

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

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
DEFENCE AND INTERIOR ON THE 2002  
ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR**

**14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2002**

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**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Budget Statement and Financial Policy of the Government was presented to the House by the Finance Minister on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2002. In accordance with Article 179 of the Constitution and Orders 140 (4) and 158 of the Standing Orders, the Annual Estimates of the Ministry of the Interior was referred to the Committee for consideration and report.

The Committee met with the Hon. Minister of the Interior, the Chief Director as well as Heads and officials of the following agencies under the Ministry:

- (a) Ghana Police Service
- (b) Ghana Prisons Service
- (c) Ghana National Fire Service
- (d) Ghana Immigration Service
- (e) Narcotics Control Board
- (f) National Disaster Management Organization

## 2.0 **REFERENCES**

In considering the Estimates, the Committee was guided by the following documents:

- (a) The 1992 Constitution
- (b) The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government for the Year 2002
- (c) The Standing Orders
- (d) The Annual Estimates of the Ministry of the Interior

## 3.0 **THE MINISTRY'S MISSION**

The Ministry of the Interior has the overall responsibility to ensure the maintenance of Internal Security for all persons in Ghana within the law. This is to be done by (a) reviewing, formulating, implementing and evaluating policies (b) protecting life and property (c) preventing and mitigating effects of disasters (d) ensuring immigration control (e) preventing and detecting crime (f) ensuring safe custody and facilitating the reformation and rehabilitation of offenders (g) reaching out to the general public by employing and establishing good relations with them.

The Ministry of the Interior believes in integrity, transparency and efficiency by employing and retaining well-trained and disciplined personnel.

#### 4.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Ministry are to:

- (a) Ensure adequate protection of life and property
- (b) improve institutional capacity to enhance service delivery
- (c) ensure efficient crime detection and prevention
- (d) develop a good public relations system
- (e) strengthen disaster prevention and response mechanism
- (f) regulate and monitor the entry, stay and exit of non-Ghanaians and the travelling public and to
- (g) develop a highly efficient and humane custodial and reformatory system.

#### 5.0 BREAKDOWN OF YEAR 2001 BUDGET

TABLE 1

ITEM OF EXP.	PROVISION APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT BILLION ₵	REVISED BUDGET ₵	ACTUAL EXP. ₵	VARIANCE ₵
PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS	116,291,371,344	120,994,000,000	183,555,564,002	EXCEEDED BY 62,562,564,002
ADMINISTRATION	60,648,528,462	62,788,900,000	97,310,919,862	EXCEEDED BY 34,522,091,862
SERVICES	18,062,880,563	12,599,600,000	5,464,429,244	LESS BY 7,135,170,755
INVESTMENT	8,818,954,850	5,759,900,000	16,592,161,246	EXCEEDED BY 10,832,261,246
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>203,821,735,219</b>	<b>202,142,400,000</b>	<b>302,924,074,354</b>	<b>OVERALL EXCESS 100,781,674,354</b>

## 6.0 **2002 ANNUAL ESTIMATES**

A total amount of three hundred and forty eight billion, five hundred and sixty-two million cedis (¢348,562,000,000) made up of ¢321,982,000,000 GOG and a Donor component of ¢26,580,000,000 has been allocated to the Ministry of the Interior for the year 2002.

### 6.1 **BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATION**

The detailed distribution of the amount under the various items is attached as Appendix A.

## 7.0 **OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

National security is critical for the attainment of the development goals of the Country. The Committee observed that this has necessitated a 71 percent budgetary increase over last year's allocation.

### a) **HEADQUARTERS**

The main Ministry has the responsibility for policy formulation. This year, the Ministry intends to strengthen its policy formulation capacity to provide the expected supervisory role over the agencies under the Ministry.

To achieve this, it is necessary that the Ministry has a network linking it to the other agencies for the better exchange of information. The Committee applauds this

initiative and urges the Ministry to use the resources provided to undertake this project.

The Committee noted that the Ministry lacks the required manpower development capacity especially in the senior grade. This situation has adversely affected the performance of the Ministry. The Committee therefore wishes to appeal to the Ministry of Finance to support the Ministry to enable the Ministry employ its full compliment of staff.

It was further noted that there are over a hundred private security organisations currently registered in the country. Out of this number, about forty are in active operation. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Interior formulate policy, guidelines to regulate their operations and existing regulations enforced to effectively monitor their activities.

The Committee also observed that personnel of some private security companies wear uniforms, which are similar to the prescribed uniforms used by some state security organisations.

