

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

**REPORT OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

*ON THE*

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
OSU - ACCRA

**2018 ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES OF  
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**



**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION ON THE 2018 ANNUAL  
BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government for the 2018 Financial Year was presented to Parliament on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 by the Hon Minister for Finance, Mr. Ken Ofori-Atta. This was in fulfilment of Article 179 of the 1992 Constitution. In accordance with Order 140(4) and 186 of the Standing Orders of the House, the Rt. Hon Speaker referred the Annual Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education to the Committee on Education for consideration and report.

1.2 The Committee subsequently met on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 and considered the referral. The Hon Minister for Education, Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh, the Chief Director of the Ministry of Education, Mr. Enoch H. Cobbinah, Heads of Agencies of the Ministry of Education, and officials of the Ministry of Finance attended the Committee's sittings to assist in its deliberations.

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Hon. Minister and his technical team for their co-operation.

**2.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

The Committee availed itself of the following documents during its deliberations:

- i. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.
- ii. The Standing Orders of the Parliament of Ghana.
- iii. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2017 Financial Year.

- iv. The Report of the Committee on Education on the 2017 Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education.
- v. The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2018 Financial Year.

### **3.0 MANDATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

The mandate of the Ministry of Education is to establish an educational system intended to produce well balanced individuals with the requisite knowledge, skills, values, aptitudes and attitudes to become functional and productive citizens for the total development and democratic advancement of the country.

### **4.0 POLICY OBJECTIVES**

The policy objectives of the Ministry of Education in line with the National Medium-Term Development Framework are as follows:

- a. Increase inclusive and equitable access to and participation in education at all levels.
- b. Strengthen School Management Systems.
- c. Ensure sustainable sources of financing for education.

### **5.0 CORE FUNCTIONS**

The core functions of the Ministry of Education are as follows:

- Plan, develop and implement educational policies and programmes.
- Advise Government on Education Policies and issues.
- Maintain an efficient Education Management Information System to meet local and international standards.
- Develop and support programmes, services and activities geared towards adult literacy, skills development, personal and national development.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of Government.
- Provide guidance in the management of educational institutions and affiliated agencies.
- Provide quality assurance and supervision of pre-tertiary and tertiary institutions.

- Manage the provision of library services to the citizenry towards the development of a literate society.
- Manage mandatory National Service Scheme.
- Development of curriculum and assessment.
- Manage the conduct of examination and certification.

## 6.0 **IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES**

The under-listed Agencies, among others, are responsible for the implementation of the programmes and activities of the Ministry of Education:

- i. Ghana Education Service (GES).
- ii. National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE).
- iii. Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (COTVET).
- iv. National Service Scheme (NSS).
- v. The West African Examinations Council (WAEC).
- vi. Ghana Library Authority (GhLA).
- vii. Ghana Book Development Council (GBDC).
- viii. Centre for Distance Learning and Open Schooling (CENDLOS).
- ix. Non-Formal Education Division (NFED).
- x. National Inspectorate Board (NIB).
- xi. Ghana National Commission for UNESCO.
- xii. National Teaching Council (NTC).
- xiii. National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA).

## 7.0 **PERFORMANCE IN 2017 FINANCIAL YEAR**

### 7.1 **Financial Performance**

A total amount of **eight billion, three hundred and thirty million, ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and twenty-eight cedis (GH¢8,330,099,828.00)** was approved for the Ministry of Education to undertake its programmes and activities in year 2017. Expenditure as at November 2017 stood at **GH¢6,907,393,730.91** representing **82.9%** of the approved amount. The details are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

**Total Expenditure by Source of Funding as at November 2017**

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDING</b>	<b>APPROPRIATED AMOUNT GH¢</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE GH¢</b>	<b>VARIANCE GH¢</b>	<b>EXP. AS % OF BUDGET</b>
<b>Government of Ghana (GoG)</b>	7,146,495,802.00	6,090,343,288.65	1,056,152,513.35	<b>85.2%</b>
<b>ABFA</b>	211,717,458.00	91,717,458.00	120,000,000.00	<b>43.3%</b>
<b>Donor</b>	318,423,111.00	103,388,208.00	215,034,903.00	<b>32.5%</b>
<b>IGF</b>	653,463,457.00	621,944,776.26	31,518,680.74	<b>95.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,330,099,828.00</b>	<b>6,907,393,730.91</b>	<b>1,422,706,097.09</b>	<b>82.9%</b>

*SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education for the 2018 Financial Year*

