

**SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR THE ADA EAST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY, HON. KENNETH K. KABU KANOR, AT THE 69<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION AT ADA FOAH DOVE PARK ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**The Honourable Member of Parliament's Representative, and the Constituency Chairman for the NDC**

**The Presiding Member of the Ada East District Assembly**

**Neneme and Naaname**

**Honourable Assembly Members**

**Heads of Departments and Agencies**

**The Clergy and Leaders Of Faith Based Organisations**

**Security Services**

**Students, Teachers, and the Youth of Ada**

**Distinguished Invited Guests**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good morning to you all

Today, we assemble with deep pride and a profound sense of responsibility to commemorate the 69<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ghana's Independence. This historic occasion reminds us not only of where we have come from as a nation, but more importantly, of where we must go together as a people.

Sixty-nine years ago, our forebears, led by the visionary **Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah**, broke the chains of colonial domination and boldly proclaimed to the world that Ghana was free forever. That moment was not merely a declaration of political independence; it was a declaration of belief in the capacity of Africans to govern themselves, shape their destiny, and pursue prosperity with dignity.

As beneficiaries of that historic struggle, we are duty bound to translate political freedom into economic empowerment, social justice, and shared prosperity for our people. This solemn responsibility is aptly captured in this year's national theme: **"Building Prosperity, Restoring Hope."**

*Fellow Citizens*, this theme is not symbolic rhetoric. It is firmly anchored in the policy direction and governance philosophy of **His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, the President of the Republic of Ghana** and it reflects a national resolve to confront economic challenges honestly, rebuild confidence in public institutions, and to reposition Ghana on a path of inclusive growth and sustainable development.

The message from the President is clear; Ghana is resetting its priorities, strengthening fiscal discipline, investing in productive sectors, and restoring hope to households, businesses, and communities. This national vision provides the framework within which local governments, including the Ada East District Assembly, must operate decisively and responsibly.

Meanwhile, here in Ada East, we are aware of both our challenges and the immense opportunities that abound with our geographical location and culture. We are blessed with fertile agricultural lands, a rich coastal and riverine economy, vibrant fishing communities, a youthful population, and a growing tourism potential anchored along the Volta River estuary and our scenic coastline. Yet we also acknowledge the realities confronting our people, unemployment among the youth, pressure on social infrastructure, climate related threats to livelihoods, sanitation challenges, and the need for improved access roads and basic services. Restoring hope in Ada East therefore requires deliberate action, prudent leadership, and strong collaboration between government, traditional authorities, the private sector, and citizens.

I wish to assure you today that the Ada East District Assembly is committed to converting our natural and human endowments into tangible prosperity for our people.

*Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen*, a major pillar of the national economic recovery agenda is the **24-Hour Economy policy**, which seeks to restructure productivity, expand job opportunities, and maximise the use of national assets through round the clock economic activity.

I am pleased to inform you that Ada East District is among the first beneficiaries of the 24-hour economy market initiative. Under this programme, the Kasseh Market will be transformed into a modern 24-hour market facility, designed to stimulate commerce, attract investment, and support traders and farmers across the district.

This development will significantly enhance commercial activities and position Kasseh as a major economic hub in the district. Beyond the market project, the Assembly is also positioning Ada East to take advantage of emerging economic opportunities by:

- Promoting agro-processing and value addition so that farmers move from subsistence production to commercial agriculture. Through the LoCAL Climate Resilience Programme, two mechanized boreholes are being constructed to support year-round farming activities.
- Supporting the **fishing sector**, including the distribution of subsidized premix fuel to fisher folk to sustain livelihoods.
- Encourage tourism, hospitality, and cultural enterprises to extend operations and create jobs, especially for the youth and women.
- Improve security, lighting, and basic infrastructure to support businesses operating safely at night.

Our message to investors and entrepreneurs is simple and firm, Ada East is ready for business to restore hope and build the future that we aspire for ourselves.