The Committee views this as inappropriate and recommends that this matter be addressed immediately by the Ministry.

b) **POLICE SERVICE**

The performance of the Police Service has over the years been impeded by inadequate budgetary provisions.

Logistics required by the service such as Communication equipment, vehicles are in acute shortage. The service has one hundred and forty-four (144) road worthy vehicles to be maintained for use. The Committee is satisfied with the fifty vehicles recently provided by the Government to the Police Service to augment its fleet of vehicles.

The promise of an additional 450 vehicles made by the Government is considered a positive step and would improve the logistic base of the Service when supplied. It is however the plea of the Committee that good care is taken of these vehicles to ensure a longer life span.

A total sum of ₦62.2 billion has been provided for Administrative expenses for the year. Out of this amount, ₦52.9 billion would be used for the payment of allowances for personnel. It is worth noting that these allowances are fixed and paid monthly in addition to salaries. The balance of ₦9.3 billion would therefore be used for the rest of the expenditure items including rent, estimated to cost ₦5 billion. The remaining amount of ₦4.3 billion would not be enough to cover maintenance and repair of vehicles and other expenditure. The Committee considers this amount woefully inadequate and appeals to the Ministry of Finance to provide more funds to meet administration expenses.

c) **PRISONS SERVICE**

The objective of the Prisons Service is to promote more efficiently the statutory functions of safe custody, reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. To improve the status of the various prisons the service intends to establish a number of Prison workshops to enable the service give meaningful trade training to the inmates. This, the Service hopes will generate some income to support Government subvention.

Mr. Speaker, overcrowding remains a serious problem to the Prisons Service. The Service has an inmate population of about 11,500 and the forty-five (45) prisons establishment throughout the country cannot accommodate this population. This has resulted in inmates contracting diseases such as pneumonia, skin rashes, and other serious communicable diseases. To add to this is the non- release of funds for clothing and medical care for inmates, resulting in the death of prisoners. The Committee entreats the Ministry of Finance to assist in this regard since it is the responsibility of Government to ensure that the prisons are habitable. It is however gratifying that the Government has declared in the 2002 Budget Statement to establish a new open prison for the Service at Akwasiase in the Ashanti Region to ease congestion in the prisons.

The Committee again observed that the current provision is inadequate and cannot support the establishment of new



prison camps and workshops. It is expected that the cost of ration for prisoner's will be increased from ₦2,500.00. to ₦3,000.00 per head. With the present prison population of 11,500, the amount provided will be enough to cater for the prisoners for a period of eight months. The Service already has an outstanding bill of ₦1,200,000,000 for the cost of ration for the months of November and December 2001. The Committee envisages a precarious situation after the eight months period and therefore entreats the Ministry of Finance to salvage the situation.

Mr. Speaker, your committee noted that the Prisons Service has serious constraints with regard to the provision of uniforms and accommodation for its personnel. The Service has been unable to supply uniforms to officers for the past three years. The result is that officers of the Service appear in faded and unsightly uniforms which affects morale and the image of the Service.

To mitigate the problem of accommodation, the Service resorted to the renting of a number of private houses (barracks annexes). However due to non-payment of accumulated rent, its personnel have constantly been threatened with ejection. The Committee is of the considered opinion that the timely releases of funds for the payment of rent and supply of uniforms will alleviate the plight of personnel.

d) **GHANA NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE**

The Ghana National Fire Service intends to open new stations where they do not exist. It also plans to vigorously pursue the education of the public to be conscious of the negative impact of fire. The training and recruitment of personnel to enhance the human resource capacity will also be addressed this year. However office and residential accommodation remain a major handicap to the service. To this end the Committee appeals to District Assemblies to provide some support to the Service to enable it to extend its services throughout the country.

e) **THE GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE**

The Committee noted that the Ghana Immigration Service unlike other Security Institutions does not have its own premises (barracks) to house personnel. As a result Officers currently hire and pay for their own premises. The Service therefore intends to rent houses to accommodate its personnel as it pertains in other Sister Institutions. Your Committee urges the Service to speed up this process to boost the morale of Staff. The Committee, however, recommends that Government provides barracks accommodation for the Service to eliminate operational mobilisation difficulties.

