



# WHATSUP NEWS

GHANA'S PREMIER E-NEWSPAPER

The number one breaking news hub | Traditionally unconventional

Thu. Sep. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | issue 387 | [www.whatsupnewsghana.com](http://www.whatsupnewsghana.com)  [whatsupnewsgh](https://www.whatsupnewsghana.com)

## GOVT'S EMPLOYS VOODOO ARITHMETICS TO CONFUSE STRANDED MICROCREDIT CUSTOMERS



**T**he voodoo mathematics of the Akufo Addo administration has been exposed in the latest announcement that it has released GHC3.56 billion in cash to fully settle locked up funds of depositors in the 370 microfinance companies that were collapsed by the government.

Incidentally, President Akufo Addo himself had said early August 2020 that over 98% of all funds of these stranded depositors have been settled.

"All those who had deposits in the banks, all of them, their monies have been refunded... Let me repeat it: All those whose savings were in the banks, all those savings have been refunded and paid to the people" President Akufo Addo told Koforidua-based Sunrise FM. Since then, the Finance Ministry, the receiver of these collapsed institutions and government appointees have

corroborated the president's statement.

A simple calculation will mean if 98% of the funds have been settled by the government, the GHC 3.6 billion announced by the government as the last tranche of the settlement will equal the remaining 2% that is outstanding. Essentially, the government is saying that the total funds locked up in the collapsed microfinance institutions and banks, total over GHC 117 billion or US\$ 23 billion.

This amount is almost half of Ghana's entire GDP!

However, the intrigue gets even more curious, because in December 2019, Finance Minister Ken Ofori Atta went to the Ghanaian Parliament to ask for GHC 15 billion as the total amount needed to settle the stranded customers of the collapsed microfinance institutions.

"In view of the foregoing,

and the need to protect the financial sector, Parliament is respectfully requested to consider and approve expenditure of up to Fifteen Billion, Six Hundred Million Ghana Cedis (GH¢15.6 billion) for the bailouts of depositors and investors; and for ensuring that liquidity in the financial system is improved thereby safeguarding the financial sector and the economy. This amount covers all the fiscal interventions in the financial sector starting 2017," the memo indicated in its conclusion," said Ken Ofori-Atta in a Memorandum sent to Parliament.

In the memorandum, he claimed the amount needed to settle microfinance and savings and loans customers is GHC 2.43 billion.

It, therefore, raises significant questions about the basis of the latest GHC 3.6 billion released by the Akufo Addo administration and the

basis for the entire calculation of the so-called locked up funds.

The serious discrepancies, coupled with accusations from affected customers that the government is engaging in deception, is giving a serious cause to worry about.

The affected customers numbering over 3.3 million people have threatened to vote against the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) for causing their predicaments. They have composed themselves into what is known as Association of Affected Customers of Savings and Loans institution which insist that the Akufo Addo's claims of repaying them is "untrue".

According to Ezekiel Anor, the head of the Association only about 297,000, which is less than 10% of the total number of stranded customers have received their monies.

From 2017, the Akufo Addo administration embarked on a contentious financial sector clean-up that has seen over seven indigenous banks collapsed, and almost 400 non-bank financial institutions closed down for an alleged liquidity issues.

However, critics have pointed out that the government deliberately collapsed these companies, leading to hundreds of thousands of lost jobs and some 3 million people losing their deposits.





## OKADA RIDERS REJECT GOV'T & BAWUMIA'S 'FAKE' PROMISE



**U**namused Motor Riders Association of Ghana (Okada) have rejected Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia's promise that the New Patriotic Party (NPP) administration will provide them with alternatives to their controversial trade.

Dr. Bawumia, against the tide of the rat race by the Ministry of Transport and other government appointees to hold "consultations" to legalise Okada, announced yesterday that the NPP will not legalize Okada but will provide an alternative and "safer means of transport" for the 600,000 people estimated

to be engaged in the commercial motorcycle business "Okada".

