

REVEALING THE BLURRED LINES

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PMIMIC CARTEL IN BIZZARE GOLD BULLION EXPORT



NANA ADDO'S CHOP-CHOP LAWYER CRUMBLES

...As Ekwow
Essuman Drafts
Handing Over
Notes
...He acquired
two mansions
in two terms

Page 2

BAWUMIAH'S HUBTLE'S INVOICE IN LIMBO

As South Dayi
MP warns ECG
against Ghc260m
payment

Page 2

MAHAMA'S ORAL SQUAD CAUSES PANICK

Five Ace anti-
corruption titans
make the list

Page 2

GHANA REVENUE AUTHORITY (GRA) CUSTOMS DIVISION
DECLARATION/BILL OF ENTRY FOR CUSTOMS USE ONLY
LOCAL CURRENCY: GHANA CEDI

2 Exporter & Address PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	3 Regime EKD	45 CL Plan EKD	A Office Code RIAI	17/12/2024			
4 Items 1 Total Package 22 Reference number 24219024SD000115	5 Gross Mass Kg 440.0000	6 Manifest No 176-75226671	8 BL/AWB 1122464397 / 00	17/12/2024			
7 Importer & Address STONEX COMMODITIES DMCC ALMAS TOWER JUMEIRAH LAKE TOWERS 48D-P.O.BOX 125942 DUBAI UAE	8 Consignee / Actual Exporter PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	9 Declaration/Representative PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	10 Country of Origin/Destination AE United Arab Emirates	11 Type of Licence CC			
14 M Trans. Ship/Aircraft ID, Nationality 40 EMIRATE	15 Total FOB Fcy-imp/Net-Exp F0M DUBAI 33,909,837.93	16 Curr Code USD	13 Total Invoice Fcy 33,909,837.93	14 CC Level USD			
17 Port of Loading/Unloading DXB Dubai, United Arab	18 Place Ship/Land & Cl Unit WYKIAAFQ2	19 FOB Net/Imp/Port 500,081,943.89	20 Valuation Method Transaction Value	21 CRMS Level Red			
21 Entry/Exit Office KIAI CEPS KIA	22 Identification Warehouse WAKIAAFQ1	23 Financial and banking data Bank Code Bank name Branch name A/C No.	24 Valuation Method Transaction Value	25 CRMS Level Red			
25 Marks & Numbers PMAC/800/G4FX/08/2024/G (BANK OF GHANA GOLD FOR OIL EXPORTS) CUSTOMS SEAL NO: 007326 TO 007328, 007329 TO 007332 PMAC SEAL NO: 48391 TO 48392 Container No: / Chassis No:	26 Item No 0001	27 Commodity Code 710813000	28 City/Orig/Dest 0001	29 Zone XPT	30 CPC 10001	31 Concess 0000	
Quantity & unit: 22 BX Description of goods GOLD BULLION	32 Net Wt Kg 440	33 FOB Fcy 33,909,837.93	34 FOB Net 500,081,943.89	35 Freight Net 0.00	36 Insurance Net 0.00	37 Supp U1 0.00	38 Supp U2 0.00
40 Tax Tax base Amt 75 500,081,943.89	TBC 25	Rate 0.00	Amount Exempted/Suspended 0.00	Amount Payable 0.00	43 Previous Declaration -	Mode of Payment Date	44 ACCOUNTING DETAILS Receipt Number Bank Guarantee BG Amount
75 500,081,943.89	25	1.50	7,501,279.16	0.00	45 Previous Declaration -	Mode of Payment Date	46 ACCOUNTING DETAILS Receipt Number Bank Guarantee BG Amount
Total			7,501,279.16	0.00			

PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED

GHANA REVENUE AUTHORITY (GRA) CUSTOMS DIVISION
DECLARATION/BILL OF ENTRY FOR CUSTOMS USE ONLY
LOCAL CURRENCY: GHANA CEDI

2 Exporter & Address PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	3 Regime EKD	45 CL Plan EKD	A Office Code RIAI	16/12/2024			
4 Items 1 Total Package 22 Reference number 24219024SD000115	5 Gross Mass Kg 389.0000	6 Manifest No 176-75226660	8 BL/AWB 1122464329 / 00	16/12/2024			
7 Importer & Address STONEX COMMODITIES DMCC ALMAS TOWER JUMEIRAH LAKE TOWERS 48D-P.O.BOX 125942 DUBAI UAE	8 Consignee / Actual Exporter PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	9 Declaration/Representative PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED KINBU ROAD - STABLETS #1 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA	10 Country of Origin/Destination AE United Arab Emirates	11 Type of Licence CC			
14 M Trans. Ship/Aircraft ID, Nationality 40 EMIRATE	15 Total FOB Fcy-imp/Net-Exp F0M DUBAI 30,338,273.95	16 Curr Code USD	13 Total Invoice Fcy 30,338,273.95	14 CC Level USD			
17 Port of Loading/Unloading DXB Dubai, United Arab	18 Place Ship/Land & Cl Unit WYKIAAFQ2	19 FOB Net/Imp/Port 451,354,836.86	20 Valuation Method Transaction Value	21 CRMS Level Red			
21 Entry/Exit Office KIAI CEPS KIA	22 Identification Warehouse WAKIAAFQ1	23 Financial and banking data Bank Code Bank name Branch name A/C No.	24 Valuation Method Transaction Value	25 CRMS Level Red			
25 Marks & Numbers PMAC/800/RDS/231/2024/G (BANK OF GHANA GOLD FOR OIL EXPORTS) CUSTOMS SEAL NO: 007326 TO 007328, 007329 TO 007332 PMAC SEAL NO: 48370 TO 48372 Container No: / Chassis No:	26 Item No 0001	27 Commodity Code 710813000	28 City/Orig/Dest 0001	29 Zone XPT	30 CPC 10001	31 Concess 0000	
Quantity & unit: 14 BX Description of goods GOLD BULLION	32 Net Wt Kg 389	33 FOB Fcy 30,338,273.95	34 FOB Net 451,354,836.86	35 Freight Net 0.00	36 Insurance Net 0.00	37 Supp U1 0.00	38 Supp U2 0.00
40 Tax Tax base Amt 75 451,354,836.86	TBC 25	Rate 0.00	Amount Exempted/Suspended 0.00	Amount Payable 0.00	43 Previous Declaration -	Mode of Payment Date	44 ACCOUNTING DETAILS Receipt Number Bank Guarantee BG Amount
75 451,354,836.86	25	1.50	6,770,319.55	0.00	45 Previous Declaration -	Mode of Payment Date	46 ACCOUNTING DETAILS Receipt Number Bank Guarantee BG Amount
Total			6,770,319.55	0.00			

PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED

NANA ADDO'S CHOP-CHOP LAWYER CRUMBLES

...As Ekow Essuman Drafts Handing Over Notes
...He acquired two mansions in two terms

Ekow Essuman, the lawyer of President Akufo Addo, has been tasked with the responsibility of scripting the handing over notes of the Jubilee House to John Mahama, the man he has castigated as openly criticized for the past eight years.

This unexpected development comes following the incapacitation of Asante Bediatuo, a relative of the president who previously served as the secretary to the president at the Jubilee House.

Bediatuo is currently battling a stroke, prompting the need for Essuman to step into the role of preparing the important documentation for the upcoming government transition.

Sources close to the situation



have revealed that Essuman, despite his legal expertise, is struggling to grasp the intricacies of the presidency and the content required for the handing over notes.

With only two weeks remaining until the government changes hands, the pressure is mounting to ensure a smooth

transition in accordance with the law, which mandates the preparation of handing over notes three months prior to the election.

Critics of President Akufo Addo have long accused him of running the government like a monarchy, appointing family members and close associates to key government positions.

This practice has led to the government being dubbed the 'family and friends Gov't'. As the deadline for the handover rapidly approaches, all eyes are on Ekow Essuman as he navigates this challenging task of facilitating the transfer of power from President Akufo Addo to his former rival, John Mahama.

MAHAMA'S ORAL SQUAD CAUSES PANICK

Five Ace anti-corruption titans make the list

In a bid to fulfil his pledge of reclaiming public funds and assets pilfered by officials in the Akufo-Addo administration, the transition team of the incoming John Mahama government has revealed the formation of a five-member committee of scrutineers.

A statement, issued to the public on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, and signed by Transition Team Spokesperson Felix Kwakye Ofofu, outlined the team's objectives.

"In preparation for the implementation of H.E. John Mahama's commitment to recoup proceeds of corruption and hold accountable those responsible for such acts upon his assumption of office, a team has been established to receive and compile information from the general public and other sources regarding suspected corruption cases," the statement disclosed.

The Committee, presided over by North Tongu MP, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, includes COP (Rtd) Nathan Kofi Boakye, legal practitioner Lawyer Martin Kpebu, the former Auditor General Mr. Daniel Yaw Domelevo, and Mr. Raymond Archer, an ace investigative journalist with many years of national Security, intelligence and a certified Counter Fraud Specialist.

"Anti-corruption efforts, particularly Operation Recover All Loot (ORAL), were central to H.E. John Mahama's policy agenda during the 2024 campaign, and he intends to swiftly act on these commitments," the statement emphasized.

The announcement follows heightened expectations among Ghanaians that the Mahama government will pursue individuals who have embezzled public funds in the previous administration.

Recent revelations by Hon. Edward Anim, for-

mer NPP MP for Obuasi East, claiming knowledge of undisclosed locations where illicitly obtained public funds and assets were concealed by Akufo-Addo appointees, have intensified public anticipation.

There is considerable anticipation for prosecutions to commence, particularly targeting former Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta, who allegedly favored his private bank, Data Bank, and his insurance company, the Enterprise Group, with advantageous agreements and failed to provide adequate account of surpluses from the Annual Budget Funding Amount between 2017 and 2022, amounting to a potential theft of up to Ghc2 billion.

Ofori-Atta faced accusations of employing evasive tactics to evade parliamentary scrutiny, eventually claiming that unreturned surpluses were utilized in combating COVID-19, in spite of Ghana raking in over Ghc4 billion from the pandemic.

Former Communications Minister Ursula Owusu Ekuful is on the radar for purported involvement in corrupt dealings with a Hatian firm, Kelni GVG, to secure revenue assurance warranties from telecom companies.

Other figures expected to face legal action include ex-Minister for Sanitation Cecilia Abena Dapaah, who allegedly hoarded substantial sums in her residence, leading to theft totaling over US\$1 million by her domestic staff.

Former Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Mavis Hawa Koomson is also implicated in the squandering of millions of dollars on the government's one village, one dam initiative, resulting in the construction of inferior dugouts that were swept away by rains.

BAWUMIAH'S HUBTLE'S INVOICE IN LIMBO

As South Dayi MP warns ECG against Ghc260m payment

Rockson Nelson Dafeamekpor, the Member of Parliament for South Dayi, has joined the growing chorus urging the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) not to approve an invoice totaling Ghc259,819,544.97 submitted by Hubtel.

The payment service company was contracted by the Akufo-Addo government to develop a payments collection app for ECG. Taking to X, formerly known as Twitter, Lawyer Dafeamekpor criticized Hubtel's action as "daylight robbery" and insisted that ECG should not settle the amount demanded in the invoice.

Describing the invoice amount as exorbitant, Dafeamekpor emphasized that the work for which Ghc259,919,544.97 is being requested was already completed by ECG staff. He pointed out, "The demand for Ghc259,919,544.97 for work that was already undertaken by ECG staff is utterly unreasonable.

