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Naa Gbewaa shrine more powerful than Nogokpo shrine – Pusiga DCE



Naa Gbewaa shrine

The District Chief Executive (DCE) for Pusiga, Abdul Rahim Haruna Aguuri, has described the Naa Gbewaa Shrine in the district as more spiritually powerful than the widely known Nogokpo Shrine in the Volta Region.

According to the DCE, the Naa Gbewaa Shrine remains one of the most significant traditional

and spiritual sites in northern Ghana, attracting visitors from across the country and beyond who seek spiritual intervention and guidance.

Mr. Aguuri said despite its historical and spiritual importance, the shrine has received little national attention compared to other traditional shrines in Ghana. He stressed that the shrine deserves greater recognition and should be promoted as one of the country's leading cultural

and tourism destinations.

Speaking on the district's tourism potential, the DCE noted that Pusiga offers visitors a unique blend of history, culture, wildlife, and cross-border experiences.

He highlighted the Widana Crocodile Pond, where crocodiles are said to emerge from the water on Thursdays and Fridays, allowing visitors to observe and take photographs with them. He also mentioned the historic Kulungugu Bomb Site, where Ghana's first President, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, survived an assassination attempt in 1962, as well as the district's traditional weaving centres, where artisans produce indigenous fabrics and the famous northern smocks.

Mr. Aguuri further noted that Pusiga District shares international boundaries with Togo and Burkina Faso, making it one of Ghana's strategic border districts.

According to him, visitors to Pusiga can easily cross into the neighbouring Togolese town of Sankassi, which is well known for its vibrant bilateral trade activities. He added that tourists can also visit Cinkanduuri in neighbouring Burkina Faso, a town popular for its entertainment and leisure activities.

The DCE said these cross-border attractions further enhance Pusiga's appeal as a tourism destination, offering visitors the opportunity to experience the cultures and lifestyles of three neighbouring countries within a single trip.

He called on Ghanaians and international tourists to visit Pusiga and discover its rich cultural, historical, and tourism assets, expressing confidence that anyone who visits the district would leave with a memorable experience.

Lawyers 'buy' Supreme Court time to delay High Court judgment on Wontumi Samreboi case

Lawyers for the Ashanti Regional Chairman of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), Bernard Antwi-Boasiako, popularly known as Chairman Wontumi, have asked the High Court to refer key provisions of the Minerals and Mining Act to the Supreme Court for constitutional interpretation.

The request was made by lead counsel Samuel Atta Akyea in a written address to the Criminal Division of the High Court, where Chairman Wontumi is standing trial.

Counsel argued that if the High Court declines to refer the constitutional questions to the Supreme Court, then his client should be acquitted of all the charges brought against him by the Attorney-General.

Mr. Atta Akyea is asking the

Supreme Court to determine whether Section 14(1) of the Minerals and Mining Act, 2006 (Act 703), one of the legal provisions underpinning the prosecution's case, is vague, overly broad and inconsistent with Article 19(11) of the 1992 Constitution, which guarantees the right to a fair trial. He contends that if found unconstitutional, the provision should be declared null and void.

He is also seeking an interpretation of Section 99(2) (b) of Act 703, as amended by Section 3 of the Minerals and Mining (Amendment) Act, 2019 (Act 995), arguing that the provision is similarly overbroad and incompatible with Article 19(11) of the Constitution.

In addition, the defence wants the apex court to determine whether counts four and six of the charge sheet, which are based solely on Section 99(2)

(b) as amended, are themselves unconstitutional and therefore invalid.

Chairman Wontumi and his company have been charged with allegedly allowing two individuals to carry out mining activities on the company's concession at Samreboi in the Western Region without the approval of the sector minister, contrary to the Minerals and Mining Act.

He faces two counts of assigning mineral rights without ministerial approval and two counts of intentionally facilitating an unlicensed mining operation. He has pleaded not guilty to all the charges before Justice Audrey Kocuvie-Tay.

The High Court is expected to deliver its ruling on the application on July 20, 2026.



A-G to publish govt position after cabinet concludes deliberations on constitution review committee report

Cabinet has concluded its deliberations on the Government's Position Paper on the report of the Constitution Review Committee, marking a significant milestone in the ongoing constitutional reform process.

The conclusion of the discussions clears the way for the government to formally announce its position on the Committee's recommendations and outline the next phase of the review process.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Dr. Dominic Ayine, is expected to publish the Government's Position Paper next week and hold a detailed briefing to explain the

government's decisions and the way forward.

The Constitution Review Committee made several far-reaching recommendations, including extending the presidential term of office from four years to five years.

Other major proposals include separating the roles of ministers and Members of Parliament by ending the practice of appointing MPs as ministers, establishing an independent Emoluments Commission to determine the remuneration of public office holders, and reforming the process for appointing Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCEs).

The publication of the government's position is expected to provide greater clarity on which of the recommendations it intends to adopt as part of the broader constitutional reform agenda.



