is being viewed as a positive sign for efforts to restore one of Ghana's historic agro-processing facilities and unlock the economic potential of the Talensi District.

# PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

(As of 8th June, 2026)

	<b>AVERAGE FOB PRICES FOR THE PERIOD 1ST - 15TH JUNE 2026 WINDOW (12TH MAY - 26TH MAY 2026 AVERAGES)</b>	<b>AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 16TH JUNE 2026 (27TH MAY - 11TH JUNE 2026 AVERAGES)</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)</b>	<b>11.5928</b>	<b>11.8715</b>	<b>-2.35%</b>
<b>Crude Oil (USD/BBL)</b>	<b>110.59</b>	<b>98.35</b>	<b>-11.07%</b>
<b>Petrol (USD/MT)</b>	<b>1166.08</b>	<b>985.13</b>	<b>-15.52%</b>
<b>Gasoil (USD/MT)</b>	<b>1175.95</b>	<b>1,065.75</b>	<b>-9.37%</b>
<b>LPG (USD/MT)</b>	<b>815.23</b>	<b>653.08</b>	<b>-19.89%</b>
<b>Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)</b>	<b>1307.25</b>	<b>1,152.75</b>	<b>-11.82%</b>
<b>Fuel Oil (USD/MT)</b>	<b>645.10</b>	<b>582.35</b>	<b>-9.73%</b>
<b>Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)</b>			

**Note:** The renewed strikes between Iran and Israel over the weekend have sent oil prices up over 4% to \$98 a barrel, but Brent crude remains well below levels seen only a few weeks ago and comfortably within the range of the past two decades." - Reuters

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# Korle Bu Teaching Hospital conducts Ebola emergency simulation to strengthen frontline preparedness



*A simulation exercise led by a specialist facilitation team*

The Central Laboratory of the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital has conducted an emergency Ebola response simulation aimed at strengthening frontline preparedness for highly infectious diseases.

This comes after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

The disease, which has since spread to Uganda, has recorded more than 550 confirmed cases and at least 101 deaths as of June 8.

The simulation exercise, approved by the acting Head of Department, Dr. Charles Ofei-Palm, brought together a multidisciplinary team of laboratory staff, public health personnel, pharmacy officers and ambulance service providers.

It was designed to test the ability of health workers to isolate, screen and manage suspected Ebola cases while preventing hospital-based transmission.

The simulation was led by a specialist facilitation team comprising Dr. Augustine E. Sagoe, infectious disease specialist, Miss Lucy Addy, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer at the Ghana Infectious Disease Centre, and Mr. Michael Baffour-Asare, a health safety officer.

In a statement shared by social media on Tuesday, June 9, the hospital said participants were taken through strict containment procedures, including patient reception protocols, rapid isolation, safe zone creation and infection control measures.

The drill also tested vital clinical procedures such as monitoring of patients with minimal contact and strict compliance with personal protective equipment protocols, including donning and doffing techniques.

In addition, the exercise emphasised proper handling of biohazard samples and accurate documentation of patient timelines and inter-unit communication.

However, a post-exercise debriefing revealed key weaknesses in institutional readiness and coordination among clinical teams.

Speaking during the debrief, Dr. Sagoe said the response level within the Infectious Disease Centre was inadequate during the simulation.

“The Infectious Disease Centre’s (IDC) readiness was low during the drill,” he quoted in the post.

The exercise also exposed gaps in clinical documentation, with observers noting that medical staff failed to properly record patient history during the simulated emergency.

## Health Minister’s suspension of KATH CEO technically right – Prof Beyuo

**Professor Titus Kofi Beyuo, a member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Health, has defended the suspension of the Chief Executive Officer of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH), describing the decision by the Health Minister as technically justified.**

The dispute follows the suspension of KATH CEO Dr. Paa Kwesi Baidoo after the hospital halted admissions at its Accident and Emergency Centre due to overcrowding.

The decision has triggered industrial action by doctors and nurses at the facility, who are demanding the reinstatement of the CEO.

