

National Sanitation Day: The Apathy at Takoradi Market Circle

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Abstract

The National Sanitation Day (NSD) was instituted by the Minister responsible for the Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) on the 1st of November, 2014. This initiative was engendered by the cholera outbreak in 2014 which took the lives of many a Ghanaian. Its serious nature convinced the Legislature to pass a law making it mandatory for every citizen to take part in the sanitation exercise schedule for the first Saturday of every month.

The programme initially caught up with the citizenry attracting the participation of high profile personalities including the President and the Asantehene. But as the days went by, participation dwindled drastically, culminating into this research to find out why the apathy.

The study was conducted using questionnaire and interview to collect data for the research as to why the people at the city centre were apathetic to the NSD programme. One hundred and nineteen (119) traders and twenty-seven (27) City Guards stationed at the city centre of the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis responded to the questionnaire.

The research actually does show that measures put to the ground contributed to the apathy. If vehicles could not move; and those who managed to get to the city centre are forced to enter into filthy drains to work regardless of their personal programmes and their costume; failure resulting into being put behind bars until the exercise is over, leaves much to be desired and definitely will let people exhibit apathetic behaviour.

Every body thinks that the way forward is for the Metropolitan Assembly to use the money expended each month, to employ permanent staff to deal with the cleaning up of the environment, so that apathy or otherwise, the community will be sanitised for the health of the people to be improved and the outbreak of diseases, ameliorated if not eradicated.

Keywords: Sanitation, Sanitary Conditions, Hygienic, , Liquid Waste, Sanitary Engineering, National Sanitation Day.

1. Introduction

Like some other African countries, Ghana has been experiencing the outbreak of some diseases, notably Cholera, every year. Of course, after some lives have been lost, authorities will do well to ameliorate and contain the situation. Immediately after the epidemic ceases, the citizenry goes to sleep – not just going to sleep – but continues to create the conducive environment for its resurfacing the ensuing year.

The nation announces every year the end of the cholera epidemic in Ghana after declaring zero case over a period of three weeks and yet claims that “nevertheless, there is still critical need to continue with cholera prevention and control activities, particularly social mobilization, public education and enhanced surveillance. In addition, more investment should now be directed towards cholera preparedness activities” (<http://www.reliefweb.int/report/ghana/cholera-outbreak-west-and-central-regional>)

On April 2nd, 2015, the situational report on the Cholera Outbreak in Ghana among others was to the effect that as of “March 15, 2015 the cholera outbreak that started in June 2014 had protracted and spilled over to 2015. In 2015, a cumulative total of 434 cases with 4 deaths, a case fatality rate (CFR) of 0.9% reported as of 15 March 2015 had been recorded”. It was also reported that the Greater Accra Region continued to record cases each week and that there was the need to halt the outbreak before the onset of the rains otherwise, the situation could be disastrous (<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info>). This buttresses our sleeping over the situation and neglecting the performance of the public education and enhanced surveillance duties.

On February 17th, 2015, it was reported by Spyghana that thirty-nine (39) cases of cholera had been reported in the twin city of Sekondi/Takoradi in the first two (2) months of the year 2015. The Metro Health Director reiterated that although the disease in the past occurred in the dry season it was becoming endemic. She further reported that in the year 2014, the metropolis recorded 427 reported cases with five deaths (<http://www.spyghana.com/39-cholera-c...konditakoradi/>).

This situation called for public education and participation in sanitation which was done and emphasized with an Act of Parliament. Yet, the situation remains the same if not worse because the critical issue of sanitation is not seriously dealt with and the participation of the people keeps dwindling every month.

1.1 Sanitation Explained

Sanitation, according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is the the act or process of making or keeping things free from filth, infection, or other dangers to health. It is the process of keeping places free from dirt, infection, disease, and others by removing waste, trash and garbage, by cleaning streets, etc. Therefore, any activity that man puts in place in order to help with the prevention from health dangers is what is being referred to here. The medical definition however, puts it as the promotion of hygiene and prevention of disease by the maintenance of [sanitary](#) - protecting health by removing dirt and waste - conditions (www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/sanitation)

There are so many notions about what sanitation is but the ultimate is that man is kept away from anything that will endanger his life or that man must be reasonable enough to eliminate anything likely to endanger his health including the reduction, if not complete removal, of unhealthy condition.