Cabinet meeting

Ghana needs national sanitation policy; two-day clean-up won't end flooding crisis — Osahen Afenyo-Markin

Minority Leader **Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin** has urged the government to adopt a comprehensive national sanitation policy, arguing that the recently announced two-day nationwide clean-up exercise is inadequate to address Ghana's persistent flooding and sanitation challenges.

Speaking on the floor of Parliament on Tuesday, July 14, Osahen Afenyo-Markin said although community clean-up exercises play an important role in restoring flood-affected areas, they should not be viewed as a lasting solution to the country's recurring flooding problems.

He noted that the devastating floods that struck parts of Accra and other communities on June 29 exposed the urgent need for a coordinated strategy focused on sanitation, effective drainage management and flood prevention.

The Minority Leader recalled that during Parliament's deliberations on the disaster, the Minister for the Interior had assured the House that the

government would introduce a comprehensive policy to address the perennial flooding situation and its root causes.

Quoting the Minister's earlier assurance, Osahen Afenyo-Markin said the government must move beyond short-term interventions.

"The Minister for the Interior made a statement on this flood situation indicating that government will come with a comprehensive policy on this flood situation and how to address it. Mr. Speaker, I submit

that it is not enough to declare two days for the purpose of clean-up," he stated.

He maintained that while clean-up exercises are necessary, they do not tackle the structural causes of flooding.

"The clean-up exercise is not the solution. The solution is a well-thought-out policy on sanitation. That is what we need as a country and it is becoming too late in the day," he emphasised.

Mr. Afenyo-Markin further stressed that any government committed to resolving the country's flooding crisis must prioritise a comprehensive sanitation policy.

"Any government determined to solve a problem of the magnitude of which we saw will, without delay, announce a national policy on sanitation," he said.



Minority Leader, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin

Dennis Miracles Aboagye released from EOCO custody



Dennis Miracles Aboagye

Dennis Miracles Aboagye, an aide to the New Patriotic Party’s (NPP) 2024 presidential candidate, Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, has been released from the custody of the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) after fulfilling his GH¢50 million bail

conditions.

Mr. Aboagye was arrested at the Kotoka International Airport upon his return from a trip abroad as part of ongoing investigations into alleged financial and procurement irregularities during his tenure as Executive Secretary of the Inter-Ministerial

Coordinating Committee on Decentralisation (IMCCoD).

EOCO is investigating the alleged misappropriation of about GH¢55 million at the Secretariat.

The former IMCCoD Executive Secretary was arrested together with the Secretariat’s former accountant, Gerald Appiah, who is also under investigation in connection with the alleged financial infractions.

Although Mr. Aboagye has been granted bail and released, EOCO says investigations into the matter are continuing and further action will depend on the outcome of its inquiries.

His release comes after his legal team criticised the bail conditions, describing them as excessively demanding.

Lead counsel Samuel Atta Akyea

had earlier questioned how his client could immediately satisfy the GH¢50 million bail requirement, which included three sureties, two of whom were required to justify the bond with property.

“How is he going to be released? How is he going to post the bail bonds? GH¢50 million, three sureties, two to be justified. How can it be met? Where are you going to find properties worth GH¢50 million and finding it tonight?” Mr. Atta Akyea asked while addressing journalists at EOCO’s headquarters following his client’s arrest.

EOCO has maintained that its investigations are being conducted in accordance with the law and that the constitutional rights of all persons under investigation will be respected throughout the process.

900 Ghanaians to be evacuated from South Africa on July 25 over xenophobic attacks

The Government of Ghana will begin another phase of its voluntary repatriation programme for Ghanaians living in South Africa on Friday, July 25, 2026, following the registration of nearly 900 citizens who have expressed a desire to return home.

Ghana’s High Commissioner to South Africa, Benjamin Quashie, announced the exercise in a broadcast from Pretoria on Tuesday, July 14, saying the initiative forms part of the government’s continued support for citizens affected by difficult living conditions in South Africa.

The latest operation follows the successful evacuation of about 926 Ghanaians earlier this year after xenophobic attacks left many stranded in churches, hotels and with relatives and friends across the country.

“As a government that cares, the President and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs instituted us into having an evacuation for Ghanaians who voluntarily want to go home. We have almost 926 that have gone home. I’m here to announce that the Ministry has provided, through the Office of the President, support for us to be able to also do another repatriation of close to 900

Ghanaians who are voluntarily giving their names here in South Africa that they want to go,” he said.

Mr. Quashie disclosed that South Africa’s Department of Home Affairs and Border Management Authorities had approved July 25 as the commencement date for the exercise.

He explained that the repatriation would follow the same procedures used during the previous evacuation operations.

