

News Flash



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Economic News

'Banking sector cleanup attracts more investors – GIPC'

Ghana is recording appreciable investments into its financial sector following the clean up by the central bank. The CEO of the GIPC, Yofi Grant said the centre should record more investments after the banks recapitalize. The banking sector reforms which has spanned for about a year and a half, has seen seven local banks collapse. The institutions were largely insolvent, failed to practice good corporate governance among others. The central bank stressed that its action is to protect the deposits of the millions of people and secure the country's financial sector. In all, about GHS 10bn has been spent on the absorption and management of the underperforming banks. "Interestingly a lot of investors that I meet think that it is the best thing that could have happened to Ghana's financial sector, then it proves that the Rule of Law works and that things are done properly. We have seen a number of investors come in and ask about how they can go about it when they want to invest in the banking sector and we give them the plan to do that," he said. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

'Parliament endorses GHS 73bn financial request from gov't'

Parliament on Thursday granted a request by the Government of Ghana to withdraw over GHS 73bn from the Consolidated Fund and other government funds to finance development projects. This follows the House's approval, after a marathon motion debate on the 2019 budget and financial policy statement of government presented to the House by Finance Minister Ken Ofori Atta two weeks ago. As a sequel to the approval, the House would be expected to endorse the allocations to the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and then pass the Appropriation Bill. Both Sides of the House had scrutinised the budget, with the Minority Side expressing reservations on the fulfilment of the promises of Government in the budget even before it was read. The debate on the motion ended with leaders of both the Minority and Majority making their contributions on the motion. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

'Ghana moves up in FDI investment countries in Africa'

Ghana has moved up one place from the eighth to the seventh position, in the league of countries that attracts foreign direct investment (FDI) in Africa. The 2018 EY Africa Attractiveness Report also ranked Ghana second in West Africa for FDI attractiveness. EY Africa Attractiveness Survey and Report is by Ernst & Young Company designed to help businesses make informed investment decisions and governments to improve their respective business environment while lightening barriers that may intercept future growth. Ghana in 2016 got 28 projects out of the 676 FDI projects that came to Africa putting it in the seventh position in Africa and third in West Africa. In 2017, FDI projects in Ghana increased by 15 more projects to 43, displacing Ivory Coast at the second position in West Africa. Nigeria moved up from the fifth position to fourth but lost the third position to Kenya who in 2016 was at the fifth position. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

Corporate News

'SSNIT lost no money in 5 collapsed banks—Director General'

The Director General of the Social Security and National Insurance Trust Dr. John Ofori-Tenkorang has disclosed that even though SSNIT had shares in four out of the five banks that were collapsed into the Consolidated Bank Ghana Limited, it made no losses. This he said was due to securities it had which allowed SSNIT to easily convert some assets of the company into money as the banks lost their licenses. Five banks, namely the Beige Bank, Construction Bank, Unibank, Royal Bank, and Sovereign Bank were collapsed by the Bank of Ghana to form the Consolidated Bank due to their high levels of insolvency. Speaking at a press soiree, Dr. Ofori-Tenkorang debunked the notion that pension funds were lost due to the collapse of the banks. "Our level of exposure with the banks that went down is zero. Whatever money that we had on placement with them we had security assets that we were holding and so we are able to raise cash against those securities so we don't have any exposure. We had four banks in Consolidated Bank that we had exposures to," he said. [Source: Citibusinessnews.com](#)

'GHL Bank Wins Best Mortgage Bank of the Year'

GHL Bank has entrenched its position as the country's leading mortgage financing bank at the eleventh edition of the Ghana Property Awards where it ousted other nominees in the highly contested category to emerge as 'Best Mortgage Bank of the Year'. The prestigious event was held on the 24th of November at the State House, Banquet Hall in Accra and saw over twenty awards conferred on trail-blazing companies within the real estate industry. The ceremony was a showcase of innovation, professionalism and pro-activeness in Ghana's outstanding companies; individuals and team players who have made great contribution in Ghana's real estate market. [Source: Citibusinessnews.com](#)

Currency - Interbank	Rate 28 Nov	Rate 29 Nov	%Change
USD/GHS	4.7945	4.8000	-0.11
GBP/GHS	6.1269	6.1330	-0.10
EUR/GHS	5.4070	5.4605	-0.99
CHF/GHS	4.7981	4.8149	-0.35
CNY/GHS	0.6893	0.6914	-0.31
ZAR/GHS	0.3437	0.3521	-2.44

The cedi depreciated against all the major trading currencies.