The strike has entered its third day as of Tuesday, June 9, leaving several patients stranded.

Speaking on Accra-based TV3’s New Day programme, Prof Beyuo argued that the Minister acted in line with a presidential directive requiring hospitals to prioritise emergency care under all circumstances.

According to him, President Mahama had directed healthcare facilities to ensure that no patient is turned away without at least initial assessment and triage.

“Patients facing emergencies must be received and given help even under makeshift conditions,” he quoted from the President’s directive, adding that institutions are expected to comply with that instruction.

He explained that while clinicians may have been right about overcrowding challenges, the manner in which the situation was handled created governance concerns.

“The Minister’s duty is to ensure that this kind of directive is carried out. When you close your doors, it means you don’t even have an opportunity to see anyone,” he said.

Prof Beyuo further argued that the hospital’s decision could have been better communicated through proper administrative channels, including informing the ministry and referral facilities in advance.

He noted that emergency care systems rely heavily on coordination between hospitals, and any disruption can have serious consequences for patients arriving in critical condition.

The legislator also suggested that while the suspension of the CEO was not intended to solve the emergency care challenges, it was necessary in the context of enforcing compliance and accountability within the health system.



*MP for Lambussie constituency, Professor Titus Kofi Beyuo*



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# KATH doctors suspend strike after Otumfuo's intervention

The Komfo Anokye Doctors' Association (KADA) has suspended its industrial action with immediate effect following three days of service withdrawal at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) in Kumasi.

The withdrawal of services comes over the suspension of the hospital's Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Paa Kwesi Baidoo.

The suspension followed a closure of the facility's Accident and Emergency center due to overcrowding.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, June 9, KADA, which was demanding the reinstatement of the CEO, said the suspension of strike follows high-level engagements involving key stakeholders, including Asantehene Otumfuo Osei Tutu II.

According to the association, the intervention of the Asantehene and other stakeholders was critical in reaching the decision to halt the strike and resume

dialogue.

"This decision has been made following fruitful engagements and the timely intervention of His Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the Hospital Board, Management and other key stakeholders," the statement read in part.

KADA stressed that although it remains committed to resolving outstanding concerns, it considered the broader implications of prolonged industrial action on patient care.

"The safety and well-being of patients and the broader public interest remain central to our responsibilities, and these have informed our decision to suspend the action and continue the dialogue," it noted.

The association expressed appreciation to the Ghana Medical Association (GMA) and other health sector unions for their support during the period of the strike.

It also acknowledged the

solidarity of several professional health bodies, including nurses, pharmacists, laboratory

scientists, and emergency medicine practitioners at the hospital.



# Over 12,000 women living with obstetric fistula in Ghana – Asokwa MP



Deputy Minority Leader, Patricia Appiagyei

**M**ore than 12,000 women in Ghana are currently living with obstetric fistula, a severe childbirth-related injury, while health facilities

across the country continue to face shortages of equipment needed to repair the condition.

Available data shows that although about 7,000 new cases are recorded annually, only around 200 women

receive treatment each year, leaving a large number of affected women without care.

The worrying gap in treatment has triggered calls for urgent action, with Deputy Minority Leader Patricia Appiagyei urging government and health authorities to prioritise support for victims.

Speaking on the floor of Parliament on Tuesday, she drew attention to the financial burden facing many affected women, particularly those from low-income and rural communities.

She noted that fistula repair surgery costs about GHS 5,000, a figure many patients are unable to afford, forcing them to live with the condition in silence.

The Asokwa MP also warned that women in areas where Female Genital Mutilation is practiced face a higher risk of developing fistula due to complications during childbirth.

She therefore called on the National Health Insurance Authority and the Mahama Care initiative to include fistula treatment in their

coverage packages to ease the financial burden on patients.

Madam Appiagyei further stressed the need for Parliament to lead nationwide awareness campaigns on the causes, prevention, and treatment of obstetric fistula.

She noted that stigma remains a major challenge, as many women suffering from the condition are socially isolated due to associated incontinence and shame.

