

## **RESPONSE TO THE MINISTER FOR ROADS AND HIGHWAYS ON FALSE CLAIMS ABOUT AKUFO-ADDO'S ROAD LEGACY AND PROCUREMENT HYPOCRISY**

The recent comments made by the Minister for Roads and Highways, Hon. Kwame Agbodza, during his press briefing, are not only misleading but reflect a worrying pattern of deliberate distortion and double standards.

### **1. On the 10,000km Roads Constructed under President Akufo-Addo**

The Minister claims that President Akufo-Addo's widely acknowledged achievement of constructing over 10,000 kilometers of roads is a "mirage" because he "did not see them" during his tour. This is not only disingenuous but a gross attempt to politicize hard facts.

Let us set the record straight:

Between 2017 and the end of 2024, the Akufo-Addo administration undertook road projects totaling 13,624 kilometers. This is in clear contrast to the 4,636 kilometers executed under the eight-year Mills–Mahama administration.

These 13,000+ kilometers comprise:

- New construction
- Asphalt overlays
- Graveling and re-graveling
- Reconstruction and partial reconstruction
- Upgrading and rehabilitation works

These facts have been presented repeatedly, yet Hon. Agbodza continues to ignore them—perhaps because the unprecedented scale of road development under President Akufo-Addo unsettles the current administration.

It must be emphasized that the data at the Ministry of Roads and Highways is compiled not by politicians, but by qualified civil servants. Specifically, the Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate, which remains intact even after the Minister reshuffled all other directorates, is responsible for tracking and reporting on completed road projects.

If the Minister has doubts about the data, he should have the courage and sincerity to confront the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation—not resort to cheap political propaganda aimed at tarnishing a legacy that outshines anything his party achieved in office.

## **2. On the Use of Single-Source Procurement**

It is equally troubling that the same Minister who, upon assuming office, loudly criticized the Akufo-Addo administration for employing single-source procurement methods, is now making a complete U-turn.

At today's press briefing, Hon. Agbodza stated that "once you have the Engineer's Estimate, it doesn't matter which procurement method you use." This blatant contradiction not only exposes his double standards but raises serious questions about his integrity.

You cannot demonize a method when others use it, only to defend it when you find yourself in the same position. If the Minister now believes that procurement should be guided by technical evaluations (as it should be), then he owes the previous administration an apology for the misleading accusations.

In Conclusion, the Ministry of Roads and Highways is a technical institution, not a propaganda arm for political spin. If Hon. Agbodza wants to be taken seriously, he must rise above selective memory and partisan grandstanding. Ghanaians deserve honest, data-driven leadership—not empty rhetoric.

Signed

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**BANTAMA**

**MEMBER, ROADS AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE & FMR. ROAD AND HIGHWAYS MINISTER**