"(Okada riders) need to graduate from this risky and less risky Okada riding to a safer means of transportation," said Dr. Mahamudu Bawumiah at an MoU signing event with German carmaker, Volkswagen and another automobile manufacturer called Blacklvy, in Accra.

However, the riders have rejected the offer outright, saying they are not interested in any alternatives and that all they want is a proper legal framework and safety regulations that will make the burgeoning mode of trans-

portation safer for the significant number of Ghanaians who rely on their services.

"...The youth have already involved themselves so we are expecting regulations on it. We are Okada riders. We are not drivers so if they will give us a car, when are we going to learn to drive. Even if you are driving, still you are in danger. How many of us can you give us a car because we are thousands across the nation?" The National Chairman of the Association, Fatawu Ali, told Onua FM.

"We don't agree to that [the alternative arrangements promised by the

Vice President]. We like the Okada because even residents in the Vice President's village are using Okada. We need to find a safety solution instead of the car," Fatawu said.

Dr. Bawumia's announcement has totally messed up the government's narrative around Okada as it becomes clear that the Akufo-Addo government is not too sure of what to do with the Okada business question after the administration has strangely announced it was in "consultations" to legalise Okada after the flagbearer of the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) had announced that if voted into power in December, he will legalise the booming commercial business.

According to the NDC flagbearer, ex-President John Dramani Mahama, legalising Okada is one of his priority projects if voted into power in the December presidential polls.

Opponents of the Okada, business have pointed out the unenviable safety record of these commercial motorcycles. However, the group's Chairman said, comparatively, commercial cars are cumulatively killing or maiming more people in Ghana than motorbikes.





# WHATSUP NEWS

GHANA'S PREMIER E-NEWSPAPER

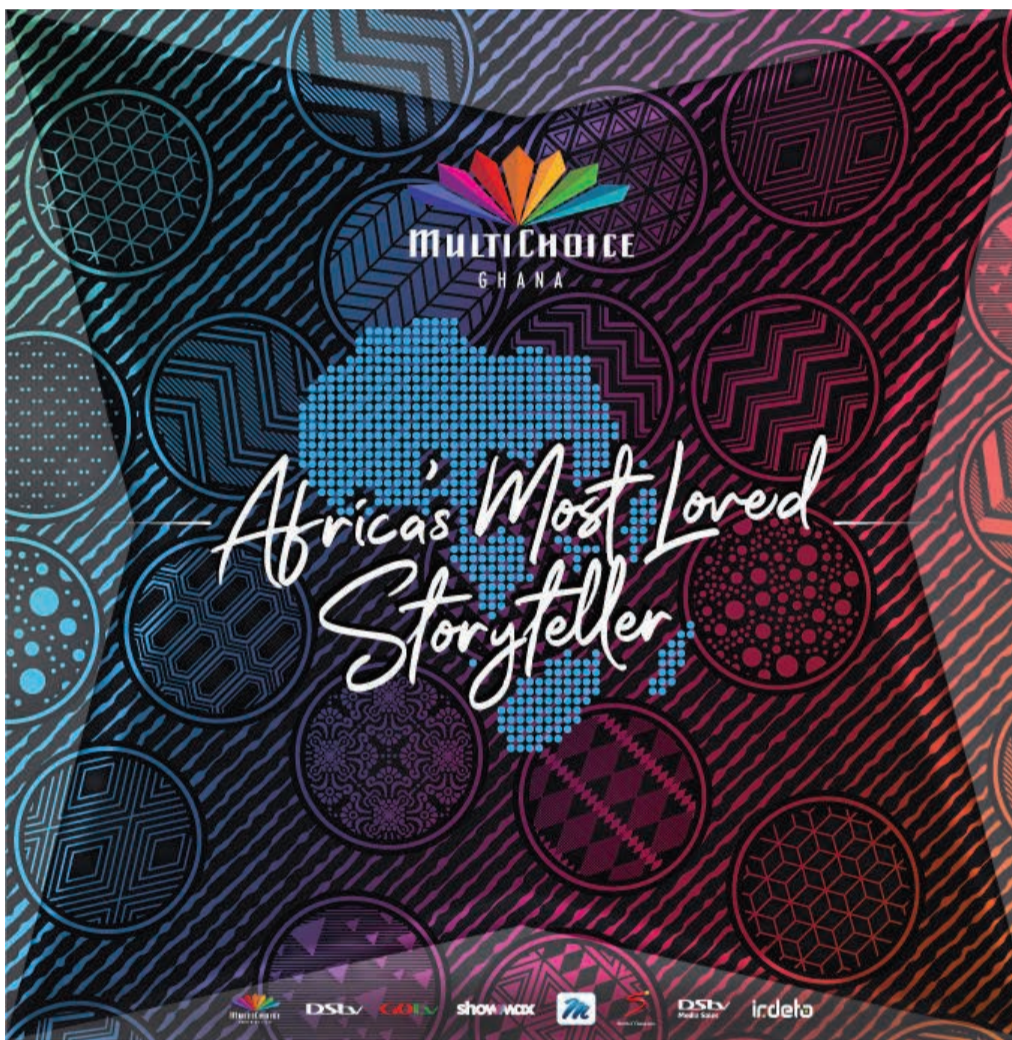
The number one breaking news hub | Traditionally unconventional