She urged stakeholders in the health sector to work closely with civil society organisations to provide both medical treatment and psychosocial support for affected women.

She also called for increased investment in training specialist surgeons and equipping hospitals with the necessary tools, describing current capacity as insufficient to meet demand.

Madam Appiagyei concluded by reaffirming her commitment to advocating policies that safeguard women's health, stressing that no woman should endure lifelong suffering as a result of childbirth.

# We have increased posting of doctors from 12 to 100 to underserved regions in 2026 – Health Minister

**The Minister for Health, Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, has announced that government has successfully placed 100 doctors in underserved regions in 2026.**

He said the increase is a remarkable achievement from the 12 doctors that were posted in 2025.

“In 2024, only 12 medical doctors accepted postings to underserved regions and these regions are eight in number. In 2026, we have successfully placed 100 doctors in this same regions and we are not done,” he added.

He added that government plans to recruit 16,000 health workers in 2026 as part of efforts to

strengthen the country’s health workforce and improve service delivery.

He said recruitment processes for about 8,000 of the positions have already been completed, with additional intakes expected to follow in phases.

Speaking at the 2026 Annual Health Summit in Accra on Tuesday, June 9, Mr Akandoh noted that government is also focusing on improving the deployment of health professionals to underserved areas in order to close existing staffing gaps.

“In 2025 alone, more than 14,000 health workers were placed on government payroll. This year, we intend to recruit an additional 16,000 health workforce with recruitment already completed for approximately 8000. We are

strengthening deployment to underserved areas,” he said.



*Minister of Health, Kwabena Mintah Akandoh*

## SPORTS NEWS

# 2026 World Cup: Panama clash will not be an easy task for Black Stars – Ex-midfielder

**Former Black Stars midfielder Ahmed Barusso has warned Ghana not to underestimate Panama ahead of their opening match at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, describing the fixture as a decisive step in their bid to progress from the group stage.**

Ghana begin their campaign on June 17 at BMO Field in Toronto, where they face Panama in what will be their first Group L encounter. The Black Stars have also been drawn alongside England and Croatia in a demanding pool.

Barusso, who featured for Ghana at the 2008 Africa Cup of Nations and previously played for AS Roma, stressed that securing maximum points in the opener could prove vital

to the team’s qualification hopes.

“It won’t be an easy task...It’s not an easy task. We should try and take our chances and deliver as early as possible because it’s the first game, and I think we should get the three points,” he told Citi Sports.

He added that anything short of victory could complicate Ghana’s path to the knockout stage.

“It’s a must; if we don’t get the three points, then we should see that our chances of qualifying will be very difficult,” Barusso added.

After the Panama clash, Ghana will meet England on June 23 at Gillette Stadium before concluding their group fixtures against Croatia on June 27.



*Former Black Stars midfielder Ahmed Barusso*

# 2026 World Cup: Government moves to secure tickets for Ghanaians abroad ahead of tournament

**The Government of Ghana has launched efforts to assist citizens in the diaspora in securing tickets to support the Black Stars at the 2026 FIFA World Cup.**

The Ghana High Commission in Canada, acting on instructions from the Ministry of Sports and Recreation, has begun compiling details of Ghanaians residing in Canada who are keen to attend Ghana's opening Group L match against Panama on June 17 but have been unable to obtain tickets.

Interested supporters have been asked to submit their personal details, including email addresses, by June 10 for onward transmission to the Ministry.

The initiative follows government confirmation

that 1,000 World Cup tickets have been secured specifically for Ghanaians living abroad, aimed at boosting the national team's support base at the tournament.

Sports Minister Kofi Adams previously explained that the allocation is designed to ensure a strong Ghanaian presence at match venues and to energise the Black Stars throughout their World Cup campaign.

Ghana have been placed in Group L and will begin their tournament against Panama at Toronto Stadium on June 17 before taking on England and Croatia in their remaining group fixtures in the United States.

Under head coach Carlos Queiroz, the Black Stars will be targeting a return to the knockout stages for the first time since 2010, having exited at the group stage in both 2014 and 2022.



