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DECEMBER ELECTIONS UNLIKELY, GHC 400 MILLION WASTED, VOTERS DISENFRANCHISED

-As EC Is forced to Redo Scam Voters Register



associated with the re-compilation of the voters' register, the EC will have to exhibit the register once more, leading to an impossible juggle to make the register valid for the December 7, general elections.

The governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) Campaign Manager Peter Mac Manu appears to admit that whatever new names are compiled in the register once more, would be ineligible to vote at the polls in December.

At the IPAC meeting, the Jean Mensah-led EC admitted its monumental failure and has promised that it will conduct a remake of the registration exercise to capture who were duly issued voter ID cards less than three months ago but whose names are strangely missing from the register under ex-

After blowing a whopping GHC 400 million on the new voters register that was considered unnecessary, the Electoral Commission (EC) says it will conduct another round of voter registration exercise that threatens to derail the December 2020 general elections and has essentially criminally disenfranchised millions of eligible Ghanaian voters.

This was the conclusion from the Inter-Party Advisory Committee (IPAC) meeting today, Thursday, September 24, 2020, where the EC was confronted with the fact that its ongoing voters' register exhibition has revealed millions of names mysteriously omitted from the register which was compiled less than

three months ago. However, any register compiled now could be an illegal register as it is not likely to meet the mandatory 60 day grace period for a register to be compiled before the general elections. The National Democratic Congress' Director of IT, Kwame Osei Agyeman-Griffiths argued that aside, the timeline problems

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hibition.

It is unclear where the EC will get additional funds from to conduct the patchwork on the supposedly superior new voters' register after the Akufo Addo administration and the EC had arm-twisted Parliament to approve more than GHC 400 million to undertake a new register that thrashed the then-existing register.

The EC had argued against all criticisms, that the previous register had no issues, especially since it was the same register that the EC had used to conduct the 2016 general elections and three major elections afterwards, from 2017 to 2019. But Jean Mensah and her lieutenants at the EC had argued that the then-register was compromised with minors and foreigners, and that the proposed new register will eliminate all of those problems with "superior" facial recognition and

biometric systems.

This argument turned out to be a scam because less than a week after the new register was compiled, the EC itself admitted that the new register contained minors, foreigners and countless duplicates. In a rather unprecedented attempt to resolve the problem, the EC inaugurated a committee which it claims will manually correct the serious anomalies in the supposedly superior register.

A few days ago, Whatsup News gathered from EC insiders that that millions of voters data captured in the new register have been corrupted on the EC's system.

The informants explained that at its current state, the register cannot be used for the December 2020 general elections. The situation was so serious that the Flag-bearer and running mate of the NDC, John Dramani Mahama and Professor Jane Naana Opoku-Agyemang had

to cut their campaign tour short to tackle the mess caused by the Jean Mensah-led EC.

The EC started it the scheduled voter exhibition on September 18, 2020, for registered voters to confirm their details in the register, however, hundreds of thousands of voters who were duly registered a few months ago, discovered that their names have been cut out of the register.

Incidentally, these deletions appeared to have been predominant at the strongholds of the main opposition party.

The mess reportedly started when the EC attempted to transfer voter data onto its system. It was discovered that most of the data have been corrupted and irretrievable.

Apparently, during the just-concluded new voters registration exercise, EC officials had been instructed to do offline registration on the Biometric Voters Register machines (BVR) with intent to transfer data into the

EC's system later.

However, when the 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, for instance, 2000 voters were registered, but 100 names were retrieved from the data transfer. This means that if nothing is done, over 1,800 people who registered at the centre will not be able to vote during the elections.

Critics however, believe that the EC was attempting to use the register to rig the elections in favour of the governing party by padding the numbers in its political stronghold while deliberately deleting names of voters in the political strongholds of the opposition party.

With the desperate attempt to recompile the register, it appears the EC's reported plan had backfired.