The conditions that must be removed from the human environment includes filth and waste especially, that of liquid waste. The Wikipedia website endeavours to explain explicitly, the term sanitation as the “[hygienic](#) means of [promoting health](#) through the [prevention](#) of human contact with the [hazards](#) of [wastes](#) as well as the treatment and proper disposal of [sewage](#) or [wastewater](#). Hazards can either be physical, [microbiological](#), biological or chemical agents of disease. Wastes that can cause health problems include human and animal excreta, solid wastes, domestic wastewater (sewage or [grey water](#)), industrial wastes and agricultural wastes” (<https://en.wikipedia/wiki/sanitation>; extracted 21st June, 2016).

1.2 The Main Objectives of Sanitation

The main objective of a sanitation system is to protect and promote human health by providing a clean environment with the view to breaking the cycle of disease. <https://www.en.wikipedia/wiki/sanitation>; extracted 21st June, 2016).

Sanitation literally means measures necessary for improving and protecting health and well being of the people. Sanitation is any system that promotes proper disposal of human and animal wastes, proper use of toilet and avoiding open space defecation (www.esa.un.org/IYS/review09/countries/Nigeria/pdfs/Nigeria-IYSFQsSanitation.pdf).

Man, to be healthy, connotes that he thinks hygienic prevention. Hygienic prevention can be by using engineering solutions (e.g., [sanitary sewers](#), [sewage treatment](#), [surface runoff](#) management, solid waste management, excreta management), simple technologies (e.g., [pit latrines](#), [dry toilets](#), [urine-diverting dry toilets](#), [septic tanks](#)), or even simply by [behavior changes](#) in personal hygiene practices, such as [hand washing](#) with soap.

Providing sanitation to people requires a systems approach, rather than only focusing on the [toilet](#) or [wastewater treatment](#) plant itself. The experience of the user, excreta and wastewater collection methods, transportation or conveyance of waste, treatment, and [reuse](#) or disposal all need to be thoroughly considered. The experience of the user also denotes that he is involved in the removal and prevention of all that is likely to endanger his health and by extension, his whole life.

1.3 National Sanitation Day

The Government of Ghana in its bid to involve the citizenry in the removal of waste hazardous to the health of its people instituted the National Sanitation Day (NSD). This was declared on the 1st of November, 2014. The NSD was the initiative of the then Minister of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) Mr Julius Debrah in collaboration with some stakeholders. This initiative gave birth to a national clean-up exercise which was engendered by the cholera outbreak in 2014 which took the lives of many a Ghanaian.

“The year 2014 will surely go into the annals of Ghana, as the year of an unmatched outbreak of cholera, snuffing the lives of hundreds. As at October, 2014 cholera cases specifically recorded was 20,279 with 169 deaths. It is believed that the NSD which has been injected into the first Saturday of every month, shall deal with our embarrassingly poor sanitation and will improve upon the quality of life in Ghana” (www.modernghana.com/news/603152/national-sanitation-day-the-way-forwardnabsag.html).

The NSD, instituted for the first Saturday of every month is supposed to be a voluntary clean-up exercise for all Ghanaian residents in an effort to reduce unsanitary conditions that breed diseases and causes health injuries. To make NSD enforceable, a bill on it was sent to the Parliament of Ghana to give it a legal backing. This meant that citizens could be prosecuted for not participating in the NSD programme.

1.3.1 Participation in National Sanitation Day

The Local Government Workers’ Union (LGWU) of Ghana described the institution of the National Sanitation

Day programme as a national duty call and therefore, urged all citizens to participate in it. The Union further observed that such an important national exercise towards healthy environment for national progress should not be undermined through poor attitude.