The ECG app had been created and launched prior to the return of the NPP to power in 2017." Additionally, Dafeamekpor revealed that sources informed him of Hub-

tel having received Ghc200m for minor upgrades to the app developed by ECG.

Furthermore, Hubtel has been receiving a 15% share of every transaction processed through the app. Hubtel, which has ties to Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia, was controversially contracted by the Akufo-Addo government to deliver a payment app for ECG.

However, ECG employees contend that the app was internally developed, with Hubtel only contributing additional features for which it received a substantial payment of US\$12 million, in addition to a commission of 1.9% per transaction. Despite submitting an invoice for nearly Ghc260 million, ECG has dismissed the claim.

The audits conducted by the Auditor General have raised concerns over the payments made to Hubtel, with suspicions of backdated invoices emerging.

Although Hubtel asserts its independence as a private entity, it has been associated with Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia. Earlier this year, Solomon Owusu, a former NPP communicator, alleged that Dr. Bawumia was the owner of Hubtel.



PMMC CARTEL IN BIZZARE GOLD BULLION EXPORT

Independent investigations have uncovered discrepancies in claims made by the Precious Minerals Marketing Company (PMMC) following a recent incident at the National Assay Centre.

The statement, purportedly issued by a "Corporate Affairs" unit, appears to be misleading as PMMC lacks a designated Corporate Affairs or Public Affairs department.

This revelation casts doubts on the authenticity and source of the statement, raising concerns about internal communication protocols within PMMC.

The situation is further troubled by the disclosure that the audit department was unaware of the transfer of gold from the Diamond House to the Aviance Cargo Terminal.

This deviation from standard operating procedures, where the audit department is responsible for verifying the movement and stock of valuable items, is a cause for significant alarm.

Typically, the audit department plays a crucial role in ensuring the proper documentation, verification, and accountability for all movements of precious materials.

However, the lack of notification to the audit department of this substantial transfer not only undermines transparency in PMMC's operations but also highlights broader governance and oversight issues within the organization.

The chaotic incident unfolded at the National Assay Centre situated at the Aviance Cargo Terminal in Accra when an adhoc taskforce led by Prince Vitus Seidu and the National Organiser of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), Mr. Joseph Yamin stormed the Aviance terminal of the Kotoka International cargo department to stop the transport of a 440kilogram of gold being exported to the UAE by unidentified owner through PMMC.

The Managing Director of PMMC, the official state Aseyer told The New Republic in an interview that although the Gold was being processed by the company on behalf of Bank of Ghana, PMMC did not know who the real owners of the gold bars are.

He argued that the company has exusted all of processes due for handling and export of the gold.

This event has raised serious concerns about the security and integrity of

Ghana's gold trade, prompting urgent inquiries into the transparency of operations at the National Assay Centre.

The disruption occurred on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, amid the processing of gold bars as part of the Domestic Gold Purchase Programme (DGPP) launched in June 2021.

These bars were allegedly undergoing evaluation to confirm their weight, purity, and value, a standard procedure crucial for preserving Ghana's gold market integrity.

However, operations were interrupted when upon a tip off that, the bars were being illicitly taken out of the country by certain political figures. PMMC vehemently refuted these claims, asserting their baselessness and detrimental impact.

In the midst of the turmoil police and military intervention were sort to control the vigilant crowd who stormed the airport to insist that the packages be impounded pending investigation.

Eventually, an agreement was reached to relocate the bullion bars to the Greater Accra Regional Police Command for safekeeping until a resolution could be reached the following day.

In its official statement, PMMC condemned the actions of the task-force as "deeply regrettable," warning that such disruptions could severely impact Ghana's reputation in the international bullion market.

A transparent account of the events occurring on December 17 is deemed essential to address the mounting concerns stemming from the incident.

Clear communication is needed to dispel existing scepticism surrounding PMMC's operations and restore trust among stakeholders.

The aftermath of the chaos at the National Assay Centre underscores the critical need for enhancing governance measures within PMMC.

The absence of a Corporate Affairs unit and the oversight lapses in the audit department indicate systemic issues that could have lasting repercussions.

Addressing these governance gaps is crucial to improving crisis management, fostering transparent communication with stakeholders, and fortifying PMMC's market reputation. Moving forward, a reevaluation of PMMC's governance practices is imperative.

GHANA REVENUE AUTHORITY (GRA) CUSTOMS DIVISION
DECLARATION (BILL OF ENTRY) FOR CUSTOMS USE ONLY
(LOCAL CURRENCY: GHANA CEDI)

2 Exporter & Address
PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED
KINBU ROAD - STARLETS 91 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA

3 Regime: EXD, CL Plan: 45, A Office Code: KIAI, Manifest No: 17/12/2024, BL/AWB: 176-75426936, Bill of Entry(BOE) No: 11224645136 / 00, Date: 17/12/2024

4 Importer & Address
STONEX COMMODITIES DMCC
ALMAS TOWER JUMEIRAH LAKE TOWERS 48D-P.O.BOX 125942 DUBAI UAE

5 Reference number: 2412170026GS0000115

6 Country of Origin/Destination: United Arab Emirates, Type of Licence: 11

7 Declaration/Representative: PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED, KINBU ROAD - STARLETS 91 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA

8 Consignee / Actual Exporter: PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED, KINBU ROAD - STARLETS 91 LOOP, ACCRA, ACCRA

9 Total FOB Fcy-imp/Ncy-Exp: 9,187,392.10, Rate of Xcl: 14.7474

10 Country of Consig./Destinat: United Arab Emirates, Type of Licence: 11

11 Delivery Terms & Place: FOB DUBAI, Total Invoice Fcy: 9,187,392.10

12 Total FOB Fcy-imp/Ncy-Exp: 9,187,392.10, Curr Code: USD, Rate of Xcl: 14.7474

13 Valuation Method: Transaction Value, 44 CRMS: Red

14 M Trans, Ship/Aircraft ID, Nationality: AE, 40 EMIRATE

15 Port of Loading/Unloading: DXB, 18 Place Ship/Land & Ct Lnd: WYKIAIAFGZ, G

16 Entry/Exit Office: KIAI, CEPS KIA, 22 Identification Warehouse: WAKIAIAFOI

17 Attached Documents: INV, LOC, PKL, SDF

18 Marks & Numbers: PMMC/BOG/RDS/239/2024/QIBANK OF GHANA GOLD FOR OIL EXPORTS, CUSTOMS SEAL NO: 00075584 TO 00075587, 00075527, PMMC SEAL NO: 88391 TO 88395, Container Nos / Chassis Nos

19 Quantity & unit: 5 BX, description of goods: GOLD BULLION

20 Financial and banking data Bank Code: Bank name: A/C No: Branch name: DGD Ref. No: 7108131000

21 City/Org./Dest: CH, 29 Zone: XPT, 30 CPC: 10X01, Concess: 000

22 Gross Wt kg: 119, Net Wt kg: 115.86, 33 FOB Fcy: 9,187,392.10, CC: US

23 FOB Ncy: 135,490,146.26, 35 Freight Ncy: 0.00, 36 Insurance Ncy: 0.00

24 Other Costs: 0.00, 38 Supp U1: 0.00, 39 Supp U2: 0.00

25 Licence No: 42 Customs Value: 135,490,146.26, DV: 119.0000, Annexed Docs: BA2, LOC, SDF

26 Previous Declaration: -

27 ACCOUNTING DETAILS: Receipt Number: Date: Mode of Payment: Bank Guarantee: Date: BG Amount: 0.00

28 Taxes: Code: Amount: Amount 1: Exempted/Suspended: 08: 0.00, 09: 0.00, 10: 2,032,352.19, 11: 2,032,352.19, Total: 2,032,352.19

29 Tax Code 90,91,92 payable by Agent

30 Signature: MANAGING DIRECTOR, Date: 17/12/2024

31 Stamp: PRECIOUS MINERALS MARKETING COMPANY LIMITED

17/12/2024
AIR WAYBILL
FROM: M&M ENERGY LIMITED
TO: PMMC
WAYBILL of SIXTEEN (16) boxes covering 188 bars of GOLD DORE in the following material particular;

NO.	WEIGHT (g)	PURITY (%)
1.	2148.64	96.55%
2.	2047.99	95.33%
3.	2869.99	93.38%
4.	2025.39	91.58%
5.	2009.10	94.98%
6.	2148.94	92.93%
7.	1553.77	93.98%
8.	2083.35	93.27%
9.	2076.03	91.16%
10.	2012.35	92.73%
11.	2107.38	92.53%
12.	1922.99	94.28%
13.	2057.49	94.13%
14.	1980.71	93.96%
15.	2026.40	93.24%
16.	2141.27	94.30%
17.	2072.57	93.01%
18.	1485.46	94.45%
19.	1886.46	91.56%
20.	2164.96	93.53%
21.	2051.53	92.25%
22.	2010.86	92.41%
23.	2190.66	93.85%
24.	2626.41	94.44%
25.	3061.97	91.99%
26.	3077.09	93.48%
27.	2629.05	93.67%
28.	3024.54	91.61%
29.	2710.90	94.08%
30.	2276.46	94.53%
31.	2150.44	95.09%
32.	1928.99	93.30%
33.	2024.13	95.08%
34.	2112.21	91.95%
35.	1911.07	93.81%

81.	3562.50	92.41%
82.	2571.07	93.79%
83.	3828.01	92.42%
84.	2911.21	93.50%
85.	3094.16	94.50%
86.	3054.51	93.51%
87.	3026.98	92.65%
88.	3524.68	93.88%
89.	3646.72	93.54%
90.	3424.04	93.78%
91.	2095.52	92.21%
92.	2004.88	92.67%
93.	3193.92	93.63%
94.	1536.24	92.82%
95.	2080.85	91.77%
96.	1922.14	93.46%
97.	1694.23	91.69%
98.	1831.28	91.89%
99.	2340.69	95.24%
100.	2183.33	90.90%
101.	3448.34	93.45%
102.	1981.48	93.25%
103.	1930.10	94.11%
104.	3612.96	94.55%
105.	2494.80	93.83%
106.	2626.02	94.00%
107.	1993.31	91.88%
108.	3509.96	92.98%
109.	3765.27	94.82%
110.	4079.76	91.75%
111.	3292.06	94.75%
112.	2671.90	94.79%
113.	2773.90	92.91%
114.	2510.80	95.44%
115.	2211.80	94.50%
116.	2490.60	94.99%
117.	2525.87	93.88%
118.	2060.50	94.13%
119.	2088.76	93.62%
120.	2051.44	93.62%
121.	3008.90	93.37%
122.	1732.25	93.93%
123.	2051.20	93.71%
124.	2397.42	93.31%
125.	2752.37	93.20%

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Mahama Outlines Plans for Constitutional Review Process - Leo Nelson

President-Elect John Dramani Mahama has pledged to revive and advance Ghana's stalled constitutional review process, emphasizing the need for inclusive reforms to address emerging governance challenges. He made this commitment during a courtesy call on him by the Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council (GPCC). In his remarks, the President-Elect acknowledged the significant role Ghana's 1992 Constitution has played in shaping the country's democratic trajectory but stressed the need to refine certain provisions for future generations. "The time has come for us to look at our Constitution again. It has served us well, and I still believe it is one of the best constitutions any African country can have - However, after using it for several years, we've realized that a few parts need to be tweaked to better serve us going forward," he indicated.

Mahama highlighted the constitutional review initiative begun under the late President John Evans Atta Mills but lamented its stagnation over the past eight years. To build consensus and address emerging issues, Mahama announced his incoming administration's plans to organize a "National Validation Conference."