7.1.2 GoG Budget Performance

The Committee noted that as at November 2017, the Ministry of Education had expended an amount of GH¢6,090,343,288.65 representing 85.2% of the total GoG allocation of GH¢7,146,495,802.00 on Compensation and Goods and Services. However, no amount has been expended by the Ministry on capital expenditure. Officials of the Ministry explained that no expenses were made on capital expenditure because contracts for rehabilitation works were awarded during mid-year of 2017. As such, the Ministry is yet to submit works certificate to the Ministry of Finance for payment. GoG Budget outturn as at November 2017 is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

**GoG Budget Performance as at November 2017**

<b>EXPENDITURE ITEM</b>	<b>2017 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION GH¢</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE GH¢</b>	<b>VARIANCE GH¢</b>	<b>EXP. AS % BUDGET</b>
<b>Compensation</b>	6,538,286,933.00	5,657,105,809.23	881,181,123.77	<b>86.5%</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>	591,650,737.00	433,237,479.42	158,413,257.58	<b>73.2%</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	16,558,132.00	-	16,558,132.00	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,146,495,802.00</b>	<b>6,090,343,288.65</b>	<b>1,056,152,513.35</b>	<b>85.2%</b>

*SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education for the 2018 Financial Year*

## 7.2 Key Achievements by Programme

The following activities, among others were carried out by the Ministry of Education during the year under review:

### i. Management and Administration Programme

- The Ministry initiated curriculum reforms to focus on the 4 R's (Reading, wRiting, aRithmetic and cReativity).
- The National Teacher Standards for pre-service teachers and the National Teacher Education Curriculum Framework were approved by Cabinet.
- The National Teaching Council issued 15,500 registered numbers to Newly Qualified Teachers. This is made up of 14,200 from Colleges of Education and 1,300 teachers from Education Universities.
- The Pre-Tertiary Bill, which seeks to ensure effective and efficient regulatory system for pre-tertiary education, was approved by Cabinet.
- For the 2017/2018 Service Year, the National Service Scheme deployed 103,343 service personnel. This represents an increase of 31% over the 2016/2017 service year.

### ii. Basic Education Programme

- The number of Public and Private basic schools increased at all levels. Kindergartens (KGs) increased from 22,052 to 23,239, Primary from 22,289 to 23,489 and Junior High Schools from 14,767 to 15,804 between 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 academic years.
- Funds were released for the payment of all outstanding Capitation Grant from the previous academic year.
- The Capitation Grant was increased by 100% from GH¢4.5 to GH¢9.00.
- Government introduced the Base Grant in the disbursement of Capitation Grant to ensure equity for all schools.
- Under the Complementary Basic Education (CBE) Programme which is operational in 43 districts in the Northern, Upper East, Upper West, Brong Ahafo and Ashanti Regions, access was provided to 182,652 out-

of-school children over the last four years (2013/14 – 2016/17) with 49.4% female participation.

- The Ministry commenced work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of 76 dilapidated school structures across the country as well as the construction of 80 KG blocks for primary schools without KGs.
- A total of 350,000 Class Attendance Registers, 230,000 Teacher's Note Books and 2,400,000 boxes of white chalk were distributed to public basic schools across the country.

iii. Secondary Education Programme

- ❖ The Ministry commenced the implementation of the Free SHS Programme in September with first year students in public Senior High Schools (SHSs) and Technical and Vocational Institutions.
- ❖ All fees approved by GES Council for 353,053 first year SHS students made up of 113,622 Day students and 239,431 Boarding students were absorbed by Government.
- ❖ Government supplied full set of core textbooks, supplementary readers and core English Literature books to all first year SHS students. Subsidy for continuing students in SHS was also released.
- ❖ 10,027 students were provided scholarships under the Secondary Education Improvement Programme (SEIP).
- ❖ 86% overall progress was achieved on the construction of 23 new SHSs. 46 out of 50 facilities being upgraded under SEIP were also completed and handed over.
- ❖ 1,000 Science and Mathematics teachers were trained in modern methods of delivery. ICT-based instruction for SHS 1 and 2 core subjects were also rolled out in 70 SHSs through the deployment of the iBox (an ICT package containing lesson texts, video, interactive exercises and practical lessons).
- ❖ A Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) strategic policy document which will lead to a TVET Bill and the creation of a TVET Service was developed and submitted to Cabinet for approval.

iv. Non-Formal Education Programme

- The National Functional Literacy Programme was expanded to reduce illiteracy rate especially in rural communities. A total number of 91,586 learners were registered in 3,982 classes.



v. Inclusive and Special Education Programme

- Funds were released for the payment of Feeding Grant arrears for the 2016/17 academic year and the first term of 2017/18 academic year to cover over 7,000 pupils in all public Special Schools.

vi. Tertiary Education Programme

- ❖ Teacher Trainee Allowance covering over 49,000 trainees from 41 public Colleges of Education for the 2016/17 academic year was restored.
- ❖ Funds were released for the payment of outstanding Feeding Grant to all public Colleges of Education for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 academic years.
- ❖ The review of curriculum and the setting of teacher standards in Teacher Training Institutions were completed.
- ❖ Cabinet approved a document on Transforming Teacher Education and Learning (T-Tel).