“As a labour organisation, we wish to call on all employees of the metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies (MMDAs) to actively participate in the National Sanitation Programme, because poor sanitation comes with health cost through the outbreak of preventable diseases, like cholera which invariably affects productivity. Let us promote sanitation consciousness to reduce the mountains of filth in our towns and cities across the country.” (www.ghana.gov.gh/index.php/media-center/news/128-ghanaians-should-see-sanitation-day-as-national-duty-igwu)

1.3.2 High Personality Participation

The initial NSD programme was participated by high profile personalities in the nation to demonstrate how important the programme was and how it had been embraced by the people, starting from the very, very important personalities (VVIP) in our society. The number one citizen of the nation in the name of the president, John Dramani Mahama participated in cleaning the city of Accra. The Otumfour Osei Tutu II, the King of the Asante Kingdom and other great chiefs did take part, cleaning Kumasi, the regional capital and its environs. Ministers of State and their deputies did not exclude themselves from the exercise. Regional Ministers and their deputies did not recluse themselves just as District Chief Executives (DCEs).

The National Peace Ambassador organized clean up exercises for their members to get involved. Pentecost University lecturers and students undertook clean up exercises as well as many university communities. Political parties did not exclude themselves, especially the two (2) major parties with the most members, which still do participate in the clean-up exercises to garner support for increased membership. Zoomlion, a sanitation management organisation, the security services, Ghana National Fire Service personnel, national service personnel and many non-governmental organisations also got involved (www.ghanamma.com/2016/06/04/show-interest-in-national-sanitation-day-dep-minister). The participation of these high profile personalities was to portray how important the programme was and to give credence its acceptance.

All manner of people took part in the maiden and the subsequent sanitation exercises but the story is not the same today.

2. Objectives of the Research

Speaking to ‘Class News’ during the clean-up campaign at Awutu Senya on Saturday June 4, the Deputy Local Government Minister Emmanuel Agyekum urged continued public support for the programme. “I know the patronage is coming down, I know a lot of people are not coming out to work. But I want to admonish all Ghanaians to come out and clean the environment. The reason is, ‘What have we achieved so far?’ We are in June..., [and] there is nothing like cholera in Ghana; it means we have achieved a lot,” he stated. “If you do a comparative analysis and look at last year, comparing last year to the previous years, we had few number of cholera cases. It means that the National Sanitation Day exercise is working and this is what we want to see. We want to see the results and the results are obvious: you go to our hospitals, they will tell you that there is nothing like cholera. And I strongly believe that if we continue with this exercise, exercise, Ghana will be free and we will be free out of cholera” (www.ghanamma.com/2016/06/04/show-interest-in-national-sanitation-day-dep-minister).

The apathy amongst the people in and around the market circle is so unfortunate and difficult to understand. Just like happens in other places, the initial participation in the NSD programmes were encouraging, but the subsequent ones saw a conspicuous reduction in participation and continue to reduce in.

Despite the gains made in terms of eradication of cholera and other diseases, the people seem not to be enthused and will never venture to enjoin in the work to sanitise the market and its environs.

The researcher as a result, seeks to find out

- (i) Whether the attitude of the people with regards to sanitation has improved for the better
- (ii) Whether the reduction in diseases is the reason for the reduction in participation in the NSD programme.
- (iii) Why participation in the NSD programme has drastically reduced
- (iv) What could be done to whip up the interest in people to participate in the NSD

3. Methodology

This piece highlights the methodology used to conduct this research. The population consisted of those billed to be engaged in the NSD programme in the Sekondi Takoradi Metropolis including the Ghana Air Force personnel deployed to ensure that the exercise is enforced, personnel of the City Guards and the market traders.

The sample size included one hundred (100) market traders, fifty (50) personnel from the Ghana Air Force, Takoradi and fifty (50) City Guards stationed at the Market Circle.

