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General News

Council of State member and Labianca owner, Asamoah-Hinneh reported dead

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Labianca Company Limited, Eunice Buah Asomah Hinneh, has passed away.

Sources indicate that the CEO of the prominent frozen foods distribution company, who was also a member of the Council of State, died in the early hours of Tuesday.

Since its establishment in 2008, Labianca Company Limited has been a major player in the importation and distribution of frozen chicken, beef, pork, mutton, turkey, fish, and more.

On August 8, 2022, the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP) published an investigative report revealing that Labianca Group of Companies, owned by Eunice Jacqueline Buah Asomah-Hinneh,

had evaded import duties.

The OSP recovered a sum of ₵1.074 million, representing a shortfall in import duties paid to the state.

The report, signed by Special Prosecutor Kissi Agyebeng, alleged that influence-peddling by Ms. Asomah-Hinneh led to a reduction in the tax liabilities for Labianca Company Limited.

It was contended that Ms. Asomah-Hinneh used her position as a member of the Council of State and the Board of Directors of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) to secure favorable decisions from the Customs Division.

A Deputy Commissioner of Customs in charge of Operations, Joseph Adu Kyei, was also cited by the OSP for issuing what was described as an unlawful customs

advance ruling.

This ruling reduced the benchmark values of goods imported by Labianca Limited, translating to

reduced tax obligations for the company to the state.

Source: The Independent Ghana



Eunice Buah Asomah Hinneh, CEO, Labianca Company

Ghana can't be a serious country if it doesn't re-introduce road tolls – Roads Minister

Minister of Roads and Highways, Francis Asenso-Boakye, has revealed intentions to reinstate road tolls, citing the common practice in many countries where toll revenues are allocated for road maintenance.

During an interview with the media on Monday, June 10, the Member of Parliament for Bantama emphasized the necessity of tolling roads, highlighting its prevalence in numerous countries.

"In many countries, they use the toll that we collect from the roads to finance maintenance. So, at our ministry, we have started the process by engaging the various stakeholders to get their buy-in to make sure that we bring the road toll back. This is very important. I have never seen any serious country where they don't toll their road," he said.

The decision to halt toll collection during the tenure of the former

Minister, Amoako Atta, sparked concerns regarding its adverse effects on road upkeep, particularly amid the country's deteriorating road infrastructure.

Historically, toll revenues played a significant role in financing road maintenance.

However, the Ministry of Roads and Highways abruptly suspended toll collection nationwide in 2021, effective November 18, as part of efforts to alleviate traffic congestion at toll plazas and in preparation for the implementation of the e-levy.

The discontinuation of toll collection was predicated on the expectation that the e-levy would generate adequate funds.

Nonetheless, the performance of the e-levy fell short of projections, necessitating the reconsideration of road toll reinstatement.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Phoebe Martekie Doku



Francis Asenso-Boakye, Minister of Roads and Highways

General News

Education Minister to present Free SHS bill to Parliament

The government is set to introduce a Free Senior High School Bill before Parliament for approval.

Majority Leader, Alexander Afenyo-Markin, made this known during a press briefing ahead of Parliament's resumption from break on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

He indicated that a finalised bill is ready for presentation by the Education Minister, Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum.

According to him, the move is to prevent any government from attempting to abort the policy and make it binding on successive governments.

"If we consider it [Free SHS bill] as a House, what that means is that it becomes mandatory for governments to implement this."

"Unless it is repealed, no government would have the right to say, I am not going to enforce Free SHS because now it is law, so if you fail, a citizen can apply to the court as his bona fide and the court can exact justice in that citizen's favour," he said.

Implementation of the programme began in September

2017, targeting first-year students in public Senior High Schools and Technical/Vocational Institutions.

Every Ghanaian child who is placed into a public Second Cycle Institution by the Computerised School Selection and Placement System (CSSPS) during the school

placement process is eligible for a free SHS education.

According to the government, over 5 million Ghanaians have benefited from the policy since its implementation.

Meanwhile, government is working on reviewing its flagship

programme. Free SHS policy has been beset by a range of implementation problems, including the late disbursement of funds, overcrowding of classrooms, and teacher shortages, among others.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Andy Ogbarmey-Tetty



Yaw Osei Adutwum, Education Minister

Pay us more, 10% on monies from stool lands not enough - Ashanti Regional Chiefs to gov't

The Ashanti Regional House of Chiefs has made a strong appeal to the government to reconsider the current revenue distribution from stool lands.