**8.0 PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITES FOR YEAR 2018**

The following programmes/activities among others, will be undertaken by the Ministry of Education in year 2018:

i. Management and Administration Programme

- Complete work on the curriculum reform, define national pupil standards in literacy, numeracy and creativity.
- Improve the professional standards of teachers through registration and licensing under the Pre-Tertiary Teacher Professional Development and Management (PTPDM) Scheme.
- Issue guidelines to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) providers and develop the content for CPD INSET programmes at the pre-tertiary level.

ii. Basic Education Programme

- Pay capitation grant for 6,371,975 pupils from public basic schools.
- Absorb 100 percent BECE registration fees for registered candidates from public Junior High Schools.

- Expand CBE Programme to 14 more Districts to benefit an estimated 40,000 out-of-school children.
- Provide 25.2 million pieces of assorted exercise books to public basic school pupils in addition to the provision of various basic school establishment supplies.
- Introduce the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in all basic schools to generate interest in mathematics, science and technology.
- Equip 38,715 public basic schools with STEM equipment and train over 38,000 basic school teachers in the delivery of STEM.
- Rehabilitate 50 school structures and construct an additional 200 KG blocks to further reduce the deficit of primary schools without KGs.

iii. Secondary Education Programme

- ❖ Provide infrastructural facilities to accommodate the increasing enrolment numbers.
- ❖ Improve quality of education in 125 low performing SHSs.
- ❖ Upgrade 42 public SHSs into Model Schools, and construct 180 Canteen Blocks in existing Day SHSs.
- ❖ Construct 20 modern TVET schools and 10 Regional STEM Centers.

iv. Non-Formal Education Programme

- Train a total of 112,500 adult education learners in English and Local Language.

v. Inclusive and Special Education Programme

- Pay Capitation Grant to cover all public Special Schools.
- Provide textbooks and other teaching and learning materials to all public Special Schools across the country.

vi. Tertiary Education Programme

- ✦ Continue with Teacher Training Reforms which will lead to the upgrade of the Colleges of Education into campuses of existing Public Universities.
- ✦ Implement recommendations that will reform University Accreditation and Affiliation Policies towards introducing equity and fairness in the setting up of public and private universities.
- ✦ Convert the College of Technology Education (COLTEK) of the University of Education into a University for Technical and Vocational Education Training.

9.0 **BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR YEAR 2018**

9.1 For the implementation of its programmes and activities for year 2018, the Ministry of Education has been allocated an amount of **nine billion, two hundred and fifty-eight million, eight hundred and thirty-nine thousand, eight hundred and twenty-seven cedis (GH¢9,258,839,827.00)**. The breakdown of the allocation by source of funding and expenditure item, and by programme is shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3

**Breakdown of 2018 Budgetary Allocation by Source of Funding and Expenditure Item**

Item	GoG GH¢	ABFA GH¢	IGF GH¢	DONOR GH¢	TOTAL GH¢	% Share
Compensation	7,199,744,624	-	94,730,897	-	7,294,475,521	78.78%
Goods and Services	92,852,960	-	1,200,506,608	65,209,677	1,358,569,245	14.67%
Capital Expenditure	2,822,910	10,000,000	332,133,442	260,838,709	605,795,061	6.54%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,295,420,494</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>1,627,370,947</b>	<b>326,048,386</b>	<b>9,258,839,827</b>	<b>100%</b>
% Share	78.79%	0.11%	17.58%	3.52%	100%	

**SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education for the 2018 Financial Year**

Table 4

**Breakdown of 2018 Budgetary Allocation by Programme**

PROGRAMME	COMPENSATION GH¢	GOODS AND SERVICES GH¢	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GH¢	ABFA GH¢	TOTAL GH¢
Management and Administration	1,750,974,809	647,695,336	265,702,937	10,000,000	2,674,373,082
Basic Education	3,134,136,703	-	-	-	3,134,136,703
Second Cycle Education	905,626,533	-	-	-	905,626,533
Non-Formal Education	40,662,265	450,000	-	-	41,112,265
Inclusive and Special Education	24,302,180	-	-	-	24,302,180
Tertiary Education	1,438,773,031	710,423,909	330,092,124	-	2,479,289,064
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,294,475,521</b>	<b>1,358,569,245</b>	<b>595,795,061</b>	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>9,258,839,827</b>

*SOURCE: The Programme Based Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Education for the 2018 Financial Year*

**10.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS****10.1 2018 Budgetary Allocation**

The Committee observed a marginal increase of 11.2% in the Ministry's total budgetary allocation for year 2018 over the allocation of eight billion, three hundred and thirty million, ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and twenty-eight cedis (GH¢8,330,099,828) for year 2017.

