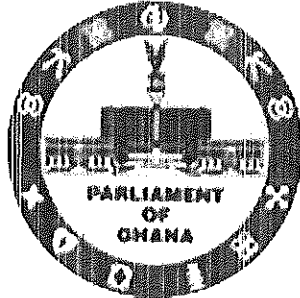


**IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF THE
FOURTH REPUBLIC OF GHANA**



**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON THE 2022 BUDGET
ESTIMATES OF THE PARLIAMENT OF
GHANA**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Minister for Finance Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta presented the Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government for the 2022 financial year to Parliament on Wednesday 17th November, 2021 in accordance with Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution and Section 21(3) of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921).

The Estimates of the Parliament of Ghana were subsequently laid before the House in accordance with article 178 (1) (a) and 179 (2) (b) of the 1992 Constitution, section 15 of the Parliamentary Service Act, 1993 (Act 460) and section 15(a) of the Parliamentary Service (Amendment) Act, 2008, (Act 763).

Pursuant to Order 140 (4) of the Standing Orders of the House, the Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Estimates of Parliament to the Special Budget Committee for consideration and report.

The Committee was assisted by the Clerk to Parliament, Mr. Cyril K. O. Nsiah and Officials of the Parliamentary Service to consider the Estimates. The Committee expresses its gratitude to the Clerk and his officials for the assistance.

2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee made reference to the following documents during its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.
- ii. Public Financial Management Act 2016 (Act 921)
- iii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana.
- iv. The Parliamentary Service Act, 1993 (Act 460).
- v. The Parliamentary Service (Amendment) Act, 2008, (Act 763).
- vi. The Report of the Special Budget Committee on the 2021 Budget Estimates of the Parliament of Ghana.
- vii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2022 Financial Year.
- viii. National Medium Term Development Policy Framework (NMTDPF) for 2022 – 2025; and
- ix. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- x. Recommendations of the President of the Republic of Ghana on the 2022 Financial Estimates of Parliament.

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Parliament of Ghana is to undertake representational, deliberative, legislative, financial control, oversight, information dissemination and problem resolution functions supported by efficient, non-partisan, innovative and professional Parliamentary Service.

In pursuit of this mission, Parliament intends to implement a number of activities aimed at improving service delivery, promoting accountability and responsive governance. To this end, the following strategic goals would be pursued in 2022:

- Strengthen the capacity of Members of Parliament and the Parliamentary Service to introduce Private Member's Bills and effectively scrutinise Bills, Regulations, Treaties and other Agreements;
- Enhance Parliament-citizenry engagement;
- Strengthen mechanism for evidence-based decision-making;
- Strengthen the role of Parliament in the budget cycle, oversight of the economy and international financial agreements;
- Reform and restructure the Parliamentary administration for efficient resource utilisation and service delivery;
- Ensure that Parliament has adequate infrastructure to sustain excellence in service delivery;
- Institutionalise reforms for the effectiveness and efficiency of Parliament;

- Strengthen the role of Parliament in regional and continental integration through strategic partnerships with other Parliaments.

4.0 2021 BUDGET PERFORMANCE REVIEW

For the performance of its functions, an amount of **Five Hundred and Twenty-three Million, Six Hundred and Thirty-nine Thousand, Seven Hundred and Seventy-four Ghana Cedis (GH¢523,639,774)** was allocated to the Parliament of Ghana for its programs and activities in the 2021 financial year. This allocation was revised upwards to Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Million, Five Hundred and Three Thousand, Four Hundred and Seven Ghana Cedis (GH¢752,503,407) by increasing the allocation for Compensation by GH¢229,166,939 to cater for the payment of End of Service Benefits for Members of the 7th Parliament.

The additional allocation to Parliament during the year was to enable Parliament meet its expenditure requirements for the 2021 financial year. The allocation was disbursed among the three cost centers of Parliament as follows:

Compensation of Employees	-	GH¢429,975,719
Goods and Services	-	GH¢205,027,688
Capital Expenditure	-	GH¢117,500,000
Total	-	<u>GH¢752,503,407</u>

The 2021 appropriation and Supplementary allocation to Parliament is presented in the table 1 below.

