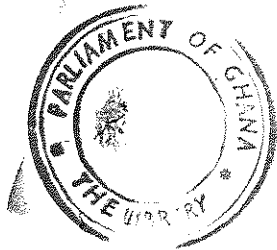


**IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT
OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**



**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION,
YOUTH, SPORTS & CULTURE
AND
ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**ON THE 2007 ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SPORTS**

8TH DECEMBER, 2006

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Annual Estimates for the Fiscal year 2007 of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports was referred to the Joint Committee on Education, Youth, Sports and Culture and Environment Science and Technology for consideration and report pursuant to Orders 140 (4) 186, 187 and 185 of the Standing Orders of the House and Article 179 of the Constitution, following the presentation of the 2007 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government by the Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Planning on Thursday 16th November, 2006, and subsequent Motion for its adoption,.

1.1 COMMITTEE SITTING

The Committee had a number of meetings to consider the Estimates of the Ministry. Those who assisted the Committee in this endeavour were the Minister for Education, Science and Sports Hon. Papa Owusu Ankomah, his deputies and his technical team as well as officials from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. The Committee is grateful to the Minister and all the officials for their warm cooperation in this regard.

1.3 REFERENCE DOCUMENT

The following documents were used as reference guide during the committee's deliberations.

- (a) The 1992 Constitution of Ghana
- (b) The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana
- (c) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2007 financial year.
- (d) The Draft Annual Estimates of the Ministry of Education for the 2007 Financial Year.

- (e) Report on the Actual Expenditure of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports for the fiscal year 2006.

1.4 MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

As one of the key sectors contributing to national development, the mission of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports is to provide relevant education to all Ghanaians at all levels irrespective of gender, tribe, religion and/or political affiliation to ensure national development and also formulate and implement policies to accelerate Youth and Sports development for all Ghanaians to achieve national integration and international recognition.

In pursuit of this, the Ministry will provide:

- a. Basic education for all
- b. Education and training for skill development with emphasis on science, technology and creativity
- c. Higher education for the development of middle and top level manpower requirements
- d. Facilities to ensure that citizens are functionally literate and self-reliant. In providing these services, the Ministry will be guided by the under-listed values:
 1. Quality education
 2. Efficient management of resource
 3. Accountability and transparency

Consequently, the Ministry seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To enhance the quality of teaching and learning
- ii. To increase access to and participation in education and training
- iii. To upgrade and extend technical and vocational, agricultural and business education and training

- iv. To promote good health and environmental sanitation in schools
- v. To strengthen governance, planning and resource management within the education sector
- vi. To promote and extend provision of science and technology education and training
- vii. To improve the quality and relevance of academic and research programmes.
- viii. To promote and extend provision of Science and Technology Education and Training.
- ix. To promote and extend Pre-School Education
- x. To provide girls with equal opportunities to access full cycle of education.
- xi. To Identify and promote education programme that will assist in the prevention and management of HIV/AIDS.
- xii. To promote Good Health and Environmental Sanitation in schools and Institutions of Higher Learning.
- xiii. To facilitate the provision of sports and recreational facilities in deprived communities.
- xiv. To strengthen the existing management system for optimum sports development
- xv. To promote private sector involvement in sports development; and
- xvi. To research, formulate, monitor and evaluate policies to create enabling conditions for sports development.

2.0 REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE IN 2006

The Ministry of Education, Science and Sports, in 2006, focused its attention on achieving the targets set under the Education Strategic Plan and GPRS II. Ghana also participated in international sports including CAN 2006 in Egypt and World Cup Tournament in Germany. Below are some of the specific activities under taken by the various sectors for year 2006.

2.1 EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

2.1.1 Basic Education

As part of the effort to mainstream pre-schools into the basic education system, the Ministry continued to collaborate with the District Assemblies and Non-Governmental Organizations

(NGOs) in providing the necessary infrastructure for pre-schools. This contributed to a significant increase in Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for pre-schools from 60.14 per cent in 2004/2005 to 75.2 per cent in 2005/2006.

The Ministry also continued with the programme of increasing access to basic education and implemented measures geared towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) target of Universal Primary Completion by 2015 and Gender Parity by 2008. Various enrolment drives including the implementation of the Capitation Grant Scheme and School Feeding, were introduced to remove barriers to enrolment and encourage participation and attendance. As a result of these initiatives, the enrolment at the basic level increased by 16 per cent and GER at primary level grew from 87.5 per cent in 2004/2005 to 92.1 per cent in 2005/2006. In addition, the Gender Parity Index also grew from 0.93 in 2004/2005 to 0.95 in 2005/2006.

A total amount of ₦129.5 billion was paid as Capitation Grant for pupils in public basic schools. In addition, government spent an amount of ₦28.31 billion towards the conduct of the 2006 Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE).

The Ministry continued to expand physical facilities in basic schools. In all, construction works on 65 (6-Unit) Classroom Blocks were started, whilst work on other 82 classroom blocks are at various stages of completion.

The proportion of public recurrent education expenditure on primary education increased in 2006, to accommodate the resulting demands on implementing the capitation grant scheme and other ESP interventions for basic education. The target is to spend at least 33 per cent of public recurrent expenditure on education for the primary level by the end of the year.