The case study is limited to the Takoradi Market Circle because that is the city centre where serious marketing and business transactions occur and the spot where the issue of sanitation is prevalent. This is where most of the city's sanitation problems occur. This is the vicinity where most garbage is generated and abandoned to rot and give pungent odour. The concentration of the National Sanitation Day performance is based at this very spot and the place where the participants – including the military and fire service personnel - are deployed.

The data instrument adopted was the questionnaire and interview. The questionnaire comprised ten (10) items. The researcher personally administered the questionnaire to the people over a period of one week. This took place six days prior to and on the NSD.

Unfortunately, none of the Air Force personnel deployed for the NSD exercise was prepared to neither respond to the questionnaire nor grant an interview to the researcher. The same went for the City Guards however; twenty-seven (27) of them who expressed concern about the research topic granted an interview but would not respond on hard copy. The servicemen expressed the fear that they might be revealed which may cause them their jobs despite the assurance that it was not possible for them to be revealed.

Sixty-four (64) traders who are literate responded to the questionnaire on hard copies and fifty-five (55) others granted interviews to the researcher. The same items in the questionnaire were used to conduct the interview and the responses recorded as would have been had the respondents answered the questionnaire on papers.

The administered questionnaire was analysed using tables and graphs created with Microsoft Excel application, with some narratives. The tables are to portray the actual values concerning the number of respondents with their percentages and the graphs to give visual effect.

4. Findings

4.1 City Guards:

- (i) How Long Have You Been in Service and**
- (ii) How Long Have You Been Involved With the NSD**

All the twenty-seven (27) City Guards who granted interview to the researcher responded that they have been in the service for more than five (5) years and have been fully involved in the NSD since its inception. This is true because ever since the current Government assumed power some seven (7) years ago, there has been a freeze on public sector employment. And with the NSD starting only three (3) years ago, it stands to reason that they have all been involved and therefore, could give a very good account of the conduct of the NSD altogether.

Traders:

- (i) How Long Have You Been Trading At The Market Circle**

Most of the traders have also been trading at the market circle for the past three (3) years so everybody is in a position to give a vivid account of how NSD has been operating since its inception.

- (ii) Participation in the NSD Dwindling**

All the respondents – without exception - corroborated that as compared to the time when the programme was launched, participation in the National Sanitation Programme has completely dwindled to the extent that getting people to even desilt the gutters has been a problem.

This confirms the general fear that people are desisting from participating in the NSD clean-up exercise which calls for this research

4.2 Outbreak Of Cholera Has Been Eradicated

All the respondents were unanimous that the issue of cholera outbreak had gone and agreed that the National Sanitation Day programme had helped. They also concurred that cholera cases were not recorded in 2015 and not in 2016 as well.

5. Reasons For Dwindling Participation In The Nsd

The researcher sought to elicit from the respondents the possible reasons for the citizenry not showing interest in the exercise as was the case in the initial stages of the programme. A plethora of reasons were given from which the respondents could tick as many as they deemed fit.

REASONS FOR DWINDLING PARTICIPATION IN THE NSD

Table 1: Reasons for Dwindling Participation in the NSD Programme

REASONS	TRADERS	CITY GUARDS	TOTAL	%
Tools Not Adequate	3	2	5	3.42
No More Dumping Refuse	5	1	6	4.11
People Being Arrested	116	25	141	96.58
People Forced to Work	116	27	143	97.95
Non-operating vehicles	33	24	57	39.04
Refuse Allowed Back Into Drains	110	25	135	92.47
Waste Reduced	6	2	8	5.48
Cholera Reduced	3	1	4	2.74
TOTAL RESPONDENTS	119	27	146	100

