

SUPPORTING STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT IN MEMORY OF HON JOSEPH BOAKYE DANQUAH ADU BY HONOURABLE GIFTY TWUM-AMPOFO, MP FOR ABUAKWA NORTH, BY HON AHMED IBRAHIM, MP FOR BANDA - 9 FEBRUARY, 2017

Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for the opportunity to make comments about the Statement.

Mr Speaker, in fact, the late Hon J. B. Danquah Adu was a Friend and he represented a constituency. Technically speaking, he spoke the interest of a certain constituency. I am talking about the business community. He was not just a politician; he was a businessman and at the same time an industrialist.

Mr Speaker, whenever we considered a Bill that came from the business community — I am talking in terms of trade — You could see that whenever he was on his feet, he spoke practically about the interest of the business community. He did not just speak the interest of the business community, he was a unifier as well.

Mr Speaker, at a certain time, he could take a stand, which when one goes into it practically, one could see that he spoke with the voice and interest of the Ghanaian community as a whole.

Mr Speaker, it is unfortunate that we do not have such a personality in our midst now.

That notwithstanding, his demise created some awareness and certain steps were also taken. It is after the demise of Hon J. B. Danquah Adu that the Fire Service Post in Parliament was upgraded and now we have a District Fire Station. Besides that, the Police Post that we used to have in the Parliament has also been upgraded to a District Police Headquarters status.

Mr Speaker, that notwithstanding, conditions of Members of Parliament in terms of security was high on our agenda when the Parliamentary Ad-hoc Committee on Emoluments engaged the Committee that was set up to look into the conditions of service of Members of Parliament. This item had been on the agenda for several times and it was never accepted.

However, after this, in the last Parliament when we tabled it and had instances where Members of Parliament had been attacked even leading to the loss of a Member among us, this time that item was seriously accepted. And it is on that note that Hon Members are progressing from that.

Mr Speaker, just to remind Hon Colleagues that in the previous Committee's Report, it was said that the Committee that was to be set-up to look into the conditions of service of members of the Seventh Parliament, must be set within, at least, six months when the Parliament commences. Mr Speaker, I just want to crave your indulgence and seek your leave that, that provision be looked at very critically for the security of Hon Members. So that each Hon Member will have one security officer for a guard.

Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for this opportunity.