*Ghanaian football fans*

# 2026 World Cup: Carlos Queiroz fits Black Stars coaching role - GFA boss Kurt Okraku

**President of the Ghana Football Association (GFA), Kurt Okraku, has praised Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz, highlighting his experience, leadership qualities and early impact on the team ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.**

The 73-year-old tactician was appointed on a short-term deal leading into the tournament, taking over from Otto Addo, who was dismissed in March following a string of disappointing results.

Speaking through GFA media channels, Okraku expressed confidence in the Portuguese coach's pedigree and influence within the squad, noting his long-standing presence at the highest level of the game.

"So far, it's been good, he's

a man of his word with over 40 years of experience at the highest level of football, both at club level and international level," he said.

"His skillset is there for everybody to see. He is extremely firm in his belief.

"When we say that somebody has seen it all, he really fits that bill, and I like the fact that when he walks into that changing room, he has natural respect," Mr Okraku added.

Queiroz's tenure began with a 1-1 draw against Wales at the Cardiff City Stadium, offering an early glimpse of his approach as he settled into the role.

The Black Stars are currently based in the United States as they continue preparations for the tournament. Ghana has been drawn in Group L alongside England, Croatia

and Panama.

Their campaign will begin against Panama on June 17 at BMO Field in Toronto, before facing England at Gillette Stadium on June 23. The group stage concludes against Croatia on June 27.

Queiroz's appointment comes with the expectation of guiding Ghana beyond the group stage for the first time since 2010, after early exits in both 2014 and 2022.



*Head coach Carlos Queiroz strategizing with Black Stars players*

# Prison officers advised me to get married to avoid troubles – Akuapem Poloo



*Social media personality, Akuapem Poloo*

**S**ocial media personality **Rosemond Brown**, popularly known as **Akuapem Poloo**, has revealed that prison officers advised her to get married after she was released from prison.

Speaking in an interview with Nana Romeo on UTV's Atuu programme,

Akuapem Poloo said several prison officers spoke to her and offered guidance on how to move forward with her life.

According to her, the officers encouraged her to remain calm, stay out of trouble and consider settling down in marriage.

“That was after I had gone to prison. A lot of prison officers talked to me. They advised me

that I was already a calm and collected person, so I should just behave myself, be cool and even get married,” she said.

