

**THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTH
PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH
REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

**REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY
SELECT COMMITTEE ON YOUTH,
SPORTS AND CULTURE ON THE 2021
ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR
THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS**

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IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF THE FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA

REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SELECT COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE ON THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Draft Budget Estimates for the Ministry of Youth and Sports for 2021 were referred to the Select Committee on Youth, Sports and Culture for consideration and report pursuant to Orders 140(4) and 187 of the Standing Orders of the House. This followed the presentation to Parliament of the 2021 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government on Friday, 12th March 2021, in accordance with Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Order 140(2) of the Standing Orders of the House.

The Committee met with the Minister for Youth and Sports, Hon. Mustapha Ussif, the Chief Director and a technical team, as well as officers from the Ministry of Finance, to consider the estimates, and reports as follows:

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- I. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- II. The Standing Orders of the House;
- III. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2021 Financial Year;
- IV. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2020 Financial Year;
- V. Report of the Ministry of Youth and Sports on the actual releases and expenditure of the Ministry for the 2020 financial year

3.0 MANDATE, VISION AND MISSION OF THE MINISTRY

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is mandated to develop the capacity of the youth and integrate them into national development, whilst ensuring that the nation's values and aspirations are inculcated in them. Additionally, the Ministry is to ensure that Sports is used as a tool for national cohesion, the expression of national pride, and also serves as a platform for healthy living. The Ministry operates under the Civil Service Law, PNDCL 327 of 1993 and E.I 1 of January 2013.

The vision of the Ministry is to harness the potential of the Youth and the values of sports for National Development and its mission is to provide effective leadership in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Youth and Sports development policies and foster greater public-private sector participation.

4.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE MINISTRY

The broad objectives of the Ministry that will apply over the Medium-Term include, to

- I. Promote effective participation of the youth in socioeconomic development;
- II. Promote the participation of the youth in politics, electoral democracy, and governance;
- III. Enhance sports and recreational infrastructure;
- IV. Build capacity for sports and recreational development; and
- V. Ensure sustainable funding sources for the growth and development of sports.

5.0 FUNCTIONS

The main functions of the Ministry are to

- I. Initiate and formulate youth and sports policies, taking into account the needs and aspirations of the people;
- II. Undertake development planning in consultation with the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC);
- III. Promote and encourage the organization and development of mass participation in amateur and professional sports in Ghana;
- IV. Empower the youth the delivery of education and skill training to develop their full potential that is responsive to the labour market;
- V. Review and rationalize all legal and policy instruments in the youth and sports sector;
- VI. Provide skill training and job opportunities for unemployed youth and encourage private sector participation in absorbing, placing, and exiting the youth into mainstream employment; and

- VII. Train and retrain the technical human resource and research into topical sporting issues, unearth talents and provide state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities.

6.0 POLICY OBJECTIVES

The New Medium Term Development Policy Framework has five Policy Objective that are relevant to the Ministry and are as follows:

- I. Promote effective participation of the youth in socioeconomic development;
- II. Promote the participation of the youth in politics, electoral democracy, and governance;
- III. Enhance sports and recreational infrastructure;
- IV. Build capacity for sports and recreational development; and
- V. Ensure sustainable funding sources for the growth and development of sports.

7.0 IMPLEMENTING DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

The Ministry implements its policies, programmes and projects through:

- I. The National Youth Authority (NYA)
- II. The National Sports Authority (NSA), and
- III. The National Sports College – Winneba (NSC – W)

8.0 THE YEAR 2020 IN RETROSPECT

I. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the 2020 financial year, the Ministry was allocated an amount of **forty million, two hundred and forty-four thousand, one hundred and fifty-five Cedis (GH¢40,244,155.00)** to carry out its programmes and activities.

Out of the total amount, eighteen million, eighteen thousand, four hundred and three Cedis (¢18,018,403.00) was allocated to employee compensation, nineteen million, six hundred and ninety-one thousand, five hundred and eleven Cedis (¢19,691,511.00) to Goods and Services and two million Cedis (¢2,000,000.00) to Capex. Internally Generated Funds for 2020 was pegged at five hundred and thirty-four thousand, two hundred and forty-one Cedis (¢534,241.00), with no funds expected from Development Partners.