This platform, he explained, would bring together legal ex-

perts, civil society actors, religious leaders, traditional authorities, and political stakeholders to deliberate on recommendations from the earlier constitutional review report produced by the late Professor Mills and the NDC's administration.

Moreover, John Mahama underscored the importance of incorporating solutions to new challenges that have arisen since the Constitution's inception.

"Now what we want to do is to bring the constitutional review report back to this validation conference. There might be things that we flagged, that we wanted to amend, that might not be necessary again this time. And then some new things that we didn't really take notice of, that will become important for us to include in the review."

Using the recent impasse between Parliament and the Judiciary as an example, Mahama highlighted the need for clearer constitutional provisions to avert ambiguity in governance.

"We must clearly state what the mandate of the Speaker is so that it is unambiguous and no one needs to seek Supreme Court interpretation in such cases. These are the kinds of issues the validation conference will streamline."

The President-Elect delineated his approach to constitu-

tional amendments, emphasizing the distinction between entrenched and non-entrenched clauses.

He pointed out that non-entrenched clauses, which only require parliamentary approval, would be prioritized for consensus-building and swift passage by Parliament.

However, the President-elect noted that the entrenched clauses present a greater challenge, requiring parliamentary approval and a national referendum. To navigate this process, Mahama stressed the importance of bipartisan support and collaboration with civil society, traditional authorities, and religious leaders.

"No single party can single-handedly push through amendments to entrenched clauses. It requires a bipartisan consensus and broad societal support to ensure success", he stressed.

Mahama's vision for the constitutional review aligns with his broader agenda to strengthen Ghana's democratic institutions and governance structures.

He assured stakeholders of his commitment to fostering dialogue and inclusivity in addressing constitutional reforms, emphasizing the importance of collaboration at all levels, as the country faces a new era in its democratic journey.

No Recruitment Warrants Issued After December 7; All Processes Accounted for in 2024 Budget – Information Minister

Minister for Information and Spokesperson for the Government's Transition Team, Fatima Abubakar, has clarified that all ongoing recruitments are captured in the 2024 budget and no new warrants for recruitment have been issued since the December 7 general elections.

Her statement comes in response to threats from the Transition Team of President-elect John Dramani Mahama, which has vowed to reverse any last-minute recruitment decisions.

Speaking on JoyNews' PM Express on Tuesday, December 17, Ms. Abubakar emphasised that recruitment processes were pre-approved and budgeted for before the elections.

She assured the public that the government is adhering to

established protocols and has not issued any fresh recruitment warrants since the polls.

"Since the election, not a single warrant has been issued for the recruitment of any persons," she stated. "The Interior Ministry and the Health Ministry have already issued public releases informing nurses to go onto the portal to start their recruitment processes."

Her remarks addressed concerns raised by the President-elect's Transition Team over potential last-minute recruitments by the outgoing administration.

Ms. Abubakar underscored the government's commitment to transparency in handling recruitment matters, ensuring they align with the approved budgetary framework.



Supreme Court Dismisses Petition Against Constitutionality of Anti-Gay Bill

A seven-member panel of the Supreme Court, led by Justice Lovelace Avril Johnson, has unanimously dismissed a petition filed by broadcast journalist and lawyer Richard Dela Sky, challenging the constitutionality of the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill.

Mr Sky had sought a declaration that the bill, which has sparked intense national debate, was null and void.

However, the court rejected his petition, upholding the constitutionality of the legislative process for the proposed anti-LGBTQI legislation.

The bill, which remains highly controversial, aims to criminalize activities associated with lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) advocacy.

Should it pass into law, it would impose penalties on individuals who promote or fund LGBTQI-related activities, as well as on those who provide indirect support for such initiatives.

The bill has generated significant debate, with proponents arguing that it is crucial to protect Ghanaian cultural and family values, which they claim are under threat from foreign ideologies.

In contrast, critics, including human rights organizations, have condemned the bill as a violation of fundamental human rights, including the freedoms of expression, association, and equality under the law.

These groups argue that the bill would create an environment of discrimination and persecution, undermining the rights of the LGBTQI community in Ghana. The debate surrounding the bill has been a flashpoint in the broader discussion of human rights and cultural values in the country.

In addition to Sky's petition, equality and inclusion advocate Amanda Odoi also filed a separate legal challenge.

Both Amanda Odoi and Richard Sky argue that Parliament had failed to meet the quorum requirements outlined in Articles 102 and 104 of the Constitution during the legislative process, which they claimed rendered the



bill's passage unconstitutional.

Their petitions sought to have the bill declared invalid on these grounds.

However, the Supreme Court dismissed both petitions, stating that the bill had not yet become law.

Justice Lovelace Johnson clarified that until a bill receives presi-

dential assent, it does not constitute an enacted law, and therefore cannot be subject to judicial review of its constitutionality.

The court's ruling emphasized that legislative processes cannot be challenged on constitutional grounds until they result in enforceable law.

'My Love, Respect for Muslims Boundless' – Agyinasare Shares How God Used Muslims to Bless His Ministry

Perez Chapel International founder Charles Agyinasare (Archbishop) has shared with his congregation and the world how Muslims have been a great blessing to him and his tremendous love and respect for them.

In church on Sunday, 15 December 2024, at the Perez Dome, Dzorwulu, Accra, Archbishop Agyinasare dispelled an uninformed impression created about him that he is anti-Muslim.

"Some have suggested that I don't like Muslims, but they don't even know me," the Archbishop said.

Archbishop Agyinasare narrated how God used Muslims to help him in his ministerial journey, giving a history of his several decades-old relationship and fraternity with Muslims.

Archbishop Agyinasare mentioned that even before he started his ministry, which Muslims supported, he had had the opportunity to enjoy the largesse of some Muslims who were in his life as a young man.

In 1979, he recalled, "I had the privilege of staying with a Muslim family in Zorgbeli, Tamale—Alhaji Iddrisu Fusieni and his household—for one and a half years. I didn't pay rent during my stay. Instead, Alhaji Fuseini generously gave me a place in his home, sharing a room with his son, Fuseini, whom we affectionately called Foley. I never had to worry about food, as I was fed three square meals a day, every day, for that entire period. That level of kindness and hospitality left a lasting impression on my heart."

Later, when God called him to start a church in Tamale in 1987, Agyinasare said, the Lord, "Once again used Muslims to support His work."

He narrated: "A Muslim couple, Mr. Goodman and his wife, Madam Bugapeh, faithfully supported me financially every month as I laboured in the Lord's vineyard. That partnership demonstrated to me that God can use anyone, regardless of their faith or background, to accomplish His purposes."

Illustrating his long fraternity with Muslims through the decades, Archbishop Agyinasare noted: "My relationships with Muslims have always been strong and meaningful," adding: "In Tamale, I shared a close friendship with the late Vice President, Alhaji Aliu Mahama, who was my neighbour in Vittin Estates. He and I shared many conversations and moments of mutual respect. Today, I also enjoy a good relationship with our current Vice President, Alhaji Mahamudu Bawumia."

He said: "These friendships are a testament to the fact that love and respect can transcend differences in faith when we approach one another with humility and sincerity."

Agyinasare said: "Once you've lived in Tamale, people always see you as one of their own. And because of my experiences, I've been warmly received in Muslim-dominated areas throughout my ministry."

He declared: "I am the only Ghanaian evangelist (as far as I know) who has been allowed to hold healing campaigns in places like Maiduguri and Kano in Nigeria—areas that are predominantly Muslim. By God's grace, I've had the rare privilege of ministering in Pakistan multiple times, where Muslim Imams themselves have publicly praised the work God is doing through me."

He pointed out: "These moments were not just about ministry but about building bridges of mutual respect and understanding. In addition, I've been granted access to hold church meetings in countries like Egypt, Bangladesh, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates, where preaching the gospel is not always welcomed."

Beyond his preaching and campaigns,

Agyinasare said: "My personal commitment to Muslims extends to education," explaining: "I've personally sponsored many Muslims to pursue higher education, including at Perez University College, which God has graciously entrusted to our ministry, as well as other universities. Education is a powerful tool for empowerment, and I believe that showing love through practical means speaks louder than any words we can say."

The reality, Agyinasare noted, contrasts with the anti-Islam image being suggested about him.

"So, when some people accuse me of disliking Muslims, it's clear they don't know my story. My life and ministry have been filled with countless examples of God using Muslims to bless me, and of God using me to show His love to Muslims," he declared.

The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Archbishop stressed, "is a message of love, and that love knows no boundaries," and, so: "Whether someone identifies as a Christian, a Muslim, or something else entirely, they are all made in the image of God, and they are all worthy of our love and respect."

He underscored: "This is why I've always made it my mission to extend the love of God to all people, regardless of their background. And let me add this: the very places where others might not expect the gospel to flourish—places dominated by Islam—are the very places where God has opened unusual doors for me to preach and minister. These opportunities remind me of Romans 12:18, which says, 'If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.'"



Floating Voters Decided NPP's 2024 Election Defeat - Data - Leo Nelson

Comprehensive nationwide exit polls conducted across all 276 constituencies by leading poll agency, Global InfoAnalytics present an illuminating picture of Ghana's 2024 general elections.

The findings underscore the significant role floating voters played in the election, effectively sealing the New Patriotic Party's (NPP) fate as predicted in pre-election polling. The poll, with a robust sample size of 21,159 respondents and an impressive 94% success rate, provides valuable insights into voter behaviour and its decisive impact on the election's outcome.

This exercise employed a random probability sampling method, achieved a 99% confidence level and a margin of error of just 1.0%.

The poll revealed that the pre-election voter alignments were 35% for NPP, 33% for the National Democratic Congress (NDC), 20% for floating voters, 3% for other parties, and 9% for those not disclosing their preferences.

However, actual election day figures showed a slight shift, with 41% identifying as NPP voters, 40% as NDC, 15% as floating voters, and 4% aligning with other parties.

On how supporters of the parties and others voted, the poll shows that 7% of NPP voters voted for JDM, 90% voted for DMB and 3% for other candidates. The poll also shows that 8% of NDC voters voted for DMB, 90% for JDM and



2% for other candidates.

However, JDM scored a decisive win among floating voters as he carried them with 58%, DMB 29%, a whopping 30% margin while others received 13%.

This overwhelming support from floating voters, which aligns with Global InfoAnalytics' pre-election projections, tipped the scales in favour of the NDC candidate.

The Ashanti Region, traditionally the NPP's stronghold, presented mixed results. The exit poll showed 64% of respondents identified as NPP voters, 22% as NDC, 8% as floating voters, and 5% as supporters of other parties.

While Vice President Dr Mahamudu Bawumia retained 95% of the ruling

New Patriotic Party's base, 3% of its loyalists voted for President-Elect John Dramani Mahama, and 2% opted for other candidates.

Among National Democratic Congress voters, 89% supported President-Elect John Dramani Mahama, with 9% defecting to Vice President Dr Mahamudu Bawumia and 2% choosing other candidates.

However, among Ashanti floating voters, the poll shows DMB and JDM split the votes, 36% apiece while 28% voted for other candidates. For those who support other parties, 10% voted for JDM, 11% for DMB and 79% for other candidates.

This data reveals a notable divergence in the Ashanti Region, where the influence of floating voters and a fraction of the NPP and NDC base significantly shaped the results.

President-Elect Mahama's ability to secure 36% of floating votes in an NPP-dominated region underscores the challenges facing the ruling party.

Interestingly, the poll highlighted a division within the NDC in the Ashanti Region, with 9% of its voters casting ballots for Dr Bawumia. This internal strife was traced to NDC supporters from traditional and other religious backgrounds, not Muslims as earlier speculated.