In order to ensure equity in the supply of teachers, to improve quality of teaching and learning at all levels through out the country, conscious effort was made to deploy more teachers to the three regions in the Northern parts of the country, thereby reducing the wide regional

disparities in the pupil/teacher ratios. The resultant ratios attained for the three regions of the Northern sector compared to the national average are as follows:

Region	2004/2005 PTR	2005/2006 PTR
National	34.9:1	35.7:1
Northern	40.1:1	38:1
Upper East	57:1	48:1
Upper West	49:1	40:1

In addition to the above intervention, the National Service Secretariat posted a total of 18,900 Service Personnel to teach in basic schools in rural areas. Also, about 2,000 service personnel recruited under the National Volunteer Programme were deployed in schools to increase the supply of teachers in remote areas.

Furthermore, the District Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers was vigorously pursued and as many as 98 per cent of the 9,000 trainee teachers enrolled were sponsored by District Assemblies.

2.1.2 Teacher Upgrading

The programme of upgrading untrained teachers with the aim of improving quality of education delivery continued. In 2006, 5,689 untrained teachers completed the first phase of the Untrained Teacher Training Programme.

Teacher Education

In furtherance of the Ministry's plan of enhancing the teaching and learning of Mathematics, Science and Technology in basic schools, the Ministry initiated a programme of equipping 15 selected Teacher Training Colleges specializing in the teaching and learning of science and mathematics. The procurement process has started and work will commence before the end of the year. In addition, library and classroom blocks are being constructed in all the 38 Teacher Training Colleges.

Textbooks

In order to ensure equity in the distribution of textbooks to improve quality of teaching and learning, the Ministry fully implemented and monitored the textbook policy ratio of 1:1 in the three core subjects (English, Mathematics and Integrated Science), for all basic schools in the country.

Secondary Education

With regards to Secondary Education, the upgrading of the 31 selected Senior Secondary Schools is at an advanced state and is expected to be completed and commissioned by the end of the year. Work on the second phase of the programme, involving 25 additional schools, was initiated.

Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS)

The Ministry assessed the first year of implementation of the Computerized School Selection and Placement System and with the expert advice and inputs from various stakeholders, the system has greatly improved.

2.1.3 Implementation of the Education Reforms

To ensure the smooth implementation of the educational reforms a Secretariat and 9 sub-committees were set up. The Sub-Committees have since submitted their reports and these are being collated, together with the estimated cost of implementing the proposals.

2.1.4 Special Education

As a way of ensuring access to education for all including the physically challenged, the Ministry paid special attention to Special Education. Existing facilities were improved whilst new structures are being constructed to make them friendly to the physically challenged. A total of 35 vehicles, made up of 10 buses and 25 Double-cabin Pickups have been purchased and distributed to the institutions of the physically challenged to enhance their operations.

2.1.5 Vocational Education

During the year under review Government approved the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Policy Framework which has been designed to facilitate expansion and improvement in Technical and Vocational Education in the country. Parliament also passed a Bill for the establishment of the Council for TVET to be responsible for the operationalisation of the objectives outlined in the policy framework.

2.1.6 Ghana Library Board

The Ghana Library Board procured periodicals and books for distribution to the regional and district libraries. Rehabilitation works were carried out on the Bolgatanga, Cape Coast and Sekondi Regional Libraries. Work also continued on the construction of Ho and Sunyani Regional Libraries.

2.1.7 Non-Formal Education

A total of 300,000 learners were enrolled for the programme in 2006 to promote literacy among the illiterate adult population of the country.

2.1.8 Tertiary Education

Resources from the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF) were used to promote change and innovation at the tertiary level to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Various academic equipment were procured for the National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE), University for Development Studies (UDS) and four Polytechnic Institutions (Ho, Takoradi, Sunyani and Kumasi) to enhance delivery of quality tertiary education.

2.1.9 Distance Education

Distance Education continues to be a popular alternative form of tertiary education. Majority of the 30,000 students undertaking distance education programmes at the University of Cape Coast and University of Education, Winneba are teachers. The Ministry is working out the modalities for absorbing the tuition fee of teachers who avail themselves of this opportunity,

as this will help reduce the high number of teachers applying for study leave with pay. In total, there are 9,000 teachers on study leave.

2.1.10 Intra-Campus Transport

Government provided buses to five (5) public universities to ease the problem of movement of students within the campuses particularly, from halls of residence to lecture theatres and laboratories. The universities that benefited from the first phase of the programme were the University of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, University for Development Studies, University of Education, Winneba and University of Cape Coast.

2.1.11 Supports to Private Universities

To support private sector participation in tertiary education delivery, government provided buses to 11 private tertiary universities.

2.1.12 Open University

Government endorsed the need for the establishment of an Open University to provide avenues for work-study programmes and life-long education. The Open University concept requires the establishment of an independent university to be responsible for providing part-time undergraduate and post graduate higher education distance learning.

2.1.13 Research

The National Council for Tertiary Education is coordinating dialogue between research institutions, the private sector and industry to explore how research findings could be integrated into industry. The task force set up to review proposals on linking research to industry has presented its findings. Three products, Pozzolana, Glucose Syrup and Activated carbon are expected to be produced commercially before the end of the year as a result of this dialogue between research and industry.

