SESSIONAL ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE HON. BISMARK BAISIE NKUM, THE DISTIRCT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (DCE) FOR GOMOA WEST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY AT THE 3RD ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE 8TH ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER 2022 AT THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY HALL.

Hon. Presiding Member

Hon. Member of Parliament

Hon. Assembly Members

District Co-ordinating Director

Nananom Present

Heads of Department and Unit Heads

The Press

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Section 28 (1) of the Local Governance Act, 2016, Act 936, states that, the District Chief Executive (DCE) may address District Assembly in session on policies determined by the President. In sub-section (2a) of the same Act, mandates the DCE to present a report on the performance of the functions of the Executive Committee, of the office of the District

Chief Executive as well as of the state of the District to the District Assembly at the beginning of each session. It is in this vein that, I address the august house for our Third meeting of the year 2022.

Hon. Presiding Member, permit me to use this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all Hon. Members of the house and Heads of Departments and Units Heads for their devotion to duty and the professionalism with which they go about their work. I say ayeekoo!

Hon. Presiding Member, it is said that, it is only during our darkest moments that we really need to focus in order to see the light. The year 2022, has been very challenging in different respect. However, through it all our good Lord has sustained us. Therefore, we have so much to be thankful for. In this season of Christmas, I wish you a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year in advance.

The address is organized under the following broad thematic areas:

1. Economic Development

2. Social Development

3. Environment, Infrastructure and Human Settlements

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hon. Presiding Member, the agriculture sector continuous to be the major driver for improving household incomes and rural development for our people.

Our objectives in the area are:

a. Improve production efficiency and yield

b. Improve post-harvest management and

c. Promote livestock and poultry development for food security and income generation

The government's flagship programmes have been structured to meet these targets

PLANTING FOR EXPORT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PERD)

Hon. Presiding Member, this programme's objective is to increase the wealth of farmers through the production of cash crops such as coconut, mango, pineapple, among others. PERD's main objective for our District is to ensure that, Gomoa West District becomes the leading producer of Coconut and Mango in the country. To achieve this objective, high yielding Coconut and Mango seedlings were supplied to farmers. Seven Thousand (7,000) coconut and Thirty Thousand (30,000) Mango seedlings were supplied to farmers. These seedlings are doing well on the field. The distribution breakdown is as follows:

COCONUT DISTRIBUTION				
RECEIVED & DISTRIBUTED	***NUMBER OF FARMERS***	***MALE***	***FEMALE***	***ACREAGE***
7000	129	98	31	116.7
MANGO DISTRIBUTION				
RECEIVED & DISTRIBUTED	***NUMBER OF FARMERS***	***MALE***	***FEMALE***	***ACREAGE***
30,000	200	167	33	250
Total seedlings distributed-37,000		**Total farmers-329**	**Total Male-265 Total Female-64**	**Total -366.7**

FARMERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Hon. Members, the District Assembly organized this year's farmers day at Gomoa Eshiem on December 2, 2022.We were privileged to have received the Paramount Chief of Gomoa Ajumako Traditional council, Obrempong Nyanful Krampah XI as the chairman for the occasion. Also present was the Akaboha of Musama Disco Christo Church. Though it was successfully organized, patronage was not as expected. The Department of Agric should going forward, work together with the Agric sub-committee of the Assembly to achieve a better result.

2.0 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The overall goal of the Government's social development strategies, over the medium term, is to create equal opportunity for all.

Hon. P.M., Education forms the foundation of that core objective of social change through knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and character acquisition to build the requisite human capital.

EDUCATION

Hon. P.M, the District Assembly together with the Education Directorate set itself an ambitious target to surpass its 2020 BECE pass rate of 69.1%. The Assembly on its part ensured that, the education directorate was resourced with the necessary learning and teaching material to be able to achieve the set target. However, the District came with 61.5% pass rate. As the saying goes, you can lead a horse to a brook but you cannot make it drink. Even though the 2021 BECE results did not go as expected, I want to commend the efforts and attitude of the teachers in preparing the pupils for the exams.

The table below shows the breakdown of performances:

NAME	MALE	FEMALE	**TOTAL**	Percentage
Candidates	1,379	1,346	**2725**	100%
Passed	844	832	**1676**	61.5%
% passed	61.8	61.2	-	-

Following the below par performance, the Education Directorate did a little investigation to find out the cause of the low performance in the 2021 BECE Examination. The following reasons were identified:

a. High teacher attrition rate in the District

b. Candidates' failure to attend school after registering for the exams
c. Intimidation at the four (4) senior high examination centers by invigilators
d. Truancy by pupils.

BEST TEACHER AWARD SCHEME

Hon. PM, the Assembly is instituting Best Teacher Award Scheme starting from next year 2023. The objective of this scheme is to motivate and encourage teachers in the District. It is hoped that, it will partly form the basis of reversing the teacher attrition rate in the District.

T-VET SCHOOLS

The District boasts of four T-VET schools of which three of them are for the government and the other one is private. The three (3) public technical schools are:

1. Kings Technical school
2. Mankwadze technical school
3. Ada technical school

Hon. PM, the T-VET schools in the District are well resourced with modern equipment and technologies to adequately prepare our children for a better future. Hon. Members and parents are encouraged to take advantage of this golden opportunity to give their wards an experience of life time.

2022 BECE

Hon. PM, I am glad to report that, the 2022 BECE examination was well organized and that, everything went on seamlessly. The acts of intimidation that characterized the conduct of the examinations in the previous year, was not seen in the conduct of the 2022 BECE examination.