“The modalities will be the same as the modalities of the previous three repatriations that we’ve had, and so we’ll be coming to the churches, we’ll be speaking to you, we’ll be going to the hotels, and we want us all to do this in a very coordinated way. Let me repeat, the date is that we’ll start the repatriation of the 900 that have been left here on the 25th of this month (July). We’ll come to the various places where you are lodged, we’ll transport some of you from all the provinces to come down,” he stated.

The High Commissioner stressed that the exercise would only cover individuals who had already completed the registration and screening process.

“We are not doing new registrations yet. We are going according to those who have

been registered and screened. If you know that you’ve not been registered or you’ve not been screened, we don’t want you to make it look as if we are the bad ones,” he cautioned.

According to him, flights will depart daily from July 25 until all registered persons have been returned to Ghana, with beneficiaries to be notified in advance of their travel schedules for both morning and afternoon departures.

Mr. Quashie also announced that the upcoming exercise would mark the end of the government’s large-scale repatriation programme for Ghanaians in South Africa.

“These are people that we know genuinely; they want to go home. Genuinely, they have issues. Genuinely, they have challenges. The government, through the benevolence of the President, and

also our Foreign Affairs Minister, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, now is the time for us to take the 900 back home. When we do this 900, let me inform all of us that that will be the number at which we’re done with the repatriation. It will then be on a case-by-case basis through consular services,” he said.

He further advised registered beneficiaries to strictly adhere to the arrangements put in place and avoid travelling to the Ghana High Commission without prior notice.

“Do not come from the provinces with your bags packed and coming to the High Commission that you need accommodation, you need this, you need that. Let’s follow the procedure. Let’s follow what we have indicated will be the protocols, so that we can have a very, very smooth repatriation,” he added.



Ghanaian nationals in South Africa

GoldBod, Ghana Water Limited seal GH¢8.4million deal to restore water systems



GoldBod has signed a GH¢8.4 million agreement with Ghana Water Limited (GWL) to rehabilitate the Bonsa, Daboase and Sekyere Heman Water Supply Systems

in the Western and Central Regions. The project is aimed at restoring and improving water production and distribution in the affected communities, reinforcing efforts to provide reliable access to clean and

safe drinking water. Speaking at the signing ceremony, GoldBod Chief Executive Officer, Sammy Gyamfi, Esq., disclosed that the Board undertook an independent technical assessment before approving the project. He said the decision reflects GoldBod’s commitment to responsible mining, environmental sustainability and improving the quality of life for Ghanaians. According to Mr. Gyamfi, the rehabilitation initiative forms part of the institution’s broader strategy to support critical national infrastructure while promoting sustainable development in mining communities and beyond. Managing Director of Ghana Water Limited, Adam Mutawakilu, expressed appreciation to GoldBod for what he described as a timely intervention. He noted that the rehabilitation works will restore water production capacity and significantly improve service delivery to communities that have endured years of operational challenges. The partnership underscores a shared commitment between GoldBod and Ghana Water Limited to invest in sustainable solutions that protect the environment while strengthening essential public infrastructure for the benefit of citizens.

Ghana becomes first African nation to sign Accelerated Patent Grant Agreement for faster patent approvals

Ghana has become the first African country to sign an Accelerated Patent Grant (APG) Agreement with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), opening the way for faster patent approvals and stronger protection for innovators and businesses.

The agreement was signed on Thursday in Geneva, Switzerland, by the Registrar-General of Ghana and Head of the Ghana Industrial Property Office (GHIPO), Madam Grace Ama Issahaque, and the Director of the USPTO, Mr John A. Squires. The agreement allows applicants who have already received a patent from the USPTO to request an accelerated grant of a corresponding patent application in Ghana. Under the arrangement, the Ghana Industrial Property Office can rely on the patent examination already carried out by the USPTO, reducing

the time required to process applications while maintaining the quality and integrity of Ghana’s patent system. Speaking after the signing ceremony, Madam Issahaque said the agreement marks a new chapter in Ghana’s efforts to strengthen intellectual property administration and create an environment that supports innovation and investment. “This agreement will make it easier and faster for inventors and businesses to secure patent protection in Ghana. It also reflects our commitment to building an efficient intellectual property system that supports research, innovation, technology transfer and economic development,” she said. She added that the partnership would improve access to intellectual property protection while creating greater confidence for investors and innovators seeking to commercialise new technologies in Ghana. The agreement is expected

to improve the efficiency of patent examination in Ghana by reducing duplication in the review process and speeding up decisions on eligible applications. The partnership is also expected to encourage technology transfer, attract investment and strengthen Ghana’s position as a destination for innovation-driven businesses. The agreement is the tenth Accelerated Patent Grant arrangement signed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the first with an African country. It places Ghana among a select group of countries working with the United States to speed up patent processing and strengthen international cooperation in intellectual property protection.