Table 1: 2021 Appropriation and Supplementary Allocation to Parliament

SN	Expenditure Item	2021 Appropriation (GH¢)	Supplementary Allocation (GH¢)	Total Allocation (GH¢)
1	Compensation of Employees	201,112,086	229,166,939	429,975,719
2	Goods and Services	205,027,688	0.00	205,027,688
3	Assets	117,500,000	0.00	117,500,000
	TOTAL	523,639,774	229,166,939	752,503,407

Out of this allocation, the sum of **Five Hundred and Forty-Three Million, Six Hundred and Thirty-Six Thousand, One Hundred and Thirty-Two Ghana Cedis (GH¢543,636,132)** representing 72.24% of the total allocation was released as at 15th December, 2021. The actual expenditure of Parliament for the same period stood at **Four Hundred and Ninety Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty-Six Ghana Cedis (GH¢490,575,556)** representing 65.19% percent of 2021 budget allocation and 90.24% of the releases.

The unreleased balance therefore stands at **One Hundred and Forty-Nine Million, One Hundred and Seventy Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty-One Ghana Cedis (GH¢149,170,581)** representing 27.8% of the 2021 allocation.

The 2021 Budget Allocation, releases and actual expenditure as at 15th December, 2021 is presented in the Table 2.

Table 2: 2021 Allocation and Actual Releases as at 15/12/2021

Item of Expenditure	2021 Budget Appropriation (GH¢)	Releases as at 15/12/2021 (GH¢)	Actual Exp. as at 15/12/2021 (GH¢)	Variance (GH¢)	% Released (GH¢)
Compensation	429,975,719	364,295,145	364,295,145	65,983,880	84.72
Goods and Services	205,027,688	117,882,026	85,775,677	27,145,661	57.49
Capex	117,500,000	61,458,961	40,504,734	76,995,266	52.30
Total	752,503,407	543,636,132	490,575,556	149,170,581	72.2

5.0 ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

Out of these releases, Parliament with support from the Parliamentary Service, undertook key activities towards the realisation of its core mandate of legislation, oversight, financial scrutiny and representation. Some of the activities implemented include:

5.1 **Legislative Business**

In accordance with Article 93(2) of the Constitution, Parliament continued to discharge its mandate through Plenary and Committee Sittings to consider and approve legislative proposals brought before it. In this regard, the House held a total of One Hundred and Seventy-Five (175) plenary sittings compared with one hundred and thirty-three (133) Plenary Sittings held in 2020.

Additionally, one hundred and eighty-nine (189) Committee Meetings were held in 2021 as against one hundred and eight (108) in 2020. Additionally, six (6) Bills, thirty-eight (38) Committee reports and one hundred and thirty-four (134) questions were asked and answered.

5.2 Parliamentary Oversight

In accordance with Articles 174, 178, 181, 184 and 187 of the Constitution, Parliament continued to exercise oversight over the use of state resources. In this direction, the Public Accounts Committee held twenty-eight (28) public sittings to consider ten (10) reports of the Auditor-General pursuant to Article 187.

5.4 State of the Nation Address (SONA) 2021

Pursuant to Article 67 of the Constitution, H.E. the president, Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo-Addo delivered to the House, a message on the State of the Nation to the House. The address covered progress made in key sectors of the economy, critical national issues including the state of the economy, social, infrastructure, education, agriculture, governance, energy and environmental management. The president also used the opportunity to present his vision for the next four years. Parliament also debated and adopted a Motion to thank H.E. the President for his message on the State of the Nation as delivered to the House.

5.5 Parliamentary Infrastructure Project

The Parliamentary infrastructure project which seeks to provide additional office space to accommodate 23 Members of Parliament, MP's drivers, a holding area for drivers and visitors center in the precincts of Parliament was completed. Work is currently ongoing on the construction of additional office space and Commercial Center which is about 40% complete.