LESBIAN SOLDIER ALLEGEDLY CAGED

A female soldier of the Ghana Armed Forces, Staff Sergeant Vida Owusu, who is reported to have illegally conducted a marriage ceremony with her female lover has been caged in a military guardroom, Whatsup News has gathered.

Viral videos on social media show the female soldier in what clearly appears to be a lesbian wedding ceremony last Saturday at the military base at Michel Camp near Accra has sent Ghanaians complaining and accusing President Akufo Addo of inspiring such disregard for the legal restraints against open homosexual activities.

Critics have cited the interview granted by President Akufo Addo to Aljazeera in 2017, where Presi-



dent Akufo was heard admitting that the socio-cultural norms in Ghana does not accept official homosexual relationships and that there was not a "sufficient strong enough coalition has emerged" to force the country into legalising homosexu-

al unions.

President Akufo then prescribed that increased activism by homosexual groups is likely to sift the paradigm in Ghana for homosexuality to be legalised. He told the Aljazeera: "It is bound to happen...just like elsewhere in the

world".

After the viral video, Staff-Sgt Owusu had reportedly been interrogated by the military high command but she reportedly claimed the ceremony was rather a birthday celebration of her lover whose name is currently unknown.

The viral video shows Staff-Sgt Owusu, in a male costume, dancing seductively with her married partner, as guests cheered on.

In a supposed pre-nuptial ceremony, the couple was clad in Military combat fatigue uniform, something which has further muddied her case, as her supposed lover is not in the military and as such, civilians wearing official military uniforms are considered an illegal attempt at impersonation.



RAWLINGS LOSES 101-YEAR-OLD MUM



Former President Jerry John Rawlings has lost his centenarian mother, Madam Victoria Agbotui. She died at the early hours of today, at the age of 101, Whatsup News gathered.

Sources said Madam Agbotui had been unwell for some time now

and may have succumbed to her age-related illness.

Madam Agbotui has celebrated her 101st birthday on September 9, 2020, amidst pomp and pageantry from her high-profile son and family members.

The celebration had come in the wake of wild rumours that the

centenarian had died. A rumour that was promptly shot down by the office of the former president.

Born in 1919, Madam Victoria Agbotui, who started off from a humble background, became popular following her son's ascension to power in 1979.

Ex-President Rawlings is her son from a relationship with an Irish man.

Victoria Agbotui from Dzelukope near Keta in the Volta Region was the head of the catering department at the presidency during her son's reign as both a military dictator and a civilian president.



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DEPUTY SPEAKER'S SUPPORTERS IN VIOLENT BRAWL WITH NPP INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE

Supporters of the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Joe Osei-Wusu, have been caught in a violent street brawl with supporters of an independent Parliamentary Candidate who wants to unseat the incumbent on the Bekwai Constituency seat in the Ashanti Region.

Video footages circulating on social media, capture the supporters of Lawyer Akwasi Amofa Agyemang engaged in an exchange of blows in a number of open places, including a market place, where members of both sides at a point resorted to stones and sticks in the heat of the exchanges.

The footage What-sUp News has seen was truncated and therefore the end result of the brawl is not yet known, but it can be reported that attempts were made by the brawling supporters to inflict maximum injuries on one another.



The emergence of the video on social media was apparently in response to Joe Osei-Wusu, who is also the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament, denying that his supporters have been engaging in fights with the supporters of the independent Candidate.

Apparently, people who have been witnesses to the numerous battles between the personal gladiators of the Bekwai MP and those of the Independent Candidate wanted to put the narrative in a better perspective.

Mr. Akwasi Amofa Agyemang is an estranged member of the governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) who decided to go independent after the party allegedly undertook machinations to ensure that Joe Osei Wusu is maintained as the NPP's Parliamentary Candidate for Bekwai, which is a traditional stronghold of the NPP.