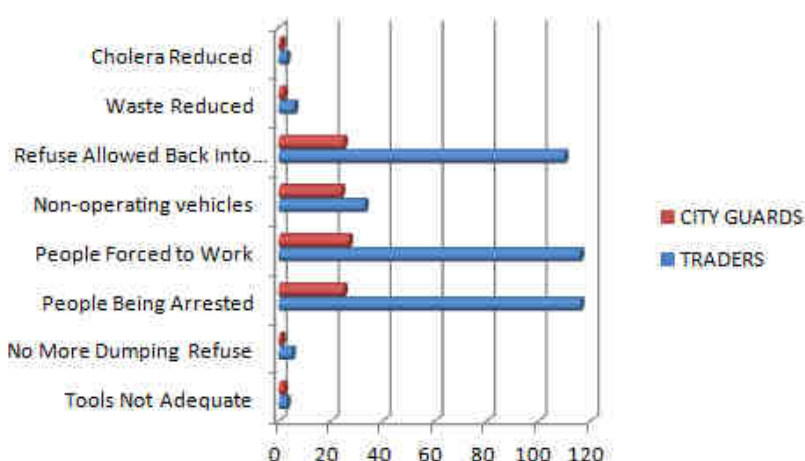


FIGURE 1: Reasons for Dwindling Participation in the NSD Programme

Respondents were provided with alternatives to indicate which amongst them they would attribute as reasons why the people were not patronising in a laudable programme like the National Sanitation Day, meant to safeguard their own health needs.

These reasons were as follows: That

- (i) because the issue with cholera outbreak had reduced
- (ii) people had stopped creating waste and dumping them anyhow
- (iii) the collected refuse are allowed to get back into the drains
- (iv) because the people are forced to work by the military
- (v) people are arrested and sent to the Police Station
- (vi) people no more dump refuse into the drains and
- (vii) tools supplied for the NSD exercise is not adequate.

The respondents were unanimous in the reasons attributable to why people were not showing interest in the exercise anymore.

The respondents are not attributing the lack of interest in the participation of NSD to issues like lack of tools. Only 3.42% of the respondents believe so. Those in opposition contend that tools are always available because the Zoomlion and the Fire Service teams are always there to provide them for the conduct of the exercise. They are also not attributing the apathy to the reduction in cholera outbreaks (2.74%) or that peoples attitude in creating waste have changed (5.48%). Of course the respondents agree that the NSD clean-up exercise is a contributing factor to the reduction in the outbreak of the cholera disease. The respondents rather know that due to the increase in population and the influx of people from the hinterland coming to the regional capital to seek non-existing jobs, there have rather been increases in the generation and creation of waste and unsanitary

conditions.

As can be inferred from the table and the figure above, 96.58% and 97.95% of the respondents are furious that they are being arrested and forced to engage in the exercise respectively, by the military deployed to ensure the success of the NSD. Vehicles are stopped, the occupants asked to disembark and tools are forcibly handed over to them to work; regardless of how they are dressed, where they were headed towards and why they had come out of their homes at all. Some also contend that vehicles that venture before and into the market circle are locked up and prevented from moving until at a time the military deems fit to release them. These are some of the few reasons why the exercise is being shunned.

The respondents are of the view that rather than being there to arrest and coerce others into working the military, with their immense strength should rather be made to put their wide shoulders and broad chests to the wheel to have the clean-up exercise accomplished. 92.74% of the respondents are of the view that the most annoying part of the whole programme is the fact that when gutters are desilted onto the streets, the authorities do not ensure that they are collected. The refuse are left by the roadside until the rays of the sun dry them up. The wind, the exhaust fumes from vehicles and domestic animals blow and push them back into the gutters only for the people the following month, to be forced to do the same work. This has been happening over and over again. They are not interested.

Who Funds The National Sanitation Day

This question was put only to the City Guards who are in touch with the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (STMA).

All of the twenty-seven respondents were unanimous that because it is a national programme backed by law, it behoves the Metropolitan Assembly to fund it. They contend that the Assembly has not reneged on this responsibility.

How Much Does the STMA Spend in a Month on The NSD

The City Guards were given options to elicit their knowledge as to how much the Metropolitan assembly spends on the programme per month.

How Much Does the STMA Spend an a Month On NSD Programme

Table 2: How much does STMA spend in a month on NSD?