Traditional leaders argue that the existing allocation of 10 per cent to traditional authorities is inadequate and does not recognise the significant role they play in land management.

In a meeting with the flagbearer of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, the Chiefs expressed dissatisfaction with the consistent stance of successive governments on this issue.

Despite numerous appeals, there has been no positive adjustment to the revenue share, they emphasized.

Adansimanhene Opegya Kotwere Bonsrah Afiyie II and Mamponghene Dasebre Osei Bonsu II highlighted the urgency of the matter, urging Dr. Bawumia for immediate action.

They called for constructive dialogue between the government and traditional authorities to reach a mutually beneficial resolution.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Phoebe Martekie Doku



Opegya Kotwere Bonsrah Afiyie II, Adansimanhene

General News

New SHS Curriculum with 37 subjects unveiled by NaCCA

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NaCCA) has introduced a revolutionary new curriculum for Senior High Schools (SHS) focused on instilling national values and nurturing pride among young people.

This innovative curriculum offers 37 subjects aimed at providing students with the knowledge, skills, values, attitudes, and character traits essential for lifelong learning, employability, and a satisfying adult life.

During a media briefing with various teacher unions in Bolgatanga, Reginald George Quartey, Acting Director of Curriculum Development at NaCCA, highlighted the curriculum's flexibility. He noted that it will enable students to customize their studies based on their interests and strengths, thereby removing the rigid structures of previous programs.

"This new curriculum will help students to select the subjects they want to study; for instance, if a student wants to do science, he will do the four core subjects and then, select perhaps chemistry and biology and from there, the student can add government and

business or other two subjects that are totally not related to science," Mr. Quartey explained.

He further explained that: "The idea is that if the student is having interest or not performing well in the science, he can have a chance to either change to do art or business without necessarily having to go through some challenges of doing so."

The Dean, Professor Jonathan Fletcher, who established the School of Education and Leadership at the University of Ghana, commended the curriculum for its comprehensive

teaching approach.

"The document itself incorporates a lot of inclusive pedagogy to make it easier for teachers to help students," Prof. Fletcher stated, highlighting the curriculum's commitment to catering to diverse learning needs.

Nevertheless, the implementation of the new curriculum has sparked worries among educators regarding disparities in school facilities nationwide.

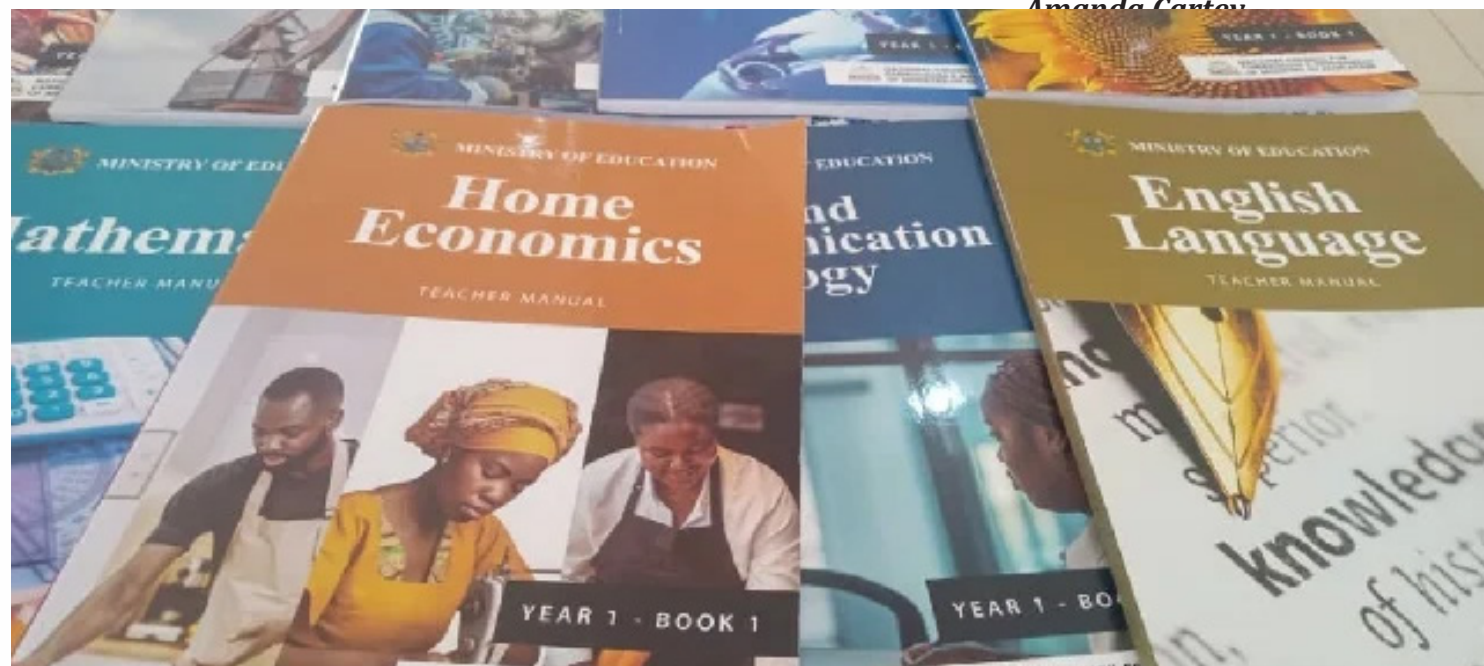
Madam Ivy Betur Naaso, the Upper East Regional Chairperson of the Ghana National Association of Teachers (GNAT), expressed