While there was an increase in the GoG, IGF and Donor components of the budget for year 2018, the ABFA component decreased drastically from GH¢211,717,458 in year 2017 to GH¢10,000,000 in year 2018. It is worth noting that IGF allocation for year 2018 represents a whopping increase of 149% over the allocation for year 2017. The 2017 and 2018 budgetary allocation by source of funding is shown in Table 5.

Table 5

**2017 and 2018 Budgetary Allocation by Source of Funding**

Expenditure Item	2017 Budgetary Allocation GH¢	2018 Budgetary Allocation GH¢	% Change
GoG	7,146,495,802	7,295,420,494	2.1%
ABFA	211,717,458	10,000,000	-95.3%
IGF	653,463,457	1,627,370,947	149%
Donor	318,423,111	326,048,386	2.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,330,099,828</b>	<b>9,258,839,827</b>	<b>11.2%</b>

*Source: The Budget Statement and Economic Policy of the Government of Ghana for the 2017 Financial Year and MoE's Presentation on the 2018 Annual Budget Estimates*

Officials of the Ministry explained to the Committee that the ABFA allocation for year 2017 included funds for the implementation of the Free SHS policy. However, for year 2018, funds for the implementation of the Free SHS policy would be catered for by the Scholarship Secretariat under Government Machinery, hence the decrease in the 2018 ABFA allocation.

With regard to IGF, the Committee was informed that the high allocation for IGF for year 2018 compared to that of year 2017, is as a result of measures put in place by the Ministry to increase its revenue generation in year 2018.

The Committee commends the Ministry for putting measures in place to ensure an increase in its revenue generation in year 2018. However, considering the importance of the education sector to the socio-economic development of the country, the Committee is of the opinion that over reliance on IGF for expenditure relating to Goods and Services may adversely affect the operations of the Ministry in the event that the target set for IGF in year 2018 is not met.

The Committee therefore entreats the Ministry of Education to effectively implement measures put in place to ensure that it meets its IGF target for year 2018 in order not to throw the planned programmes and activities of the Agencies into disarray.

## 10.2 **Delays in Releases of GoG Budgetary Allocation**

The Committee noted that delays in releases of GoG budgetary allocation, particularly for Goods and Services continue to be a challenge to most of the Agencies under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education. Officials of the Ghana Library Authority, Ghana Book Development Council, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, Non-Formal Education Division, National Teaching Council and the National Inspectorate Board lamented on the delays in releases of funds for expenditure relating to their Goods and Services. According to the Agencies, this situation has become a regular occurrence which negatively affects the implementation of most planned programmes and activities.

The Committee underscores the critical role the Agencies play in the provision of quality education in the country and is of the view that delays in releases of GoG budgetary allocation may not only cripple the Agencies but also adversely affect the provision of quality education in the country.

The Committee therefore urges the Ministry of Finance to ensure timely releases of the 2018 GoG budgetary allocation particularly, for Goods and Services to enable the Agencies effectively implement their planned programmes for year 2018.

## 10.3 **Inadequate Office Accommodation**

It came to the attention of the Committee that inadequate office accommodation remains a major challenge to GES, COTVET, Ghana National Commission for UNESCO, National Inspectorate Board, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the National Teaching Council.

GES is for instance, confronted with inadequate office and residential accommodation for staff of its District Directorates. The National Inspectorate Board (NIB) is also currently operating from a three-bedroom residential facility earmarked for the Executive Secretary/Chief Inspector of Schools. The National Teaching Council is supposed to operate in not less than a ten-

departmental office. However, the Council is currently enclaved in an office building which was designed to house only one Department.

Officials of the Ministry informed the Committee that the University of Ghana has granted the Ministry of Education, twelve (12) acres of land for the purpose of constructing offices for the Agencies confronted with office accommodation challenges. The Ministry assured the Committee that it is putting in place measures to ensure that this challenge becomes a thing of the past.

The Committee commends the University of Ghana for the gesture done the Ministry and urges the Ministry to expedite action to commence the construction of the office facility.

#### 10.4 **Inadequate Staffing**

The Committee observed that most of the Agencies under the Ministry lack the full complement of staff to effectively carry out their respective mandate. For instance, out of the approved established post of thirty (30), the Ghana Book Development Council has only twelve staff members comprising nine permanent staff, two (2) staff on secondment from the Controller and Accountant General, and a National Service Person.