The signing ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland

YaNa’s demise: ‘Don’t interfere in Dagbon affairs on succession matters’ – CPP warns NPP and NDC



Overlord of Dagbon, Ya-Na Abukari II passes on

The Convention People’s Party (CPP) has called on the New Patriotic Party (NPP) and the National Democratic Congress (NDC) to refrain from interfering in Dagbon’s traditional affairs, particularly issues relating to succession following the passing of the Overlord of Dagbon, Ya-Na Abukari II.

In a statement signed by the CPP National Communications Director, Osei Kofi Acquah, the party expressed deep sorrow over the death of the Ya-Na, describing him as a respected traditional leader who played a significant role in uniting the Abudus and Andanis and promoting lasting peace in

Dagbon.

The CPP recalled its historical connection with the people of Dagbon, tracing the relationship to the 1950s when the party-led government intervened in longstanding succession disputes following the breakdown of the automatic rotational system in 1948.

According to the party, the establishment of the Opoku-Afari Commission to investigate the conflict and make recommendations to the Osagyefo-led government contributed to restoring peace and stability in the Dagbon Kingdom.

The CPP described Ya-Na Abukari II as a “great Skin” whose leadership helped strengthen unity within Dagbon and urged all stakeholders to honour his

legacy by protecting the peace he helped maintain.

The party also called on national security agencies to remain vigilant during the mourning period, stressing the need to prevent any actions that could threaten the stability of the kingdom.

“Given the long-standing tensions that often arise when a great ‘Lion’ passes, the CPP calls on all national security agencies to remain vigilant and ensure the continued peace and stability of Dagbon,” the statement said.

The party cautioned political actors, particularly the NPP and NDC, against attempts to influence the succession process, insisting that Dagbon’s traditional customs and established practices

should guide the selection of the next Ya-Na.

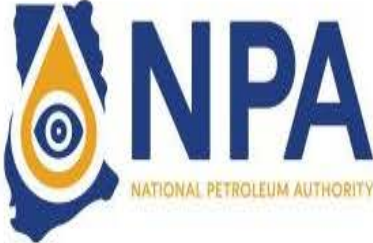
“Dagbon’s traditions are ancient, well-established, and must be allowed to guide the process without political intrusion. Respecting these customs is essential to safeguarding fairness, justice, and peace,” the CPP stated.

As a mark of respect, the CPP directed that all party flags be flown at half-mast in honour of the late Ya-Na and joined the people of Dagbon in mourning.

The party offered prayers for the peaceful repose of the late Overlord, adding that it took comfort in the belief that “only God and our ancestors know best.”

PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

(As of 13th July, 2026)

 NPA NATIONAL PETROLEUM AUTHORITY	AVERAGE FOB PRICES FOR THE PERIOD 16TH JULY 2026 (27TH JUNE - 11TH JULY 2026 AVERAGES) WINDOW	AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 1ST AUGUST 2026 (12TH - 27TH JULY 2026 AVERAGES)	% CHANGE
FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)	11.4970	11.5933	-0.83%
Crude Oil (USD/BBL)	71.90	77.32	7.53%
Petrol (USD/MT)	970.63	1,004.00	3.44%
Gasoil (USD/MT)	974.40	1,099.75	12.86%
LPG (USD/MT)	545.65	577.50	5.84%
Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)	1,004.73	1,146.50	14.11%
Fuel Oil (USD/MT)	461.30	497.25	7.79%
Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)			

Note: "Oil futures surged nearly 9% and equities fell as conflict between the United States and Iran re-ignited over the weekend, once again throttling the flow of goods through the key Strait of Hormuz." - Reuters

‘Probe beneficiaries who consumed Nkoko Nkitinkiti birds, it also amounts to looting’ – Afenyo-Markin tells EOCO



Minority Leader, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin

The Minority Leader in Parliament, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin, has called on the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO) to

investigate beneficiaries of the government’s Nkoko Nkitinkiti Programme who allegedly consumed the birds distributed to them instead of using them for the programme’s intended purpose.

The Effutu MP argued that the birds were provided under a state-funded intervention designed to support livelihoods and boost poultry production, and therefore beneficiaries who consumed them rather than rearing them should be held accountable for the misuse of public resources.

He made the remarks on the floor of Parliament on Tuesday, July 14, during discussions on the implementation of the programme.

According to Afenyo-Markin, beneficiaries were expected to rear the birds, sell them and reinvest the proceeds to sustain the initiative.

“They have eaten it. They were supposed to rear the birds and sell and reinvest. Now that they have consumed the birds, what will become of them? What is the accountability in it?” he questioned.

He further argued that if the government is pursuing accountability in the use of public funds, then beneficiaries who failed to use the birds for their intended purpose should also be investigated.

“You guys are talking about accountability, so your party members who got the birds that they said they have consumed and have given evidence to the Minister, are you going to send them to EOCO? Because it is state funds, it also amounts to looting; however, the amount,” he said.

The Nkoko Nkitinkiti Programme was introduced as a poultry intervention to support households and promote local poultry production.