TABLE 1: 2020 BUDGET PERFORMANCE (JANUARY TO DECEMBER)

CLASSIFICATION	2020 BUDGET ALLOCATION	2020 RELEASES	ACTUAL PAYMENT	VARIANCE	% VARIAN
COMPENSATION	18,018,403.00	17,755,189.37	17,755,189.37	263,213.63	1.46
GOODS AND SERVICES	19,691,511.00	19,480,179.56	17,886,847.49	211,331.44	1.07
CAPEX	2,000,000.00	1,592,919.07	1,582,967.55	407,080.93	20.35
IGF	534,241.00	2,597,630.51	2,597,630.51	-2,063,389.51	-386.23
TOTAL	40,244,155.00	41,425,918.51	39,822,634.92	-1,181,763.51	

II. OTHER BUDGETARY RELEASES

The Committee noted that even though the Ministry of Finance has stated an amount of fifty million, five hundred and ninety-two thousand, four hundred and sixty-seven Cedis and twenty-seven Pesewas (¢50,592,467.27) under “other votes” for the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Committee was informed that only the amount of twenty-four million, nine hundred and twenty-five thousand, three hundred and eighty-three Cedis and ninety-seven Pesewas (¢24,925,383.97) was disbursed and expended.

The Committee was informed by the Ministry of Finance that the rest of the funds, in the amount of twenty-five million, six hundred and sixty-seven thousand, eighty-three Cedis and three Pesewas (¢25,667,083.3) was set aside for the works on various stadia. These works were not undertaken and so the funds were not released to the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Under Goods and Services the amount of **¢2,356,444.77** was released and disbursed as follows:

a. Repayment of D. K. Poison’s loan to Ghana	–	¢256,774.50
b. Outstanding allowances for the Black Queens	–	¢2,061,043.32
c. Wonder Security	–	¢38,626.95

The remaining amount which totaled **¢22,568,939.20** was released under Capex for Stadia Rehabilitation.

a. Accra Sports Stadium	–	¢17,066,303.80
b. Tamale Sports Stadium	–	¢825,701.27
c. Baba Yara Sports Stadium	–	¢794,908.98
d. New Edubiase Stadium	–	¢2,975,750.08
e. Green Grass Technology	–	¢906,275.07

III. NON-FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

A. POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

➤ The LIs for the National Youth Authority Act, 2016 and Sports Act, 2016

To ensure the effective implementation of both the National Youth Authority Act, 2016 (Act 939) and the Sports Act, 2016 (Act 934), the Ministry engaged Consultants to draft Legislative Instruments (LIs) for both Acts. The final draft of the LI for the Sports Act has been received by the Ministry for consideration whilst the National Youth Authority's LI is undergoing the stakeholder consultation process.

➤ National Sports Fund

To promote sustainable sports development in the country and to address the financial challenges in the Sports Sector, the Ministry has set up a Committee to facilitate works towards the establishment of a Sports Fund. The Fund is intended to bridge the funding gap associated with sports development and promotion. A Memorandum on the establishment of the Fund was submitted to Cabinet for consideration and approval.

➤ 2023 African Games

In preparation towards the hosting of the 2023 African Games, a Memo was submitted to Cabinet for approval to begin work on the organization of the Games. Land has been secured for the construction of an Olympic Sized Sports Complex at Borteyman, Nungua in the Greater Accra Region. A Logo and Mascot Design Competition was initiated by the Project Team to satisfy one of the hosting requirements by the African Union Commission. A nine (9) member Local Organizing Committee was constituted and inaugurated by H.E the President of the Republic of Ghana to handle the technical and events aspects of the 2023 African Games.

B. YOUTH SERVICES

i. Review of the 2010 National Youth Policy

The review exercise was to ensure that youth service delivery responds to the current and future needs of the Ghanaian youth. It is also to ensure the active participation of the youth in the socio-economic development of the country and strengthen institutional coordination and dissemination of critical youth-related data.