MONEY SPENT MONTHLY	CITY GUARDS
Below ₵ 200,000	2
Between ₵ 200,000 and ₵300,000	24
Between ₵ 300,000 and ₵400,000	1
Above ₵ 400,000	0

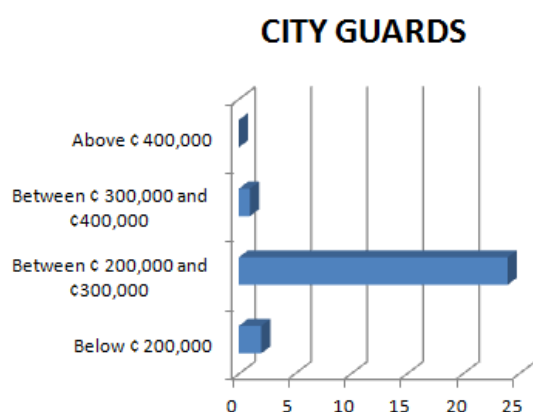


Figure 2: How much does the STMA spend in a month on NSD

Twenty-four (24) out of the twenty-seven (27) City Guards could confirm that the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly spends between two hundreds and three hundreds Cedis (₵200,000.00 and ₵300,000.00) monthly on the conduct of the National sanitation Day programme. All of them also confirm that Zoomlion, a sanitation management organisation, has been assisting the STMA with tools and personnel.

What Should Be the Way Forward

Asked from all the respondents what the way forward should be, they were completely unanimous on the alternatives given.

Table 3: What should be the way forward

THE WAY FORWARD	CITY GUARDS	TRADERS
Forced Labour Should Cease	22	119
Military be confined to Barracks	5	101
Traders be allowed to operate	23	119
Vehicles should work on NSD	20	119
People should be employed	25	119

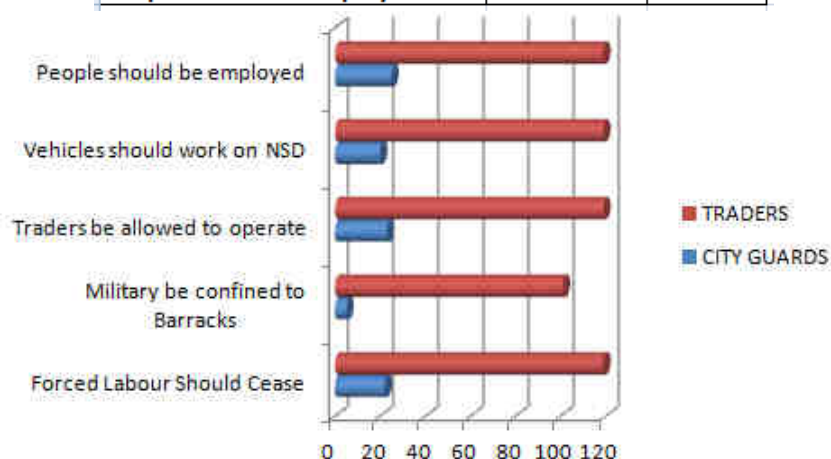


Figure 3: What should be the way forward?

6. Conclusions

The items of the questionnaire were formulated to help achieve the objectives of the research comprising;

- (i) Whether the reduction in diseases is the reason for the reduction in participation in the NSD programme.
- (ii) Why participation in the NSD programme has drastically reduced
- (iii) What could be done to whip up the interest in people to participate in the NSD
- (iv) Whether the attitude of the people with regards to sanitation has improved for the better

It has already been indicated that the sample size included one hundred (100) market traders which eventually increased to one hundred and nineteen (119), by virtue of added interviews of the illiterate and literate who chose to be interviewed; fifty (50) personnel from the Ghana Air Force, Takoradi and fifty (50) City Guards stationed at the Market Circle.