concerns about the possible unequal distribution, especially in less affluent Category B and C schools.

"It's only when there is equal infrastructure at various schools that we can achieve an equal new curriculum," Madam Naaso asserted.

She emphasized the necessity for enhancements in school infrastructure to guarantee that every student, irrespective of their school's classification, can equally reap the benefits of the new educational structure.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Amanda Carter



File Photo

You can't hold public office - UG Lecturer slams NPP PC for instigating attacks on soldiers

Senior Political Science lecturer at the University of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Asah-Asante, has stated that any politician who supports illegal mining, given its devastating impact on the country's natural resources, should be condemned.

His remarks come in response to the New Patriotic Party's parliamentary candidate for Amenfi East, Ernest Frimpong, who urged illegal miners to confront soldiers attempting to stop their activities.

In a widely circulated video,

Mr Frimpong is seen advising a group of alleged illegal miners to resist military officers patrolling the area and trying to evict them, emphasizing that no military personnel had been authorized to manage the sites and encouraging miners to defend themselves if necessary.

Western Regional Minister Kwabena Okyere Darko-Mensah, who also heads the region's Security Council, was also present at the forum.

Discussing the issue with the media, Dr. Asah-Asante emphasized that such individuals

should not be permitted to hold public office.

"Look at the effect of galamsey on the production of food, on the production of cocoa and then on health. Look at the consequences that we have from these illegal activities and what even the country has not turned its attention to; the issue with our neighbors.

"How we pollute their water bodies and sooner than later they are going to take us on. Look at the kidney problems that we have, which a lot have been attributed

to the fact that we have poisonous substances in our waterbodies.

"So for somebody who is holding a political office to urge people along this negative path, I believe it is a wrong move. These type of people should not be encouraged to hold public office because all they want is to have political power and it doesn't matter how society survives or not".

He also urged security agencies to detain the NPP Parliamentary Candidate for questioning to deter others from inciting the public against police and military

Continued on page 5

General News

You can't hold public office - UG Lecturer slams NPP PC for instigating attacks on soldiers

Continued from page 4

personnel while they perform their duties.

"If that is what the man is saying, then I think the security people must talk to him", he stressed.

Mr. Ernest Frimpong has clarified suggestions that he encouraged illegal miners to persist in their activities and defend themselves against military personnel in the area.

Speaking with the media on Sunday, June 9, Mr. Frimpong confirmed that he was the person in the video but denied interacting with illegal miners, explaining that he was addressing miners in the community.

"I am saying that if the people in uniform can go to the length of engaging civilians in a business to torment miners who are legally working, then, they should be exposed because once you do that, you are deviating from what you are supposed to do," he said.

He also alleged that legal miners are attacked, extorted, and have their equipment destroyed by individuals linked to the NDC who have connections in the security service. He stated that this is done to create dissatisfaction with the government, which is why he gave the advice.

Source: *The Independent Ghana* / *Andy Ogbarmey-Tettey*



Dr. Kwame Asah-Asante, Senior Lecturer, Political Science Department, UG, Legon

Pay us to be interpreters in galamsey trials involving Chinese nationals – Chinese Speakers Association to gov't

The Chinese Speakers Association of Ghana (CSAG) has responded to a recent news report highlighting the lack of interpreters needed to prosecute Chinese nationals involved in illegal mining activities.