The Ghana Library Authority also lacks adequate professional and para-professional staff to enable the authority provide satisfactory public library services to the user public. Aggravating the situation, is the high staff turnover as a result of poor and unattractive conditions of service.

The Committee noted that the National Teaching Council, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, COTVET, NIB, GES, NCTE, among others are confronted with similar challenges.

It came to the fore during discussions that most of the Agencies facing this challenge have been granted the administrative clearance to recruit and are awaiting financial clearance from the Ministry of Finance. Undoubtedly, operating without the right calibre and the requisite number of staff affects the performance level of the Agencies. The Committee therefore urges the Ministry

of Finance to grant financial clearance to the Agencies to enable them recruit the requisite staff to operate.

#### 10.5 **Lack of Vehicles**

The Committee also observed that most of the Agencies under the Ministry need vehicles for their operations. Those with vehicles available at their disposal are bedevilled with constant breakdown of the vehicles and high maintenance cost.

To reduce teacher absenteeism and promote effective teaching and learning, GES has instituted a lot of measures to ensure effective and efficient monitoring and supervision of its activities across the country. Unfortunately, lack of adequate vehicles is thwarting the efforts of GES to achieve its targets.

The National Inspectorate Board also has a number of vehicles (double-cabin pick-ups). Regrettably, all of them need to be overhauled or replaced. Currently, Agencies such as the Ghana Book Development Council and the National Teaching Council rely on borrowed vehicles from other Agencies for their operations. The non-availability of vehicles for use by staff greatly affects the operational activities of the Agencies, particularly, Agencies whose activities involve monitoring.

Employees of the Ministry are paid to provide a service. Thus, they should be provided with the necessary tools and logistics for the day-to-day running of their operations. The Committee therefore calls on the Ministry of Education to collaborate with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that funds are made available for the acquisition of vehicles for the Agencies that are in dire need of vehicles.

#### 10.6 **GHANA EDUCATION SERVICE (GES)**

##### i. 2017 Budgetary Allocation for Compensation

The Committee observed that for year 2017, GES was allocated an amount of GH¢4,914,628,297.66 to cater for the compensation needs of its employees. However, as at November 2017, actual expenditure on compensation was GH¢5,336,953,000.37 representing an overrun of GH¢422,324,702.71(8.6%).



GES explained that its compensation requirement for year 2017 included arrears from year 2016. However, due to the budget ceilings given by the Ministry of Finance, the 2017 budgetary allocation did not cater for the arrears. In the course of year 2017, it became necessary for GES to pay the arrears. Consequently, the Ministry of Education applied to the Ministry of Finance for clearance to enable GES pay the arrears. Clearance was given by the Ministry of Finance, hence the overrun.

ii. 2018 Budgetary Allocation

GES has been allocated an amount of GH¢5,957,613,070.00 for the 2018 financial year to implement its activities and programmes. The allocation by source of funding is made up of a GoG component of GH¢5,348,081,520.00 IGF of GH¢489,531,550.00 and Donor funds of GH¢120,000,000.00. The breakdown of the total allocation by expenditure item is as follows:

a. Compensation	GH¢5,293,481,391.00 (88.9%)
b. Goods and Services	GH¢574,305,506.00 (9.6%)
c. Assets	GH¢89,826,173.00 (1.5%)

The Committee expressed concern about the huge wage bill of GES and urges GES to put measures in place to ensure that only legitimate employees of the Service who are at post receive salaries. To facilitate efficient management of its wage bill, GES assured the Committee that it will implement the following measures, among others:

- Conduct comprehensive personnel/payroll audit in all Cost Centres.
- Undertake regular payroll monitoring in schools/offices to ensure that only the right personnel who are at post receive salaries.
- Enforce and monitor the implementation of staff rationalisation policy to facilitate equitable and efficient distribution of staff/teachers.
- Ensure that only qualified staff are paid vehicle maintenance and other allowances.

ii. Compensation to School Land Owners

The Committee observed that non-payment of compensation to owners of school lands over the years has led to the payment of huge judgement debt by GES.

The Committee considers this development as worrisome and calls on the Ministry of Education to put the necessary measures in place to avert any payment of judgement debt in future. GES, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, should also ensure that all school lands across the country are properly documented and secured to protect school lands from being encroached upon. The Committee further urges the Ministry of Finance to provide adequate resources to the Ministry of Education to settle all matters relating to School Lands.

**10.7 Non-Formal Education Division**

i. Absence of an Act and a Scheme of Service

The Non-Formal Education Division exists to co-ordinate non-formal education and training activities and offer quality and equitable lifelong learning opportunities for children, the youth and adults outside formal education in the country.