In addition to the policy, an Implementation Plan to guide the strategies proposed in the policy was developed. The Technical Committee submitted the draft National Youth Policy and Implementation Plan for a projected year, 2021 to 2030. The two documents would soon receive Ministerial attention for onward submission to Cabinet.

ii. International Youth Day (IYD) Celebrations

In 2020, the world globally celebrated the International Youth Day under the theme “Youth Engagement for Global Action”. In Ghana, a week-long activity was celebrated in conjunction with the UNFPA under the theme “Youth Engagement in Mitigating the Impact of Covid-19; the need for Innovation and Creativity”.

The commemoration for the event took the form of a Youth Dialogue Session on the following sub-themes:

- Innovation in Jobs and Business
- Innovation in Education
- Innovation in Hospitality & Entertainment Industry
- Innovation in Youth Participation in Governance and Elections

About four hundred (400) young people were physically engaged, while a larger number joined via zoom, Facebook and other Social Media platforms.

iii. Report on the “Overview of Youth Development in Ghana”.

The National Youth Authority received technical support from the Commonwealth Secretariat (London) to develop the Overview of Youth Development in Ghana (formally known as, Ghana State of the Youth Development Report); an inception report on youth development in Ghana which served as the basis for the review of the 2010 National Youth Policy. To facilitate the completion of the document, a Peer Review Workshop was held to ensure validation by experts in youth development. The final document has been completed but yet to be published.

iv. Community Information Dissemination on COVID-19

The National Youth Authority, in its response to tackling and reducing the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, embarked on a Community Information Dissemination Programme on Covid-19 across the country. All the sixteen (16) regions conducted online orientation for volunteers through WhatsApp platforms. In all, 550 volunteers were recruited for the exercise which lasted 21 days (17th April, 2020 to 8th May, 2020).

The programme targeted the Inner cities and Zongo communities and gave young people in the local community the opportunity to contribute towards educating other people within the community through dissemination of updates on COVID-19 within Ghana, Africa and the Globe at large. Also, there were sensitization programmes on World Health Organization (WHO) and Ghana Health Service (GHS) precautionary measures and protocols using local languages at identified locations within the communities.

As part of the programme, the Authority donated PPEs (sanitizers, hand gloves, goggles, protective gowns, etc) to the Ministry of Health to advance the course of stemming the spread of the pandemic.

v. **Development of Operational Guidelines and Manual for the Registration and Regulation of Youth Organizations (Formation of Ghana Youth Federation)**

The National Youth Authority also developed the New Operational Guidelines and Manual for the Regulation of the Registration and Re-registration of Youth Organizations across the country. 370 frontline workers of the Authority across the country were trained on the New Operational Guidelines and Manual for the Regulations of the Registration and Re-registration of Youth Organizations. The exercise was conducted to pave way for the formation and inauguration of the Ghana Youth Federation at the District, Regional and National levels.

vi. **Reprotalk**

Reprotalk (Reproductive Talk) is a UNFPA support programme aimed at disseminating reproductive health messages to the youth aged 14 to 25 years. In 2020, the messages were disseminated via social media by employing the services of a blogger who reached out to the target group. The messages developed were in line with observing the covid-19 safety protocols. The dissemination started in the second quarter of the year and a total of 285,609 young people were reached within the period consisting of 37% females and 63% males.

vi. **Youth Leadership and Skills Training Institutes (YLSTIs)**

The National Youth Authority operates eleven (11) YLSTIs nationwide. These Institutes are located in rural communities and enrolment is targeted at interested youth who desire to acquire practical knowledge and skills in the various fields of technical and vocational disciplines at a highly subsidized fee by the Government in response to addressing the rising unskilled youth unemployment in the country.

A total of 1,745 students were enrolled to undergo technical and vocational training in the various skills development trade areas in the Youth Leadership and Skills Training Institutes (YLSTIs). This number comprised of 1,156 males and 589 females.

The Authority also revived the Nzema Maanle YLSTI. The entire Institute's land, which was hitherto overgrown with weeds, was cleared and some of the dilapidated physical structures were renovated.

The Ajumako-Afranse YLSTI in the Central Region, which since its inception operated as a day school, was upgraded to a boarding facility.

