

Economic News

'Inflation for January drops to 9%; lowest in 5 years'

Ghana's inflation reached its lowest in five years for the month of January. Inflation rate dropped to 9%, from the 9.4% recorded in December 2018. The rate of 9.0% is the lowest since January 2013. The drop was largely consistent with the inflation trend recorded in January for the last 5 years. The announced inflation figure means that there was a 9% increase in the general price level of goods and services that households consumed in January 2019, when compared to prices of goods and services in January last year. While announcing the consumer inflation rate for the first month of 2019, the Acting Government Statistician, David Kombat, explained that items in the food and non-food groups contributed to the drop. "The food inflation rate for January 2019 was 8% compared with 8.7% recorded in December 2018. The non-food inflation rate January 2019 was 9.5%, compared with 9.8% recorded in December 2018. Both the food and non-food inflation rate from the data fell to cause the fall in the combined rate of inflation." [Source: Citifmonline.com](#)

'New regions; GSS collating data on inflation'

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) has revealed that it is working closely with the Ministry for Regional Reorganization and Development to get the needed data, in order to calculate inflation figures for the newly created regions. According to the Acting Government Statistician, David Kombat such figures will be made available in the medium to long term. So far President Akufo-Addo has presented the Constitutional Instruments for 4 out of the 6 new regions which were up for creation. At a press conference to announce the inflation figures for January 2019, Mr. Kombat, said a lot of work would have to be done to ensure that figures produced for the new regions are accurate and reliable. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

'Construction of EURO 13m waste-water treatment plant commences'

Samuel Atta Akyea, Minister of Works and Housing, has cut the sod for construction of a EUR13m waste-water treatment plant in Kumasi the Ashanti Region to begin. The project, a partnership between Jospong Group of Companies and a Hungarian technological engineering company, Pureco, will see construction of the 1000 m³ waste-water treatment plant – a first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa. With the facility to be managed by Sewerages Systems Ghana Limited (SSGL), a subsidiary of the Jospong Group of Companies, it is expected to create over 650 jobs for the youth of Kumasi when it is fully operational. The minister used the opportunity to praise Dr. Joseph Siaw Agyepong, the Executive Chairman of the Jospong Group of Companies, for his commitment to moving Ghana onto a high development pedestal. He commended the Asantehene, Nana Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, for releasing the 130 acres of land for the project to begin, and urged all chiefs as development agents to be ready to part with lands for development of their jurisdictions. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

Corporate News

'Societe Generale Ghana completes rights issue; increases stated capital'

Societe Generale Ghana has increased its stated capital to GHS 404,245,426.72 via a Bonus Issue of GHS 97,000,000.00 and a Rights Issue of GHS 168,942,501.90. This means it has fully met the Bank of Ghana's Directive issued in September 2017. The central bank in accordance with Section 28 (1) of the Banks & Specialised Deposit Taking Institutions Act 2016 Act 930 announced for the information of Banks and the general public that it had revised upward the minimum paid-up capital for existing banks and new entrants from GHS 120m to a new level of GHS 400m under several conditions to be met by December 2018. Work on recapitalization commenced in 2017 when the Bank's Board of Directors, Management and Shareholders together with the Sponsoring Broker, Financial and Legal Experts worked assiduously to comply with Bank of Ghana's Directive in record time. [Source: Myjoyonline.com](#)

'Tullow PLC to increase oil production in Ghana as its revenue surges'

Tullow Oil Plc has announced an increase in revenue for its 2018 operations. The company's revenue increased to USD 1.9bn in 2018 compared to USD 1.7bn in 2017. In a financial statement released by the company, Tullow PLC recorded a profit after tax of USD 85m 2018 compared to USD 175m recorded in 2017. The company also announced that it would start paying dividends of a 4.8 cent per share to its shareholders. By this, the company is looking to pay its shareholders about USD 100m this year. Tullow is also working at reducing its debt of USD 3.1bn while it increases production in Ghana to 102,000 barrels of oil per day from 90,000. [Source: Citifmonline.com](#)

Currency - Interbank	Rate 12 Feb	Rate 13 Feb	%Change
USD/GHS	5.0006	5.0016	-0.02
GBP/GHS	6.4423	6.4526	-0.16
EUR/GHS	5.6477	5.6502	-0.05
CHF/GHS	4.9562	4.9702	-0.28
CNY/GHS	0.7384	0.7393	-0.13
ZAR/GHS	0.3631	0.3604	0.76

The cedi depreciated against all the major trading currencies.