Hon. PM, the Education Directorate had registered 72 Basic Schools with a total of 2,725 candidates for the 2022 B.E.C.E. This figure comprises of 1379 boys and 1346 girls. The exanimations were conducted at all the Nine (9) centers in the District. We hope for a better result.

SOCIAL WELFARE

In order to tackle the menace of Child Trafficking in the District, the Social Welfare Department has undertaken social education against human trafficking with the Fisherfolks at Apam, Mumford and Dago beaches. The Department is also leaving no stone unturned in its quest to clean the LEAP of ghost names.

NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY (NIA)

Hon. P.M, the NIA District Office started operating on 03/11/2021 with 4 permanent staff and was only issuing old cards.

However, at the beginning of the year 2022, the staff strength has been augmented with 4 additional staff; comprising of 2 NIA Contract staff and

2 NSS personnel. Two new operational areas like Enrollment of new applicants, verification of cards and customer service were added.

Hon. PM, ever since the new officers of the NIA took office from last year November, 4611 people have been registered, 2896 cards have been printed, 1800 card are yet to be printed and a total of 6824 cards have been issued out.

Hon. PM, with addition of more machines the NIA is able to register a lot of new applicants. This move has led to increase in the number of both enrollment of new applicants and issuance of cards. The following request were made:

- 162 replacement requests and 15 update requests were made.

CHALLENGES

- They have 3461 cards still lying in their office.
- No blank cards to clear the backlogs of 1800.

HEALTH

Continuous Distribution of Long-lasting Insecticide treated bed Nets (LLINs)

The LLIN continuous distribution exercise is a key strategy adopted by the Ghana National Malaria Control Programme to reduce all forms of malaria cases. This Programme aims at distributing LLINs to Children aged 18- 59 months who receive Measles Rubella second dose vaccination and pregnant women who access Antenatal Care Services (ANC) for the first time. From Jan to November 2022, **a total of 5,277**

ITNs (99.7%) were distributed to children due for Measles Rubella second dose and **3058 ITNs (57.9%)** were also distributed to ANC registrants.

Covid-19 Vaccination

The district has a total eligible population of **95,207** including children 15-17 years and pregnant women to be vaccinated in 2022. A total of **44,747 (47%)**, **19,993 (21%)** and **33,322 (35%)** persons took their first, second and booster doses respectively out of which **39,631** (**41.6%)** were fully vaccinated at November, 2022.

COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE

The district has suspected 144 people of Covid-19 and 34 of these suspects were confirmed positive with no Deaths and 34 recovered. Confirmed cases were all not severe and managed Home.

ROUND 1 & 2 - NOVEL ORAL POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

The district took part in the first and second rounds of the National n OPV Vaccination Campaigns which targeted Children aged 0-59months. In all the district vaccinated **30,070 (113.37%)** children in the first round and **33,866 (107.3%)** children in the second round. Although we achieved over 100% in both rounds, the district missed 4 out of 60 children when

were assessed after the first round of the campaign and thereby led to our failure after the assessment was done.

Another assessment done after the second round of the campaign indicated that all our eligible population were covered and thereby making us pass the second round of the campaign.

Health infrastructure

Hon. Presiding Member, the Assembly is undertaken the following projects to help our health sector.

- Construction of CHPS Compound at Antseadze/Odumasi, completed. Furnishing with medical supplies will be done hopeful before the end of the year.
- The Health Center at Mumford is at the super structure level

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION

Hon. P.M, the Assembly continuous to work hard to keep our District clean. The activities undertaken during the year include the following:

- 1,246 premises (homes, health facilities, shops…) across the District were inspected.
- Evacuation of refuse at Akyenfo, Mankessim, Mozano, and Eshiem.

- Pushing and compacting of the final refuse disposal site at Gomoa Hwida.
- There were massive clean-up exercises at Apam, Mumford, Apam, Ankamu and the Highway stretch from Mankwadze to Bewadze.
- 1,432 vendors have been screened and licensed.
- There were educational campaigns on sanitation at a number of both public and private schools in the District.

REVENUE

IGF Performance NOVEMBER, 2021 Against NOVEMBER, 2022

NAME	2021 ACTUAL AS AT NOV.	BUDGET FOR 2021	2022 ACTUAL AS AT NOV.	BUDGET FOR 2022	PERCENTAGE	(%) DIFF.
REVENUE	611,963.70	820,913.00	740,835.26	850,000.00	2021 74.6 / 2022 87.2	12.6

IGF REVENUE PERFORMANCE: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF 2021 AND 2022

Hon Presiding Member**,** as at November last year 2021, the Assembly was able to collect an amount of Six Hundred and Eleven Thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Three Ghana Cedis, Seventy pesewas (GHC 611,963.70) as against an amount Seven Hundred and Forty Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-Five Ghana Cedis Twenty-Six Pesewas

(740,835.26) in 2022. The Assembly made a modest gain of 12.6% over the previous year's figure. A lot still needed to be done in this regard to generate more revenue to develop the District.

Hon. Members, I will like to urge you all, to assist the Assembly to generate enough revenue to carry out developmental projects in the district.

SECURITY

Hon. Presiding Member, our District has largely been safe. The security and intelligent services have offered intelligence and security required for our safety.

Presentation

Hon. PM,

Before I take my seat, I have purposely put together projects and programs we have been doing in the past 5 years. Let us take have a quick glance of them as we end the year.

Once again Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Thank you.