ECOWAS delegation understudies NPA’s fuel quality regulation

A delegation from the ECOWAS Commission has begun a three-day study tour in Ghana to understudy the National Petroleum Authority’s (NPA) regulation of the downstream petroleum industry, particularly its fuel quality standards.

The delegation is made up of regulators and officials from institutions responsible for managing the downstream petroleum sector across the ECOWAS sub-region.

The visit, according to a statement issued on Tuesday, July 14, is aimed at promoting knowledge sharing and strengthening regional cooperation in the implementation of harmonised fuel quality standards.

The NPA noted that the study tour will provide a platform for member states to exchange experiences, share best practices and build capacity to accelerate the adoption of common fuel quality standards across the region.

Welcoming the delegation on Monday, the Chief Executive of the NPA, Godwin Kudzo Tameklo, described Ghana’s fuel quality assurance framework as a useful model for other ECOWAS member states.

He, however, stated that each Member State should adapt best practices to its unique national context.

Mr. Tameklo also stressed the importance of collaboration, peer learning and sustained partnerships in building a more integrated, resilient and efficient regional

petroleum market.

Responding on behalf of the delegation, the Acting Director of Energy and Mines at the ECOWAS Commission, Arkadius Koumoine, highlighted the significance of harmonised fuel quality standards to the region.

According to him, harmonised fuel quality standards are critical to protecting public health, preserving the environment, enhancing energy security, and combating illicit fuel trade.



Group photograph



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CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

‘Your statement never said Miracles cannot be found, hiding, declared wanted; stop the abuse’ – MFWA Boss blasts EOCO

The Executive Director of the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), Sulemana Braimah, has questioned the justification for the arrest and continued detention of Dennis Edward Aboagye, popularly known as “Miracles”, arguing that there is no indication he obstructed investigations or declined to cooperate with the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO).

EOCO arrested the New Patriotic Party (NPP) communicator over the weekend after he arrived at the Accra International Airport from an overseas trip and has since kept him in custody.

The arrest has generated widespread reactions from civil society groups and democracy advocates, with calls for clarity on the circumstances surrounding the action. Following public concerns over the reasons for the arrest, EOCO on Monday, July 13,

issued a statement explaining the basis for its operation. However, reacting to the statement, Mr Braimah criticised the anti-corruption agency, accusing it of exceeding its powers and describing the reasons provided for the arrest as “unjustifiable”. “While I fully support anti-corruption actions by state law enforcement bodies, I want such actions to be fair and decorous. Anti-corruption law enforcement actions that have a semblance of show of force or abuse of power are non-progressive,” Braimah wrote on his Facebook page.

He further questioned whether there was any evidence that Mr Aboagye had avoided investigators or failed to comply with requests from EOCO. “Now, the EOCO statement doesn’t say EOCO had been searching for Miracles without finding him. It doesn’t say Miracles had been declared wanted. It doesn’t say Miracles had gone into hiding. It doesn’t say Miracles had flouted any

court order not to travel out of the country. It doesn’t say Miracles had refused to attend EOCO invitations. It doesn’t say the investigations had reached a stage where Miracles needed to be stopped and arrested immediately wherever he was found.” Mr Braimah also questioned the timing and manner of the arrest, asking why EOCO could not have waited until the following day if immediate detention was not necessary. “If he needed to be arrested immediately, why couldn’t EOCO wait to do so the next

day?” he asked. He acknowledged the importance of investigating corruption cases, prosecuting offenders and recovering every “looted state fund”, but cautioned that such efforts must be conducted within the confines of fairness and due process. According to him, the fight against corruption “must be fair and must not create avenues for legitimate accusations of show of force or abuse of power.”



Executive Director of MFWA, Sulemana Braimah

NACOC traces 73 assets linked to suspected drug traffickers

The Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC) has identified 73 assets believed to be connected to suspected drug traffickers as part of the government’s intensified efforts to dismantle organised narcotics networks and disrupt the financial foundations of the illicit drug trade. The exercise forms part of a broader strategy aimed at tracing, freezing and confiscating assets suspected to have been acquired through drug trafficking activities.

Speaking during an engagement with Vice President Prof. Jane Naana Opoku-Agyemang, Minister for the Interior, Muntaka Mohammed Mubarak, said the government’s anti-narcotics strategy has shifted from focusing largely on drug users to targeting the criminal networks responsible for importing and distributing illegal drugs.

According to him, recent investments in the operational capacity of NACOC have significantly improved the Commission’s ability to conduct intelligence-led investigations and enforcement operations. Mr Mubarak explained that the Commission had gone nearly a decade without receiving new operational equipment, limiting its effectiveness in combating drug-related crimes. He said the government has since addressed the challenge by providing logistical support, including 22 operational vehicles, to enhance the Commission’s nationwide activities. The additional resources, he noted, have strengthened NACOC’s surveillance capabilities, improved monitoring of suspected trafficking routes and boosted investigations into individuals believed to be involved in the narcotics trade.