Thu. Sep. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | issue 387 | [www.whatsupnewsghana.com](http://www.whatsupnewsghana.com)

 [whatsupnewsgh](https://www.whatsupnewsgh.com)

## CELEBRATING AFRICAN STORIES TOLD BY AFRICANS

### Ten Thousand Stories and more from Africa's most loved storyteller; MultiChoice



Africa's most loved storyteller MultiChoice is committed to continuing the journey of storytelling for years to come. At the heart of this commitment is the desire to tell stories that resonate with Africans throughout the continent, stories that echo shared sentiments of triumph, success and growth, stories that share ideals, beliefs, embrace change and encourage diversity. It is through these stories that we can come together as one.

This promise to showcase the best of African storytelling is perfectly captured in the "10 000 Stories" promo which was launched as part of the recent Multichoice Media Showcase. This creative masterpiece was the brainchild of poet and writer Lebohang Mashango. It explores themes around diversity, innovation, local content, international content, sports and a general love for stories. Brought to life by Mashango and other talented African poets, it

is an ode to all who have been part of the journey, celebrating the legacy of the MultiChoice and the more than 10 000 stories which have been told over the years.

'I drew inspiration from Maya Angelo and the grand idea explored in most African philosophy. The idea that one individual is amplified when standing as a collective 'I come as one but, I stand as 10 000', the core of the poem is around collectivism and collaboration, something storytelling does so well. Stories are a way of preserving memories and making history and MultiChoice through its existence has made history, changing the ritual around coming together. The modes of viewing content may change with technological advancement, however, the essence of storytelling as preserving history does not change', Lebohang Mashango.

Multichoice has been telling African stories for over 20 years, reaching far and wide across the continent. Its DStv and GOtv platforms have continued to grow over the years, launching numerous local channels with more planned as the group increases its local content investment.

'Storytelling plays a

critical role in our society; it shapes the hopes and dreams of our youth – it cradles aspirations while positively changing pre-conceived ideas on what the world has to offer. It is through storytelling that many dreams are expressed, and it is through storytelling that our people learn that as much as we are diverse, we are also quite similar' says Cecil Sunkwa Mills, Managing Director, MultiChoice Ghana.

MultiChoice is determined to continue showcasing unforgettable stories that cater to a diverse audience. At the heart of MultiChoice's reason for existence is to provide customers with variety and choice, it is with this in mind that the company is focused on enhancing its innovation, value and local entertainment offering.

'We are proud to have been at the forefront of enhancing the local television industry, by investing in original productions which showcase authentic stories and talent across our continent. Great stories either reflect reality or create one, we are aiming to create a reality that is progressive, inclusive and forward-thinking.' Concluded Cecil Sunkwa Mills, MultiChoice Ghana, Managing Director.