Allegedly, the incumbent MP finds the decision by Akwasi Amofa Agyemang as disrespectful and an affront to him. Also, it is believed that Mr. Amofa Agyemang has it within

his propensity to cause an upset for the First Deputy Speaker of Parliament after he carried away a lot of loyal NPP supporters, hence the spell of attacks on the man and his supporters allegedly sponsored by the Bekwai MP.

This latest attack is coming in the wake of a similarly violent exchange between Presidential Staffer Charles Cromwell Bissie and George Mireku Duker, the incumbent MP for Tarkwa-Nsuaem.

The fight between the two saw Charles Bissie biting off the finger of the Mireku Duker, who in turn delivered a number of hefty blows to the face of Charles Bissie. The aftermath saw a swollen-faced Bissie lamenting his ordeal, while Mireku Duker was also narrating his side of the story to the media.

Apparently, Charles Bissie was reportedly sponsoring an independent NPP candidate against Mireku Duker.



NDC WILL NOT ACCEPT A FLAWED ELECTION – JOHN MAHAMA WARNS AGAIN

The 2020 Flag-bearer of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), John Mahama has warned that the NDC will not accept a flawed election in December following the fouling up of the new voters register by the Jean Mensah-led Electoral Commission (EC).

President Mahama gave the warning during a press conference that he addressed today, detailing the myriad of problems that have characterized the ongoing voter exhibition exercise around the country. This is not the first time the NDC flag-bearer has issued the same warning.

“We in the NDC have exhibited restraint at all times in this electoral process, even now, and we are committed to doing so. But let me serve notice once again that we will not accept the result



of a flawed election. We will certainly not look on, neither will we shirk our civic responsibility and allow the EC- whether by ill intent or sheer incompetence- to usurp the people's mandate in the December 7 polls,” the former President said.

He gave the warning at the NDC's national Headquarters at Adabraka today. The former President and

his Running Mate, Prof. Jane Naana Opoku Agyemang suspended their nationwide campaign to hold the press conference.

As background to the warning, the former President enumerated the litany of problems that have characterized the voter exhibition exercise including the widespread disappearance of the names of registered voters from the

register, especially in the strongholds of the NDC.

The name of the NDC running mate, Prof. Opoku-Agyemang had reportedly been removed from the voters register too.

Along with these disappearances, there have also been the bloating of registers in some strongholds

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of the governing NPP along with the secret issuance of new voters ID cards to suspected NPP party members and supporters.

"...the EC and our opponents suggest that these concerns are an exaggeration. So, I would like to take some time, at this point, to walk you through just a few of the numerous examples available to us," ex-President Mahama said, as he enumerated a number of cases.

For instance, the Binduri Constituency of the Upper East Region, thousands of voters had been omitted from the register. In one polling station at Narang-Saago Primary School, not a single person out of the 444 voters who registered were found in the register when it was presented for exhibition.

"In 18 other centres in the same constituency, 6,341 names were omitted from the registration. In Jirapa in the Upper West Region, a total of 2,057

names were nowhere to be found on the voters register in five centres. At Klottey Korle in Greater Accra, 2,054 people who registered in some 12 centres, did not find their names," the former president outlined.

The mess continues: In Krowor, also in Greater Accra, cases of duplicated card numbers were recorded in as many as eight centres and 2,453 people were affected.

In Ashaiman, the Member of Parliament Ernest Norgbey, and other NDC executives detected the deletion of over 21,000 names from the register, including that of the MP. In response to this, the EC presented a new register which was still short of 7,000 names, albeit this time with the name of the MP. "In a clear case of subterfuge, the EC then presented another register with the name of the MP as though it was the earlier defective register," the former President said.

The situation was similar in the political

stronghold of the NDC in the Volta Region. In the Ketu South Constituency for instance, some 6,158 names were missing. In Anlo, 984 names could not be found. In Akatsi South, 426 names were omitted while in Ketu North, 260 names were not found.

While the disappearances of names on the register enumerated above mostly concern NDC strongholds, the former president pointed out that other places in the country have also registered bloated registers.