“For almost ten years, NACOC had not received any equipment, but because of our resilience, we equipped them with almost 22 logistical vehicles and, as a result, we have been able to detect 73 assets that are linked to people who are drug traffickers because we are trying to move away from simply getting those who are using or smoking narcotics to targeting those who are bringing in narcotics,” the Minister said. Mr Mubarak further disclosed that dedicated courts have now

been established to expedite the prosecution of narcotics-related offences. “By the grace of God and the help of the Chief Justice, we have dedicated courts to prosecute narcotics cases,” he added. He said the government remains committed to strengthening law enforcement institutions and intensifying efforts to dismantle drug trafficking syndicates while ensuring that those behind the illicit trade are brought to justice.



Minister for the Interior, Muntaka Mohammed Mubarak

World Cup 2026: England and Argentina semi-final to have extra security – Authorities

Authorities say there will be increased security measures in place for Wednesday’s World Cup semi-final between England and Argentina.

The pair will resume one of international football’s most storied rivalries at the Atlanta Stadium, as England bid to defeat the defending champions and reach their first World Cup final since 1966.

Atlanta police are aware of historical tensions between the two countries.

In 1982, Britain and Argentina fought the Falklands War - a brief 74-day conflict that resulted in the deaths of 649 Argentine soldiers, 255 British combatants and three civilians. The British overseas territory, known in Argentina as Las Malvinas, remains the subject of a sovereignty dispute between the two countries.

In a statement, Atlanta Police said: “As Atlanta prepares to host an upcoming Fifa World

Cup semi-final match and welcomes increased numbers of residents and visitors, the Atlanta Police Department has enhanced its citywide public safety and security posture.

“Additional personnel and resources are already deployed and will continue to be strategically assigned in and around the event venues, entertainment districts, and other high-traffic areas to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

“These proactive measures are designed to protect the public, deter criminal activity, and ensure residents and visitors can safely enjoy this historic event.”

After Argentina’s dramatic 3-2 win over Egypt in the last 16, players were filmed singing a chant referencing the islands and Argentina greats Diego Maradona and Lionel Messi.

Maradona inspired Argentina to victory over England in the 1986 World Cup quarter-finals as he scored the famous Hand of God goal, while captain Messi is set to face the Three Lions for the first time in his

illustrious career.

Amid the build-up to the first World Cup match between the sides in 24 years, an Argentine war veterans federation has called on fans to focus on football rather than politics between the two countries.

“Sovereignty is defended in international forums through diplomacy, historical truth and the peaceful, non-negotiable claim enshrined in our national constitution,” the 2 April War Veterans Federation said in a statement.

“We consider it essential to draw a clear and unwavering line between sporting passion and the national cause.

“The ball rolls, pride in our colours multiplies, but memory remains intact.”

Earlier this week, England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford said it’s “just a game of football” and predicted “football will do its talking” during the match.

Police have praised the behaviour of England fans in the US but urged fans back home to follow their example after over 500 domestic football-related incidents over the weekend.

The incidents in the UK took place around England’s 2-1 extra-time win over Norway on Saturday, with more than 100 arrests.



Sensational Spain stuns France to reach World Cup final

Spain advanced to their second World Cup final after a convincing 2-0 victory over France in Dallas.

It was a scoreline few would have seen coming against Didier Deschamps’ heavily fancied side, who had previously swept aside every obstacle placed in their path.

However, once Mikel Oyarzabal fired Spain into a lead from the penalty spot, there only looked to be one winner.

France looked desperately off the pace in comparison, best epitomised when Lucas Digne showed no spatial awareness whatsoever when

inadvertently lashing out at Lamine Yamal in the box.

The Real Sociedad forward made no mistake from the spot, as Les Bleus fell behind for the first time at these finals. A bad first half would get worse when William Saliba was forced off injured with what looked like a back injury, and Maxence Lacroix entered the fray.

Pedro Porro would then inflict a devastating hammer blow on France’s World Cup hopes just two minutes shy of the hour mark with a fine finish following a neat one-two with Dani Olmo.

