



MINORITY CAUCUS

Parliament House - Accra (Ghana)



*In case of reply, the number
and date of this letter
should be quoted.*

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PRESS STATEMENT

MINORITY IN PARLIAMENT RESPONDS TO ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT INTO THE SECURITY SERVICES UNDER THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

1. The NDC Minority in Parliament has taken note of publications in the 7th August, 2024 edition of the Ghanaian Times and Daily Graphic newspapers, advertising recruitments into the security services under the Ministry of the Interior.
2. These advertisements come on the back of a recent petition by the Minority to the Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) to investigate our complaint of unequal and unfair recruitment of personnel into the security services based on a purported backlog.
3. Whilst CHRAJ is seized with the Minority's petition, it came to us as a surprise that the security services under the Ministry of the Interior namely; the Ghana Police Service, the Ghana National Fire Service, Ghana Prisons Service and the Ghana Immigration Service have all placed open advertisements which restrict the 2024 recruitment process to only persons who applied in 2021, at a time the legality of recruiting from a purported backlog is the subject of a petition before CHRAJ.
4. These advertisements are an attempt to stampede CHRAJ in its investigations and to mislead Ghanaians into believing that the right thing is finally being done. This development has confirmed our long-held position that the reason why the recruitment was being shrouded in opacity is to create an unequal access to some people in the name of a so-called backlog, when no such backlog exists on the record.
5. The NDC Minority is of the firm belief that the recalcitrant behaviour of the Akufo-Addo/Bawumia NPP government on its quest to recruit personnel from a non-existent backlog is in furtherance of their ploy to recruit party vigilantes and goons into the security services purposely to help them achieve a favourable outcome in the upcoming 2024 general elections.
6. Ghanaians have not forgotten how the Akufo-Addo/Bawumia NPP government unleashed party vigilante and goons clothed in uniform on innocent civilians during the 2020 general elections. Eight (8) innocent Ghanaians were killed in the process, including the dastardly shootings at Techiman South.
7. The peace and security of our dear country and the stability of our democracy will once again be in serious jeopardy should this government be allowed to have its way through this ongoing restricted recruitment into the security services.

8. The Minority hereby calls on the National Peace Council, the Christian Council of Ghana, the Office of the National Chief Imam, our Development Partners, Civil Society Organisations and all lovers of peace to speak out before it is too late.
9. The Minority wishes to renew our call for a strict adherence to a balanced structuring of all the security services including the Ghana Armed Forces, through the creation of equal access and opportunity for all by the security services in terms of recruitment.
10. The NDC Minority reiterates that we are in principle not against the recruitment of the youth of this country into the security services. On the contrary, our objective is to guarantee equal access and opportunity for all regardless of one's gender, ethnicity, religion or creed when it comes to recruitment into the security services.

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JAMES AGALGA, MP
MEMBER, BUILSA NORTH AND RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE AND INTERIOR