"Yet another anomaly that has been detected, revolves around the appearance of additional names on the register which have served to swell it. In Asawase in the Ashanti Region, 907 additional names have mysteriously appeared on the register."

The former President said the NDC does not care whether the omissions are by deliberate design or by the incompetence of the Jean Mensah-led

EC and that all that the NDC wants is for the issues to be resolved.

He suggested the EC, which has been ignoring the Inter-Party Advisory Committee for a very long time, to re-engage with IPAC to find solutions to the myriad of issues. Interestingly, it may be too late for the EC to resolve some of the problems in conjunction with IPAC because today, when the EC suggested to IPAC that it will re-register some people, the two main political parties, NDC and NPP indicated that if the EC even manages to re-register some people, the people will not be able to vote in the 2020 elections.

From the IPAC conclusions, the EC has already disenfranchised thousands of legally registered Ghanaian voters.

Aside the predicament of re-registering the alleged omitted names, the EC will have to contend with thousands of lawsuits from those it has "deliberately" disenfranchised.



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LAWYERS CHARGE AT EC OVER MASS DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF GHANAIAIAN VOTERS



A group of Ghanaian lawyers have announced their intent to picket at the Headquarters of the Electoral Commission in Accra tomorrow, following damning revelations that the EC may have deliberately deleted names of legally registered voters.

Calling themselves, "Lawyers In Search of Democracy" (LINSOD) the group said in a 24th September notice that they have already asked for clearance from the Police and will mass up at the EC Headquarters tomorrow September 25, 2020, to express their displeasure over the mess that the EC Chairperson, Jean

Mensah has turned the 2020 voter registration exercise to.

Among others, ultramodern biometric equipment that the EC purchased for the 2020 elections against sound advice from many Ghanaians, especially Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) has managed to duplicate the voter ID cards of registrants, including the 2020 Running Mate of the NDC, Prof. Jane Naana Opoku Agyemang.

In mostly strongholds of the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP), the same biometric register has seen the voters' register bloated in what has led to

conclusions that the mess is a deliberate attempt by the EC to rig the December elections for the governing party-the NPP.

The EC today proposed at an inter-party Advisory Committee (IPAC) meeting that the political parties allow it to re-register some people who were not captured in the first registration exercise, along with those whose names have miraculously spirited out of the register.

However, the NDC and the NPP pointed out to the EC that even if it manages to re-register such people, they cannot take part in the December elections because it

is too late for them. Consequently, as it is, the EC has already disenfranchised some people.

"This activity is intended to highlight the inefficiency and incompetence of the EC as a body which cannot successfully conduct the December 2020 elections and whose actions are a threat to Ghana's democracy and peaceful existence," the LINSOD statement explained the reason for the upcoming demonstration on Friday.

It was signed by its spokesperson, Lawyer Victor Kodzogh Adawudu. It said all that LINSOD is waiting for now is clearance from the Police.



NDC RUNNING MATE'S VOTER ID CARD CLONED FOR ANOTHER PERSON



The strange tendency for the biometric registration equipment that the Electoral Commission has purchased for the 2020 general elections to clone the ID cards of some registrants for others has escalated to the 2020 Vice Presidential Candidate of the National Democratic Congress (NDC).

Prof. Jane Naana Opoku Agyemang's card was among hundreds that were duplicated for other people in the Central Region.

Apparently, this alarming development that makes the NDC running mate a co-owner of her biometric voter ID card with other people is what convinced former President John Mahama and his Running Mate

to put a hold on their nationwide campaign and address the quagmire that the EC's continuous mess is turning the preparation towards the 2020 elections into.

The former President cited Prof. Opoku-Agyemang's issue as one of the important examples that served as a backdrop to his warning today that the NDC will not accept a flawed election result in December.

"In the Central Region, glaring cases of duplication of card numbers were also recorded in 14 centres in the Komenda Edna Eguafo Abrem Constituency. One such case involved my Running Mate, Prof. Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang," the former President said.