In response to COVID-19 pandemic measures instituted by government, the Authority supplied health and safety items to 2,039 staff and students of the eleven YLSTIs. Bunk

beds and mattresses were also supplied to five Institutes, namely Abura, Ajumako-Afranse, Takrowase, Sandema and Nzema Maanle.

The NYA also developed the “Youth leadership & Skills Training Institutes Trainees’ Management System” (YLSTI- TMS) in all the Eleven (11) Institutes across the Country. This is a web-based database system that keeps records of students and the Institutes. This includes profiles of all the institutes, courses and programmes, bio-data and academic information of students. The completed application is available at nya.gov.gh/institute.

vii. Formation of Youth Parliament

The National Youth Authority in 2020, established the Youth Parliament Project in ten regions, creating a platform for youth participation in decision and policy-making. The project is also aimed at promoting accountability and transparency amongst duty bearers as well as providing the youth an opportunity to contribute to nation building. The regions have started the formation of the District Youth Parliaments notably in Upper West (11), Upper East (12), Northern (10), Brong- Ahafo (8), Ashanti (9), Eastern (8), Western (4) and Central (7). The remaining Districts are expected to form and inaugurate their District Youth Parliaments, which will pave way for the formation of the Regional Youth Parliaments and subsequently the National Youth Parliament.

C. SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

In the area of Sports Development, the National Sports Authority and the National Sports College, Winneba undertook the following developmental activities at the District, Regional, National and International levels in fulfillment of their mandate.

i. 2020 Africa Fencing Junior Cadet Championship

Ghana hosted the 2020 Africa Fencing Junior Cadet Championship in Cape-Coast. The Ghana Fencing Association won two silver medals and seven (7) bronze medals.

ii. 7th Africa Zone 2 Swimming Championship

The Ministry set up a Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the “7th Africa Zone 2 Swimming Championship” which was hosted from 5th – 8th March, 2020 at the Bukom International Pool inside the Trust Sports Emporium in Accra. The four-day event was also a qualifier for the 2020 Olympic Games. Eighteen countries from West and Central Africa, with ninety athletes, participated.

iii. Online Tennis Play-and-Stay Coaching Course

The technical department of the National Sports College in collaboration with Ghana Tennis Federation/International Tennis Federation, (GTF/ITF) conducted an online Tennis play-and-stay coaching course for eighty-five (85) students from the University of

Education, Winneba (UEW), all of whom were in level 300 pursuing Bachelor of Education with Specialization in Physical Education (P.E.)

iv. Soccer and Tennis Academy Students

The Sports College, at the beginning of the year, held daily training programmes for the Academy students of the College. The College provided accommodation, feeding and payment of fees. The students were also supplied with the necessary facilities and equipment to enable them train and take part in competitive competitions for the nation.

The weekly training sessions aimed at providing the academy boys with soccer skills included Physical Training, Technical Training, Tactical Training, Psychological Training, and others.

D. INFRASTRUCTURE

i. Construction of Community Sports Facilities

As part of its policy to provide communities across the country with appropriate sports infrastructure, the Ministry embarked on Sports Facility development in New Edubiase in the Ashanti Region and Abiriw in the Eastern Region.

➤ **New Edubiase Sports Stadium**

The Ministry engaged a consultant who redesigned the facility to meet international sports federation standards. The first phase of the 5000-seater capacity facility comprises a FIFA standard football pitch, changing rooms, a VIP stand and a popular stand, fenced wall, washrooms and a borehole. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year 2021.

➤ **Abiriw Facility**

The Ministry also began the construction of a community sports and recreational facility for the youth at Abiriw in the Eastern Region. The project is targeted at providing a community sports and recreation facility for the youth in the area. It would include a football pitch, changing rooms and multipurpose courts for use by the community upon completion.

ii. Rehabilitation of Existing Stadia

Work commenced on the rehabilitation of both the Baba Yara and Essipong Sports Stadia while renovation works at the Accra Sports Stadium (Phase III) were completed.

➤ **Accra Sports Stadium**

The rehabilitation of the Accra Sports stadium which was started in 2017 continued and is in the final stage of completion. Phases One and Two of the project were completed for the hosting of the 2018 Women African Cup of Nations (AWCON).