Lamine Yamal was then denied

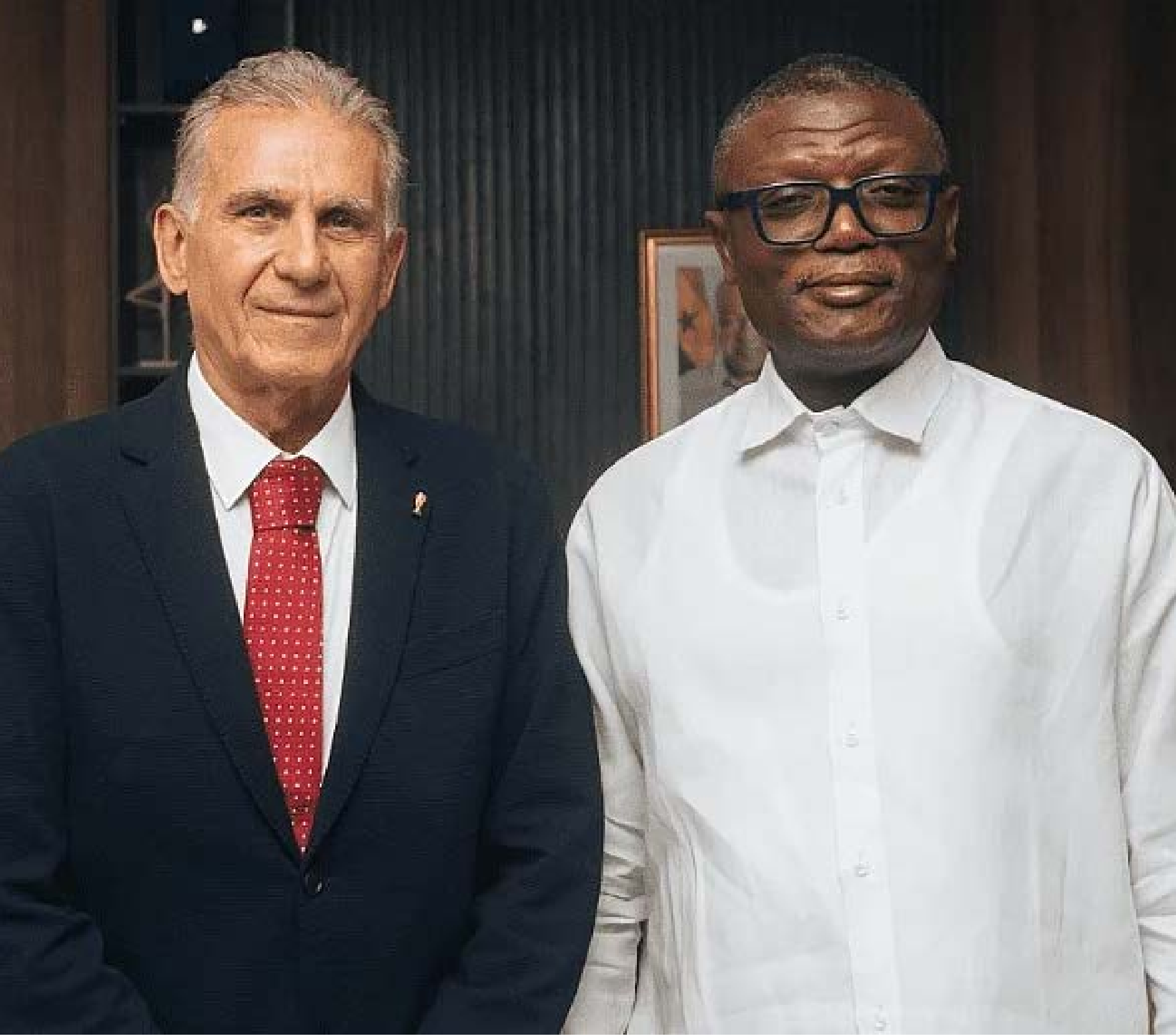
a third after a marginal offside call, with Deschamps’ team firmly on the ropes.

Les Bleus’ World Cup campaign ends with a whimper, but this was a superb display from a La Roja side that has largely gone under the radar up to this point.

The world will certainly be taking notice now, as Spain extended their unbeaten run in matches after 90 minutes to 37 games, equalling Italy’s record and setting up a clash with either Argentina or England in New Jersey on Sunday.



Sports Minister confirms Carlos Queiroz earns \$80,000 monthly as Black Stars head coach



Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz (left) and Sports Minister Kofi Adams

Minister for Sports and Recreation Kofi Adams has disclosed that Black Stars head coach Carlos Queiroz earns a monthly salary of \$80,000, dismissing widespread reports that the Portuguese tactician receives \$100,000.

Queiroz was appointed as Ghana’s head coach ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup following the dismissal of Otto Addo in March. Although the 73-year-old signed a short-term contract with the Ghana Football Association, the financial details of his deal

were not made public at the time.

Speculation over the coach’s remuneration had circulated for months, with several reports claiming he was earning \$100,000 per month. However, Adams has now clarified the figure during an interview with TV3.

“Carlos Queiroz earns \$80,000 a month, not the \$100,000 that had been speculated,” the Buem MP revealed.

Queiroz guided Ghana to a historic achievement at the 2026 FIFA World Cup,

leading the Black Stars to the knockout stage for the first time since their memorable run at the 2010 tournament in South Africa.

The Black Stars began their campaign with a narrow 1-0 victory over Panama before holding England to a goalless draw. A 2-1 defeat to Croatia in their final Group C fixture saw Ghana finish third in the standings, but they progressed to the Round of 32.