*The MP Representative*, Prosperity has meaning only when it improves lives. Restoring hope in Ada East means focusing on people centered development and accordingly, the Assembly remains committed to:

- Improving road networks to link farming and fishing communities to markets through the District Road Improvement Program.
- Strengthening basic education infrastructure, teacher support, and school safety to secure the future of our children. And in order to improve environment for teaching and learning, we have awarded the following contracts which will commence before the end of this month. A JHS block at OcanseyKope, a kindergarten block at Korleykope and six-unit classroom which will commence in the third quarter of the year.
- Supporting primary healthcare delivery, disease prevention, and emergency response, particularly in hard to reach communities. We are aware of the severe challenge of potable water at PediatorKope health center. Management is taking all necessary measures to remedy the situation. Meanwhile, the

Assembly will be constructing a new clinic at Kasseh to replace old dilapidated one and two (2) new CHPs compounds to be built at Kadzanya and Azizanya respectively. Infact, I am glad to inform you, the public, that I have cut the sod for the construction of the CHPs compounds

- Advancing water, sanitation, and environmental management to protect public health and enhance community dignity. The Assembly is in the process of supporting Ghana Water Company to improve upon their facilities to enable them extend potable water to coastal communities, parts of Kasseh and some areas which have never seen pipe bone water before. Currently, potable water has been extended to Kadzana, Amlakpo, Gbantana, Kakietskope, Asinyekope Totimekopea and Kasseh Zongo.
- Promoting youth skills development, entrepreneurship, and sports, as tools for social inclusion and crime prevention. We have currently, engaged 250 of our youths into various modules under the National Youth Employment Program.

We will continue to work closely with decentralised departments, development partners, NGOs, and traditional authorities to ensure efficient service delivery and accountability.

*Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen*, as we speak of building prosperity and restoring hope, we must recognize that the most sustainable investment any district can make is in education. I am therefore pleased to highlight the significant progress recorded by the Ada East District in terms of education, youth and sports

In the 2025 BECE, In terms of academic performance, the district public basic pass rate improved to 34.91%, compared to 31% in 2024, and 22.2% in 2023. This steady upward trajectory demonstrates that targeted interventions are yielding measurable outcomes. While we acknowledge that there is still room for improvement, the direction is positive, and hope is indeed being restored within our basic education system.

Indeed as part of the measures to further improve upon performance, the Assembly has set aside funds to sponsor mock examinations for all qualified candidates at the basic level to prepare them for their final exams.

However, I reckon that Education is not limited to the classroom. Character formation, teamwork, discipline, and resilience are cultivated through sports. I am proud to report that in 2025, Ada East placed 2nd at the zonal level, a remarkable achievement that reflects the growing competitiveness of our young athletes.

Again, at the second cycle level, the district continues to distinguish itself, particularly through the performance of Ada Senior High School (ADASCO). During, the 2025 Inter-Schools Zone 6 Games ADASCO placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Super Zonal Championships, involving 40 second cycle institutions which were held at the El-Wak and Legon Stadia.

Notably, **22 athletes**, the highest number selected from any single school, were chosen from ADASCO to join the Greater Accra Regional Team for national games in Takoradi.

These accomplishments are not accidental. They reflect structured training, institutional discipline, and strong school leadership. Sports development remains a viable pathway for scholarships, professional careers, and youth empowerment.

Ada East has also excelled in cultural and intellectual competitions in 2025.

- The district presented Drum Appellation at the Jubilee House during the 68<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary Celebration—an honour that showcased our rich Ga-Dangme heritage at the national level.
- Ada East won 1st Position in the Ga Dangme Quiz and Essay Writing Competition at the Regional Level, competing across five zones comprising multiple districts.
- Our district represented Zone One, which includes Ada East, Ada West, Prampram, Kpone-Katamanso, and Ashaiman.
- Ada East further represented the Greater Accra Region in Drum Appellation at the launch of the Free Sanitary Pad initiative.

These achievements affirm that our students are not only academically capable but culturally grounded and intellectually competitive.

*Neneme Naaname, Fellow Citizens*, no development agenda can succeed without unity, discipline, and civic responsibility. Our Independence places obligations on every citizen not only on government. Let us protect public property, pay our rates and taxes, support sanitation exercises, respect traditional authority, and uphold peace and tolerance in our communities. Development thrives where citizens actively participate and leaders remain transparent and accountable.

As we reset Ghana and rebuild confidence, Ada East must be a district known for cooperation, integrity, and hard work. And as we proudly hoist our national flag today, let us remember that independence is not an event of the past, but a continuous responsibility. The 69<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary calls on us to deepen our commitment to economic freedom, social equity, and national unity.

Together, by embracing innovation, discipline, and collective effort, we will **build prosperity, restore hope**, and secure a future of opportunity and dignity for every citizen of Ada East.

May God bless our efforts.

May God bless Ada East District.

And may God bless our homeland Ghana.

**Mawu nɛ jɔɔ nyɛ.** (God bless you all.)