2.2.0 SCIENCE SUB SECTOR

2.2.1 Science Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

To contribute to the food security of the country, the agriculture-based institutes of the CSIR intensified the development of improved crops and cereal varieties which are early maturing, and pest and drought-resistant. The Crops Research Institute (CRI) and Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI) continued to release new varieties of peanuts, cowpea, soya beans, sorghum and millet.

2.2.2 Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC)

The GAEC promotes the peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the country's socio-economic development. With the completion of the Tissue Culture Laboratory for large scale multiplication of a wide range of planting materials, many more farmers now have access to these materials for increased production and poverty reduction.

To this end, the Biotechnology and Agricultural Research Institute (BNARI) of GAEC continued to collaborate with a private company, Bio Plantlets Limited for the multiplication of MD2 pineapple plants for distribution to interested farmers. This is expected to boost Ghana's export of pineapples through the collaboration of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the government of Ghana.

In collaboration with the Cocoa Research Institute, the GAEC has developed Gamma Mutation Breeding which is resistant to Swollen Shoot Disease. About 25 farmers are utilizing this technology on a pilot basis.

GAEC also established the School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences (SNAS), to train the required human resources for the Commission and other institutions in the country, and as a regional training centre for other Member States in Africa.

The National Nuclear Research Institute intensified the use of Non-Destructive Testing techniques to detect leakages in storage tanks for mining firms, Bulk Oil Storage and

Transport (BOST) and other institutions namely the Tema Oil Refinery (TOR), Aboadze Thermal Plant, the Oil Storage Tanks at Buipe and Bolgatanga and the West Africa Gas Pipeline Project.

2.3.0 SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

Major projects and programmes undertaken by the sub-sector during the year under review included:

Government provided the necessary support and incentives to the Senior National Football Team, the Black Stars in their preparation and participation in international sporting events in 2006. This undoubtedly enabled the Black Stars to put up an outstanding performance at the recent World Cup Tournament in Germany. Ghana became the only African Nation to qualify for the second stage of the competition.

Ghana's preparation towards the hosting of the African Cup of Nations (CAN 2008) continued. The event Logo and Mascot were launched by President J.A. Kufuor on September 8, 2006. Contracts for the construction and rehabilitation of stadia at Sekondi, Tamale, Accra and Kumasi have been awarded and work is in progress. In all, work on a total of 5 stadia was started, (two new ones and rehabilitation of three existing ones.)

The construction work on the two (2) new stadia is well ahead of schedule, while the rehabilitation of the Accra and Kumasi Stadia is on schedule. Hostel and hotel complexes are also being constructed in Sekondi and Tamale for the event. After the event, the hostel facility in Tamale will be handed over for use by the University of Development Studies.

3.0 Outlook for 2007

The Ministry for the year 2007 will continue to work towards the attainment of targets set under the Education Strategic Plan, the GPRS II and Education Reforms. As a result, the Ministry has planned to undertake among others the following activities.

3.1 Basic Education

The Ministry will continue to adopt various strategies to increase access to and participation in education. The strategies will include continuous collaboration with District Assemblies, Religious Bodies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for the provision of the relevant infrastructure in order to mainstream pre-schools into the basic education system.

The drive towards the attainment of Universal Primary Completion by 2015 and Gender Parity by 2008 will be given additional impetus. Public education on the need to send children to school will be intensified in churches, mosques, durbars, fora, market places and communities.

Government will continue to sustain the Capitation Grant Scheme to increase access to basic education. Government will also continue to subsidise the examination fees of the BECE.

Conscious effort will be made to improve gender parity in basic schools. Food rations and educational inputs will be made available to needy pupils.

The School Feeding Programme which was piloted year 2005 will be expanded to cover 92,000 pupils nationwide. It is expected that these interventions will positively impact on enrolment and retention in our schools.

Consequently, the following targets for these key indicators have been set for 2007:

Level of Education	2005/2006	2006/2007
GER (Pre-School Level)	75.2	78.5
GER (Primary Level)	92.1	95.0
Gender Parity Index (Primary Level)	0.95	0.97

In order to accommodate the expected increase in enrolment at basic education level, government will construct and furnish classrooms especially in areas where large increases in enrolment have been registered.

Public recurrent expenditure on primary education will be increased to at least 35 per cent of total education recurrent expenditure to enable the sector cover adequately, the recurrent demands from capitation grant scheme and other interventions.

3.2 Teacher Deployment

Special attention will be given to the correction of the existing regional disparities in teacher supply and thereby improve the quality of education delivery. Towards this end, the supply of teachers will be augmented through the use of retired teachers and National Volunteer Personnel in areas that lack teachers, especially the remote rural areas. Focus will be given to schools in the three northern regions with high pupil/teacher ratios. The following targets have thus been set:

Region	2005/2006 PTR	2006/2007 PTR
National	35:1	35:1
Northern	38:1	35:1
Upper East	48:1	40:1
Upper west	40:1	35:1

To ensure an equitable supply of teachers for basic schools throughout the country, the District Sponsorship Scheme for Teachers will continue to be used as a reliable means of securing the services of teachers in schools. It is envisaged that all the 9,000 teacher trainees to be enrolled in various teacher training colleges for 2006/2007 academic year will be sponsored by District Assemblies.