➤ **Baba Yara Sports Stadium, Kumasi**

The rehabilitation of the Baba Yara Sports stadium commenced in February 2020 and includes the correction of structural defects, reconstruction of the pitch and the drainage system, replacement of the tracks and seats, fixing the plumbing and electrical fittings, and the provision of new floodlights and scoreboard. It is expected to be completed by April 2021.

➤ **Essipong Sports Stadium, Sekondi (Phase 1)**

The Essipong Sports Stadium is also undergoing rehabilitation to fix the structural defects, the plumbing system, roofing and corroded steel works. Work commenced in April 2020 and is expected to be completed by end of May 2021.

iii. Reconstruction of the Nkawkaw Sports Stadium

The National Sports Authority, in partnership with the Middle Belt Development Authority, agreed to reconstruct the Nkawkaw Sports Stadium. On completion, the Stadium will have a FIFA standard pitch, an Olympic standard 8-lane tartan track, a multipurpose court, a 5,000-seater capacity (expandable to 10,000) and hostel facilities.

iv. Construction of Phase One (1) of Youth & Sports Resource Centres of Excellence

The Ministry continued the construction of the ten Youth and Sports Resource Centers of Excellence in the former ten regions. The YRCs come in as a one-stop youth center, that will provide training, counselling, recreation and sporting activities.

The components in the facilities are as follows:

- A FIFA standard football pitch
- 8-lane running track
- 4 Spectator Stands including a VIP stand
- Tennis court
- Multi-purpose Basketball, Volleyball & Handball court
- Gymnasium
- Indoor games hall
- Counselling Center
- ICT Center
- Entrepreneurship Center
- Restaurant
- Adolescent Health Facility (Clinic*)
- Hostels

TABLE 2: THE STATE OF THE 5,000-SEATER CAPACITY PROJECTS

	LOCATION	STATE OF PROGRESS
1.	Ho, Volta Region	85%
2.	Nyinahini, Ashanti Region	95%
3.	Dunkwa-On-Offin, Central Region	87%
4.	Navrongo, Upper East Region	82%
5.	Axim, Western Region	90%
6.	Dormaa Ahenkro, Brong Ahafo Region	98%
7.	Koforidua, Eastern Region	94%
8.	Wa, Upper West Region	90%
9.	North Kaneshie, Greater Accra	90%
10.	Yendi, Northern Region	70%

E. CHALLENGES IN THE SECTOR

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was felt by all sectors, including this one, as programmes and projects were halted due to restrictions. This affected all activities which usually brought in internally generated funds.

The main challenges facing the Ministry however, are as follows:

i. Inadequate Personnel

Key amongst the challenges of the Ministry is the lack of personnel. The National Youth Authority for example operates in most districts but the staff strength decreased from 337 in 2017 to 289 in 2020. This is largely due to the lack of financial clearance for recruitment. Most of the Districts have engaged temporary staff from the Nation Builders Corps (NABCO), with the hope of gaining clearance for proper recruitment. The National Sports Authority and the National Sports College, Winneba are also experiencing similar staff dearth.

ii. Inadequate logistics

Inadequate vehicles and other logistics for the sector is also hampering the effective and efficient operations of the Ministry. This challenge is affecting the frequency of monitoring programmes and projects as well as access to vehicles to carry out official assignments.

iii. Inadequate Youth and Sports Infrastructure / Facilities

The sector lacks modern infrastructure. The absence of standardized youth and sports infrastructure such as community training and recreational centres, multi-purpose sports

halls, boxing gymnasiums, standard athletics ovals in all the regions and districts are affecting the development of youth and sports activities in the country. These had invariably affected the nation's ability to perform at international and regional competitions.

9.0 2021 BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS AND MOYS FOCUS

I. ALLOCATIONS

For 2021, the Ministry and its agencies have been allocated a total budget of thirty-four million, four hundred and twelve thousand thousand, eight hundred and five Cedis (¢34,412,805.00) for its programmes and activities. Of the amount, nineteen million, two hundred and fifty thousand, eight hundred and sixty-seven Cedis (¢19,250,867.00) has been allocated for Employee Compensation, two million and three hundred thousand Cedis (¢2,300,000.00) has been allocated for CapEx, twelve million, four hundred and ten thousand, one hundred and seventy-one Cedis (¢12,410,171.00) for Services and an amount of four hundred and fifty-one thousand, seven hundred and sixty-eight Cedis is projected to be internally generated (IGF).