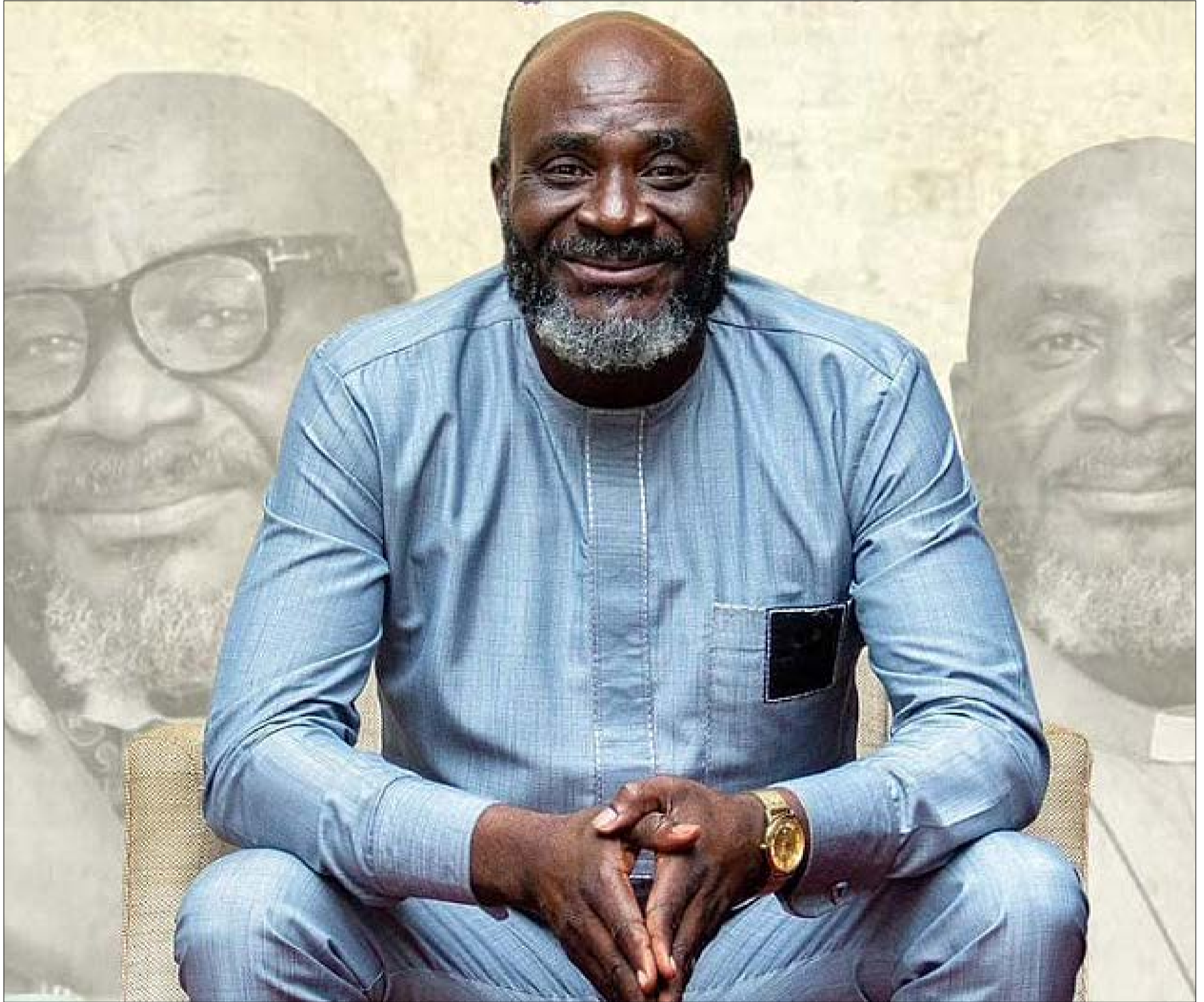
Akuapem Poloo was sentenced in 2021 after sharing a photo on social media that showed her posing nude with her young son. The court ruled that the image violated the child's dignity and privacy. She was convicted on charges related to the publication of obscene

material and domestic violence involving a child.

The actress later received a reduced sentence on appeal and was released after serving part of her jail term.

Since her release, Poloo has spoken publicly about the lessons she learned from the experience and her efforts to rebuild her life and career.

# It was my decision to stop cheating after many years – Nii Saka Brown confesses



*Veteran Ghanaian actor Nii Saka Brown*

**V**eteran Ghanaian actor Nii Saka Brown has revealed that he made a deliberate decision to stop cheating and become more transparent with his wife.

Speaking on UTV with Empress Gifty, he admitted that he was not always faithful, but said that changed after he reassessed his actions.

“I once told my wife that I don’t see myself cheating on her again. I’ve cheated on her before, but I didn’t see myself being naked with another woman anymore,” he said.

He explained that the shift was not forced by pressure, but came from a personal decision to change his behaviour.

“It’s a decision I took myself,” he added.

Following that decision, he said he chose to make

his personal life more open in his marriage, including removing secrecy around his phone and communication.

“I don’t put a password on my phone, and my wife could go through it anytime she wants,” he disclosed.

He added that his behaviour at home also reflects that change, including reducing constant phone use when he is with family.

“Even when I’m home on weekends, I sometimes

don’t pick up my phone at all,” he said.

According to him, this openness gradually helped rebuild trust in the marriage, and over time, his wife no longer felt the need to check his phone.

“There was nothing to hide. Eventually, my wife trusted me and stopped going through my phone,” he noted.

# Defamation of character is a serious crime – Samini warns



*Ghanaian musician, Samini*

**A**dombi 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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