Dr Bawumia according to the poll enjoyed higher support among these groups compared to Christians and

Muslims, indicating an underlying shift in voter alignment within the region.

The 2024 elections reiterated the pivotal role of floating voters in determining electoral outcomes. For the NPP, the erosion of loyalty within its base and the inability to attract a significant portion of floating voters spelled doom.

This reinforces the long-standing notion that elections in Ghana are increasingly being decided by the middle ground—voters who prioritize performance over party loyalty.

The Ashanti Region's results further suggest that the NPP must re-evaluate its strategy, particularly in its strongholds, where internal divisions and the allure of opposition narratives have weakened its dominance.

For the NDC, JDM's strong performance among floating voters and his penetration into NPP strongholds offer a blueprint for future campaigns: appeal to the undecided, address internal divisions proactively, and consolidate support across diverse voter demographics.

The Global InfoAnalytics exit poll is a testament to the growing sophistication and discernment of Ghanaian voters. The NPP's declining appeal among floating voters and segments of its base underscores the party's need for introspection and strategic recalibration.

For the NDC, the victory provides both an opportunity and a challenge to sustain its appeal among the Ghanaian electorate going forward.

Reform Military Appointments and Promotions – Col Festus Aboagye Tells In-Coming Administration

Retired Military Officer Col Festus Aboagye, has noted that Ghana's civil-military relations are in an unprecedented crisis.

This, he said, follows systemic militarisation under the Akufo-Addo administration from 2017-2024.

He has therefore made a number of recommendations in a policy brief analysing how military politicisation and civilian space encroachment threaten democratic governance and constitutional order.

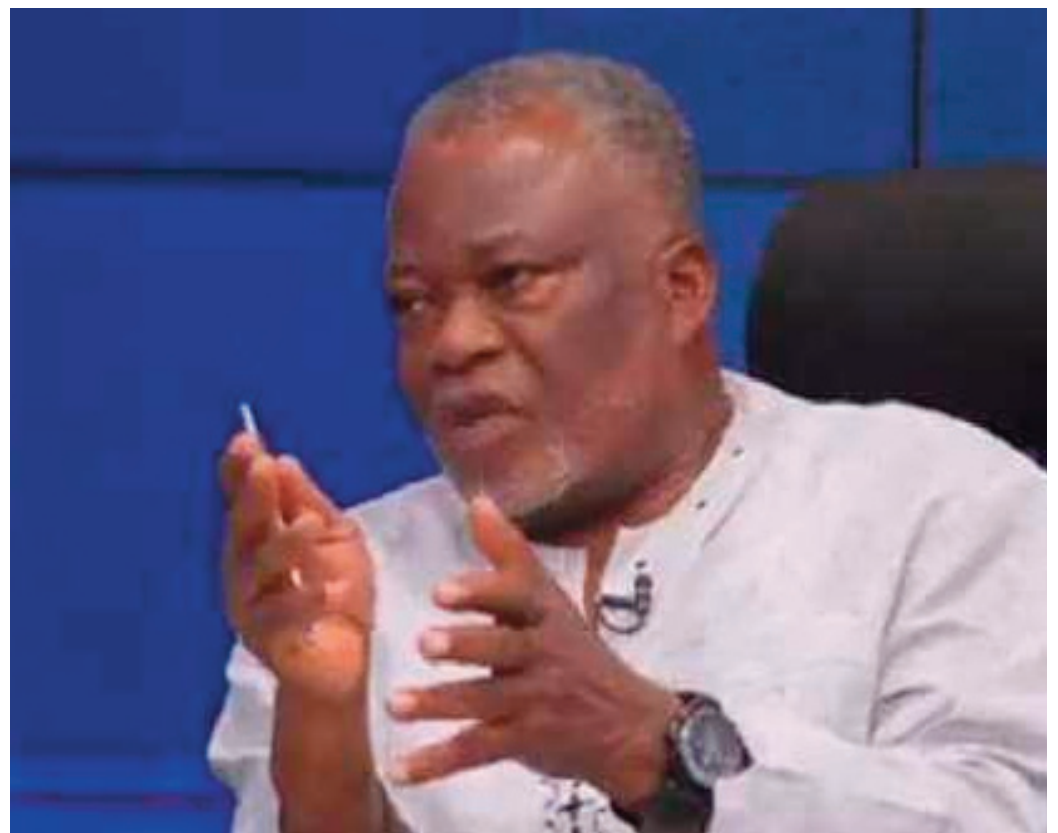
The brief recommends immediate reforms restructuring military deployments by withdrawing military personnel from VIP protection duties, ending military involvement in commercialised security operations, and returning units, establishments and troops to core national defence functions.

It also wants military appointments and promotions reformed by restoring merit-based selection processes, implementing transparent promotion systems, and establishing clear criteria for senior positions.

“Strengthen civilian oversight by enhancing parliamentary supervision mechanisms, establishing clear accountability frameworks, and implementing robust monitoring systems.

“Reform military deployment protocols by creating clear legal frameworks for domestic operations, establishing strict authorisation procedures, and developing specific rules of engagement consistent with human rights and international humanitarian (IHL) laws.

“Transform the National Security apparatus by removing armed military units and individuals and establishing constitutional boundaries,” he said.



Ablakwa Rejects \$350 Million Tax Waivers Proposal By Majority Caucus - Leo Nelson

The Member of Parliament for North Tongu, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, has rejected the tax waivers policy proposed by the majority caucus in parliament. In a passionate address, he emphasized that the people of Ghana had voted for change and a reset of the country's governance trajectory.

Ablakwa described this fiscal burden as unfair and detrimental to the nation's economic health, particularly at a time when ordinary Ghanaians continue to endure financial hardship.

He questioned; "Why do you want to incur the incoming government with this huge fiscal burden on crony companies?"

Ablakwa criticized the lack of transparency in the selection process for companies receiving these tax waivers.

He questioned the criteria and argued that, instead of prioritizing tax reprieves for a select few, the government should focus on alleviating the financial burden on ordinary Ghanaians.

"We are the only country in the world still paying a COVID-19 levy, long after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 no longer a pandemic. Why is this government keeping e-levy, keeping betting tax, keeping emission tax, keeping COVID levy?"

He reiterated the NDC's commitment, led by President-elect John Mahama, to remove these "nuisance taxes" to provide relief for the masses.

According to Ablakwa, prioritizing tax waivers for crony companies undermines this agenda and worsens economic inequality.

The Majority caucus proposed a compromise, suggesting they would consider the demands of Ablakwa and his colleagues only if they forego any planned expenditure.

Ablakwa condemned this proposal, describing it as irresponsible and an attack on



Ghanaian workers.

"That cannot be fair. That is the height of irresponsibility. What they are saying in effect means that they don't want Ghanaian workers to be paid in January, February, and March.

Why do you want to use Ghanaian workers as human shields because you want to create a tax waiver regime for crony companies?"

"This is why you suffered the most humiliating political defeat in the history of our country, and they still won't learn. Why do you want government workers to suffer just because of a few crony companies?"

Ablakwa questioned the government's justification for the tax waivers, which they claimed were necessary to expand businesses and create employment.

He dismissed this reasoning, citing the failure of the One District One Factory (1D1F) initiative to address unemployment.

"How can you be implementing 1D1F and yet unemployment worsens?"

Unemployment has shot up from 8% in 2016 to 14.7% as we speak," he queried.

"I am a Member of Parliament for a constituency whose industries have all collapsed under this government. Juapong Textiles has collapsed. Workers are at home. The factory is shut. It's all a sham. It's a big joke. It's a scam." he remarked.

In furtherance, he cited past examples of failed projects, including tax incentives given for unbuilt hotels and the infamous Sky Train project.

Do you know that they give tax waivers to cronies, in-laws of the president who said they were coming to do hotels? Nothing has happened today. Where is the money given to those people who said they were coming to build a Sky Train? We have lost so much money because of these corrupt state capture schemes."

He maintained that the \$350 million in tax waivers could be better used to fulfill important manifesto pledges such as establishing a Women's Development Bank, implementing no admission fees for first-year university students, and reequipping hospitals. He added;

"That \$350 million can help us address our manifesto pledges, including compensating the victims of the spillage by the VRA from the Akosombo Dam."

In addition to rejecting the tax waivers, Ablakwa criticized the sudden inclusion of a €140 million procurement deal for ships for the Ghana Navy.

"We object to this because this was smuggled in. The speaker announced that he didn't even know about it. There's no value-for-money report and no due diligence. A new government is coming, so why the rush?"

Ablakwa's address underscored a firm stance against what he described as irresponsible fiscal policies and corrupt governance.

"If we allow them, we will be complicit. The way the Ghanaian voter is angry, we don't want to suffer a similar fate in the next election. These tax waivers will not receive our support."

He called for prioritizing the needs of ordinary Ghanaians over crony interests and reiterated the NDC's commitment to transparency, accountability, and economic fairness.

2024 Election Outcome; A Peoples Revolution Against Akufo Addo - Nyaho Tamakloe - Leo Nelson

A founding member of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), Dr. Nyaho Nyaho Tamakloe, has described the outcome of the 2024 elections as a "revolution" by Ghanaians who were fed up with the Akufo-Addo government. In an interview on TV3, monitored by the New Republic, Nyaho-Tamakloe emphasized that the results were a clear sign of the public's dissatisfaction with the ruling government. He argued that the election was not just about political party interests but reflected the will of the people who were "sick and tired" of the government's actions.

"For me, it was the People's revolution because if you study carefully how the results were announced, you would know that this is not a political party affair, it is the people's revolution. The people of this country have shown clearly that they are sick and tired of this government and that is what brought out the results," Nyaho-Tamakloe said.

He further warned the political class that the outcome should serve as a serious lesson for them, urging politicians not to take the electorate for granted. "This should be a very strong signal to the political class that they cannot take the ordinary person for a ride for a long time," he said.

Nyaho-Tamakloe also cautioned that the future leadership of Ghana must be held accountable for the country's well-being.

"Whoever is going to be responsible for this country should sit up because if the person fails us, the country is going to be a disaster," he warned. In the aftermath of the NPP's significant loss in the 2024 elections, Nyaho-Tamakloe advised the party to re-assess its leadership,

suggesting that the current leadership does not accurately reflect the true values and ideals of the NPP. He believes that for the party to regain public trust and support, substantial changes need to be made.



THE NEW REPUBLIC ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

Fiscal Traps Loom for Ghana's Incoming Government - Leo Nelson

The Honorary Vice President of IMANI Centre for Policy and Education, Bright Simons has raised alarm over what he described as looming fiscal traps awaiting Ghana's next government, led by the National Democratic Congress (NDC). His sharp critique comes amidst allegations of financial improprieties and poor governance during the current administration's final days in power. "Watchers of Ghana politics must have heard complaints from the NDC incoming gov't's side of the ongoing transition of political power concerning tens of millions of dollars being paid out to a vendor of the state-owned electricity utility at this late hour with the NDC claiming to have blocked this payment for now."

While the NDC claims to have blocked the payments, the seasoned policy analyst painted a gloomy picture of the fiscal crisis the next government is set to inherit.

"The episode would make some think that the task of lessening the effect of the fiscal bomb awaiting the NDC when it takes office in January 2025 would involve a lot of cloak & dagger and undercover moves to retrieve stashed loot under beds and in foreign tax havens," Bright Simons remarked, adding that such efforts have historically failed to meet expectations.

Bright Simons further pointed to the government's ambitious Agenda 111 initiative—a plan to construct 111 hospitals and clinics—as a prime example of fiscal mismanagement.

Launched under the pretext of addressing COVID-19 healthcare gaps, Bright Simons contended that the project was initiated without adequate budgetary provisions or a clear medium-term expenditure strategy.

