

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR  
BEREKEM WEST DISTRICT, HON. COLLINS ASOMA ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE 41<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL FARMERS DAY  
CELEBRATION HELD AT THE METHODIST PARK AT KORASO-  
KANTANKA, ON FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025**

**NANA CHAIRMAN,  
HON. PRESIDING MEMBER,  
HON. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,  
DISTRICT CO-ORDINATING DIRECTOR,  
HON. ASSEMBLY MEMBERS PRESENT,  
NANANOM, NANAHEMAA,  
DISTRICT AGRICULTURE DIRECTOR,  
HEADS OF DEPARTMENT,  
HEADS OF SECURITY AGENCIES PRESENT,  
POLITICAL PARTIES REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT,  
OUR HEROIC AND GALLANT FARMERS,  
NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS,  
RELIGIOUS LEADERS,  
STAFF OF THE ASSEMBLY PRESENT,  
FRIENDS FROM THE MEDIA,  
DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

Today marks the 41<sup>st</sup> National Farmers Day Celebration and we in the Berekum West District have gathered here in Koraso Kantanka to honour and celebrate our gallant farmers. I with humility and with gladness stand to address you on this momentous occasion. I also bring you warm greetings from the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency John

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Dramani Mahama who is the special guest at the national event in the Volta Regional capital, Ho. I wish to on his behalf, and on my own behalf, thank our gallant farmers here gathered in Koraso Kantanka and those who could not attend this august occasion. Our President shall forever remain grateful.

This year we celebrate the Farmers Day with the theme: **"Feed Ghana, Eat Ghana, Secure the Future"**.

**Nananom, farmers, and fellow citizens**, the theme is a clarion call to all of us to begin to rethink through our attitude towards our own home grown farm produce and how best we can leverage on our vast agrarian lands to propel industrial and economic growth for a better future of our people especially the youth.

#### ❖ **FEED GHANA**

Nananom, Ladies and Gentlemen, as a nation, it behoves on us to make food self-sufficiency our key concern. It would be a grave sin and an unpardonable situation for Ghana with all the vast land and the manpower to grow enough food for her people to be accosted with the label of food insecurity into the not too distant future.

Growing more than enough to feed our people and also stock for the future is what must occupy every one of us. This is why the National Democratic Congress' (NDC) government, as part of its resetting agenda is poised to revamping our agriculture and fishery sectors in order to make the nation food self-sufficient. The flagship **'Feed Ghana Project'- (FGP)** is therefore a well thought through bold strategic programme aimed at revitalizing and strengthening Ghana's agricultural food systems, to champion high yield, quality produce and make food affordable.

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Furthermore, the programme seeks to create jobs and enhance economic growth by reducing import dependency while boosting domestic production and export.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there are nine sub-programmes for the Feed Ghana Project which includes; Crop Development such as cereals, legumes, starchy staples and vegetables and Livestock Development such as poultry (Nkoko nkintinkintin), goats, pigs, sheep, cattle, etc. as well as Farmer's Service Centres (FSCs) where 270 district-level one stop centres would be established to provide agricultural services including agro-inputs, mechanisation, market access, extension, and advisory services. The FGP seeks to deliver smart solutions for sustainable food security and resilience. Climate change has become one of the most pressing issues of our time, and its impact on agriculture is severe. Rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and the increased frequency of extreme weather events are affecting crop yields, food quality and the livelihoods of our farmers and this the FGP seeks to address in order to make the nation food self-sufficient.

Nananom, this is the time our youth must recognise the potential opportunities that awaits them in exploiting the agriculture sector. I therefore wish to encourage the youth not to shy away from farming but to take advantage of the Feed Ghana Project by the government to acquire sustainable job and improve on their livelihoods. Let me encourage individuals, families and our educational institutions to also go back to the old age practice of backyard gardens in the homes and schools respectively to feed ourselves.

## ❖ EAT GHANA

Nana Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, growing enough food is not an end in itself, we as a people must be seen to have an unquenchable taste and desire for our locally grown food and products. The attitude of a Ghanaian liking a foreign rice to local rice, local poultry to foreign poultry, local vegetables to foreign vegetables, etc. must come to an end. If our gallant farmers are to grow enough to feed us, then we must as a people be prepared consciously and intentionally to patronize our own locally produced foods and goods. By so doing, we would be able to achieve a sustainable agriculture system to boost our local economy by creating jobs and our capacity to export.

