

**SESSIONAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT CHIEF
EXECUTIVE, HON. OPOKU NYAME DURING THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE KINTAMPO SOUTH DISTRICT
ASSEMBLY HELD ON FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 2021 AT THE
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY HALL.**

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER

HON. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

HON ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

HEADS OF DECENTRALIZED DEPARTMENT

STAFF OF THE ASSEMBLY

OUR FRIENDS FROM THE MEDIA

INVITED GUEST

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have the pleasure to welcome Hon. Members to the last General Assembly meeting of the Assembly. This is my maiden address to this august house since I assumed office as District Chief Executive.

First of all, I would like to thank the Almighty God, the creator of the universe and the destiny changer for making me to catch the eye of His Excellency, The President to nominate me to this high office of District Chief Executive. Glory be to His Name.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

My nomination by His Excellency, The President could have been nullified if this august house had not voted in favour of my nomination to confirm me as the District Chief Executive. I therefore deem it a duty to express my deepest sense of gratitude to this august house for confirming my nomination.

The Hon. Member of Parliament for Kintampo South Constituency, Hon. Alexander Gyan cannot escape my gratitude for the yeoman's role he played in my nomination.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

You will all agree with me that the delay in the appointment of Metropolitan, Municipal District Chief Executives was due to some important political tussles that had to be solved and this undoubtedly affected the performance of MMDAS due to lack of political leadership to give both administrative and political direction. Some political and administrative "oxygen" and 'adrenalin" was pumped into the blood stream of the Assemblies when MMDCE'S were appointed and confirmed

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Peace and Security are sine qua non of development. No society, country or entity can develop without peace and security. That is why we must ensure at all times that peace exists in our families, communities and the country at large.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

I wish to report that the security situation in the District had been relatively calm during the period under review.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

It is an undeniable fact that the operations and functions of the Assembly depend on the availability of money. The plans, sectoral activities and development activities in the district are financed from the revenue collected from different sources. The revenue is used among others to facilitate the execution of development projects, paying of sitting allowances of Hon. Assembly members, Assembly staff and emoluments that are recurrent.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Under, Internally Generated Fund (IGF), the Assembly had collected GH¢277,930.08 as at 30th November, 2021 representing 78.7% of the estimated revenue. The performance of the Assembly is quite encouraging but we have to work a little bit harder to achieve the estimated target or get closer to it.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Let me avail myself of this opportunity to entreat the District Finance Officer to ensure the proper collection and lodgment of all revenues and also put in place precautionary measures against fraud, embezzlement, misapplication and misappropriation of funds by revenue Officers.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

For us to make headway in our revenue mobilization drive; calls for the effective participation of all Hon Assembly members to help sensitize their constituents on the importance of paying tax and also come out with participatory initiatives in local publicity for revenue mobilization.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Permit me to report on the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF). The Assembly received the Fourth (4th) Quarter of 2020 DACF and the First (1st quarter) of 2021 DACF simultaneously on 29th October, 2021.

The 4th Quarter of 2020 allocation was GH¢286,981.87 and the 1st Quarter 2021 was also GH¢286, 981, 87.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Permit me to report that, about three quarters (3/4) of the amount had been used to service some of the accumulated indebtedness of the Assembly. The Assembly's indebtedness would be settled in bits and as and when the Assembly receives its share of the DACF.

DISTRICT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT TOOL (DPAT)

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

The District Performance Assessment Tool (DPAT) which was previously called Functional Organisational Assessment Tool (FOAT) is a facility given to MMDA'S to Compliment the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF). There is a formula for sharing the DACF but the DPAT facility is performance based.

An Assembly's share of the DPAT depends on her performance in three key (3) indicator areas. They are Compliance, Service Delivery and Performance.

HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,

Permit me to mention some of the thematic areas and their indicators.

COMPLIANCE INDICATORS

1. General Assembly Meetings
2. Approval of Budget and Annual Action plans
3. Sub committees meetings
4. Executive Committee meetings
5. Management meetings
6. Meetings of PRCC
7. Meetings of Spatial Planning Committee
8. Meetings of Entity Tender Committee
9. Functionality of the Internal Audit Unit
10. Functionality of Audit committee
11. Functionality of Client Service Units
12. Preparation and Submission of Monthly Financial reports
13. Availability of approved Annual Budget
14. Presentation of the Auditor General's report of the Assembly
15. Organisation of Town Hall Meetings and DCE'S engagement with communities.