"The Health Ministry was not directly involved in strategy, so there



are no plans on how to stock these "111" large hospitals/clinics, staff them, or provide for their maintenance. Nor is it clear from which department's budget these costs will be serviced."

He alleged that everything was orchestrated from the Chief of Staff's Office at the Office of the President, with contractors handpicked for the multi-billion-dollar opportunity.

Key beneficiaries of the contracts according to Bright Simons include renowned architect David Adjaye and luxury estate developer Buena Vista.

"No one really knows how much the whole spread will cost. In 2021, \$100 million was released to get things started and pay "mobilisation". Since then, reports say a further \$300 million has been released to contractors - None of the hospitals have been fully completed and certified as built to the requisite clinical standards. It is up to the next government to foot the bill."

Bright Simons also pointed out that the total cost of the project remains opaque, with estimates ranging from \$1.45 billion to an alarming \$7.5 billion—a figure that dwarfs the \$3 billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout package Ghana secured earlier this year.

The IMANI's Honorary Vice President expressed bewilderment at the IMF's seeming approval of the government's spending spree despite the country being under a program designed to constrain expenditure.

He noted that nearly 70% of the IMF's \$3 billion support has already been disbursed to the current administration, ostensibly for "good performance", asserting that most of the painful structural reforms, however, have been left for the next government to tackle.

The IMANI executive predicted that the incoming government may face no choice but to revise Ghana's macroeconomic indicators, including fiscal deficit and true debt levels, fol-

lowing a comprehensive audit.

These revelations, he hopes, could lead to renegotiations with the IMF to adjust program targets and potentially increase the financing package.

Bright Simons' remarks underscore a broader call for greater transparency and accountability in the management of state resources. "It is shocking that no one is talking about these liabilities, which could overshadow even the energy sector arrears feared to trigger another round of power outages," he cautioned.

As the new government, prepares to take over the affairs of state, Bright Simons' warnings add a critical dimension to ongoing debates about fiscal responsibility and governance.

The new administration will undoubtedly face immense pressure to address these challenges while managing public expectations for swift economic recovery.

WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

Stock Market	Wk Open (13/12/24)	Wk Close (05/12/24)	Change
GSE-COMPOSITE INDEX LEVEL	4,733.62	4,738.49	-4.87
GSE-COMPOSITE INDEX LEVEL YTD (%)	51.22%	51.38%	-
GSE-FINANCIAL STOCKS INDEX	2,370.11	2,368.17	1.94
GSE-FINANCIAL STOCKS INDEX YTD (%)	24.64%	24.54%	-
GSE-COMP. INDEX MARKET CAP. (GH¢ mil)	109,159.51	109,219.13	-0.05%
VOLUME TRADED	5,038,066	16,513,095	-69.49%
VALUE TRADED (GH¢)	36,254,100.83	7,832,771.00	362.85%

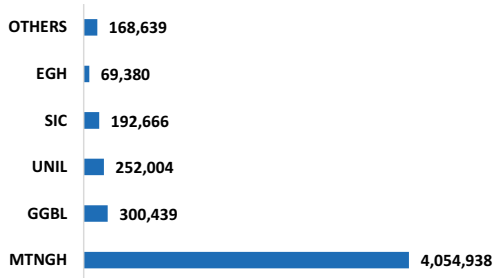
MARKET MOVERS

GAINERS					LOSERS				
Equity	Wk Open	Wk Close	Wk Change	Wk Change %	Equity	Wk Open	Wk Close	Wk Change	Wk Change %
MTNGH	2.38	2.40	-0.02	-0.83%	GLD	385.51	388.59	3.08	0.79%
GGBL	5.10	4.70	0.40	8.51%					
UNIL	17.99	17.00	0.99	5.82%					
GCB	6.35	6.30	0.05	0.79%					
TOTAL	12.92	12.90	0.02	0.16%					
SIC	0.27	0.25	0.02	8.00%					

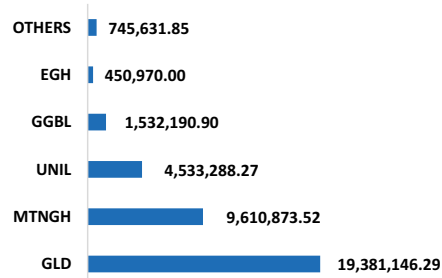
MARKET ACTIVITY (09/12 – 13/12/24)

Date	Days	Volume	Value GHC	Composite Index (GSE-CI)
09/12/2024	Monday	404,433	2,864,595.19	4,706.49
10/12/2024	Tuesday	3,774,871	8,558,888.14	4,706.80
11/12/2024	Wednesday	199,547	1,174,933.36	4,708.05
12/12/2024	Thursday	606,956	13,651,400.71	4,722.95
13/12/2024	Friday	52,259	10,004,283.43	4,733.62

Volume Movers



Value Movers



MARKET SUMMARY

The Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE) experienced a decline in the trading week of December 09-December 13, 2024. The exchange saw 5,038,066 shares traded, which was however valued at GH¢ 36,254,100.83. This marks a significant increase in turnover of 362.85% from the previous week. The market capitalization currently stands at GH¢ 109.16 billion. During the week, six stocks posted gains, while one recorded loss.

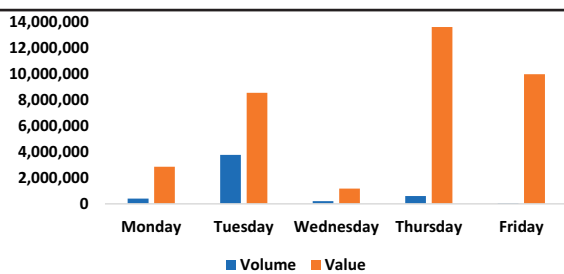
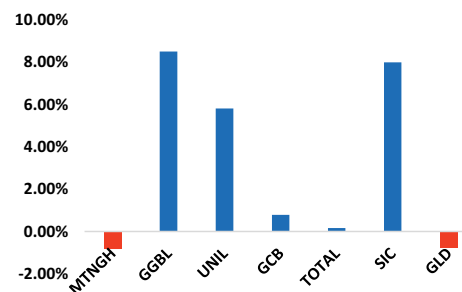
MTNGH led the top five equities with 4,054,938 shares traded, followed by GGBL (300,439), UNIL (252,004), SIC (192,666) and EGH (69,380).

YEAR-TO-DATE PRICE MOVERS

Gainers	Year Open	Current Price	Change
UNIL	8.11	17.00	109.62%
ETI	0.15	0.31	106.67%
GCB	3.00	6.30	85.29%
MTNGH	1.40	2.37	69.29%
TOTAL	7.55	12.90	43.33%

Losers	Year Open	Current Price	Change
CAL	0.44	0.34	29.17%
EGL	1.95	1.98	17.15%
MMH	0.11	0.10	9.09%
DASPHARMA	0.40	0.38	5.00%
SOGEGH	1.57	1.50	4.46%

Market Price Movers



GBPGHS	18.6058	18.6259	18.6159	18.9645	-1.84%	23.94%
EURGHS	15.4688	15.4842	15.4765	15.7179	-1.54%	18.79%
GHSXOF	42.3630	42.4052	42.3841	41.7331	1.56%	-15.82%
CHFGHS	16.4989	16.5153	16.5071	16.9092	-2.38%	17.66%

T-Bill	Week Open		Prev. Week		Change	
	Discount	Interest	Discount	Interest	Discount	Interest
91 Day Bill	25.9706	27.7739	25.6102	27.3621	1.41%	1.51%
182 Day Bill	24.9392	28.4920	24.6368	28.0980	1.23%	1.40%
364 Day Bill	23.0432	29.9430	23.0055	29.8794	0.16%	0.21%

Macro-Economic Indicators

Indicators	Week Open	Prev. Week Close	Change
INFLATION (%)	23.00%	23.00%	0.00%
BOG POLICY RATE (%)	27.00%	27.00%	0.00%
INTERBANK INTEREST RATE (%)	27.04%	27.01%	3bps

Source: Ghana Stock Exchange, Doobia, GSS, Bloomberg.

NEWS UPDATE

Oversubscription in Treasury Bills

The government achieved an oversubscription in its treasury bills auction on December 13, 2024, marking the first time this month it has met its borrowing target. According to results released on December 16, 2024, the auction attracted a total of GH¢8.20 billion in bids. Out of this, GH¢6.740 billion was allocated to the 91-day bill, GH¢951.67 million to the 182-day bill, and GH¢508.15 million to the 365-day bill.

This week's auction surpassed the previous week's performance, where the government raised GH¢5.199 billion. The interest rates for the latest auction were set at 27.77% for the 91-day bill, 28.49% for the 182-day bill, and 29.94% for the 365-day bill.

With limited access to international capital markets, the government has increasingly relied on treasury bills as its primary borrowing tool. For the upcoming week, it aims to raise GH¢5.463 billion through another auction.

DISCLAIMER

This data is accurate from sources we believe are reliable for information purposes.

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Man Arrested for Vandalising Property at Parliament

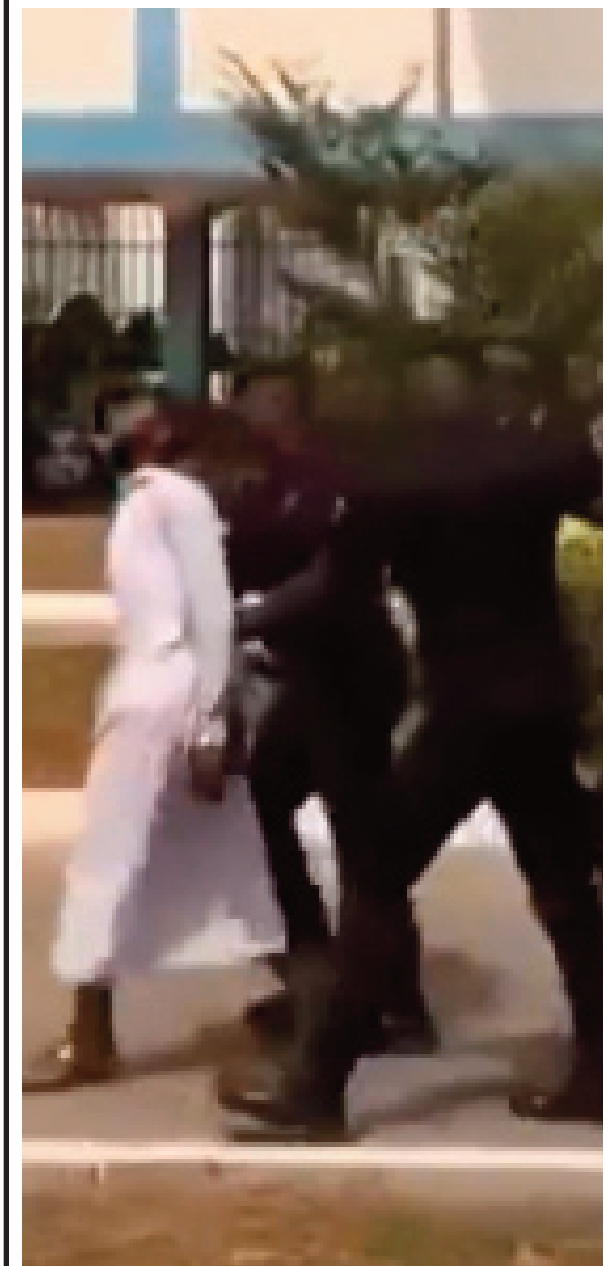
A young man has been arrested for vandalising several cars and other property on the premises of Parliament in Accra.