In addition, teacher accommodation will continue to be used as an incentive to attract teachers to remote rural areas.

3.3 National Service Scheme

The National Service Scheme will continue to be a very important source of teacher supply in the sector. In 2007, it is estimated that a total of 31,000 service personnel will be deployed and majority of these will be posted to schools as teachers. In addition, 6,000 volunteers will be recruited under the National Volunteer Programme and about a third of this number is expected to be posted to schools as teachers.

3.4 Upgrading of Facilities in Teacher Training Colleges

In consonance with the role teacher education is expected to play under the new education reforms especially in the teaching of science, mathematics and technology, facilities in teacher training colleges are being upgraded. Construction of libraries, science laboratories and

classrooms in all the 38 Teacher Training Colleges will be completed and furnished in the course of the year.

3.5 Secondary Education

In pursuance of government's commitment to improve educational facilities, work on the second phase of upgrading of physical facilities in 25 Senior Secondary Schools will commence in 2007.

3.6 Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS)

The Ministry will continue to improve the Computerized School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS) to become the preferred mode of school selection and placement of students into Senior Secondary Schools. In line with this vision, the Ministry will continue with public education on the system.

3.7 Ghana Library Board

The Ghana Library Board will be resourced to ensure that the required books, periodicals, journals and equipment are procured for distribution to district libraries. Work on the Ho and Sunyani Regional Libraries will continue.

3.8 Non-Formal Education

The National Functional Literacy Programme will be sustained to support the promotion of non-formal literacy education programmes.

3.9 Tertiary Education

The tertiary sector will continue to be supported to ensure that government's resolve to ensure quality education is not compromised as a result of expansion in enrolment.

The Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF) will continue to provide resources to the tertiary institutions to promote change and innovation and improve upon the quality of teaching and learning.

3.10 Distance Education

The Ministry will continue to encourage teachers to enroll in the Distance Learning Programme as an alternative means of acquiring tertiary education.

3.11 Promotion of Science, Technology and Research

To ensure the promotion of science, technology and research, provision has been made to expand and equip science laboratories in tertiary institutions to make teaching and learning of science and technology more interesting and attractive. Government's policy is to have an enrolment ratio of 60:40 in favour of science and technology. Government will continue to resource the research and tertiary institutions to undertake research and link findings to business and industry.

To cater for the expansion in enrolment at tertiary level, infrastructural facilities such as lecture halls, lecturers' accommodation and halls of residence and equipment for the Universities and Polytechnics will be provided.

3.12 Polytechnics

In line with Government's policy of re-positioning technical vocational education and training (TVET) in Ghana, Government will continue to equip and strengthen polytechnics to enable them offer technical and practical oriented programmes to meet the demands of industry and the national economy. In this regard, competency-based training will be emphasized and attachments to industry regularized and strengthened. Polytechnics will further be provided with funding and encouraged to offer degree programmes in science and technology.

3.13 Education Sector Reforms

The Education Sector Reforms which are envisaged to significantly improve the quality of education is scheduled to commence in the 2007/08 academic year. The reforms outline a set of new initiatives and objectives spanning the entire education sector which are designed to make education more responsive to current challenges. Specifically, the reforms involve changes to structure, focus and content of education as well as management issues which affect education service delivery in the country. As part of the process of implementing the

education reforms, Government is determined to speed up the process of decentralizing the Ghana Education Service for more effective management and administration of schools in the districts and regions.

3.14 Sports

Government will continue to support sports development and management in the country. Ghana is preparing fervently to host the African Cup of Nations (CAN) Tournament in 2008. In 2007, various preparatory activities including work on construction of Sekondi and Tamale stadia as well as the rehabilitation of the Ohene Djan Stadium, Accra, El Wak Stadium, Accra, and Baba Yara Stadium, Kumasi, will be completed. In addition, 20 community parks will also be upgraded.

For the 2008 Commonwealth Games, national teams will be supported to prepare adequately for the games.

The development of lesser-known sports (badminton, swimming, table tennis) will be supported and the programme of building the national teams through the organization of Schools Sports Festivals and Security Services Sports Association (SESSA) Games will be encouraged and supported.

3.15 Science

Government will continue to support science development and management in the country, through the following:

- Organize 2 fora to finalize draft the Action Plan on Science and Technology acculturation
- Develop an Action Plan for Youth Invention Competition
- Promote National Forum on harnessing Research, Science and Technology
- Prepare a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Science and Technology sub-sector
- Implement programmes for Chemical Weapon Convention
- Co-ordinate nuclear safety and waste management

- Organize seminars and workshops on GAEC products and services
- Establish two bio-technology centres
- Establish National Accelerator Laboratory
- Establish Nuclear Science College
- Construct Library and Computer centre

Under the new collaboration between the Governments of Ghana and the Federal Republic of Brazil, the CSIR will host the Regional Office for the Brazilian Agricultural Organization (EMBRAPA). EMBRAPA's collaboration in commercial agriculture will boost Ghana's agricultural output towards food security.

The Ministry will revive the National Science Week for Research Institutions as a platform for sensitizing the nation of the benefits of the application of science and technology in national development.