## DANGER! AS EC VOTER REGISTER IS REPORTEDLY CORRUPTED



The Electoral Commission's (EC)'s scheduled voter exhibition on September 18, 2020, may not materialise following damning revelations that a bulk of the EC's voters data could have been lost or compromised.

The EC has already postponed the exhibition exercise twice—from September 11, 2020, to September 16, 2020.

WhatsUp News has been finding out from insiders that the EC's indecision is driven by a big problem that the EC's data transfer, and that voter records of many Ghanaians have allegedly been corrupted on the EC's servers and all attempts by the EC to retrieve them have proven futile.

Insiders tell Whatsup News that the curious post-

ponements are a result of the EC attempting to micro-manage the hot mess.

Whatsup News gathered that during the just-concluded new voters registration exercise, officials had done offline registration with intent to transfer data into the EC's system later.

However, when time came for the transfer to be effected, the EC's technicians realized that a lot of the data that had been captured offline had somehow been corrupted and made irretrievable.

In one Polling station where 2000 voters were registered, only 100 of the registrants' data was recovered, according to a source.

After the EC's technicians had tried for a long time and failed to retrieve the data, a decision was taken

to retrieve hard drives of the biometric devices and reset them in attempt to trick the system into opening up. However, the system responded by wiping out thousands of the captured data, sources say.

Already, the EC had hinted that the brand-new register is bloated with foreigners, and minors, and had appointed a committee to manually correct those alleged anomalies.

However, investigative journalist, Kevin Ekow Taylor thinks that the entire situation is part of a grand agenda of the EC to rig the December 2020 elections for the ruling NPP.

According to WhatsUp News sources, the Jean Mensah led EC is now munching on the idea of returning to the old voters' register. However, the conundrum with this tentative decision is that Constitutional Instrument (C1) 94, which governed the 2016 elections has been amended by Parliament.

The amendment was what made way for CI 126 which is supposed to govern the 2016 elections.

Sources say the EC is in a state of panic and is allegedly printing a lot of fake biometric cards which are reportedly going to elements of the ruling New Patriotic

Party (NPP).

According to sources, the data corruption mess on the hands of the EC means that the EC may likely be constrained to exhibit the register, constituency by constituency; rather than by Polling Station. In the new format, people with fake biometric cards can then have their data transferred to various constituencies where they can verify their names using the multiple formats that the new system is capable of.

Once such people are able to do multiple verifications, leeway is created for them to vote multiple times during elections.

Meanwhile, the new BVRs that the EC has brought into the country, are said to be only 5,000, a number that is very inadequate for the whole of the country which operates over 30,000 registration centres.

No official statement has been issued from the EC to explain the postponement as the reports of a data corruption gains ground.

Should these reports be confirmed, the EC boss, Jean Adukwei Mensah would have wasted some GHC 443 million which was the budget for the new register that critics fruitless contested as needless.