The Committee noted that the Division which has a staff strength of over 2,554 across the country has no Act supporting its operations and activities. It has no Scheme of Service as well. The Division informed the Committee that it has been calling for the passage of an Act to govern its operations over the past six (6) years but to no avail. They indicated that the absence of an Act to regulate their operations and a Scheme of Service to determine their conditions of service is affecting their operations and the morale of staff.

The Division further informed the Committee that the draft Non-Formal Education Agency Bill is currently with the Attorney General's Department for finalisation and would be submitted to the Ministry of Education for onward submission to Cabinet for approval.

Having an Act to regulate the activities and operations of the Division is long overdue. The Committee therefore entreats the Ministry to ensure that work on the draft Bill is expedited and submitted to Parliament for passage. The Ministry should also ensure that the Division has a Scheme of Service in place.

ii. Inadequate Learning Materials

It came to the attention of the Committee that the current stock of Teaching and Learning Materials (TLMs) for use by the Division is inadequate. New materials developed for learners are still waiting to be printed due to lack of funds. As a result, classes being organised by the Division do not have the needed materials to commence learning. Compounding the problem is the fact that non-formal teaching and learning are centred around content picture discussion, thus the non-availability of class working tools adversely impact the performance of the Division.

The Committee urges the Ministry of Education to ensure that the Division is provided with adequate resources to enable it procure class working tools required for its activities.

## 10.8 **National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE)**

i. Funding Gap

The Committee observed that for effective and efficient implementation of planned programmes and activities for the 2018 financial year, NCTE will require a budgetary allocation of GH¢4,439,774,194.00. However, NCTE has been allocated an amount of GH¢2,479,289,063.00 creating a funding gap of GH¢1,960,485,131.00.

For year 2018, the Council has programmed to undertake various activities to address challenges facing the tertiary sector. For instance, NCTE intends to finalise a policy document that seeks to merge NCTE and the National Accreditation Board to pave way for the preparation of a draft Bill. It will also finalise and adopt NCTE's Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2021; build the capacity of the Colleges of Education; develop standard norms for the Colleges of

Education; undertake monitoring and assessment of the state of infrastructure and other needs of tertiary education institutions.

The Committee is therefore of the view that the funding gap could affect the implementation of some planned activities of the Council in year 2018. The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to provide additional funds to make up for the shortfall in the allocation to NCTE.

ii. National Research Fund

The Committee noted that to further promote research and innovation, a draft Bill seeking to establish a National Research Fund has been prepared by NCTE. Currently, the draft Bill has been circulated among the Vice-Chancellors and other stakeholders of tertiary education institutions for their input.

The Committee acknowledges the important role of research in the socio-economic development of nations, and supports the establishment of such a Fund. The Committee is of the considered view that the National Research Fund would provide the much needed resources to academia, individuals, researchers, and other research institutions to enable them carry out research work and encourage innovation.

The Committee entreats NCTE to expedite action on its stakeholder consultations and finalise the draft Bill. The Committee further entreats the Ministry to ensure that the Bill is submitted to Cabinet for approval and to Parliament, for passage as early as possible.

## 10.9 **Ghana Library Authority**

i. Budgetary Allocation

A budgetary provision of GH¢9,781,129.00 has been made for the programmes and activities of the Ghana Library Authority for year 2018. This is made up of an amount of GH¢9,630,772.00 from GoG and GH¢150,357.00 from IGF.

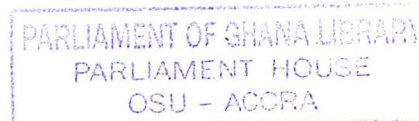
For year 2018, the Authority plans to carry out the following activities, among others:

- Acquire relevant books, periodicals, journals and magazines to re-stock the static and mobile libraries.

- Organise free ICT training for basic schools within the catchment areas of the Authority.
- Acquire computers and accessories, library furniture and equipment, etc.
- Organise promotional activities such as book clubs, quiz and essay competitions, story telling, Reading Clinics and festivals, etc. in all the Regional and Branch libraries.

In line with government's social development policy goal of achieving a fair and inclusive society with opportunities for all, the Authority also plans to acquire braille version of reading materials for visually impaired persons whose needs have not been catered for in the past.

Taking cognisance of the planned programmes of the Authority for year 2018, the Committee is of the opinion that the allocation to the Authority is woefully inadequate. The Committee therefore urges the Ministry of Education to ensure that the Authority is adequately resourced.



ii. Mobile Library Services

The Ghana Library Authority exists to provide a comprehensive and accessible public library service to promote lifelong reading habits among the populace. The Mobile Library Service is therefore an important pro-poor outreach programme of the public library service which needs to be given utmost attention. To ensure that the public has access to useful information needed for national development, the mobile library vans deliver services to communities without static libraries in order to bridge the gap in access to reading materials and Information and Communications Technology. This calls for constant maintenance and fuelling of the vans.