SERVICE DELIVERY INDICATORS

1. General Assembly decisions
2. Management actions taken on Assembly's decision
3. Assembly's support to sub structures.
4. Water Services
5. Sanitation Services
6. Management of infrastructure of public interest
7. Availability of client service charter.
8. Services on transportation network
9. Establishment of Planning and Building Inspectorate units
10. Building permit processing and issuance
11. Street naming Database and Property addressing.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Implementation of Annual Action Plan
2. Monitoring of DACF Projects and activities.
3. Record of contract management
4. Record on follow up deduction at source
5. Governmental and Social Safeguards
6. Capacity Building Plans
7. Support to Education
8. Support to Health and others.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

The amount an Assembly receives under DPAT is subject to the Satisfaction of the Conditions enumerated supra.

The Assembly received GH¢1,178,278 under DPAT (III) in 2018. The amount was used for the Construction of a Social Center at Ampoma, Teachers Quarters at Jema and a CHIPS Compound at Ntankoro.

All these Projects have been completed awaiting handing over by the Contractor to the Assembly for use.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

The Assembly has received GH¢271,200 under DPAT (IV) 2019. The Assembly is yet to decide on what project the amount is to be used for now that there is a substantive DCE.

This amount for DPAT (IV) was received on 12th July, 2021 and the amount is lodged at the Bank of Ghana.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

The Assembly scored 92% in the 2020 DPAT Assessment. I say Kudos to all the Staff of the Assembly for the great effort they put in to score this marks.

LIVELIHOOD EMPOWERMENT AGAINST POVERTY (LEAP)

HON PRESIDING

This programme is to take care of the welfare of people who fall within the Poverty bracket. Poverty we all know cut across the entire society. It manifests itself at the household level in the inability of the family to meet basic needs like food, shelter and clothing. Every community in our society, despite elements and pockets of affluence, has its own share of the poverty. I have no doubt that your electoral areas have their own story to tell. It is in view of this the LEAP programme was introduced.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

It is gratifying to know that a total of three thousand and ninety-nine (3,099) persons from fifty-five (55) communities' district wide are benefitting from this package.

Five (5) payment cycles have been effected this year. The last payment was effected from 2nd November – 16th November 2021.

The total amount of money received in 2021 is GH¢479,176.000

PREPARATION OF DISTRICT MEDIUM TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN

(DMTDP 2022-2025)

The District Medium Term Development Plan (DMTDP) of the Kintampo South District Assembly had been submitted to the Bono East Regional Co-ordinating Council and the National Development Planning Commission for the fairing of the grey areas for final submission.

The document was prepared by Conducting Community needs assessment district-wide under the theme “Agenda for Jobs 2: Creating Prosperity and Equal opportunities for all”.

SUBMISSION OF COMPOSITE BUDGET (2022-2025)

The Composite Budget of the Kintampo South District Assembly had been submitted. It comprised the budget of the various decentralized department of the Assembly.

UNCOMPLETED PROJECTS

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

The lamentations of Communities with uncompleted projects have become an albatross on my neck. In view of these lamentations and the need to ensure value for money, I promise this august house that all uncompleted projects in the District will be completed during my tenure of office.

But let me quickly add that this promise can materialize subject the timely release of the DACF.

AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture in September 2021, distributed 60,000.00 Seedlings of Cashew to about 750 farmers district wide. Each beneficiary farmer received 80 seedlings.

The Seedlings were nursed through a partnership between the Department of Agriculture and a non-governmental organization called Production Safety Net Project by establishing a nursery at Mansie.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

The Kintampo South District Assembly through its department of Agriculture successfully organized the 37th edition of the National Farmers Day at Nante-Zongo.

The occasion was patronized by Nananom, Hon Assembly Members, the Clergy, Imams and the general public.

The Assembly presented befitting awards to the Awardees.

I wish to thank Nananom, our sponsors, and Hon Assembly members for gracing the occasion.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY FUND (PWD)

HON PRESIDING MEMBER,

The PWD Fund is a Special fund created from the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) to take care of the needs of people with Disability. It is a separate and dedicated fund used only on issues relating to persons with disability.

The Assembly in November 2021 received an amount of GH¢57,677.34 as the 4th Quarter allocation for 2020.

Thirty (30) persons with disabilities are beneficiaries. Eight (8) of them in the education sector received 5,700.00 and five (5) in the Health sector also received GH¢5,700.00. GH¢ 42,750.00 had been spent on other items and activities relating to disability.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR RAILWAY

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

I wish to inform you that the Ministry for Railway Development is in the process of acquiring land as right of way for the development of the Central Spine Railway line linking Kumasi, Sunyani, Techiman and Tamale.

In view of this, there will be field inspection by a team of Consultants to assess the value of land, crops, buildings and other items within the right of way needed for the development of the Central Spine railway line.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

The activity is expected to begin on 6th December 2021 and will take two (2) weeks in Six (6) regions, Ashanti, Ahafo, Bono, Bono East, Savannah and Northern.