The suspect, dressed in white clothing, reportedly smashed the windscreens and windows of about seven vehicles parked in front of the parliamentary buildings.

Eyewitness accounts suggest the man appeared to be mentally impaired, though his exact motive remains unclear.

"Daddy don't kill them. Daddy don't destroy my people," he was heard shouting as he was whisked away while looking up to the sky.

Police officers on duty intervened, apprehending the suspect to prevent further damage.



Haruna Iddrisu Affirms Mahama's Commitment to Accountability and Responsible Leadership - Leo Nelson

The Member of Parliament for Tamale South and former Minority Leader, Haruna Iddrisu has asserted President-Elect John Dramani Mahama's dedication to humility and accountability as he prepares to assume office on 7th January 2025.

Speaking with confidence, Haruna Iddrisu expressed deep gratitude to the Ghanaian people for their continued faith in Mahama's ability to return to the presidency, emphasizing the qualities that would define his leadership and the future of Ghana under his guidance.

He assured the general public that President Mahama's incoming administration would avoid the arrogance that he believes has defined the New Patriotic Party (NPP) government.

"So be sure that President Mahama will run a government with ministers who will be humble, who will uphold humility as a hallmark and requirement of the president - President Mahama will also avoid abuse of the office with impunity. So the return of President Mahama marks the end to impunity: the times of I won't listen to anybody. I will do as I please. You walk away as you please."

According to Haruna Iddrisu, President-Elect Mahama is committed to ensuring that power is exercised responsibly, with an emphasis on listening to the people and avoiding arbitrary governance.

A key point in the NDC Member of Parliament's remarks was President-Elect Mahama's commitment to reducing the size of government, a pledge the former president made to the Ghanaian people.

Despite concerns raised by some about Mahama's ability to deliver on this promise, Haruna Iddrisu was firm in his assertion that the National Democratic Congress 2024 Presidential Candidate will honor this pledge.

He explained that John Mahama intends to run a government with a maximum of 60 ministers, significantly down from the current administration's bloated cabinet.

Mahama Iddrisu outlined the structure of the proposed government, with President-elect Mahama likely to oversee 23 ministries, which will include 19 cabinet ministers, four ministers of state, and their deputies.

Additionally, Haruna Iddrisu indicated that 16 regional ministers will be appointed to represent the President in the respective sixteen regions, resulting in a leaner, more

focused government structure.

He also responded to questions about the necessity of deputy regional ministers, citing the current NPP administration's decision not to include deputies for regional ministers.

Iddrisu confidently stated that Mahama's 60-minister cabinet would respect his commitment to fiscal prudence, ensuring that public resources are safeguarded by cutting down on the financial burden of an oversized cabinet.

In response to concerns about the high expectations among party members and supporters who hope for government appointments, the Tamale South lawmaker was clear about President-Elect Mahama's focus on accountability.

He acknowledged the heightened public expectations but stressed that President-Elect Mahama's priority would be to manage public resources responsibly and ensure that all those in government are held accountable to the law.

"Public expectations are very high, but what the Ghanaian people require from President Mahama is to exact accountability for the people," Iddrisu said.

He reiterated that President Mahama would ensure transparency and fiscal responsibility, making sure that any mismanagement of public resources would not go unchecked.

Mahama Iddrisu's remarks reflect a clear message that Mahama's leadership would be characterized by responsible governance, a sharp contrast to what he perceives as the current government's lack of accountability.

Concluding his remarks, Haruna Iddrisu expressed confidence that President Mahama would not disappoint the people of Ghana. "He will not disappoint the Ghanaian people," he asserted, signaling a hopeful future for the country under Mahama's leadership.



Beyond Surface-Level Discontent: Unravelling the NPP's 2024 Electoral Defeat — Leo Nelson



The recent electoral loss of the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP) has ignited a flurry of analyses and speculations across Ghana's political landscape.

While many attribute the defeat to immediate factors such as candidate unpopularity or short-term policy missteps, a deeper examination reveals a more intricate network of voter dynamics.

In a detailed analysis, Bright Simons, Honorary Vice President of the IMANI Centre for Policy and Education offered a compelling perspective that challenges the conventional narratives surrounding the ruling party's setback.

"If you are like most Ghanaians, you've heard enough about why the NPP lost this year's elections, etc. One point though has been misconstrued. True, that folks like me said more than a year ago, using by-election data, that a significant part of the NPP's base won't turn up in the general elections."

According to Bright Simons, the NPP's base is not monolithic but layered, forming what political scientists term a "winning coalition."

He added that this coalition comprises various tiers of support, each with different levels of commitment and resilience to the party's appeal.

He pointed out that the outer layers of a political base are particularly susceptible to disassociation when the party's appeal wanes, implying that these voters, while loyal under favourable conditions, can easily drift away in the face of diminished enthusiasm or changing priorities.

The IMANI's Honorary Vice President emphasised that while some of these outer-layer voters may switch allegiance to alternative parties, a substantial number simply disengage, eroding the foundational support that parties like the NPP rely upon.

Historical precedents underscore this phenomenon with Bright Simons indicating that the Convention People's Party (CPP), once a dominant force with a robust base in regions like Ashanti, experienced a dramatic decline post-independence.

He argued that the belief that disenfranchised voters would inevitably return after their grievances were addressed proved disastrously incorrect.

Many people also forget that it is barely two decades ago that PNC was winning seats in Bolga, Sisala, and Zebila. It has since seen a permanent disassociation of sympathisers. In simple terms, voters left and most never came back."

The renowned policy analyst strongly posited that a prevalent but flawed explanation for the NPP's loss is the notion that disgruntled party members are simply "sulking" over unmet material benefits.

He contended that while economic incentives undeniably influence voter behaviour, attributing a shift of approximately 1.7 million votes—from an initial lead of about 1 million—to mere dissatisfaction oversimplifies the issue.

Bright Simons argued that millions of voters altering their allegiance suggest a more profound realignment of values rather than temporary disen-

chantment.

This misalignment, he asserted could stem from various factors: evolving societal norms, changes in policy priorities, or a disconnect between the party's current platform and the electorate's aspirations.

According to him, when voters no longer identify with a party's core values, their disengagement becomes a reflection of a broader ideological shift rather than transient frustration.

For Bright Simons, understanding the root causes of electoral shifts is paramount for any political entity aiming to regain lost ground.

He rightly pointed out that recognizing whether voter disengagement stems from value misalignment versus temporary dissatisfaction is crucial.

The former necessitates a strategic overhaul of the party's foundational principles and policy directions, while the latter might be addressed through targeted constituency services and economic incentives.

Bright Simons emphasized that the danger of misdiagnosis is exemplified by historical outcomes, asserting that assuming that disenfranchised voters will naturally return can lead to complacency, allowing rival parties to consolidate their gains and further fragment the political landscape.

He noted that a precise understanding of voter behaviour dynamics is not just beneficial but essential for crafting effective strategies to rebuild and rejuvenate the party's base.

The NPP's recent electoral defeat is a wake-up call that transcends superficial explanations of voter dissatisfaction. As Bright Simons elucidates, the intricate layering of a political base and the potential for permanent dissociation demand a nuanced and strategic response.

Political parties must delve deeper into the evolving values and priorities of their electorate, ensuring that their platforms resonate with the foundational beliefs of their supporters.

It is only through such introspection and adaptation can parties like the New Patriotic Party hope to reconstruct their winning coalitions and secure future electoral victories.



Purported Mahama Appointments, Nominations False, Unauthorized - Bawah Mogtari — Leo Nelson

Special aid to President-elect John Dramani Mahama Joyce Bawah Mogtari, is urging the public to disregard appointments and omissions purported to have been made by President-elect John Dramani Mahama and making rounds on social media.

Accordingly, Bawah Mogtari urged the general public, especially those sharing the information to refrain from same, noting that the information was false and unauthorized by the office of the President-elect.

NDC's Supermajority Reflects Public Frustration, Mandates Urgent Reforms – Leo Nelson

According to Prof. Kwaku Azar Asare, four years ago, Ghanaians voted for a split parliament, reflecting a desire for balance and accountability. However, the recent shift to a supermajority represents a significant political realignment.

Prof. Asare noted that this dramatic swing highlights growing public dissatisfaction with the current system of governance.

He asserted that it also serves as a clear mandate for the 9th Parliament to prioritize comprehensive structural reforms aimed at addressing the underlying issues driving public discontent.

According to him, the message from the electorate is unambiguous, indicating that bold and transformative action is required to restore trust and improve the effectiveness of governance.

"Key priorities should include local government reform, legal education overhaul, judicial reform, a comprehensive code of conduct for public officials, financial management reform, campaign finance regulation, and anti-corruption measures."

Prof. Asare further called on the 8th Parliament to expedite its remaining duties by prioritizing the passage of the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2021.

He emphasized the need for urgency, urging lawmakers to complete the legislative process and forward the bill to the President for assent without delay.

According to him, timely action on this critical reform would demonstrate



Parliament's commitment to good governance, constitutional progress, and the fulfillment of its legislative mandate before the end of its tenure.

Meanwhile, Franklin Cudjoe, President of IMANI Africa, echoed Prof. Asare's sentiments, expressing surprise at the NPP's decision to form a committee to investigate the reasons behind its resounding defeat.

He remarked that the causes of the party's poor electoral performance should be self-evident, given the widespread public dissatisfaction with its governance.

According to Cudjoe, the severity of the electorate's response was a clear message that did not require a committee to decipher.

He suggested that, rather than wasting time on fact-finding, the NPP should

focus on addressing the underlying issues that triggered voter discontent, such as governance failures, unfulfilled promises, and declining public trust.

He remarked that the NPP exhibited "extreme laziness, rampant corruption, inherent arrogance, and a blatant disregard for public sentiment."

He further criticized the party for being populated by what he described as "clever clowns" — individuals who may be intelligent but whose actions ultimately undermined the party's credibility and performance.

Furthermore, Prof. Kwaku Azar Asare emphasized the importance of a comprehensive and objective post-election review by the NPP.

He stressed that the process must be thorough and free from bias, with the party's most capable and experienced minds leading the assessment.

The goal, he argued, should be to confront hard truths, identify the root causes of electoral setbacks, and develop a strategic roadmap for the party's renewal and future success.

Such an introspective exercise, Prof. Asare noted, is essential for rebuilding public trust, enhancing internal cohesion, and positioning the party as a more effective political force in the years ahead.

"The current leadership should have no involvement in assembling the post-mortem team and should ideally step aside in favor of an interim management committee to oversee the party's af-

fairs."

He also pointed out that the NPP campaign teams have effectively become "functus officio", meaning their official duties have come to an end following the conclusion of the electoral process.

With the campaign period over, their mandate to mobilize support and influence voter behavior has expired.

Prof. Asare implied that it is now time for the party to shift focus from campaign activities to introspection, accountability, and strategic planning for the future.

This transition, he suggested, is crucial for the party's reorganization and reorientation in the wake of the election's outcome.

He further criticized the NPP for continuing to engage in propaganda, arguing that the party has failed to reflect on its electoral defeat with the seriousness it deserves.

Prof. Asare observed that the party appears to have "learned nothing and forgotten nothing," suggesting a refusal to confront the realities of its setbacks.

By clinging to old tactics and rhetoric, the NPP risks missing a crucial opportunity for self-examination and growth.

Prof. Asare emphasized that genuine progress requires honest reflection, acceptance of mistakes, and a willingness to adopt new strategies that align with the evolving expectations of the electorate.