TABLE 3: 2021 ALLOCATIONS

Cost Centre	Compensation	Goods & Services	CAPEX	IGF	DP	Total
General Administration	3,218,589.00	9,089,215.00	1,911,750.00			14,219,554.00
National Sports Authority	7,377,133.00	2,172,092.00	205,250.00	408,026.00		10,162,502.00
National Sports College	939,503.00	1,019,358.00	183,000.00			2,141,861.00
National Youth Authority	7,715,642.00	129,505.00		43,742.00		7,888,889.00
Total	19,250,867.00	12,410,171.00	2,300,000.00	451,768.00		34,412,805.00

The funds have been allocated according to Programmes and Sub-Programmes as follows:

TABLE 4: 2021 BUDGET ESTIMATES BY PROGRAMMES AND SUB-PROGRAMMES

Programmes	Sub-Programmes	Sub-Programmes Cost	Programmes Cost
P1: Management and Administration	SP: 1.1 General Administration	12,668,091.00	14,219,554.00
	SP: 1.2 Human Resource	666,702.00	
	SP: 1.3 Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	584,842.00	
	SP: 1.4 Research, Statistics and Information Management	299,919.00	
P2: Youth Services	SP: 2.1. Youth Infrastructure Development	-	7,888,889.00
	SP: 2.2 Youth Capacity Development	7,888,889.00	
P3: Sports Development	SP. 3.1 Sports Infrastructure Development and Management.		12,304,363.00
	SP. 3.2 Sporting Events Management.	10,162,502.00	
	SP. 3.3 Sports Human Resource and Facility Development	2,141,861.00	
Totals		34,412,805.00	34,412,805.00

II. PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2021

The Ministry's priorities for the 2021 financial year are reflected in the spending areas under the three programme lines:

A. Management and Administration

- Finalize the Regulations on the Sports Act
- Finalize the Regulations on the Youth Act
- Continue with the Revision of the National Sports Policy
- Finalize the processes for the enactment of the Sports Fund

- Facilitate the qualification and participation of all the National Football Teams in international tournaments
- Continue with preparatory activities towards the hosting of 2023 Africa Games

B. Youth Services

- Implement the National Youth Policy

C. Sports Development

- Ghana's participation in the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan
- Organization of Inter-District Competition, and resource the Regional and District Offices
- Organization of the 2021 Ghana National Games
- Organization of 2021 National Cross-Country Event
- Provision of Formal Education and Skills Training for Soccer and Tennis Academy Students
- Training of Sports Technical Resources

10.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. YOUTH TRAINING PROGRAMMES

The Committee commended the Ministry and the NYA for running various training programmes for the youth too provide them with employable skills. The program, which covered one thousand, seven hundred and forty-five (1,745) deprived and out-of-school youth, is very laudable and worthy of praise.

Committee was happy to note that this programme will be continued and its scope expanded to help the youth in being entrepreneurial, as this will decrease the pressure of government employment and the quest for non-exiting white-collar jobs. The decrease in unemployment will in turn, help in mitigating the crime rate in the country and so must be encouraged and supported.

II. BUDGETARY OVERRUN

The Committee observed that, the Ministry overrun its 2020 budgetary allocation. Though the Ministry was allocated an amount of forty million, two hundred and forty-four thousand, one hundred and fifty-five Cedis (¢40,244.155.00) for its programmes and activities for the year under review, an additional amount of twenty-four million, nine hundred and twenty-five thousand, three hundred and eighty-three Cedis and ninety-seven Pesewas (¢24,925,383.97), representing a 60.9% variance was expended.

According to the Ministry, the Finance Ministry released these additional funds to enable the MOYS settle some outstanding debts. Out of this amount, two million, three hundred and fifty-six thousand, four hundred and forty-four Cedis and seventy-seven Pesewas (¢2,356,444.77) was used to pay off Wonder Security (¢38,626.95), D. K Poison (¢256,774.50) and Black Queens bonuses (¢2,061,043.32). The remaining amount of twenty-two million, five hundred and sixty-eight thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine Cedis and twenty Pesewas (¢22,568,939.20) was released as Capex for the Rehabilitation of the Accra, Baba Yara and Essipong Stadia.