The Science Awards Night which was last held in 1999 to recognize scientific and technological breakthroughs by scientists, technologists and innovators will also be revived. Science and technology exhibitions for inventors and innovators will also be organized with a view to motivating the citizenry, especially the youth, to become scientists and technologists.

The Ministry will finalize the Strategic Plan for science and technology development and usage to drive the implementation of major Government programmes such as the GPRS II and other sustainable development policies.

4.0 TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR THE YEAR 2007

For the implementation of the above activities, an amount of **Eleven Trillion, Three Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Two Hundred and Fifty-Seven Million Cedis (¢11,322,257,000,000.00)** has been allocated. Out of this GoG is **Seven Trillion, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Seven Billion, Seven Hundred and thirty- Three Million Cedis (¢7, 927, 733, 000, 000.00)**, IGF **One trillion one hundred and twelve billion, seven**

hundred and thirty-three million cedis (¢1,112,741,000,000.00), Donor Four Hundred and Sixty-one Billion, Five Hundred and Sixty-one Million Cedis (¢461,561 000,000.00). GETFund is One Trillion Seven Hundred and Seventy Five Billion Two Hundred and Twenty Two Million Cedis (¢1,775,222,000,000.00) and HIPC is Forty Five Billion Cedis (¢45,000,000,000.00). Below is the allocation of the discretionary expenditures for the various sectors.

4.1 EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

The following provision has been made for the Education sub- sector in the 2007 budget:

The total budget for the Education sub-sector is **Eight Trillion and Forty-Two Billion, One Hundred and Seventy-Two Million cedis (¢8,042,172,000,000)** of which **Four Hundred and Fifty-Six Billion, Five Hundred and Sixty-Two Million (¢456,562,000,000)** is the donor support equivalent to 5.7% of the budget.

Personnel Emolument is **Seven Trillion and Fifty-Seven Billion, Five Hundred and Eighty-Seven Million cedis (¢7,057,587,000,000)**, equivalent to 87.7% of the total budget. The remaining 12.3% caters for administration, Service and Investment expenses.

BREAKDOWN

A breakdown of the allocation is as follows:

(¢ MILLIONS)

	P.E	Admin.	Service	Investment	Donor	Grand Total
Main Min.	253,689.7	81,086,	22,188.6	7,250	57,014	421,228.3
GES	5,852,258.5	160,123	50,876.4	33,000	368,838	6,465,095.9
NCTE	951,638.8	152,510	17,989	3,000	30,710	1,155,847.8
Total Education	- 7,057,587	393,719	91,054	43,250	456,562	8,042,172

The GES has been allocated a total budget of **Six Trillion, Four Hundred and Sixty-Five Billion and Ninety-Six Million, Nine Hundred Thousand Cedis (¢6,465,096,900,000)** which shows an increase of 31.7% over 2006 budget ceiling. The Government commitment is approximately ¢6,096,258 billion (94.3%) whilst the contributions of development partners is ¢368,838 billion (5.7%).

The NCTE has also been allocated budget of **One Trillion, One Hundred and Fifty-Five Billion, Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Cedis (¢1,155,847.8 million)**. This is made up of GOG component of **One Trillion, One Hundred and Twenty-Five Billion, One Hundred and Thirty-Seven Million, Eight Hundred Thousand Cedis (¢1,125,137.8 million)** and **Thirty Billion, Seven Hundred and Ten Million Cedis (¢30,710 million)** for donor support. The remaining **Four and Twenty-One Billion, Two Hundred and Twenty-Eight Million, Three Hundred Thousand cedis (¢421,228.3 million)**, 5.2% is allocated to the Main Ministry and its sub-vented agencies

4.2 SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

A total allocation of **Seventy- Seven Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million Cedis (77,507,000,000.00)** has been allocated to the Sports Sub-Sector of the Ministry for the year 2007. Out of the amount **Twelve billion, seven hundred and ninety seven million Cedis (¢12,797,000,000.00)** is allocated to Personnel Emolument, **Thirty Two Billion, One Hundred and Ten Million Cedis (¢32,110,000,000.00)** to Administration, **Thirteen Billion, Five Hundred and Fifty Million Cedis (¢13,550,000,000)** to Service and Investment of **Twenty Two Billion, Four Hundred and Fifty Million, Three Hundred and Seventy Thousand cedis (22,450,000,000.00)**.

The Allocation is as follows:

	P.E	Admin.	Service	Investment	Donor	Grand total
Secr.	550	2,510	1,500	2,000	-	6,560
NSC	6,200	10,800	7,050	7,900	-	31,950
CAN 2008	5,447	16,800	4,000	12,000	-	38,247
Sports College	600	2,000	1,000	550	-	4,150
Total	12,797	32,110	13,550	22,450	-	80,907

4.3 SCIENCE SUB-SECTOR

A total allocation of **Seventy- Seven Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million Cedis (77,507,000,000.00)** has been allocated to the Science Sub-Sector of the Ministry for the year 2007. Out of the amount One Eighty Five Billion, Three Hundred Million Cedis (¢185,300,000,000.00) is allocated to Personnel Emolument, **Sixty One Billion, Five Hundred Million cedis (¢61,500,000,000.00)** to Administration, **Nine Billion Seven Hundred and Sixteen Million (¢9,716,000,000.00)** to Service and Investment of **Four Billion, Seven Hundred Million cedis(4,700,000,000.00).**