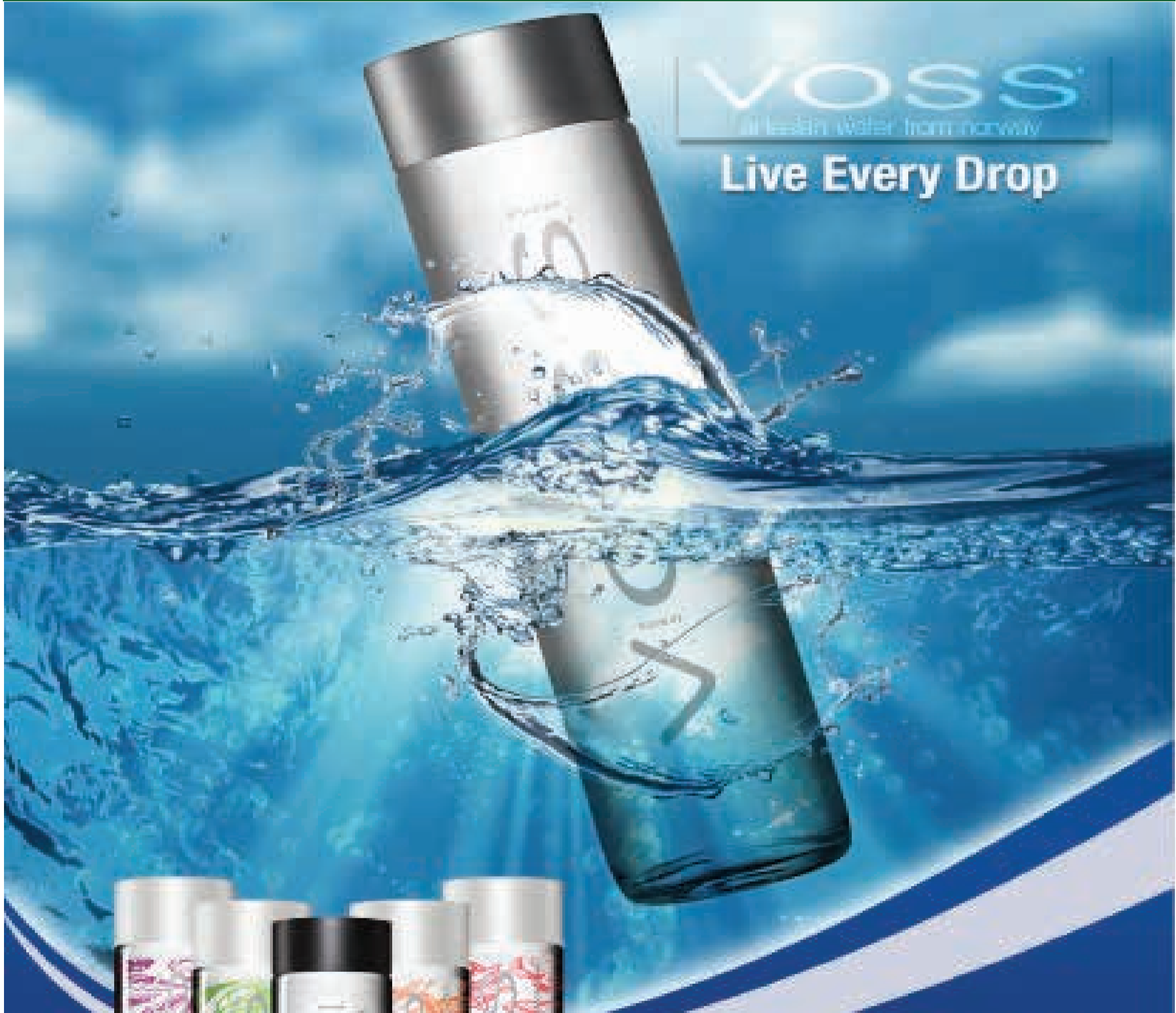


# WHATSUP NEWS

GHANA'S PREMIER E-NEWSPAPER

The number one breaking news hub | Traditionally unconventional

Thu. Sep. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | issue 387 | [www.whatsupnewsghana.com](http://www.whatsupnewsghana.com)    [whatsupnewsgh](https://www.whatsupnewsgh.com)



VOSS  
All leading water from norway

Live Every Drop



For Bulk  
Purchasing

Contact

WESTONE GHANA LTD  
F 893/2 Ring Road East – Danquah Circle, Dsu (Accra)  
P.O. Box CT 2000, Cantonment.

M: 024 466 6709  
055 565 6566

[info@westoneghana.com](mailto:info@westoneghana.com) | [westonegh@gmail.com](mailto:westonegh@gmail.com)



## MMT STAFF HIT WITH PAY TROUBLES



**S**taff of the Metro Mass Transit (MMT) have been told by management that there is no money to pay their salaries for August.

In a situation that is increasingly becoming a norm, staff began receiving their July salaries in the middle of September, and even that one, the pay-outs were queued.

An 11th September memo to staff from management said Management is do-

ing everything in its power to find money to pay staff and to ensure that payments are effected on time and that staff may have to get used to going for months without pay.