In a detailed statement, the Association refuted these claims and expressed their readiness to provide interpreting services at a reasonable rate.

They are urging the government to engage with them to address this pressing issue.

In a statement by Co-founder of CSAG, Duncan Bubune Acorlor "to address this issue, we are pleased to officially inform you that CSAG is readily available to provide professional translation and interpretation services to your reputable outfit.

"Our association consists of qualified translators and interpreters who are proficient in both Mandarin and English, ensuring effective communication between your officers and Chinese-speaking

individuals. We are committed to supporting the efforts of the Forestry Commission and can offer our services at an

affordable fee to facilitate the legal processes."

Deputy Greater Accra Regional Manager of the Forestry Commission, George Agbenowoshi, revealed a concerning issue regarding the prosecution of Chinese nationals involved in illegal mining activities, known as galamsey.

According to Mr Agbenowoshi, Chinese illegal miners arrested are often released by courts due to a lack of interpreters.

Speaking at a mini ceremony organized by Parliament for the 2024 Green Ghana Day, Mr Agbenowoshi explained that the language barrier causes cases to drag on in court, ultimately resulting in dismissal.

The comment made by the Commission has not been welcomed by members of the general public who believe Ghana has Chinese interpreters. They cited tertiary institutions such

as the University of Ghana where Chinese is being taught as a course.

According to Ghanaian users on social media, Chinese tutors could be used by the court as interpreters to ensure delivery of justice is not marred.

As of May 2023, the Attorney General Godfred Dame said the office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice was conducting criminal prosecutions

against 727 persons who engaged in illegal mining activities across the country.

Meanwhile, the Forestry Commission in the Greater Accra Region has identified the lack of logistical support, including vehicles and motorbikes, at its district offices as a major obstacle in combating illegal mining and other degrading activities.

Source: *The Independent Ghana* / *Sebastian Akaho-Tay*



File Photo

General News

Mahama promises to reinstate defunct banks after thorough, unbiased assessment

The 2024 flagbearer for the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC), John Dramani Mahama, has reiterated his commitment to reviving collapsed banks and financial institutions following a thorough and unbiased assessment.

He made this promise during a Facebook live conversation as part of his campaign promises on June 11, 2024 emphasising that the restoration of these financial institutions would create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

“After a thorough and unbiased assessment, collapsed banks and financial institutions will be restored. We will provide decent and well-paying jobs through my 24-hour economy initiative” he

noted.

Mahama expressed his concern about Ghana’s rising unemployment rate and urged Ghanaians to support him in the 2024 general elections to help rejuvenate the struggling economy.

Meanwhile during an interaction with Ghanaians on Sunday, June 9, Mahama acknowledged the increasing frustration among the youth.

He outlined his vision for economic recovery, stressing the need for inclusive policies that benefit all segments of society.

The former president assured the youth of his commitment to fostering a nation characterised by shared growth and prosperity.

“By resetting Ghana, I will repair the dangerous damage to our country’s economy and people. Businessmen and women who government apparatchiks have given raw deals will have their say and can be assured of restoration.

“Let me be clear: I am utterly appalled and disappointed by the unprecedented unemployment rate we are seeing today,” he said.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Abigail Twumwaa Ampofo



John Dramani Mahama, Flagbearer, NDC

Don’t indoctrinate students with your political ideologies – Afenyo-Markin to teachers

Member of Parliament for Effutu Alexander Afenyo-Markin has called on local teachers to avoid influencing students with their political beliefs as the 2024 December elections approach.

He emphasized that such actions can create division and tension within schools.

During a laptop distribution event for teachers in Effutu, part of his one-teacher-one-laptop initiative, Afenyo-Markin stated, “In this election year, everyone is entitled to their political opinions. However, as educators, it’s crucial to maintain a harmonious environment.

Engage in political discussions if you must, but keep them civil and avoid causing unnecessary strife. Don’t let the political climate extend to your students.”

He further urged, “Express your views and offer critiques in a constructive manner. The politics of insults are detrimental to our

country. We should be able to debate respectfully, like I do with my colleague Dr. Ato Forson, and still enjoy a cup of tea, coffee, or ‘waakye’ together afterward.

That’s the essence of democracy. This is common practice in more developed democracies.”