Showmax Relaunches in Ghana with MTN MOMO Payment

MultiChoice Ghana has re-introduced Showmax Africa's popular video-on-demand (VOD) platform at a pulsating event in Accra. Speaking during the launch event, Alex Okyere, Managing Director, MultiChoice Ghana, noted: "Today is a significant milestone for the entertainment sector. We are leveraging our experience in Film and Television to re-introduce our revamped Video-On-Demand (VOD) service Showmax to Ghanaians."

With the additional functionality of real-time payment with MTN MOMO and the backbone of the Peacock platform, Showmax users are in for an enhanced user experience. We are excited we have been able to restore payment



via MOMO and this marks a new era of accessible, high-quality VOD entertainment, thus supporting the nation's digital transformation and spotlighting local creative talent through world-class content at rock bottom prices."

Mr. Okyere added, "Our Showmax customers' ability to activate their Showmax accounts with MOMO will allow customers to access an exclusive selection of TV shows, movies, sports,

and documentaries via Showmax, making premium entertainment more accessible than ever before across multiple devices. Showmax offers a rich content library that includes both local productions and global hits, as well as the English Premier League."

The MOMO enablement perfectly aligns with our commitment to bridging the digital gap while transforming lives through technology. As smartphone

adoption continues to soar in the country, we are dedicated to enhancing the convenience of paying for all our services.

The launch of Showmax also emphasizes the importance of supporting local talent and productions. By featuring a variety of local content, the platform aims to elevate the voices of Ghanaian artists and storytellers, ensuring that their work reaches a broader audience. This initiative not only enriches the entertainment landscape but also contributes to the growth of the local creative economy.

Users can simply download the Showmax app, select their preferred package and pay with MTN Momo while on the go.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia Detains Uzbek Man Over General's Killing in Moscow

Russia's security service says a 29-year-old man from Uzbekistan has been detained over the killing of senior general Igor Kirillov and his assistant in Moscow.

Lt Gen Igor Kirillov, head of the Radiation, Chemical and Biological Protection Forces, was outside a residential block early on Tuesday when an explosive device hidden in a scooter was detonated remotely.

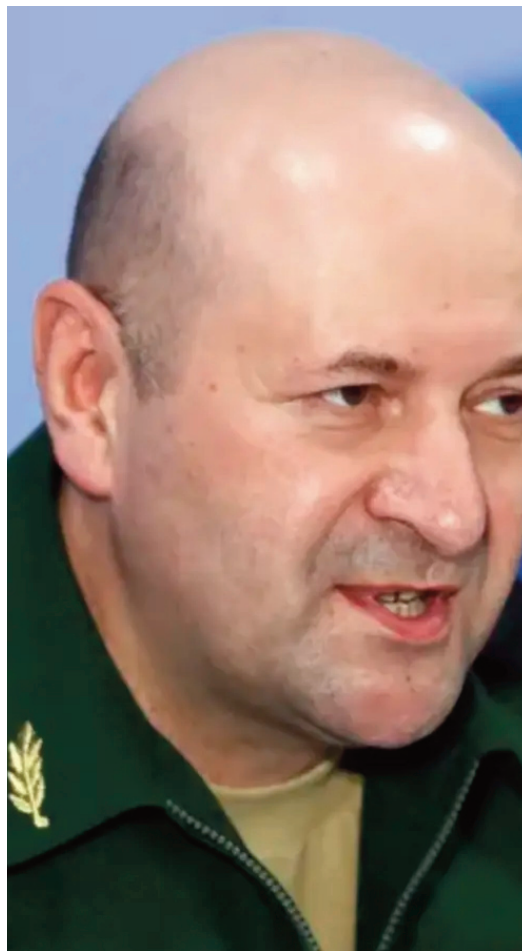
The Russian security service said the unnamed suspect was recruited by Ukrainian intelligence, according to state media agencies.

Ukraine's security service had already claimed it was behind the killing, a source told the BBC on Tuesday.

The Ukrainian source said Kirillov - who was Russia's chemical weapons chief - was "a legitimate target" and alleged he had carried out war crimes.

On Monday, the day before the killing, Ukraine charged Kirillov, 54, in absentia, saying he was "responsible for the mass use of banned chemical weapons". Russia denies the allegations.

The Russian Federal Security Service's (FSB) public relations centre said



on Wednesday the detained 29-year-old was "suspected of committing a terrorist act".

A statement said that during "interrogation he explained that he was recruited by the Ukrainian special services".

In a video published by the FSB, the purported suspect - a dark-haired man wearing handcuffs with what appears to be a visible rip in his coat - speaks directly to the camera.

He appears to say he was offered a reward of \$100,000 and permission to move to the European Union in exchange for killing Kirillov.

The FSB added that on Ukraine's instructions, he arrived in Moscow and received a homemade explosive device.

He placed the explosive device on an electric scooter, which he parked at the entrance to the residential building where Kirillov lived, the FSB said.

He then rented a car to monitor Kirillov's residence and installed a camera on the dashboard which livestreamed a video feed to handlers in the Ukrainian city of Dnipro, the statement added.

When they saw Kirillov emerge from the house, the suspect was told to press the button and detonate the bomb, the FSB said.

Kirillov is thought to be the most senior military figure assassinated inside Russia since the country invaded Ukraine nearly three years ago.

Alongside being charged by Ukraine, the 54-year-old had previously been sanctioned by the UK over the alleged use of chemical weapons in Ukraine.

Ukraine's SBU security service has claimed Russia used chemical weapons more than 4,800 times under the general's leadership.

Moscow denies this, and says it destroyed the last remainder of its vast chemical weapons stockpile in 2017.

Pictures from the scene outside Kirillov's apartment block in south-eastern Moscow on Tuesday showed the badly damaged entrance, with scorch marks on the walls and a number of windows blown out. Two body bags could also be seen on the street.

Also on Wednesday, the Russian Foreign Ministry said Russia would raise Kirillov's assassination at the meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Friday.

Russian officials have vowed to find and punish those involved in the killing.

Nigerian Man Promised Pardon After 10 Years On Death Row For Stealing Hens

A Nigerian man who has spent 10 years on death row for stealing some hens and eggs has been promised a pardon by the governor of the south-western Osun state.

Segun Olowookere was 17 years old in 2010 when he was arrested along with his accomplice, Morakinyo Sunday.

They were said to have attacked the home of a police officer and another person with an old-fashioned wooden gun and a sword but only got away with the poultry.

In 2014, Justice Jide Falola of the Osun State High Court sentenced the two to death by hanging after finding them guilty of forcefully breaking into the police officer's house and stealing his belongings.

There was an outcry across Nigeria at the time as many felt the sentence was too harsh.

The duo were subsequently moved to the notorious Kirikiri maximum security prison in Lagos state where they've been in the death row wing.

In a statement on Tuesday, governor Ademola Adeleke directed that Olowookere should be pardoned as it was important to protect the sanctity of life.

"I have directed the Commissioner for Justice to initiate processes to grant prerogative of mercy to the young man.

"Osun is a land of justice and equity. We must ensure fairness and protection of the sanctity of lives," the governor posted on X.

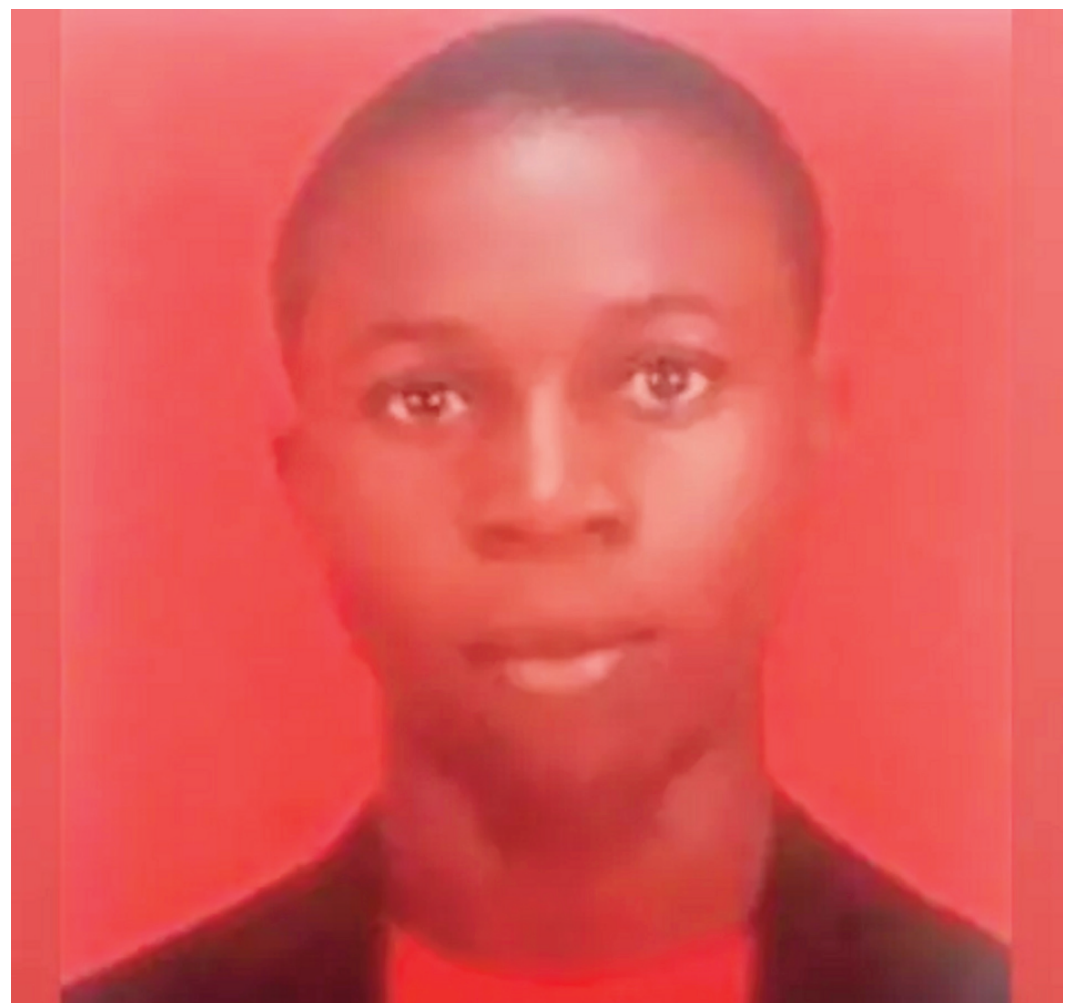
The fate of Morakinyo Sunday, who was sentenced alongside Olowookere, is unclear as his name wasn't mentioned in the statement.

For years, Olowookere's parents, human rights groups and other Nigerians have fought for his release.

His parents were recently on a podcast where they cried and begged for their only child to be pardoned.

He is expected to be freed early in 2025.

Nigeria has not carried out an execution since 2012 but there are currently more than 3,400 people on death row.



ENTERTAINMENT

'My God Will Not Forgive Anybody Who Wrote Evil About Me During My Accident' - KK Fosu

Ghanaian highlife musician, K.K Fosu, has recounted a traumatic accident he encountered on May 25, 2024, which involved a colleague musician, Bless of "Chocho Mu Cho," and another individual who was pronounced dead during the time of the accident.

In an interview on Kofi TV on December 17, 2024, K.K. Fosu, in a sorrowful moment, indicated that his God would judge anyone who said evil things about him during his time of tribulations.

He insisted that he had no hand in the death of the young man who passed away through the accident.