The Committee opined that though the expenditure was legitimate, the Ministry should have budgeted for these activities and gained parliamentary approval before expending. The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to revisit its ceiling policy to avert situations like these from recurring.

III. INADEQUATE BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS

The Committee also observed that the Ministry was allocated ¢40,244.155.00 for its programmes and activities in year 2020, but for 2021, this has decreased to ¢34,412,806.00, a budget cut of 14.5%.

The Committee is worried about this reduction because the Ministry has many capital-intensive projects and activities to carry out this year. The Black Stars alone has eight World Cup qualifier matches and two African matches, which can consume all the allocation leaving other sports activities to suffer. The financial burden placed on the Ministry as a result of the activities of the National Teams is enormous and over the years, most of the Ministry's activities have been sacrificed on the altar of financing the participation of our teams in mandatory qualification matches and tournaments. This year, the Ministry is faced with the challenge of facilitating the following activities:

- Qualifiers to the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers (Black Stars)
- 2022 AFCON Qualifiers, Black Stars
- Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan
- 13th African Games, 2023

- Construction of nine (9) additional Youth Resource Centres in the newly created regions and some identified communities
- Completion of Abiriw and New Edubiase Sports Stadia
- Completion of Accra, Baba Yara and Essipong Sports Stadia
- Renovation of the Ministerial Block

IV. INADEQUATE STAFF

Inadequate staff strength continues to be a challenge to the Ministry, with all the core centers facing a shortage. The National Youth Authority, which operates in all districts for example, had a staff strength staff was three hundred and thirty-seven (337) in 2017 but this had decreased to two hundred and eighty-nine by 2020. There has been no staff replacement or recruitment because, even though the Ministry has made requests to the Head of Civil Service for staff, the Ministry of Finance has not given the necessary financial clearance, even for the recruitment of the essential technical staff.

V. OUTSTANDING LEGISLATION

The Committee observed that the Ministry has still not presented the Legislative Instruments on the National Youth Authority Act, 2016, Act 939 and the Sports Act, 2016, Act 934, to Parliament and this is affecting the operations of these two Agencies. In addition to this, the Sports College Act has also not been initiated. The Committee has therefore directed the Ministry to do all it takes to ensure that these legislations are dealt with as soon as possible.

VI. INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Ministry informed the Committee that inadequate sports infrastructure and facilities are still a big challenge to the sector. According to the Ministry, the absence of standardized sports infrastructure including community training and recreational centres, multi-purpose sports halls, in all regions and districts affect the development of sports activities in the country. A great example is the Winneba Sports College, which could be a source of increased IGF. It is in such bad shape that even the national teams that are mandated to camp there for training before every game, do not like going there. It needs to be completely renovated and expanded so as to attract private sector patronage, thereby bringing in some IGF.

The Committee is of the view that there is the need to improve these facilities, especially now that Ghana will be hosting the 2023 All African Games, and the fact that these facilities, when improved will rake in IGF. This, among others, leads the Committee to the

conclusion that the two million and three hundred thousand Cedis (¢2,300,000.00) allocated for Capex is woefully inadequate.


The Committee was informed that there will be a special budget for the preparation towards hosting the All-Africa Games, there is a need to increase allocations to Cost Centres, to enable them maintain their facilities for the same purpose. The Committee, therefore, calls on the Ministry of Finance to cater for these issues in the Supplementary Budget.

11.0 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Members wish to reiterate their call for the Finance Ministry to give clearance for the Ministry of Youth and Sports to recruit the necessary staff because its activities are vital in improving the lot of the youth, who, in various ways, contribute to national development. The Committee therefore recommends that this August House approve the allocation of thirty-four million, four hundred and twelve thousand, eight hundred and five Cedis (¢34,412,805.00) for its programmes and activities for the 2021 financial year.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


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HON. JOHNSON KWAKU ADU
CHAIRMAN


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SHEBA NANA AFRIYE OSEI
CLERK