Afenyo-Markin also encouraged teachers to maximize the use of the tablets provided, noting, “We want to support you in educating our children.

“In this age of Artificial Intelligence, it’s vital to have the right tools to stay ahead. Without them, students might outpace you in knowledge.

“Utilize these resources, research, and pass on your findings.

“Effutu is well-equipped with libraries, offering ample materials to aid in educating the youth,” he concluded.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Sebastian Akaho-Tay



Alexander Afenyo-Markin, MP for Effutu

General News

Mop-up voter registration exercise must be extended to remote areas - Mahama tells EC

Flagbearer of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), John Dramani Mahama, has called on the Electoral Commission (EC) to expand the upcoming mop-up voter registration exercise beyond district offices to include remote areas that are difficult to access.

The EC's mop-up exercise is scheduled to take place from August 1-3, 2024.

Mahama argues that extending the registration sites will allow eligible Ghanaians who have recently turned 18 or older to

register during the mop-up exercise, thereby preventing voter suppression.

He made these comments during an interaction with Ghanaians known as 'Mahama Conversations' on Sunday, June 9, 2024.

"If this young lady or gentleman manages to secure two guarantors, pays for the transportation of the guarantors to accompany them to a registration centre and due to network failure and postponements, this young person is unable to register via the guarantor system, what is the

likelihood that he or she can return another day to register with two guarantors?

"That leads to voter suppression. I will continue to urge the EC to prevent voter suppression by extending the mop-up exercise beyond its district offices to include all hard-to-reach areas.

"This will enable Ghanaians who have turned 18 or more to register from the 1st to the 3rd of August," he said.

He reassured his supporters that any challenges with voting would

not hinder his ultimate victory in the elections, emphasizing that his win would be a triumph for all Ghanaians.

"However, let me assure you that no matter the challenges or artificial mountains and obstacles they erect in your paths to prevent you from exercising your franchise, my victory in the polls shall be your victory. It shall be a victory for all the suffering Ghanaians," he stated.

Source: *The Independent Ghana*



John Dramani Mahama, Flagbearer, NDC



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Business

GHC10bn loss in 2023 doesn't mean our policies are ineffective - BoG

The Bank of Ghana (BoG) has clarified that its significant financial loss of GH¢10.5 billion for the 2023 fiscal year does not reflect a failure in policy effectiveness.

The Central Bank explained that a substantial portion of this loss, GH¢8.3 billion, was due to open market operations aimed at controlling inflation, a significant increase from GH¢1.7 billion in 2022.

In an interview with Citi Business News, Director of Communications at the Central Bank, Bernard Otabil emphasized that the BoG's actions to curb inflation bolster their credibility despite the financial

setback.

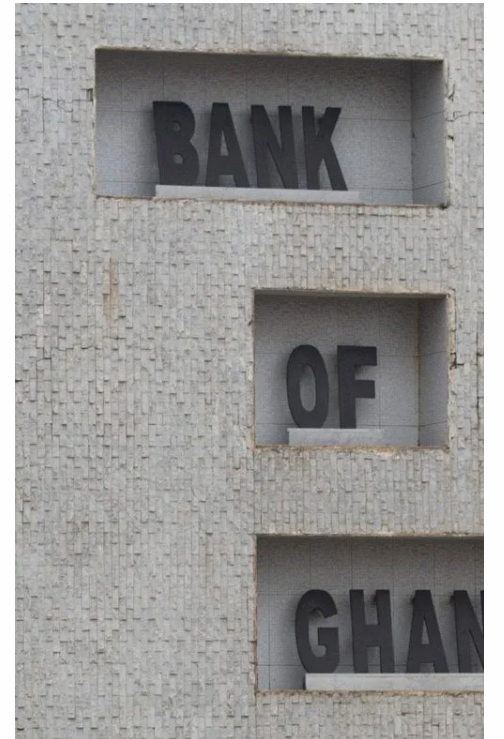
"Central banks focus on national welfare rather than profits. For the Bank of Ghana, headline inflation dropped from a peak of 54.1% at the end of December 2022 to 23.2% by December 2023," Otabil explained.

He noted that the increased expenditure on open market operations reflects a fivefold rise in efforts to absorb liquidity from the economy to reduce inflation. Despite a lower revaluation loss and exchange difference charge due to slower currency depreciation, the GH¢4.27 billion recorded still significantly contributed to the overall loss of GH¢10.5 billion.