The Committee, however noted that, maintaining and fuelling the ten-year old mobile vans of the Authority has been and continues to be a challenge due to inadequate resources. This situation often hinders the regular delivery of quality library service to communities without static libraries.

The Committee urges the Ministry of Education to pay critical attention to this very important library activity by ensuring that the Ghana Library Authority is adequately resourced. The Committee further urges the Ministry of Finance to

to make available, the requisite funds for the Authority to replace its ten-year old mobile vans with new ones.

#### 10.10 **Centre for National Distance Learning and Open Schooling (CENDLOS)**

##### i. Budgetary Allocation

For year 2018, CENDLOS has been allocated a total sum of GH¢451,051.00 for the implementation of its programmes and activities. This comprises an amount of GH¢146,006.00 for compensation and GH¢305,045 for Goods and Services.

The Committee observed that CENDLOS would commit its allocation for Goods and Services to train forty (40) teachers and IT engineers in eContent development; train additional core subject and ICT teachers from 130 SHSs in the use of iBox, iCampusgh and eContent; load SHS 3 eContent for core subjects onto iBoxes; complete the production of eContent for SHSs core subjects; produce eContent (learner text, audio-visual and interactive lessons) for four (4) TVET elective subjects; among others.

The Committee observed that CENDLOS, in year 2017, installed seventy (70) iBoxes containing eContent for SHS 1 and 2 core subjects in seventy (70) SHSs all over the country. According to the Centre, students who did not have access to core text books in some SHSs now have access due to its programmes and activities.

The Committee recognises the important role the Centre is playing in our education system through its efforts at harmonising and regulating Open and Distance Learning at all levels in the country and urges Management of CENDLOS to use its budgetary allocation judiciously.

##### ii. SEIP-ICT Component

iCampusgh and iBox systems (eLearning Platforms conceptualised by CENDLOS that enable teachers and students gain equal access to quality educational resources anywhere in Ghana) represent the ICT component of the World Bank funded Secondary Education Improvement Project (SEIP).

The Committee noted that under the ICT component, CENDLOS is required to deploy and install, set of iBoxes loaded with the eContent in 125 project schools. (low performing schools) and 23 new Community Day SHSs. Additionally, CENDLOS will construct an educational studio for live streaming of teaching and learning for SHS and install customised solar power systems in the SEIP schools.

The Committee was happy to note that so far, seventy (70) iBoxes loaded with SHS 1 and 2 core subjects (Mathematic, English Language, Social Studies and Integrated Science) have been installed in 70 SHSs across the country. CENDLOS intends to install fifty-five (55) additional iBoxes in fifty-five (55) SHS within the first quarter of year 2018.

The Committee commends CENDLOS for exploring the use of ICT to provide cutting-edge solution to bridge both access and quality gaps in education delivery in the country.

#### 10.11 **Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (COTVET)**

An amount of GH¢210,692,056.00 has been provided for COTVET for the implementation of its programmes and activities for year 2018. This comprises a GoG component of GH¢4,309,899.00, IGF of GH¢333,771.00 and Donor component of GH¢206,048,386.

COTVET plans to utilise its 2018 allocation to build the capacity of the institution to drive ongoing transformation and promotion of TVET; improve quality, access and equity in TVET; grant accreditation to 20% of TVET institutions based on Competency Based Training standards and implement the Recognition of Prior Learning Policy.

The significant role COTVET plays in the socio-economic development of our nation by ensuring that the TVET system produces a globally competitive workforce through quality-oriented and demand driven learning cannot be overemphasised. The Committee therefore commends the Council for its efforts aimed at improving the TVET system in order to prepare the populace,

particularly the youth of this country, for self-employment initiatives in all sectors of the economy. It is worth noting that training the youth to be technically and vocationally skilled will help meet the manpower needs of the country.

The Committee therefore urges COTVET to effectively educate the public on the importance of TVET. The Committee also urges the Ministry of Finance to ensure timely releases of the allocation to the Council to enable it implement its planned programmes and activities for year 2018.

#### 10.12 **West African Examinations Council (WAEC)**

##### i. 2018 Budgetary Allocation

WAEC (National) has been allocated a sum of GH¢10,320,146.00 for the implementation of its activities for the 2018 fiscal year. This comprises an amount of GH¢10,220,146.00 for the compensation of its employees and GH¢100,000.00 for Goods and Services.

##### ii. 2018 BECE Fees

The Committee observed that the approved fees for year 2018 Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) is GH¢75.00 per candidate.