6.0 OUTLOOK FOR 2022

For the 2022 financial year, Parliament will continue to implement ongoing program aimed at improving the legislative, oversight and representational functions of the House and also promote improved service delivery to support the work of Parliament. To this end, Parliament would pursue the implementation of the following medium term strategic objectives as outlined in the Strategic Plan (2020-2024):

1. Strengthen capacity to introduce Private Members' Bills and effectively scrutinise Bills, Regulations, Treaties, Conventions and other Agreements;
2. Enhance Parliament-citizenry engagement and public participation;
3. mechanism for evidence-based decision-making;
4. Make the representational function more relevant to citizens
5. Strengthen the scrutiny role of Parliament in the budget cycle, the economy, international business or economic transactions;

6. Strengthen the parliamentary administration for efficient resource utilisation and service delivery;
7. Ensure that Parliament has adequate infrastructure to sustain excellence in service delivery;
8. Introduce reforms for the effectiveness and efficiency of Parliament; and
9. Strengthen the role of Parliament in regional and international integration.

7.0 **2022 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION**

For the implementation of the above programmes and activities, the Parliament of Ghana has been allocated the sum of **Six Hundred and Eighty Seven Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety - Nine Thousand, One and Seventy Two Ghana Cedis (GH¢687,999,172)** for the execution of its programmes and activities in 2022. The allocation would be disbursed among the various expenditure items of Parliament as follows:

Compensation of Employees	-	GH¢ 307,971,978
Goods and Services	-	GH¢ 280,027,143
Capital Expenditure	-	GH¢ 100,000,000
Total	-	<u>GH¢687,999,172</u>

Details of 2022 allocation compared with 2021 allocation is presented in the Table 3 below:

Table 3: 2022 Allocation compared to 2021 Allocation

Cost Centre	2022 Allocation (GH¢)	2021 Allocation (GH¢)
Compensation	307,971,978	429,975,719
Goods and Services	280,027,143	205,027,688
Capital Expenditure	100,000,000	117,500,000
Total	687,999,121	752,503,407

The allocation to Parliament would be expended on the various programmes as follow:

Management & Administration	-	GH¢307,971,978
Parliamentary Business	-	GH¢280,027,143
Information Support Services	-	GH¢100,000,000
Total	-	<u>GH¢687,999,121</u>

8.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee having carefully scrutinised the Estimates of Parliament made the following observations:

8.1 Shortfall in Budgetary Allocation

The Committee noted that Parliament submitted a request for an amount of GH¢1,732,000,000 to execute its planned activities and programs for the 2022 financial year. However, His Excellency the President recommended for consideration of Parliament, an amount of GH¢687,999,120.00 as Budget Estimates for Parliament and the Parliamentary Service for the 2022 financial year.

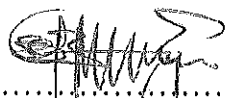
8.4 Construction of Constituency Offices for Members of Parliament

The Committee noted that budgetary allocations were made for the construction of MPs Constituency offices for which no expenses were made. In 2021, an amount of GH¢70,000,000 was allocated for the purpose. However, as at December, 2021 no contract was awarded leaving the appropriated amount undisbursed. The Committee noted that successful execution of the project would further deepen the representational role of Members and Parliament by bringing Members closer to their constituents. The Committee therefore urges the Leadership of the House to quicken the pace of implementation of this laudable project.

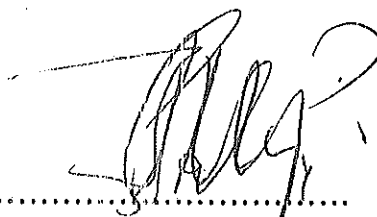
9.0 CONCLUSION

In view of the need to strengthen Parliament as the key pillar of Ghana's democracy, the Committee recommends to the House to adopt its report and approve the sum of **Six Hundred and Eighty - Seven Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine Thousand, One Hundred and Twenty-One Ghana Cedis (GH¢687,999,121)** for the implementation of some of the programs of the Parliament of Ghana for the 2022 Financial Year.

Respectfully submitted.



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HON. OSEI KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU
(MAJORITY LEADER & CHAIRMAN,
SPECIAL BUDGET COMMITTEE)



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JOANA ABENA SAKYI ADJEI (MRS.)
(CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)

17TH DECEMBER 2021