

# NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS

### NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Our Ref: NOC/H9/44/V022/18	1
Your Ref:	

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November 5, 2021

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE GHANA POLICE SERVICE POLICE HEADQUARTERS ACCRA

Dear Sir,

PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ILLEGAL PRINTING OF OVER ONE MILLION EXCESS PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTS IN THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

#### INTRODUCTION

I write on behalf of the National Democratic Congress to petition your office to institute criminal investigations into, and prosecute persons culpable in the illegal printing of over one million excess Presidential Ballots meant for the Ashanti Region at Innolink Printing Press, one of the seven security printing firms contracted by the Electoral Commission to print election materials for the 2020 Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

## PARTICULARS OF COMPLAINT

- 1. That as part of our electoral process, the Electoral Commission invites agents of various political parties to monitor the printing of ballot papers at designated printing houses where ballot papers and other election material are printed.
- 2. That it has been the practice that Electoral Commission (EC) provides political parties with statistics on the quantities of ballots to be printed for each constituency at each printing press.
- 3. That this practice helps political parties to ensure that no excess ballots are printed.

- 4. That for the 2020 elections, the EC failed to provide the statistics to the NDC before the commencement of the printing exercise whereas the printing houses and the General Secretary of the New Patriotic Party confirmed that they had received the ballot statistics.
- 5. That the procedure is that when the printing of ballots is completed, all waste or damaged ballot materials are shredded and destroyed in incinerators under the supervision of the officials of the EC and security agencies in the presence of agents of political parties. Thereafter, Certificates of Disposal are issued and signed by all parties to confirm that such materials have been disposed of.
- 6. That after the destruction of waste ballot papers, the final stage is the destruction of the plates bearing the design of the ballot papers that are used for printing of ballot papers to indicate the completion of the ballot printing process.
- 7. That on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 the waste materials for Innolink Printing Press were destroyed under the supervision of the EC and security agencies in the presence of party agents who duly signed the Certificate of Disposal.
- 8. That on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 the plates were also destroyed in the presence of representatives of the EC, Innolink, political parties and the security agencies who duly signed the Certificate of Disposal and were accordingly given copies.
- 9. That by 25<sup>th</sup> November all waste materials had been destroyed.
- 10. That when the printed ballots at Innolink were transported to Ashanti Region on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020, it was discovered that there was a problem with the ballots of Afigya Kwabre South Constituency and therefore the ballot booklets were returned for reprinting.
- 11. That upon their return to Innolink Printing Press on 25<sup>th</sup> November, to supervise the reprinting of the ballot papers for the said constituency, our agents discovered, to their dismay, boxes of ballot papers concealed in one of the offices.
- 12. That when our agents raised alarm and caused the boxes to be opened, they noticed that they contained presidential ballot papers for Ashanti Region which were over one million in quantity.
- 13. That alarmed by what they saw, they filmed the ballots and enquired from the supervisors what those ballots were meant for.
- 14. That when our agents confronted, the supervisors at Innolink, they gave all manner of incoherent answers. One claimed that it was a 'back up' while another –the lady in charge of the bindery claimed they were meant for 'run-off'. Seemingly confused, officials of Innolink could not provide any further tenable answers.
- 15. That when EC officials were asked about the above development, they denied any knowledge of same.
- 16. That our agents insisted that the ballots should be destroyed forthwith. They ensured that all the ballots which were estimated at over one million were shredded and scheduled for destruction.
- 17. That attempts to get agents of other political parties to observe the exercise on 26th failed.

- 18. That the said ballots were therefore destroyed at Old Fadama on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 in the presence of officers from the Ghana Police Service, National Investigation Bureau, Innolink, our party agents and the media.
- 19. That we have reason to believe that some of these excess ballots were sent to the Ashanti Region before we discovered the excess ballots, hence the arrest of persons in Manso Nkwanta and Asawase with ballot papers.
- 20. That officials of the Electoral Commission and Innolink must be investigated and prosecuted.

#### EVIDENCE OF COMPLAINT

Below are the pieces of evidence attached on a pendrive in support of our claims:

- 1. Videos of the excess ballot papers discovered at Innolink printing press
- 2. Photographs of excess ballots discovered at Innolink printing press
- 3. Certificates of Disposal of waste ballot papers
- 4. Certificate of Disposal of plates
- 5. Video reports from Joynews, UTV and TV3 on the destruction of the excess ballot papers at Old Fadama on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.
- 6. Video of arrest of a man in possession thumbprinted ballot papers.

While looking forward to your swift investigation and prosecution of culprits involved in the above criminal act, the National Democratic Congress wishes to assure you of its full cooperation in the conduct of your investigations.

HON JOHNSON ASIEDU NKETIAH

GENERAL SECRETARY

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (PETITIONER)