"It's not everyone we blog about. Anybody who blogged and wrote negative things about me, we are here and we live to see. Because anytime I remember the accident, I become sad, and people would sit and talk anyhow. But I have forgiven them, but my God will not forgive them. We are all here, and we live to see what will happen. I am not an Ewe, but I am married to an Ewe. Moreover, the God I worship is bigger than the universe.

"People believed that I was the one who went to kill the young boy for money rituals. I don't know how to create a human being, so how can I kill someone? God gave me a forgetful memory, so if someone offends me, I speak my mind and move on. And I speak to truth, so what I have not seen, I will not talk about it," he said.

Narrating why he didn't attend the funeral ceremony of the said young man.

K.K. Fosu noted that he was still attending to treatment after the accident.

"Yes! I was in the hospital in the Volta region. Before the burial ceremony, Bless called me, but we lost contact along the way... One thing I will tell

Ghanaians is that anytime an incident happens. They should take their time before criticizing. This is the first time I am granting an interview after the accident.

"But I have not recovered, so if there is anything we would do to help the family, Bless is now picking, but we would do our best. As I said, the reason why I couldn't attend the ceremony was that I wasn't well, also I was pissed off and pained because it wasn't by force for me to attend anyone's funeral moreover, the accident happened to the three of us," he added.

Background

On Saturday, May 25, 2024, two top Ghanaian musicians K.K. Fosu and Bless faced a fatal accident on the Accra-Apam Highway in the Central Region.

The car carrying the two singers and two others reportedly got into a head-on crash with another vehicle after an overtaking attempt went wrong.

Musician Bless suffered a broken leg and multiple injuries. Also, one person on board died at the scene of the accident.

**I Was Told Politics Is Not For 'Cantata' People – Actress Ebi Bright**

Ghanaian actress and newly-elected Member of Parliament for Tema Central, Ebi Bright, has shared a surprising revelation about her foray into politics.

Ebi, who is a career diplomat said she was out rightly dismissed for her political ambitions on a number of times when she went on campaigns.

In a recent interview with Graphic Showbiz, Ebi mentioned that she was ridiculed and mocked that politics wasn't suitable for people like her who come from a "Cantata" background. (Read also: We will deliver –Newly elected creative MPs, I'm not going to Parliament to fight for the industry, you didn't put me there- A Plus to creatives)

"I was told point blank that politics is not for 'cantata' people like me. I remember one man saying, "Does this girl think politics is the Cantata she acts?" This is how people are marginalised and I know my win will encourage many cre-



atives.

"I intend to move beyond partisanship and have a good strategy that serves the interest of the people of Tema Central," she said.

It has been a long battle for actress Ebi Bright who won the Tema Central seat at her third attempt on the ticket of NDC since 2016.

She told Graphic Showbiz she was glad she ignited the passion of her colleagues to take a look at politics when she made her first attempt to get to Parliament in 2012 which was

not on the ticket of NDC then.

Ebi Bright, who is also a Development Communicator and Career Diplomat, said her victory meant a lot to her, particularly when she won a seat generally regarded as a safe one for the ruling NPP.

"I don't see any barriers in the pursuit of my interests. That is why I have broken all the odds against me in this election. Tema Central was considered a very safe seat for the NPP but here we are today. I'm elated to be part of our next Parliament," she said.

'I Lied To Ghanaians To Save My Marriage' - Patapaa Ex-Wife Reveals

Liha Miller, ex-wife of Ghanaian musician Patapaa, has narrated how she tried to save her marriage from hitting on a rocky note.

In an interview with Zion Felix on December 16, 2024, Liha Miller noted that her marriage with the musician was a worse experience, and she has learned her lesson from it.

"I think I didn't do anything wrong with moving on because the marriage was already in shambles. I was very sure about my decision to get a divorce because I couldn't meet a new person today and had a different mind about going back to my previous marriage. I had to be very sure that my marriage could not be fixed anymore. I have talked to my family about the two, and they noticed he is not coming to me anymore, and we are not talking.

"So they started asking and how long was I going to lie. The way people and Patapaa are tarnishing my image is not fair. I have cried a lot

about this marriage. I tried to save this marriage," she said.

Miller added that she is waiting for the court to officially end her marriage with Patapaa before tying the knot overseas.

"The court marriage was in April, and life is moving. I am young, and I don't have a child. I want a husband, I want to come to my family and not a distant relationship and I need a man who is ready for it... There is no way that this marriage between Patapaa and I would work again. I tried, but more things happened. It took me some time before I realised that we were no more. And I am very sure Patapaa is aware because we have not spoken for years.

"I know some people would say I should forget it because our marriage is only in Ghana, but if I want to move on with my life, I have to close that case first. I don't want to leave two lives," she added.

SPORTS

I'm Ready for New Challenge – Marcus Rashford

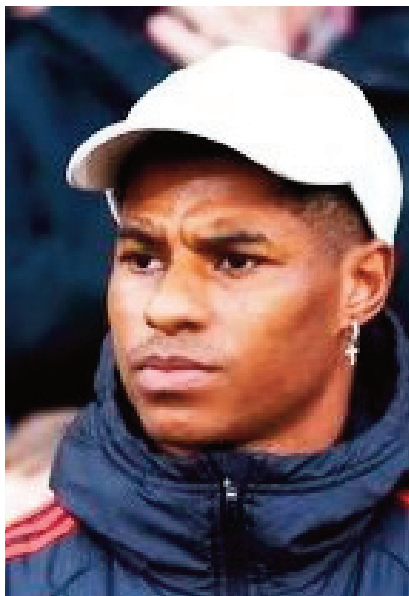
Manchester United forward Marcus Rashford says he is “ready for a new challenge” after being asked about his future at the club.

Rashford, 27, was dropped from the squad for Sunday’s derby which United won 2-1 against Manchester City.

New head coach Ruben Amorim confirmed that there were no disciplinary issues behind his decision, but he appeared to hint he had hoped to see more from the England player on and off the pitch during his first few weeks in charge.

In an interview with football writer Henry Winter published on X, Rashford said: “If I know that a situation is already bad I’m not going to make it worse. I’ve seen how other players have left in the past and I don’t want to be that person.

“When I leave I’ll make a



statement and it will be from me.

“When I leave it’s going to be ‘no hard feelings’. You’re not going to have any negative comments from me about Manchester United. That’s me as a person.

“For me, personally, I think I’m ready for a new challenge and the next steps.”

Rashford has scored 138

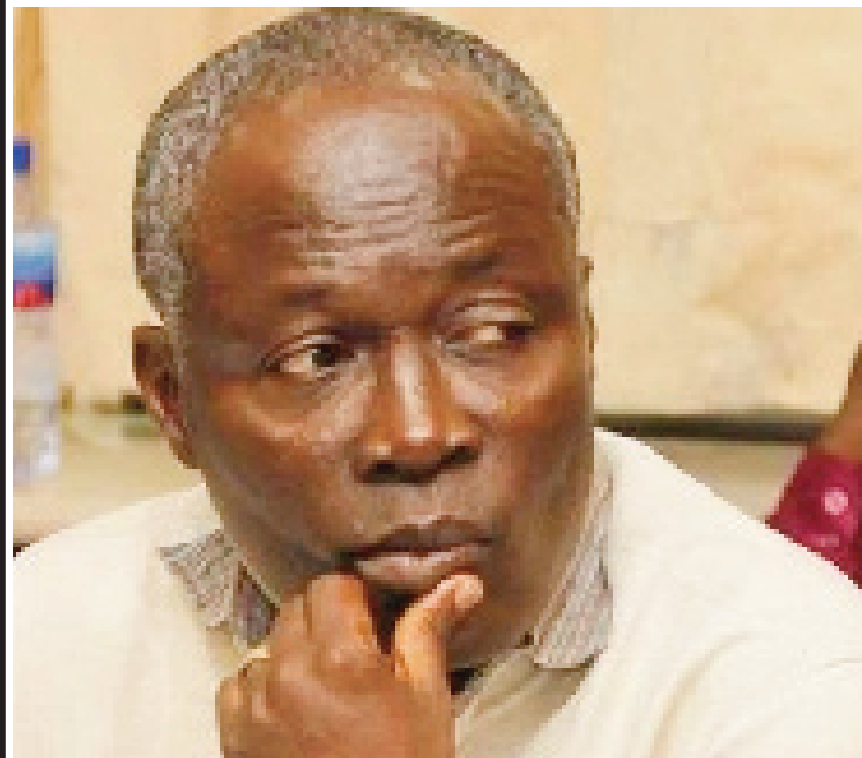
goals in 426 appearances for the club since making his debut in 2016, having come through the United youth ranks.

The 2022-23 campaign was his most prolific when he scored 30 in all competitions.

However, he has struggled for form over the past 18 months and attracted criticism from pundits and fans for a number of laboured displays.

When asked about his decision to omit Rashford and Alejandro Garnacho from his matchday squad at Etihad Stadium on Sunday, Amorim said: “It is important to say it was not a disciplinary thing.

Next week, next game, new life and they are fighting for the places. For me what is important is the performance in training, the performance in game, the way you dress, the way you eat, the way you engage with team-mates and push team-mates.”



Legendary Boxer Eddie Blay Deserves A Statue At Takoradi Not Akufo-Addo - Nii Lante Vanderpuye

Former Minister of Youth and Sports, Edwin Nii Lante Vanderpuye, has recommended the replacement of President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo's statue at Effia-Nkwanta with that of legendary Ghanaian boxer, Eddie Blay.

According to Vanderpuye, it is important that the story of boxing great Eddie Blay is told for the people of the Western Region to appreciate his greatness.

Speaking on the floor of Parliament, Nii Lante Vanderpuye stated that Eddie Blay has not been given the needed recognition and that building his statue at the center of the Western Regional capital will help.

“I will be happy if, instead of the President's statue at the Effiankwanta roundabout, we have Eddie Blay's statue there to tell people from the Western Region that it is not only Ekow Krane who exhibited wonders in boxing, but there was once an Eddie Blay,” he said.

The outgoing Member of Parliament for the Odododiodio constituency also expressed

conviction that Ghana could rival the United States of America if the right investment was made into boxing.

He explained that the country is blessed with talented boxers who can win Olympic medals and titles with the right investments.

“Boxing has achieved a lot for us. They’ve raised the flag of this country even more than football, but we don’t give it the attention it deserves,” he said.

“If we could give a percentage of the attention we give to football to boxing and other sporting disciplines, maybe, we will not always be languishing at the last position on the medal table at the Olympic Games.

“We may be squaring it up with the Americans, the British, the Australians, and the Chinese on the medal table. I believe seriously that if we really want to achieve much in sports, we must be ready to invest in the sport.”

Eddie Blay competed at the 1960 and 1964 Olympics and won a bronze medal in the 1964 edition.

LA 2028: Ghana Cannot Win Medal Without State Support – Bawah Fuseini

President of Ghana Athletics, Bawah Fuseini, has reiterated his plea for government’s support in a bid to claim a medal at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The nation’s long-standing medal drought was extended to 72 years at the championship after six athletes were unsuccessful in their attempts at the 2024 edition in Paris.

Bawah, who was elected Ghana Athletics president in August 2023, is determined to halt the medal drought but believes the government’s intervention is needed to make the target a reality.

“I am working seriously towards that [winning Olympic medal],” Bawah said in an ex-



clusive interview with JoySports.

“What I can say to the state of Ghana is that people have started preparing for the Los Angeles 2028. An Olympic medal is not won in a year, preparations start now and the preparations should not be left on the Federations.



“The state has a stake in how national team prepares for the Olympic Games. It is so huge that if we leave it for Federations to prepare for it, we will never get there.”

Ghana has won five medals at the global showpiece, four of which have come from boxing with the other in football.

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