



MINISTRY
OF
ROADS AND
HIGHWAYS

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PRESS RELEASE

EXPLANATION ON STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (SONA) 2022 BY
HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO ADDO'S STATEMENT ON ROAD SECTOR

As part of the SONA 2022, the President stated as follows:

“Mr. Speaker, it is in the road sector that we have registered the greatest infrastructure achievement. I know that the word “unprecedented” is often used with careless abandon in our public discourse, but I use it carefully and purposefully. In the five years of my government, so far, more roads have been built, improved and upgraded than at any other equivalent period under any government in the history of Ghana.

Some ten thousand, eight hundred and seventy-five (10,875) kilometres of new roads have been constructed in these five (5) years. *Let me mention that yesterday, it was my honour and great pleasure to have commissioned the Tamale Interchange, the first such interchange in the northern sector of our country, which the people of Tamale celebrated. I considered it to be a most satisfying birthday present. We intend to continue with the building of roads round the country to accelerate the opening up of our country.”*

The following seek to explain the paragraph concerning the length of kilometrage constructed over the past five years as stated in the President’s SONA Speech.

In 2017, the total network size was 78,402km. As at the end of 2021, the projected network size had increased to 94,203km. This length is currently undergoing validation by the Ministry. Table 1 below shows Ghana’s provisional road network statistics currently.

Table 1: Ghana's road network statistics (2017-2021)

Descriptor		2017	Projected 2021*
Network size		78,402km	94,203km*
Length of network by road class	Trunk	14,583km	14,948km
	Feeder	48,357km	50,775km
	Urban	15,462km	28,480km
Percentage Paved		23%	27%*
Percentage Unpaved		77%	73%*
Road Condition Mix	Good	39%	44%*
	Fair	32%	34%*
	Poor	29%	22%*

*provisional – The Ministry is validating the data.

It can be noted from the Table above that the network is composed of both paved and unpaved roads. However, it is significant to note that the majority of roads (over 70%) in the road network are unpaved.

Technically, any activity on the road amounts to “construction” hence, His Excellency the President’s statement that ‘*so far, more roads have been **built, improved and upgraded** than at any other equivalent period under any government in the history of Ghana.*’

a) Paved Roads

On paved roads, key activities that have been undertaken include minor rehabilitation and upgrading, partial reconstruction and asphalt overlays.

b) Unpaved Roads

On the unpaved roads however, activities mainly undertaken include grading, gravelling, regravelling and spot improvement.

In an answer to a question posed by Hon. Eric Afful (Member of Parliament for Amenfi West), the Hon. Minister of Roads and Highways stated on 15th February 2022 in Parliament that, a total of 4,263km had been constructed or maintained on the paved and unpaved roads between January 2017 and May 2021.

This did not take into account the ongoing road activities that had not been completed by end May 2021.

As at end of February 2022, a total of **1702km** of construction and maintenance activities which were undertaken on paved roads and **4,910km** of works on unpaved roads had been completed.

The data on completed works have subsequently been updated to **10,875km** as at end of February, 2022.

Over the past 5years, a lot of investment had gone into both the paved and unpaved roads to improve the riding quality on our roads. The **10,875** kilometres of roads constructed have been on both paved and unpaved roads.

These interventions have resulted in the improvement in the road condition mix as indicated in the earlier stated table.

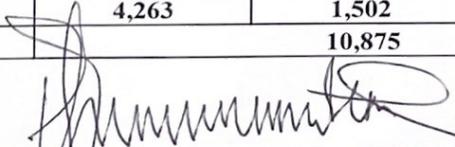
The maintenance of our unpaved network is critical to the improvement of the road condition mix in the country.

Under a World Bank/European Union project, Transport Sector Improvement Project (TSIP), the World Bank is financing over 800km of feeder roads to gravel finish. This further illustrates the need to invest in the maintenance of our predominant unpaved network.

Details of the construction activities that have been completed since 2017 are attached.

Over the past 5years, a lot of investment had gone into both the paved and unpaved roads to improve the riding quality on our roads. The **10,875** kilometres of roads constructed have been on both paved and unpaved roads.

Roads Constructed and Maintained - January 2017 - Feb 2022				
Programme	2017-May 2021	June - Dec 2021	Up to Feb. 2022	
Critical Roads (Mainly GHA)	4,263	312.74		
Cocoa Roads (Mainly DFR)		367		
Town Roads (DFR and DUR)		122.21		
Asphalt Overlay (DUR)		581	200	
Sinohydro		69		
Donor Programme				
A. Transport Sector Improvement Project (TSIP)			50	
B. Other Donor Projects				
Other Development Projects			-	
Gravelling				
Grading (DFR Spot Improvement)				4910
Sub-Totals (km)		4,263	1,502	5,110
Grand Total (km)			10,875	


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MINISTER