Otabil reiterated that the 2023 financial results highlight the Central Bank's dedication to price stability and the economic welfare of Ghanaians.

"The Bank of Ghana remains committed to policies aimed at achieving a stable inflation rate, targeting 8% with a tolerance of plus or minus 2 percentage points. Lowering inflation to this target is crucial for sustainable economic growth and prosperity, and it also helps maintain exchange rate stability under our floating currency regime," he added.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Sebastian Akaho-Tay



Bank of Ghana Building

GN Bank's licence to remain revoked despite calls by Dr Nduom

Bank of Ghana (BoG) has defended its decision to revoke the license of GN Savings and Loans.

This follows allegations by Dr. Nduom, who attributed the collapse of his banks to the influence of former Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta in shutting down GN Savings and Loans.

Director of Communications at the BoG, Bernard Otabil, provided the rationale for this move, countering allegations made by Dr. Papa Kwasi Nduom, Chairman of Group Nduom.

Mr. Otabil clarified that the revocation was due to GN Savings and Loans' violations of financial regulations, including the Foreign Exchange Act of 2006 (Act 723).

Foreign Exchange Act of 2006 (Act 723) provides a legal framework for regulating foreign exchange transactions in Ghana, ensuring that such activities are conducted in an orderly and lawful manner.

The Act empowers the Bank of Ghana to oversee these transactions, enforce compliance, and implement measures to protect the country's foreign

exchange reserves and economic stability.

"At the end of the day, it is not in the interest of the central bank or we don't go out there and say this institution must actually be closed down at all cost.

In fact, let me make it clear that the GN Bank and GN Savings and Loans were actually disrespectful to the central bank" he noted.

Citing instances of some unlawful transactions done by GN Bank sometime before it was collapsed, the BoG Communications Director contended that BoG still stands by its statement issued in August 2019 which declared GN Bank insolvent and among other the need for its collapse.

"For instance, if you go through the books you will see that there was a transfer of dollars, and pounds and Euros to International Business Solutions which is an institution affiliated to the group network based outside which was in direct breach of the Foreign Exchange Act of 2006 (Act 723). These provisions are there.

Our statement of August 16 2019, we stand by that statement and in that statement, we have given all the reasons behind the revocation

of the license of GN Savings and loans," he noted during a media engagement on June 11, 2024.

In 2019, the Bank of Ghana revoked the licenses of 23 savings and loans companies, including GN Bank.

The bank subsequently sought legal action challenging the revocation of GN Savings and Loans' license by the Bank of Ghana.

However, in January of this year, an Accra High Court, presided over by Justice Gifty Addo Adjei, upheld the legality of the Central Bank's decision.

The court emphasized the institution's right to revoke the license due to governance deficiencies that rendered GN Savings and Loans unable to meet its debt obligations.

Dr. Nduom claimed that Mr. Ofori-Atta petitioned the Cabinet to facilitate the collapse of GN Bank to prevent any political interference.

"I have with me here a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Finance at that time, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta, asking Cabinet to agree for GN Bank to be collapsed, for its license to be taken.

This memorandum didn't consider that this bank was the biggest bank with the widest distribution in Ghana.

"It didn't recognize that we were providing banking services that increased financial inclusion in Ghana. It didn't recognize that we were supporting financial development and economic development in Ghana.

"It just said, these people are causing us problems and therefore it might affect our political chances, so let's shut it down," Dr. Paa Kwesi Nduom claimed in a viral video shared on X formerly Twitter.

He acknowledged that, although the memorandum was presented to the cabinet, the cabinet did not consent to Ken Ofori-Atta's request to revoke the bank's operating license.

Source: The Independent Ghana / Abigail Twumwaa Ampofo



Prof. Ernest Addison, Bank Of Ghana Governor

International

Malawi VP confirmed dead in plane crash in forest

The wreck of a plane carrying Malawi's vice-president has been found with no survivors, President Lazarus Chakwera has said.

Saulos Chilima and nine others were flying within the country on Monday morning when their aircraft disappeared from airport radars.

The plane, a military aircraft, was flying in bad weather.

Soldiers had been searching Chikangawa Forest overnight and into the morning in an effort to find the plane.

In a news briefing on Tuesday, President Chakwera said the Malawi Defence Force commander informed him that the search and rescue operation had been completed and the plane was found.

Mr Chakwera said he was "deeply saddened and sorry" to inform Malawians of the terrible tragedy.