The Allocation is as follows:

¢(Millions)

	P.E	Admin.	Service	Investment	Donor	Grand Total
Secr.	300	1,500	1,000	700	-	3,500
GAEC	32,000	15,000	1,900	1,000,	-	49,900
CSIR	153,000	45,000	6,816	3,000,	5,000	212,816
Total	185,300	61,500	9,716	4,700	5,000	266,216

5.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 EDUCATION SUB-SECTOR

5.1.1 Ghana Education Service (GES)

The Committee observed that due to the GES increased activities towards mainstreaming Pre-School into the Basic Education System, Kindergarten enrolment grew from 60.14% in 2004/5 to 85.3 in 2005/6 academic year. Kindergarten Schools also grew from 7,009 in 2004/5 to 10,731 in 2005/6.

It was also noted that as a result of the introduction of the Capitation Grant Scheme and the School Feeding Programme, enrolment at the other levels had also increased tremendously and that more children who would otherwise have been on the street are now in the classroom.

The Committee considers this laudable but is of the opinion that there is still more room for improvement considering the number of school-going children outside the school setting. Provision of the educational logistics and facilities is very crucial if the modest gains are to be sustained.

The Committee observed that the agitations over the salaries of teachers and its subsequent strike actions seriously affected teaching and learning at the various secondary schools. The Committee is of the opinion that plans should be put in place to make up for the time lost during the strike action.

5.1.2 Institutions For The Handicapped

The Committee was happy to note that the allocation to the institutions for the handicapped has been increased and that some actions had been initiated in the year 2006 to improve the education of the Handicapped. The Committee is however of the view that due to the long neglect and the deplorable state of these institutions, normal annual increases in budgetary

allocations would not be able to bring these institutions to the levels that are desirable. The Committee therefore recommends a special intervention to save these institutions.

5.1.3 Non –Formal Education

The Committee noted with satisfaction that due to the pragmatic programmes and activities of the Non-Formal Education Division (NFED), particularly, the literacy and functional skills programmes and the Basic Literacy Programme in Local Languages, the nation's illiteracy rate has dropped by 10% over the years. The National Illiteracy rate has dropped from 60 to 52%. The Non-Formal Education Division main target for the future is One million literates, with Two Hundred Thousand learners passing out each year.

Another healthy trend the committee noted is that more women are being enrolled on the programme. In 2005, the programme recruited 200,000 illiterates majority of whom were women and rural poor and 12,000 facilitators. The Committee views this as impressive, but is of the opinion that, illiteracy rate of 52% is on the higher side and therefore recommends that pragmatic measures should be put in place to ensure a further increase in the level of literacy.

The Committee is of the view that, there is still much room for improvement and urges the NFED to collaborate more with other agencies and organizations in the literacy delivery project in order to make the Nation's aim of making every Ghanaian read and write at least in his/her native language a reality.

The Committee also noted that there has been an increase in the number of adult learners and as such the need for an increase in the number of facilitators.

The Committee therefore recommends that, the Division whilst ensuring an increase in the number of facilitators should be critical in the selection of these facilitators. Background information of these people should also be gathered to ensure that those recruited have the requisite qualification for the job.

The NFED is further being called upon to strengthen its monitoring and supervision mechanism to ensure that the facilitators at the district and the local level perform their responsibilities as expected.

The Committee noted that the Division could not commence the training of English Project facilitators as well as the opening of English classes in the year 2006 as planned due to financial constraints among others. The Committee is of the view that due to the immense importance of the project especially to the rural folks, all efforts should be put in place to get the project started in 2007.

5.1.4 Ghana Library Board - GLB

The Committee observed with satisfaction that, preparations were far advanced to reconstitute Board of Directors in response to its recommendation in 2005. The Committee views this as a positive development. However, it is of the view that the process should be quickened to put the Board in place before the end of the year 2006. This, the Committee believes, would forestall further harm that its absence is causing the GLB.

It was further noted that as a result of the Committee's previous call for adequate funding for GLB the total budgetary allocations to GLB have substantially increased. This has enabled GLB to re-stock about sixty-two libraries nationwide with a substantial number of new books. The Committee views this development very encouraging but recommends that, considering the numerous uncompleted libraries throughout the country and the cardinal importance of libraries in educational development, adequate funding should be made available to the GLB. The Committee was also happy to note that GLB had been able to send the guidelines on the establishment and development of District and Community Libraries to the regions for onward transmission to the districts. The Committee whilst commending GLB for this also urges it to monitor to ensure compliance.

The Committee also noted with much delight the introduction of the Mobile Library Service to bring Library services to the door step of rural communities. The GLB took delivery of ten Mobile Library Vans and six double cabin Nissan pick ups to be distributed to the Regions.

It was additionally observed that, the educational programmes put in place by GLB on the importance of libraries for socio- economic development is not intensive enough. The Committee observed that the old perception by some Ghanaians that libraries are for those preparing for examinations has contributed to the low patronage of the Library Board's programmes and activities.

It is therefore considered that, pragmatic educational programmes and measures should be put in place to educate the general public on the importance of libraries in the socio-economic development of the country.

The Board should also consider networking with other organizations and institutions to attract additional funding to supplement its budgetary allocations.