It has also been shown that the members of the Ghana Air force did not want to have anything to do with the research so their commanding officer did not allow any junior officer – indeed any of his subordinates - to respond to the questionnaire. In the same vein, the officers of the City Guards stationed at the Market Circle – the city centre – did not also want to have anything to do with the research, however, twenty-seven out of the lot chose to be interviewed under anonymity, using the same items of the questionnaire. Their reason is that they do not want to lose their jobs nor be court marshalled.

REASONS FOR DWINDLING PARTICIPATION IN THE NSD

Table 1: Reasons for Dwindling Participation in the NSD Programme

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Whether the Reduction in Diseases is the Reason for the Reduction in Participation in the NSD Programme

The first objective was to find out whether there had been a reduction in the outbreak of cholera. There was unanimity to the effect that the years 2015 and 2016 after the institution of the NSD, have seen no outbreak indeed, of any communicable disease. Of course, respondents attributed this feat to the NSD exercise. However, they claim that it was not attributable to the people not showing interest in the NSD exercise. They thought that it ought rather to have spurred them on to participate the more fully in the programme.

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Why Participation in the NSD Programme Has Drastically Reduced

The traders alluded to the fact that there had been a plethora of reasons judging from the responses as in Table 1;

- (i) The exercise which ought to have been done voluntarily had become a forced exercise. People could be forced into participation regardless of what their programmed event for the day are. A recall was made where a driver conveying a sick person to the hospital would not be allowed to move his vehicle unless and until he had taken part in the clean-up exercise.
- (ii) Most of the traders were living far away from the city centre, so asking them to partake in the clean-up exercise meant that they will have to go back home after the programme to have a bath before coming back to trade.
- (iii) Customers from the country-side and the hinterland who form the majority of their customer base, come very early to conduct their business so that they could go back early enough to catch vehicles hard to come by, back home. These traders get stranded because their vendors will not be present to serve them and may usually go with their monies back to their villages.
- (iv) People were being forced to also use their beautiful attires to descend into gutters to work. People in costumes for wedding and outdoor celebrations as well as funeral occasions were being forced to enter into dirty and pungent areas to clean them up. Failure, for which they are arrested and put behind bars at the Market Circle Police Station to be released after the exercise.
- (v) The presence of the Ghana Air Force personnel was very intimidatory. Initially, they were made to take part in the exercise altogether only for their role to be converted to enforcement and arrest, which did not augur well for the programme.
- (vi) Vehicles are not allowed to move on the roads on the NSD. People actually, do find it difficult to come to the city centre even if they wanted to take part in the clean-up exercise. Drivers of commercial vehicles were not prepared to drive to the city centre because they would be arrested and locked up, if not forced to work. How then could they convey people to the city centre as part of their contribution for the success of the exercise?
- (vii) One other disturbing phenomenal issue that puts people off is the fact that after the exercise has been conducted, the debris scooped from the drains are not collected. They are made to dry up by the sides of the roads only for the wind, domesticated animals, children and vehicles to push and blow them back into the gutters. Then the people are made to conduct the same exercise the following month, to bring them back, turning into an uncalled for and unfortunate cycle.

Whether the Attitude of the People With Regards to Sanitation Has Improved For the Better

The NSD programme also demands that the citizens cleaned up their own environment. This programme goes on unabated. This is in consonance with the already imbibed programme of the Community and Voluntary spirit that has existed since time immemorial. The NSD has rekindled that spirit and has actually helped improve on sanitation within the community.

For people to use all the time to clean their home environment without which could land them behind bars, and thereafter, expect them to travel to the city centre to conduct same was not appropriate and could best be described as double standard on the part of the metropolitan executives which is uncalled for.

What Could Be Done to Whip up the Interest in People to Participate in the NSD

The communal spirit and interest to clean up the environment has always been there except that the institution of the NSD whipped it up and enhanced its participation. But when requested at to what should be done to further raise the level of interest, respondents had the following to show.

Table 3: What should be the way forward?

THE WAY FORWARD	CITY GUARDS	TRADERS
Forced Labour Should Cease	22	119
Military be confined to Barracks	5	101
Traders be allowed to operate	23	119
Vehicles should work on NSD	20	119
People should be employed	25	119

The respondents were unanimous on almost all the issues raised with regards to the way forward to ensure the success of the programme especially, in respect of the participation of the people at the market centre.