He said the rescue team found the aircraft completely destroyed.

The vice-president and president come from different parties but the two teamed up to form an alliance

during the 2020 elections.

Mr Chakwera paid tribute to Dr Chilima, describing him as "a good man", "devoted father" and "formidable VP".

"I consider it one of the great honours of my life to have had him as a deputy and as a counsellor," he added.

Dr Chilima, 51, was on his way to represent the government at the burial of former government minister Ralph Kasambara, who died four days ago.

Former First Lady Shanil Dzimbiri

was also on the flight, which took off from the capital, Lilongwe, on Monday morning.

It was meant to land at the airport in the northern city of Mzuzu, but was turned back because of poor visibility.

Source: bbc.com



Saulos Chilima, Malawi Vice President

Hunter Biden found guilty of lying about drug use to buy gun

President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden was convicted by a jury on Tuesday of lying about his drug use to illegally buy a gun, a verdict Democrats may seize upon to counter Donald Trump's claim of a justice system weaponized against him.

A 12-member jury in Wilmington, Delaware, federal court found the defendant guilty on all three counts against him, making Hunter Biden the first child of a sitting U.S. president to be convicted of a crime.

Hunter Biden, 54, lightly nodded his head after the verdict was read but otherwise showed little reaction. He then patted his lawyer Abbe Lowell on the back and hugged another member of his legal team.

He then left the courthouse without making a statement.

His father, Joe Biden, issued a statement saying he accepted the outcome of the case and would respect the judicial process as his son considers an appeal.

The judge set no date for sentencing, but added the timeline is usually in 120 days. That would place it no later than a month before the Nov. 5 U.S. presidential election.

Sentencing guidelines for the gun charges are 15 to 21 months, but

legal experts say defendants in similar cases often get shorter sentences and are less likely to be incarcerated if they abide by the terms of their pretrial release.

Some 61% of registered voters responding to a Reuters/Ipsos poll in February said Hunter Biden's legal troubles would have no impact on whether they voted for his father in November. The poll showed voters divided over whether Hunter Biden's legal troubles were related to his father's service as president.

The trial followed the May 30 criminal conviction of Trump, the first former U.S. president to be found guilty of a felony and the Republican challenger to Joe Biden, a Democrat, in a tight race for the White House.

Trump, convicted on 34 felony counts of falsifying business records to cover up a sex scandal, accuses Democrats of pursuing that case and three other criminal prosecutions to prevent him from regaining power in his rematch with Joe Biden.

Congressional Democrats have pointed to cases including the Hunter Biden prosecution as evidence that Joe Biden is not using the justice system for political or personal ends, having said last week he would not pardon his son

if convicted.

In a statement on Tuesday, Joe Biden said: "As I said last week, I am the President, but I am also a Dad. Jill and I love our son, and we are so proud of the man he is today. So many families who have had loved ones battle addiction understand the feeling of pride seeing someone you love come out the other side and be so strong and resilient in recovery.

"As I also said last week, I will accept the outcome of this case and will continue to respect the judicial process as Hunter considers an appeal. Jill and I will always be there for Hunter and the rest of our family with our love and support. Nothing will ever change that," the statement said.

The Hunter Biden case was brought by U.S. Department of Justice Special Counsel David Weiss, a Trump appointee.

Weiss has also charged Hunter Biden with three felony and six misdemeanor tax offenses in California, alleging he failed to pay \$1.4 million in taxes between 2016 and 2019 while spending millions on drugs, escorts, exotic cars and other high-ticket items.

Hunter Biden has pleaded not guilty to those charges. A trial is scheduled for Sept. 5 in Los Angeles.

The Delaware trial included prosecution testimony by Hunter Biden's ex-wife, former girlfriend and sister-in-law, who gave first-hand accounts of his spiralling addiction in the weeks before and after he bought the gun in October 2018.

Prosecutors also showed text messages, photos and bank records that they said showed Biden was deep in the throes of addiction when he bought the gun and knowingly broke the law by answering "no" to being a drug user on a government screening form.

Biden's lawyers sought to show he was not using drugs when he bought the gun and did not intend to deceive because he didn't consider himself a drug user when he filled out the form.

The defence called Hunter Biden's daughter, Naomi Biden, who testified that her father seemed to be doing well when she saw him shortly before and after he bought the gun.



Hunter Biden, President Joe Biden's Son

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