## ❖ SECURING THE FUTURE

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is no doubt that our nation's effort to achieving a transformative economy that creates wealth and prosperity for the people hinges on agriculture and its industrialization. The value chain in agriculture have proven the enormous potential it carries to changing our story from a country of high youth unemployment, deep seated poverty, over reliance on imports and international and multilateral funding to a country of food self-sufficient, less dependent, job availability, export driven, high income levels and better living conditions for all.

The government's quest to creating the enabling environment to attract the needed investment and investors into the agricultural sector will be keenly pursued to achieve the needed dividends which is to secure the future of Ghana. It is our collective duty therefore as a people to rise against some of the human activities/evils that threatens our common

goal of securing a future that engenders food self-sufficient, offering decent jobs and empowering our peoples especially the youth. The evil of illegal mining popularly known as galamsey for instance should not be tolerated anywhere in our communities if our vision to industrialize Ghana through agriculture is to be achieved. At this juncture may I humbly call on Nananom and their elders, opinion leaders, the youth to assist the Assembly ward off any potential activity of illegal mining that is been tried to be introduced into our District. I together with the Hon. Member and the security agencies have vowed not to entertain any illegal mining in our District and this can only be successful when you our Chiefs and leaders of the community give your full backing.

### **BEREKUM WEST CONTEXT ON FEED GHANA PROJECT**

Mr. Chairman, our District through the Department of agriculture have embarked on various programs to ensure our District grows enough food to feed our people and for our people to eat what we grow here in our District. To mention but a few are the;

- Delivering of 2,220 Cashew Seedlings, 39,019 Moringa Seedlings, and 11,148 Mango Seedlings distributed to 372 farmers in the District under the Changing Lives Transformation Fund (CLTF) Project of the World Food Programme (WFP).
- Furthermore, the Department received 500 bags of fertilizers and 36,000 Coconut seedlings and distribution of these inputs to the farmers are on-going.
- the District would be a beneficiary of not less than 10,000 birds for the 'Akoko nketinkiti project' and the Department had identified

two main poultry farmers who are going to raise the day old chicks for some weeks before the redistribution to all who have registered, especially the youth for the project. In all 209 Farmer Groups with a total farmer population of 1,752 had been registered onto the Feed Ghana Programme Platform to be beneficiaries of the;

- Small scale poultry rearing (nkoko nketinkiti)
- Piggery farming
- Input support.

Nananom, Ladies and Gentlemen, a team from the Ghana Irrigation Authority some few months ago were in the District to identify our various wet lands for the development of irrigation systems to support our farmers especially those into vegetable farming. May I thank our Hon. Member of Parliament for his immense assistance in making all of these achievable through his influence.

The District Assembly had also supported the Department with its Internally Generated Fund (IGF) to construct 4 chamber store rooms to help facilitate its activities.

I respectfully call on all especially the youth to take keen interest in some of these interventions and grab the opportunities therein.

**Ladies and Gentlemen**, the Assembly through the Food and Agriculture Directorate shall continue to collaborate with stakeholders and our development partners to work towards building climate-resilient agriculture for sustainable food security in our dear District.

Nananom, before I bring my speech to an end, permit me to remind ourselves that we are almost in the dry season and it is important as farmers we avoid some of the activities that could lead to bushfires and destroy our farms. I call on the Ghana Fire Service to work hand in hand with the various fire volunteers to help educate and create the needed awareness to help minimise if not prevent entirely fire outbreaks during the dry season.

Nana Chairman, on this 41<sup>st</sup> edition of the National Farmers Day celebration, I would want to at this occasion congratulate the award winners for working hard and their labour recognized today. May this recognition make you thrive to do whatever you are doing even better so that you can impact our society. To those of you who have not won any award this year, do not give up, and continue to work hard as your hard work would not go unrecognized and rewarded someday.

We say a big thank you also to members of the Planning Committee, the Head and staff of the Department of Food and Agriculture, the Central Administration and especially to all the sponsors whose determinations and support have made this all important occasion a memorable one.

Nana Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I conclude by saying that, feeding Ghana, eating Ghana to secure the future is not a rhetoric statement. It is an agenda that is pursued to revolutionize our agriculture sector so that it will serve as the catalyst that will drive the economic transformation and growth required to bring economic emancipation through the creation of a sustainable and decent jobs as well as making us food self-sufficient. This demands our collective action

and responsibility. We owe it to our farmers, our children, and ourselves and we all must act and act now.

On this note may I wish our farmers a cheerful celebration and pray the good Lord whose mercy is unlimited to be with us during this Christmas, and the New Year and beyond.

Thank you.