The former President and

his Running Mate had to suspend their nationwide campaign to address issues surrounding the ongoing voter exhibition exercise, including the strange disappearance of thousands of names from the new register that the EC decided to pigheadedly compile, in spite of protests from a cross-section of Ghanaians.

In some regions and constituencies, especially strongholds of the ruling New Patriotic Party (NPP) the biometric register somehow got bloated with people that are suspected to be ghost names.

"I regret to note that these irregularities, inconsistencies and intimidations are generating anxiety among the Ghanaian public

that the upcoming elections may not be free and fair. It is deeply troubling that the ongoing exhibition of the voters' register has revealed significant omissions and in some other cases the deletion of the names of registered voters on a wide-scale," ex-President Mahama complained.

"As an interested party in the December elections, we want to state and strongly that these alarming warning signs do not bode well for a free and fair election. To quote what many others have said in their commentary on the current developments on social media, of what use is democracy, if technicalities will be deployed to steal the mandate of the people?"

Former President Mahama urged the EC to solve the problems by any means possible, suggesting that the Commission liaise with the Inter-Party Advisory Committee (IPAC) which the EC has been ignoring for so long to fix the issues, lest the NDC rejects the results of the December elections.

He also called on the international community to focus their lenses on Ghana and send observers more quickly than necessary to checkmate the EC which many believe is scheming to rig the December elections for President Akufo-Addo and the NPP.



MAN OF GOD TRASHES NEW VOTERS ID CARD AS CHEAP AND OVERPRICED

O utspoken man of God, Prophet Kofi Oduro, has dismissed the new voters' ID card issued by the Jean Mensah led Electoral Commission as cheap and overpriced.

At a sermon in his Alabaster International Ministry Church, Prophet Oduro observed that the new card is so cheap that its componentry is only made up of a strip of torn paper and cheap lamination rubber casing.

According to him, the voters ID card is so cheap that even the membership card of his Church is of a better quality than what has been issued as national voters' ID card.

He said it is just difficult to justify the almost half a billion cedis that Jean Mensah and her Commission took to compile and issue the new voters' ID card.

"This electoral Commission card that they have given us for voting on the 7th, you call this a card? I mean seriously,



tell us how much one card costs and let's multiply by all the people who registered and let us check, juxtapose it to the amount that was given for the card, and you will see that there is no truth in this country. I'm telling you, this useless card is a card? Why not at least give us something like the Ghana Card? As a church, our membership card is a plastic card and you have gone to bring this polythene strip to bamboozle us. Even the strip

of paper in the card was torn," he said.

According to him, when he went to register the EC attendants decided to give him special care because they were afraid that he would lambast the EC over the quality of the cards they were issuing. Consequently, he revealed that the EC officials gave a special card of a higher quality than the cheapish strip of laminated paper that everyone else got from the EC.

"When I went to do voters register with it, I overheard one of the attendants saying that, "this is Prphet Oduro, let's do his very well for him lest he takes us on. And so when you see my (voters id) card, it looks like the Ghana Card but my wife's card is like an olonka rubber; who do you think you are cheating? The olonka rubber is in her card as she waits for 7th December," Prophet Oduro said.

The new voters ID card consist of a strip of paper and a rubber casing with the casing clamed together in a lamination.

Indeed the cards look so cheap that even the color resolution of the photographs are cheapish looking.

Jean Adukwei Mensah, the EC Chairperson who so far appears to have a mess on her hands was given a little over Ghc430million to compile a new register and issue a new set of cards at her insistence.



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Bio

Pet Name: 'Model Yayra'

Height: 5'7

Waist: 28

Bust: 35

Hip: 38

Shoe Size: 39/40

Eye colour: Brown

Hair Colour: Black

Speciality: Commercial, Video Vixen, Photo

Languages: Ewe, Ga, English

Hobbies: Playing Table Tennis, Singing, Writing, Dancing



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