5.1.5 National Service Scheme (NSS)

Investment Allocations

The Committee noted with regret, the meager funds approved for NSS investment and Service activities for the year 2006. As a result, the secretariat could not do much in the area of Investment. The Secretariat was therefore compelled to cut short the period of service or delay the postings in order to stay within the approved budget.

The Committee further noted that orientation programmes for NSP in Teaching (required for improved teaching skills, training for staff, NSP Military training) for enhanced disaster management preparedness were curtailed. This, the Committee considered unfortunate looking at the role the National Service Scheme plays in our educational development.

The Committee also reiterated the need to allocate funds to enable the Secretariat organize pre service training for NSP's who are posted to teach especially in Science, Maths, the Technical Subjects and those at the basic level, since most of the personnel do not have training in teaching principles and methods.

The Committee recommends that as a matter of necessity the GES should be made to develop both pre and in-service training programmes for such service personnel.

Internally Generated Funds

The Committee however noted with satisfaction that, in spite of all its difficulties, the secretariat was able to raise some internally generated funds to the tune of seven billion, and one million cedis (¢7,001,000,000.00) to supplement the GOG funds in administration, Service and Investments activities. The Committee urges the secretariat to strengthen its internal revenue generation so as to reduce its over reliance on the central government.

The Ghana National Volunteer Programme (GNVP)

The Committee noted with delight that the GNVP which the Scheme has successfully been running for the past three years has now been absorbed by the Ministry of Manpower, Youth and Employment.

The Committee views this development laudable and therefore urges the NSS and the Ministry to look beyond the borders of Ghana to explore the possibility of sending volunteers to other countries. Apart from earning the Nation some foreign exchange, this has a great potential of reducing the youth unemployment in the country. This would also give them the relevant experience required by some employers require before engaging them.

Monitoring/Supervision

It came to the notice of the Committee that monitoring and supervision of National Service Persons over the year has not been effective due to the numerous logistical constraints facing the Scheme. This ineffective monitoring and supervision in the opinion of the Committee has

resulted in a situation where some National Service Personnel perform abysmally or vacate their post without being noticed. The Committee therefore appeals to the Ministry to as a matter of urgency, assist the Scheme with the necessary logistics that would enhance the monitoring and supervision of its activities.

The Committee also urges the National Service Secretariat to liaise with the various Decentralized Agencies and Departments in the districts to help with the supervision of the Service Persons.

5.1.6 National Council on Tertiary Education (NCTE)

The Committee observed that there has been an improvement in the records and accounts of internally generated funds by the tertiary institutions. The IGF generated by the tertiary sector has increased from ₵66 billion in 2002 to ₵419 billion in 2006 representing an increase of 84%. Though this commendable, the Committee is of the opinion that more could be done if improved monitoring mechanisms are put in place to check on revenue mobilization. The Committee therefore recommends that the NCTE continues to strengthen its income generating activities and auditing systems so as to supplement Government efforts.

The Committee also observed that Distance education is being promoted vigorously in a number of programmes at most of the country's public universities. Currently, the University of Cape Coast and University of Education, Winneba, run Diploma, Post Diploma degrees in Education, Arts and Social studies. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology is also running BSc. and MSc. Distance Education Programmes in Computer Engineering, Building Technology and Industrial Mathematics. About 31,320 students mostly teachers are involved in the programme. The Committee commends this impressive gains being made in this area and urges the various institutions not to compromise on quality in their quest to increase enrolment.

The Committee also calls on the GES and for that matter the Ministry to put in place incentive packages to encourage more teachers to enroll in the programmes. This in the Committee's

view has an added advantage of retaining the teachers in the classroom whilst at the same time upgrading them.

The Committee further observed that the government policy of 60:40 ratios in favour of Science and technology enrolment could not be achieved. The ratio in the 2005/2006 academic year it was observed was 35:65 in favour of arts and humanities. This situation, the Committee noted was due to inadequate science teachers, laboratories, equipment and other logistical and infrastructural problems facing the institutions. It is the considered view of the Committee that for Science and Technology to lead the way to industrial development of the country, pragmatic efforts should be made to check this anomaly by allocating more funds for the training of teachers and provision of equipment and infrastructure in this area of education.

5.1.7 National Association for Civic, Vocational Education and Training (NACVET)

The Committee noted with concern that although NACVET has many projects earmarked for the year 2007, investment allocation is very small. The Committee therefore recommends that, the Ministry should ensure that money is made available to NACVET to enable it undertake its planned programmes for the year.

The Committee further observed that NACVET is redirecting its focus of Vocational Training Institution to the provision of short, focused, practical competency based and demand driven training for people already in employment. This, the Committee noted will provide an avenue for more people to regularly upgrade themselves.

The Committee also noted with delight that the issue of backlog of certificates to successful candidates is progressing steadily and efforts are being made to hasten the pace.

The Committee further observed that teaching and examinations syllabus for AIDS education have been developed. The programme is to integrate HIV/AIDS in the office practice and

secretarial duties of professionals. Questions on AIDS will be set for the June 2007 examinations.