"This is to inform workers that it is the greatest desire of Management to pay workers' salaries for the months of July and August 2020 together and all efforts are being made in that regard," the MMT man-

agement explained.

However, whilst waiting for the expected support to accomplish this objective, Management has decided to start with the payment of July 2020 salaries to mitigate the financial burden on workers while "efforts to secure funds to absorb all outstanding salary obligations of the company continue," the memo said.

The gloomy memo was signed by the Human Resource Manag-

er, Eric Otu.

The unpaid salary issues of MMT have refused to go away since staff in Kumasi and Accra went on strike over salary delays months ago. Management had blamed the delays on a slowdown in business due to Covid-19 and had in a memo issued a veiled threat that staff who kept on complaining could be sacked.

Some of the striking staff had eventually been interdicted.





## LOAN-FOR-VOTES, IS A SCAM REPORT FRAUDSTERS - MAHAMA



**F**ormer President John Mahama has issued a strong caution to electorates particularly those in strongholds of his opposition party, to be alert about scammers collecting peoples' voter ID cards with the promise of giving them loans.

According to the flagbearer of the opposition National

Democratic Congress (NDC), it is a strategy adopted to disenfranchise a particular voting population in a bid to rig the 2020 elections.

The NDC 2020 Flagbearer who was addressing hundreds of people at a mini Durbar at Bassa in the Asebu East District urged the public to report anyone who attempts to lure

them under sub conditions to NDC party executives in the area because it is criminal to collect someone's voter ID card.

"They want to steal votes. So report them to the NDC executives to deal with them," he told the cheering crowd.

The former President noted that the Nana Akufo Addo led government is now

desperate after failing to fulfil promises and the campaign of lies which won them the 2016 elections, and it trying all tricks to outwit unsuspecting Ghanaians.

Meanwhile, the NDC 2020 flagbearer also pledged to reconstitute premix fuel

Committees which shall be solely managed by fishermen to ensure equitable distribution. He said his new government will also empower the various landing beaches to invest their profit I developing their areas as it happened during the Mills -Mahama administration.

He also promised to develop the landing beach at Kajeji to facilitate the movement of farm produce and commuters.



## AXIM IGNORES MAHAMA'S RUNNING MATE



**T**he township of Axim in the Western Region was virtually nonchalant towards Professor Jane Naana Opoku Agyemang, the running mate to former President John Dramani Mahama as she toured the town on her campaign trail.

Whatsup News has seen viral videos of a crestfallen Prof. Agyemang waving towards a virtually empty street at the heart of Axim, the capital of the Evalue Ajomoro Gwira Constituency of the Western Region of Ghana.

Axim township is known for its rock-solid alle-

giance to the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) and that was perhaps the signal to the NDC that it stood no chance in the town.

In contrast to the episode in Axim, Professor Jane Naana Opoku Agyemang has massive crowd in most of the towns she had visited

on her campaign tour.

As her entourage snaked through the Axim town, the NDC running mate who was standing through the top window of her V8 Vehicle, making the change signal with her hands to the residents, but the residents could not be bothered.





## CIVIL SERVANTS IN DANGER, FACE SACK AFTER 3 FAILED PROMOTION INTERVIEWS



**A** new government regulation under the Civil Service in Ghana will allow the sacking of civil servants and public sector employees who fail their promotion interview for three consecutive times.

The law regulation has been in

force since August 27, 2020 when the Civil Service Council accented to the new regime.

The Council by consensus has thus approved Section 4.23.8.2 of the Public Services Commission Human Resources Management Policy Framework and Manual for the

Ghana Public Services to update the law that states:

“A candidate who fails a promotion interview for two (2) consecutive times shall remain at that candidate’s position for another two years within which the candidate will be put on a Performance Improvement Pro-

gramme (PIP) before re-applying for consideration for promotion if vacancies are declared. Where a candidate fails an interview for the third time, the appointment of the candidate shall be terminated,” a portion of the new regulation read.

A circular issued by the Head of the Civil Service to all Chief Directors, Heads of Department said Ministries and Departments are expected to submit annual progress reports on the Performance Improvement Programmes of affected Officers prior to the next interview.