I would therefore entreat Hon Assembly members and Nananom to educate the people in their respective area of jurisdiction on the importance of the exercise and put in place measures to ensure an incident-free exercise.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

HEALTH:

The National Health Insurance Scheme is on course.

I would like to appeal to Hon. Members to appeal their constituents who have not gone for the COVID Vaccine to do so without further delay. Now that vaccines are available in all Hospital facilities in the country, no one should give any excuse for not being vaccinated.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

The harmattan Season is with us. I would like to entreat you to intensify your education in educating people in your communities to eschew practices that can cause bush fires.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

EDUCATION

Education, we all know is the key to development in any society. As a professional teacher, I promise to do all I can to help improve the quality of education in the district.

The Assembly and the Hon. Member of Parliament Supported the Ghana Education Service with funds to cook for about 841 B.E.C.E Candidates and also hired vehicles to transport candidates to examination centers.

ELECTRIFICATION

The Hon. Member of Parliament provided forty (40) street lights to replace defective ones during the middle of the year.

The Assembly has taken delivery of One Hundred (100) street lights on 8th December, 2021 to illuminate some parts of the district to beef up Security during the impending Christmas Festivities.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

I realized just about two days in office as the District Chief Executive that I have a great leadership role to play.

I saw the need of uniting and mobilizing Hon Assembly members, Opinion Leaders, Traditional Authorities, Social Groups, and Staff of the Assembly to form a formidable team to work towards for the development of the District.

I would like to assure this house that I will establish an effective communication link with the Hon Presiding Member, Hon Member of Parliament, Hon Assembly members, Assembly Staff and the general public whose mandate I am exercising and promise to be accountable to them.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

Permit me to present the Executive Committee report this august house for your consideration.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,

8TH DECEMBER, 2021

The report was extracted from the Executive Committee Minutes held on Wednesday, 8th December, 2021 for onward submission to the General Assembly for deliberation and approval. The resolutions are presented as follows:

1. That, Management should establish a police post at Ayorya to help beef up the security situation in the area.
2. That, all DACF projects within the district are completed before new ones are initiated as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee, during this year's sitting at Sunyani

3. That, Management should reshape some selected road network in some selected communities in the district especially in the Mo Area
4. That, the bridge at Asantekwa-Sabule stretch should be upgraded to improve access in the area.
5. That, there should be maintenance of installed mechanized Boreholes district wide.
6. That, there should be improved communications network district wide.
7. That, there should be maintenance and replacement of street lights that are faulty in the district.
8. That, Management should construct classroom blocks to reduce the number of schools under trees and also upgrade some schools.
9. That, Management should procure or manufacture furniture for schools.
10. That, Management should upgrade markets in the district.
11. That, Management should upgrade Apesika CHPS Compound to Health Center
12. That, Management should construct drains in the district.
13. That, Management should ensure that more Fire Volunteer groups are established in the District to curb bush burning.
14. That, Management should enforce the laws stipulated in the PNDC Law 229, Act 1990 governing the control and prevention of bush fires in the District.

15. That, the Justice and Security Sub-committee should meet cattle owners and Fulani Herdsmen in Kintampo South and North to discuss how to curb the cattle from destroying farmers produce.
16. That, Management should ensure that the Fire Service is equipped with the necessary logistics especially transportation in order to reach out to communities in the District to educate them on Home Safety Personal Precaution (HSPP) as we are in the era of dry season.
17. That, Management should construct and rehabilitate dilapidated school buildings in the district.
18. That, Management should construct market stalls and stores at Amoma and Anyima markets.
19. That, Management should appeal to the owners of Community Information Centers for them to offer free airtime to agencies of the Assembly as part of their Cooperate Social Responsibility to the Community.
20. That, the Assembly should consider including mango seedlings in the Planting for Expert and Rural Development (PERD) program.
21. That, there should be an increment of the sitting allowance for Hon. Assembly Members by 50%.
22. That, the Finance and Administration sub-committee should collaborate with other Sub-Committee(s) in dealing with cattle owners in the district to realize revenue from them.

23. That, there should be an adhoc committee to determine and streamline the procedure for obtaining site plans, the aspect of the exercise that is deemed private and the part that should come to the Assembly as revenue.

24. That, the 2022 composite budget and annual action plan be considered by the General Assembly.

25. That, the external (foreign) cashew buyers be made to register with the District Assembly for the Assembly to generate funds for the development of the district.

26. That, there should be extension of electricity to farms of the PRODESOP Project and also grading of the road to the processing site at Krabonso.

HON PRESIDING MEMBER

Let me conclude my address by wishing all of you an advanced Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Thank you.