5.2 SPORTS SUB-SECTOR

Inadequate Funding

The Committee observed that the budgetary allocation of **Seventy Seven Billion, Five Hundred and Seven Million Cedis (¢77,507,000,000.00)** to the sub-sector represents only 0.9% of the total provision for the entire Ministry. This indicates an increase of **Thirty Billion, Two Hundred and Forty Million, One Hundred and Fifty Four Thousand, Eighty Cedis (¢30,240,154,080.00)** up from **the Forty Seven Billion, Two Hundred and Sixty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Forty-Five Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty Thousand Cedis (¢47,266,845,920)** provided in 2006.

The Committee is of the opinion that this allocation will adversely affect the sector considering the Black Queens qualification for the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup in China, Ghana's participation in the 2007 All Africa Games in Algeria and the preparations for CAN 2008.

Personnel Emoluments

The Committee observed that Personnel Emoluments for 2007 allocated to National Sports Council (NSC) would not allow it to employ more staff. Also due to the relatively poor condition of service and the retirement of most of the technical personnel, the personnel turnover is high. This situation does not augur well for the development of Sports in the country especially with the activities outlined for this year where highly qualified technical personnel are needed.

Lack of Effective Planning and Transparency

Even though the Committee recognises the fact that NSC has prepared a draft National Sports Strategic Plan (NSSP) for implementation, it is of the view that the attitude of some of the personnel and the lack of proper planning within the sector also contributes to the poor state of affairs. Lack of transparency in sporting activities in the country with regards to inflows was

also noted by the committee. The committee therefore emphasised the need for openness and proper scrutiny in the activities of the sports sub sector. This will ensure that profits are maximized and channelled to proper use.

Internally Generated Funds

While the committee acknowledges that commercialization of the various stadia in Ghana could lead to the collapse of many football clubs. It also recognized the great financial potential of the sub sector. For this reason the committee stressed the need for innovation and strategic planning to find ways of internally generating funds. They suggested that the proper promotion of less popular sports to attract funding from the business community.

The Committee expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of funds allocated to sports thus pleaded for an increment. They highlighted that, Internally Generated Funds (IGF) which they could fall back on in case of a run out of the approved funds is woefully inadequate and what has been generated has not been well collated. Most funds raised from matches played at the stadia go to the various teams and their handlers. Commercialization of these stadia which could have increased funds generation is impossible because only a few football clubs have large following, thus would be able to pay for the use of the stadia.

Although the Committee was satisfied with the explanation given concerning the Ministry's inability to commercialize the stadia, they believed that the Ministry could improve by planning programmes that would generate funds.

5.3 SCIENCE SUB SECTOR

5.3.1 Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Inadequate budgetary allocations

It was noted by the Committee that, about 94% of the 2007 budgetary allocation to the Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) would be used for the payment of personnel emoluments leaving only 6% for administration, service and investment activities

but considering the number of activities that have to be carried out by the Centre, the Committee recommends additional funding.

The Committee is however happy to note that in spite of the numerous constraints facing the sector, the agriculture-based institutes of the CSIR have intensified the development of improved crops and cereal varieties which are early maturing, and pest and drought-resistant.

In addition, the Crops Research Institute (CRI) and Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI) continue to release new varieties of peanuts, cowpea, soya beans, sorghum and millet.

5.3.2 Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC)

The Committee noted with delight the completion of the Tissue Culture Laboratory for large scale multiplication of a wide range of planting materials. This in the view of the Committee will enable more farmers to access these materials for increased production and poverty reduction.

GAEC also established the much awaited Post-Graduate School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences (SNAS), to train the required human resources for the Commission and other institutions in the country, and as a regional training centre for other Member States in Africa. The school in the view of the Committee will not only provide the nation with the much needed nuclear professionals, but will also save the nation from spending its scarce foreign currency for training these professionals abroad. The nation also stands the chance of generating foreign currency since the school will be admitting students from other African countries

The Committee sadly observed that the meager **Four Billion Cedis** allocated to GAEC for the upgrading of Gamma Irradiation Plant in year 2006 was not released. However considering the importance of the equipment in the treatment and preservation of agricultural products as well as the processing of medical supplies and pharmaceutical products, the Committee requests the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to release the said amount to enable GAEC undertake this important assignment.

6.0 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

In addition to the specific sector by sector observations mentioned above, the following general observations were also made:

Inadequate Funding

The Committee noted with concern the inadequate budgetary allocation to the Ministry which has resulted in poor funding of the various departments and agencies under the Ministry. Though the Ministry gets about one-third of the nation's annual budgetary allocations, about ninety percent (90%) goes to the payment of salaries leaving a meager ten percent (10%) for its administrative, service and investment activities.

This situation in the view of the Committee is frightening and urges the government to have a second look at the Ministry's allocation.

Internally Generated Funds

It was also observed that though there had been some improvement in generation and account for internally generated funds by the various sectors of the Ministry, some of the departments still do not properly account for the IGF. The Committee consequently urges the Ministry as a matter of urgency to strengthen its agencies and departments to generate more funds internally and also put in place practical measures to regularise the use of the IGF by some of its agencies.

Poor Condition of Service

It was further observed that there is general poor condition of service for most of the employees working in the various sectors of the Ministry, a situation which has resulted in high employee turnover in some sectors.

0 GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is not oblivious of the numerous efforts being made by the government to improve the quality of education, promote sports, science and technology in the country.