With the coming into effect of the new Immigration Act and Regulation, the Service will need to print various forms for

the implementation of the Act this year (2002). Funds are however not available for this exercise to be undertaken. Considering the importance of this assignment, the Committee recommends to the Ministry of Finance to secure funds for the exercise to be undertaken. The Service needs 1.5 billion for this exercise.

f) **NARCOTIC CONTROL BOARD**

The Committee commends the Narcotic Control Board on its intention to concentrate its activities on the second and third Cycle Institutions in the Country. It also plans to extend its activities by establishing offices in Tema Port, Aflao, Elubo and Sampa. It is proposed that the Board liaises with the Narcotics Unit of the Police Service and other security agencies towards achieving its objectives. The Committee observed that the Office Block Complex commenced in 1996 has to date not been completed. The current office being used by the Board can no longer accommodate the Staff of the Board. The Committee, therefore, urges the Ministry of Finance to release funds for the completion of the office complex to facilitate the work of the Board. The budgetary allocation to the Board is grossly inadequate.

g) **NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (NADMO)**

The Organisation will continue with its re-organisation following a merger with the National Mobilisation Programme (NMP). As a result of the restructuring, the staff

strength of the new organisation is expected to increase from 484 to 2,733. A total amount of ₵17,872,000,000 has been allocated to the organisation this year. It was however observed that this amount did not take into consideration the merger of the two organisations. The Committee was informed by the Ministry of Finance that an amount of ₵13.9 billion was inadvertently provided under Government Machinery for the National Mobilisation Programme. The committee therefore recommends to the Ministry of Finance to make the necessary arrangement to have the amount transferred to NADMO to cater for the additional staff to be employed.

It was further observed that the organisation is currently accommodated in rented premises. It also has no available vehicle to travel outside Accra in the event of an emergency. The organisation basically lacks the infrastructure and equipment to function. It is strongly suggested that resources are made available to equip the organisation to effectively handle emergencies.

h) **PAYMENT OF UTILITIES**

The Controller and Accountant General's Department has been mandated to settle utility bills to service providers on behalf of the security agencies. The Controller and Accountant General's Department therefore retains the allocation for utilities to be paid directly to the Utility Companies. The Committee noted that the various Agencies under the Ministry are indebted to the utility providers

running into several billions of cedis. The result is that services are sometimes interrupted and some Agencies are constantly threatened with disconnection. The Volta River Authority's Northern Electrification Department for instance claims to be unaware of this arrangement. To avoid disconnection, the Committee appeals to the Ministry of Finance to honour its obligation to the utility providers.

i) **INTERNALLY GENERATED FUNDS**

A number of Agencies under the Ministry of the Interior undertake activities that generate some income which are paid into the Consolidated Fund. Considering the peculiar nature of the security agencies, it is proposed that a percentage of the resources generated be made available to the institutions to support their activities.

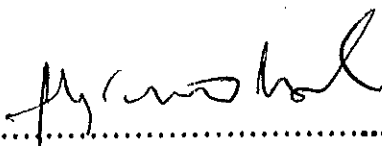
8.0 **CONCLUSION**

The Ministry of the Interior undoubtedly plays an important role towards the attainment and maintenance of law and order in the country.

While appreciating the fact that government cannot make available funds it does not have, the peculiar nature of the security organisations makes it necessary for special consideration to be extended to them when funds are available.

Mr. Speaker, your Committee is of the view that an increase of 71 percent over last year's allocation to the Ministry is a step in the right direction. Your Committee is certain that the judicious use of this amount when released will enhance greater performance of the Ministry and help in the attainment of its goals for the fiscal year 2002. The Committee therefore recommends to this Honourable House to approve the sum of ₵348,562,000,000 to the Ministry of Interior for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2002.

Respectfully submitted.

  
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**(HON.) JOSEPH DARKO-MENSAH**  
**CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON**  
**DEFENCE AND INTERIOR**

  
.....  
**JANET FRIMPONG**  
**CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE**

14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2002

**APPENDIX A**  
**ITEM OF EXPENDITURE**

MDA	PERSONAL EMOLUMENT	ADMINISTRATION	SERVICE	GOG INVESTMENT	DONOR INVESTMENT	TOTAL
HEADQUARTERS	4,578,204,227	4,418,000,000	11,438,000,000	1,920,000,000		22,354,204,23
GHANA POLICE SERVICE	91,495,482,715	62,187,000,000	4,803,000,000	4,717,000,000		163,202,482,715
GHANA PRISON SERVICE	52,860,476,770	4,321,000,000	10,901,000,000	1,975,000,000		70,057,476,770
GHANA NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE	46,374,823,655	5,041,000,000	3,886,000,000	1,755,000,000		57,056,823,65
GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE	5,691,012,633	2,449,000,000	568,000,000	603,000,000		9,311,012,633
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>201,000,000,000</b>	<b>78,416,000,000</b>	<b>31,596,000,000</b>	<b>10,970,000,000</b>	<b>26,580,000,000</b>	<b>348,562,000,000</b>