Officials of WAEC informed the Committee that Government has undertaken to pay 100% of the fees for candidates in Public Schools. To this end, the Ministry has been provided with an amount of GH¢26,725,800 for the payment of fees for candidates in Public Schools. However, candidates in Private Schools would be required to pay the full approved fee of GH¢75.00 per candidate.

##### iii. Examination Malpractices

The Committee noted that examination malpractices continue to remain a challenge to WAEC. For instance, while some supervisors engage in examination malpractices, some communities also engage in organised cheating during examinations.



Officials of the Council informed the Committee that WAEC will increase its public education and sensitisation on the consequences of examination malpractices. It will also ensure the Council's presence in identified communities to reduce mass cheating during examinations. Furthermore, it will continue to use the Differentia Profile Software to detect examination malpractices in multiple-choice tests.

The Committee urges the Ministry of Finance to ensure timely releases of funds to WAEC to enable it implement measures it has instituted to control examination malpractices in the country. The Committee also recommends that persons found guilty of examination malpractices should be punished to serve as a deterrent to others.

#### **10.13 National Service Scheme (NSS)**

##### **i. Personnel Posted for the 2017/2018 Service Year**

The Committee noted that one hundred and thirty thousand (130,000) Personal Identification Numbers were generated for National Service Persons (NSPs) for the 2017/2018 Service Year. Currently, one hundred and three thousand, three hundred and forty-three (103,343) personnel enrolled, have been deployed by the Scheme for the 2017/2018 Service Year.

The Committee further noted a tremendous increase in the number of NSPs deployed from seventy-eight thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine (78,939) for the 2016/2017 Service Year to one hundred and three thousand, three hundred and forty-three (103,343) for the 2017/2018 Service Year. This increase, according to officials of the Scheme, is attributed to the 3-year/4-year SHS batch who completed SHS together due to the Policy change in duration of completion of SHS.

NSPs deployed to the various Regions of the country for the 2017/2018 Service Year is shown below:

Table 6

**Number of NSPs deployed for the 2017/2018 Service Year**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number Deployed</b>
Ashanti	19,639
Brong Ahafo	8,494
Central	7,237
Eastern	7,553
Greater Accra	35,954
Northern	9,926
Upper East	2,651
Upper West	1,807
Volta	3,529
Western	6,553
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103,343</b>

Officials of the Scheme further informed the Committee that refusal by personnel to accept posting to deprived communities across the country remains a challenge. This situation, the Committee noted, deprives the rural communities of the services of NSPs and the Scheme.

The Committee urges the Scheme to intensify its public education on the need for personnel to accept postings irrespective of the placement. The Committee further urges the Scheme to reward personnel who accept postings to deprived areas.

ii. 2018 Budgetary Allocation

For year 2018, the Scheme has been provided with an amount of GH¢500,436,889.00 for its programmes and activities. This is made up of a GoG allocation of GH¢495,333,594.00 and an IGF component of GH¢5,103,295.00.

The Committee observed that in year 2018, NSS will use its budgetary allocation for the following activities, among others:

- Refurbishment and repair of NSS farm structures and equipment to improve production and increase revenue generation.
- Strengthening publicity and the awareness campaign on rebranding the National Service Scheme through campus orientation.
- Planting for food and jobs programme.

The Committee urges the Scheme to use its budgetary allocation judiciously in the implementation of its planned programmes and activities for the year.

## 11.0 **CONCLUSION**

Education is considered the bedrock upon which the development of every nation is built and as such, the pursuit for quality education should be a collective responsibility.

The Committee noted with concern that inadequate staffing, office accommodation and vehicles are challenges confronting almost all the Agencies under the Ministry of Education. Undoubtedly, the lack of logistics and human resource hinder the smooth running of operations of the Agencies, thereby rendering it difficult for the Agencies to perform to its optimum level.

The Committee therefore urges the Ministry of Education to collaborate with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that financial clearance is granted to pave way for the recruitment of the required personnel by the Agencies. The Committee further urges the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the Ministry of Education is adequately resourced to enable it meet its obligations.

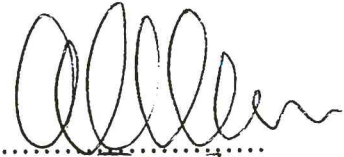
The Committee hereby recommends to the House to approve the sum of **nine billion, two hundred and fifty-eight million, eight hundred and thirty-nine thousand, eight hundred and twenty-seven cedis (GH¢9,258,839,827.00)** for the programmes and activities of the Ministry of Education for the 2018 Financial Year.

Respectfully submitted.



**STEVENS SIAKA (HON.)**  
**(CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON**  
**EDUCATION)**

PARLIAMENT OF GHANA LIBRARY  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
OSU - ACCRA



**ABIGAIL ABA ANSO**  
**(CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE)**

DECEMBER 2018