## WUNTUMI IS MOST FOUL-MOUTHED POLITICIAN-REPORT



**T**he Ashanti Regional Chairman for the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP), Bernard Antwi Boasiako, alias "Chairman Wuntumi" has been crowned as the most abusive and foul-mouthed politician on radio and television.

Wuntumi's new rating is consistent with that of his political party, which was also adjudged the party with the highest occurrence of indecent expressions for August.

The survey was conducted by the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), which pinpointed Wontumi's radio station, Wuntumi Radio in Kumasi as the conduit for this insults and barbaric behaviour.

"The August edition

of the Media Foundation for West Africa's (MFWA) Language monitoring on radio has cited the Ashanti Regional Chairman of the ruling NPP, Bernard Antwi Boasiako, also known as Chairman Wontumi, as the most abusive individual on radio."

"The NPP and Kumasi-based Wontumi Radio recorded the highest incidents of indecent expressions. Over the monitoring period (August 1-31), a total of 1,019 radio programmes were monitored on 15 selected radio stations across the country. The programmes included news bulletins, and political/current affairs discussions aired on the 15 radio stations", the 14-page report added.

Other personalities who

followed Chairman Wontumi are the Member of Parliament for Assin Central and owner of Ken City Media, Kennedy Ohene Ag-yapong (Hon.) and the host of Power FM's Inside Politics, Mugabe Maase.

According to MFWA, a total of 99 indecent expressions were recorded by 34 individuals.

The 99 indecent expressions consist of insulting and offensive comments, unsubstantiated allegations, threats, provocative remarks, expressions or comments promoting divisiveness.

The project of the MFWA is dubbed the "Promoting Decent Language and Issues-based Campaigning for Peaceful Elections in Ghana in 2020" is aimed at con-

tributing to peaceful elections through issues-based campaigning devoid of hate speech and indecent expressions that could heighten tension and feed into election-related violence.

In the breakdown, the NPP recorded 50 indecent expressions, followed by the National Democratic Congress (NDC) with 9, the Progressive People's Party (PPP) with 3 and the Ghana Consolidated Popular Party (GCPP) clocked 2.

Madam Akua Donkor's Ghana Freedom Party (GFP) and Percival Kofi Akpaloo's Liberal Party of Ghana (LPG) recorded 1 indecent expression each.

12 out of the 15 radio stations monitored recorded indecent expressions.

Kumasi-based Wontumi Radio recorded 34 indecent expressions on its morning show.

Pro-NPP Oman FM recorded 28 indecent expressions on two of its major programmes being Boiling Point (24) and National Agenda 4.

The National Media Commission (NMC), Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association (GIBA) and the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) have equally been encouraged to use these findings and subsequent ones to inform remedial actions and processes.





## AGYAPA IS AKUFO ADDO'S DESPERATION - DR. BUSIA'S DAUGHTER

**F**rema Busia, the daughter of Ghana's first and only Prime Minister, Dr. Kofi Abrefa Busia, has given a damning perspective on the Agyapa mineral royalties deal, saying the deal has more to do with the Akufo-Addo government trying to clean up his act after messing up Ghana's economy.

Incidentally, Frema Busia is the daughter of one of the foundational fathers of the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP).

Though, she points out that the deal is soaked in self-dealing by the President's cousin Finance Minister, Nana Frema Busia, points out that among other things, the strange decision by the government to incorporate Agyapa in a tax haven is a pointer to the fact that the government is on a desperate economy-salvaging mission.

"The Agyapa deal is a big deal because it is more of a desperate bankruptcy rescue mission, than a complex "Father Christmas" innovation to strengthen our wealth base," she writes.

According to Madam Busia, who taken the NPP on a number of occasions, President Akufo-Addo has ruined Ghana's finances and is trying to collateralize the



country's royalty inflows from mining for US\$1 billion to resuscitate the Economy.