Ghana’s World Cup journey came to an end after a 1-0 defeat to Colombia in the knockout stage.

Despite the exit, Queiroz’s performance has reportedly

impressed both the government and the Ghana Football Association, with the veteran coach expected to be offered a new two-year contract to remain in charge of the national team.

The Black Stars will now shift their focus to the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers, where they have been drawn in Group C alongside Côte d’Ivoire, Somalia and The Gambia. The qualification campaign is scheduled to begin in September as Ghana looks to secure a place at the continental tournament.

Moesha Boduong still recovering, visits Dele Momodu

Actress and socialite Moesha Boduong has made a rare public appearance as she continues to recover from a stroke.

Photos shared by Nigerian media personality Dele Momodu showed Moesha visiting him at his home in Accra.

Sharing the photos, he wrote: “I’m extremely happy to welcome one of Ghana’s most popular personalities, Moesha Boduong, at my Accra home... Grateful to God Almighty for restoring her strength steadily.”

Moesha reportedly suffered a stroke in 2024 and has since stayed away from the public eye while receiving treatment.

Dele Momodu urged the public not to judge people during difficult moments and encouraged Ghanaians to continue to pray and show love to Moesha as she works towards a full recovery.



Moesha Boduong visits Dele Momodu

‘My husband and I are now separated and going through divorce’ – Diamond Platnumz’s wife announces

Tanzanian music star Diamond Platnumz and his wife, Zuchu, have announced their separation.

Zuchu disclosed the development in a post shared on her Instagram Stories on Sunday, revealing that the couple are currently going through a divorce.

“My husband and I are now separated and going through a divorce. I announce this with a heavy heart. After six years of being together, I’ve finally decided to choose myself,” she wrote.

Although she did not reveal the reason for the split, Zuchu said they had made efforts to save the marriage, adding, “We tried, but Allah has His own plans.”

She also said she now wants to focus on her health and music career.

The couple, who had been together for several years, officially got married in June 2025.

Following the announcement, Diamond Platnumz’s former partner, Zari Hasan,

reportedly reacted by praising Zuchu for her strength during the relationship.



Diamond Platnumz and his wife, Zuchu

Jay Ghartey returns to Jamestown after 16 years hiatus



Ghanaian Afrobeats and highlife star Jay Ghartey

Sixteen years after releasing one of the most unforgettable music videos of his career, Ghanaian Afrobeats and highlife star Jay Ghartey has made an emotional return to Jamestown, the historic backdrop of his hit video “My Lady.”

For months, fans had been calling on Jay Ghartey to reunite with Felivian, the model who starred alongside him in the 2009 classic. Their wish finally came true.

A few weeks ago, Jay Ghartey flew Felivian into Accra, and together they revisited Jamestown — retracing the

exact spots where the magic of “My Lady” was originally captured.

In a nostalgic behindthescenes revelation shared on Friday, July 10, Jay Ghartey recalled a memorable moment from the original shoot:

“The first time we came on set, she came with so much makeup and a beautiful weave on. My senior brother, Joe Ghartey, said we want her to be natural... So we asked her to remove her wig.”

Jay Ghartey noted that he had received hundreds of fan messages requesting the

reunion, which ultimately inspired the heartfelt gesture.

In the newly released video, the pair recreate scenes around the iconic Jamestown Lighthouse, laugh over old memories, and end the day with dinner — a full-circle moment for fans who have cherished the video for over a decade.

Released on December 25, 2009, “My Lady” remains one of Jay Ghartey’s most celebrated works. Directed by Phamous Film, the video has garnered over half a million views on YouTube, earned multiple award nominations, and won Best Music Video at

the 2011 Ghana Music Awards. The song appears on his debut album, Shining Gold.

Jay Ghartey is now gearing up for a major musical comeback after a long hiatus. His new single “Party” featuring King Paluta already has a completed music video currently in postproduction — and according to him, fans won’t have to wait long for its release.

Peggy Ovire confirms divorce from Frederick Leonard



Frederick Leonard and his wife, Peggy Ovire

Nigerian actress Peggy Ovire has announced that her marriage to fellow actor Frederick Leonard has officially come to an end.

The actress shared the news on social media, expressing relief that the divorce proceedings had been concluded.

“Thank you Jesus. It is done. I’m finally free,” she wrote.

Peggy and Frederick tied the knot in November 2022 after maintaining an on-and-off relationship for several years before their marriage.

Prior to the divorce, Peggy publicly alleged

that Frederick had been unfaithful during their marriage, claiming he was involved with another woman. She said the alleged infidelity caused her significant emotional pain.

She also disclosed that the divorce process took longer than she had anticipated but remained resolute in seeing it

through to its conclusion.

Frederick Leonard has not publicly commented on the divorce or responded to Peggy’s allegations.

The announcement has since generated widespread reactions from fans and followers across social media platforms.



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