"The Fact is, interest on debt has moved from GHC 10 billion in 2016 to GHC 26 billion under H. E. Akufo Addo dream team of financial experts. Debt to GDP ratio has also moved from 57% to 75% over the same period. Interest and debt amortization is GHC 38 billion per year as against gross revenue of GHC42 billion. This means we have hardly enough to fund recurrent expenditure let alone capital projects," she jabbed the Akufo Addo administration.

"We have obviously distressed our balance of payments and downgrad-

ed our international credit rating. The mortgaged future royalty payment that collateralize and underpin the lump sum payment / IPO has been described as not being a mortgage."

Madam Frema mocked the NPP government: "Our Vice President has even earned the unenviable title H.E. "Borrowmia". Indeed the globetrotting excessive borrowing by the "lalasulala" economic management team contradicts key promises. We have run into an economic stalemate. They have failed to harness the supposed sufficient internal revenue sources as promised."

Frema points out that the Agyapa deal was

cooked by Finance Minister, Ken Ofori-Atta and Senior Minister, Yaw Osafo Maafo, a conspiratorial fact that smells up with corrupt self-dealing.

And for their conspiracy, the two have rewarded themselves handsomely, with Osafo Maafo, positioning his son, Kofi Bosompem Osafo Maafo, as CEO of Agyapa, while Ken Ofori-Atta gets to position his investment brokerage firm, Databank Financial Services as transaction advisor, in what has been termed an "Akyem Mafia" squad.

Meanwhile, the beneficial members of the Mafia who has been fingered as another interested party in the transaction is Gabby Asare Otchere Darko, a powerful cousin of President Akufo-Addo, whose law firm, AAL, has been appointed legal advisor in spite of Ghana having an Attorney General.

While the deal's main aim is to salvage the country's comatose economy messed up by Akufo-Addo, Frema writes that creaming off money to oil the NPP's 2020 election campaign machinery is also in the detail, hence Ken Ofori-Atta's adamant stance that the deal will go through whether Ghanaians like it or not.





# WHATSUP NEWS

GHANA'S PREMIER E-NEWSPAPER

The number one breaking news hub | Traditionally unconventional

Thu. Sep. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | issue 387 | [www.whatsupnewsghana.com](http://www.whatsupnewsghana.com) [whatsupnewsgh](https://www.whatsupnewsghana.com)

## Public Sector Nurses And Midwives Declare Strike From Monday

The ailing public has been notified that from Monday, the 21st of September, they may have to turn to private health facilities for care because there will be no Nursing and other important support staff at the public hospitals to run to.

Nurses, midwives, Physician Assistants (PAs) and Anaesthetists (CRAs) in the public sector are withdrawing their services over what

they say are poor conditions of service.

"the general public is advised to seek medical attention from other health facilities," a statement from the Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives Association said.

The statement which is dated the 17th of September is signed by Perpetual Ofori-Ampofo, President of the Association.

The decision comes

after a series of meetings with the government over the health workers' condition of service. The first ended inconclusively after it was held on September 3, 2020.

Subsequently, there have been follow up meetings on September 15 and 16.

According to the Association, the government's stance throughout the negotiations has side-

stepped Act 651 of the Labour Law, Section 97 of which deals with issues of good faith for stakeholders.

"The proposal of the employer as reported cannot serve the economic interest of all nurses, midwives PAs and CRAs," the Association's release said.

It said Government's stance improved a little but was not enough to be accepted.

FINISHING TOUCH EVENTS PRODUCTION PRESENTS



*Miss Hotlegs Ghana 2020*  
The Maiden Edition  
—Grand Finale—

**Red Carpet:** 6pm **21st Nov 2020**

**Venue: Lloyds Beach Resort/ELLISA HOSPITALITY & HOTEL**

**TICKETS: V.I.P 50GH | REGULAR 25GH**

*For information on Sponsorship/Partnership/Collaboration*

whatsapp. +447922226658 +233208409452  
+2348060433232  
[www.misshotlegsafrica.com/miss-hotlegs-ghana/](http://www.misshotlegsafrica.com/miss-hotlegs-ghana/)