THE WAY FORWARD	CITY GUARDS	TRADERS	PERCENTAGES	
Forced labour should Cease	22	119	0.97	96.58
Military be Confined to Barracks	5	101	0.73	72.60
Traders Be Allowed to Operate	23	119	0.97	97.26
Vehicles should work on NSD	20	119	0.95	95.21
People should be employed	25	119	0.99	98.63

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of the people are in a consensus that the situation where they are forced by the military deployed does not help with the participation of the programme. So, they are of the view that the military should either be confined to the barracks or be made to themselves, take part in the clean-up exercise. This issue is where the bone of contention was - the respondents did not seem to arrive at a consensus making the 72.60 percent responses, as a result.

The trader respondents were once again unanimous that people should be made to conduct their businesses and pay taxes to be used to employ others to do the clean-up of the market circle environment rather than coercing them to do the cleaning in the market centre. They are prepared to pay a little that could be used to employ people for the clean-up exercise so that they will be free to conduct their normal business.

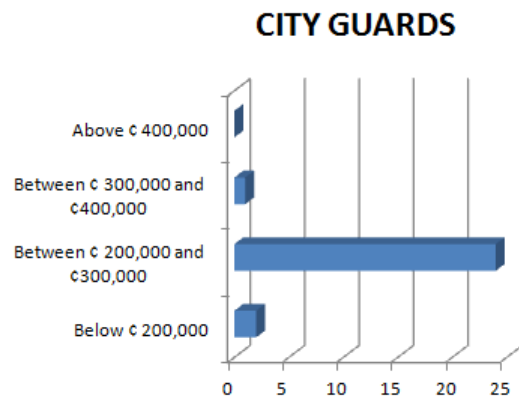


Figure 2: How much does the STMA spend in a month on NSD

As per the amount of money disbursed at the end of the month for the implementation of the NSD (ranging between c200,000.00 and c 300,000.00), this amount of money should be used to employ people to be permanently on the job of cleaning the environment.

The researcher could not have agreed the more with this assertion. This amount of money could employ over hundred (100) people to permanent and secure jobs. This will also help to reduce the unemployment rate in the community. People should be employed to take up the National Sanitation Day, sanitising the community as a permanent job, that way the exercise will be sustainable.

The twenty-five (25) out of the twenty-seven (27) City Guards who corroborated with this assertion reiterated that the Zoomlion Waste Management organisation, after all pay their workers only about c200.00 a month. So, per the amount of money expended monthly on the NSD programme, hundreds could be employed to conduct that business in order for the traders to be free to go about their legitimate businesses. This could permanently result in a clean city and environment as is done elsewhere in other jurisdictions.

Until that is done, the apathy in respect of participation in the National Sanitation Day exercise will continue until such a time that the authorities will have no one to participate in the exercise despite its legal backing.

Acknowledgement

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Special mention must also be made of the the City Guards who braved all odds, expressing interest and availing themselves for the conduct and granting of interviews – albeit, very skeptical.

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Biography

My name is Samuel Augustus Nzemah Kaku Tsibuah. I am born on the 15th May, 1957 at Half-Assini in the Western Region of Ghana. I am a professional teacher who has about thirty years of teaching experience. I have taught subjects like Mathematics and Physical Education Recreation and Sports (HYPERS) and now handle students pursuing Higher National Diploma, Bachelor of Technonoly (B.Tech.) and Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Management Information Systems and Computer Literacy. I am a Senior Lecturer at the Takoradi Polytechnic in the Western Region of Ghana.

My educational background and the list of qualification are as follows:

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COURSE</u>
A. UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON	ACCRA	2002-2004	MIS
B. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION	WINNEBA	1992-1994	MATHS/HYPERS
C. ADVANCED TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE	WINNEBA	1985-1988	MATHEMATICS
D. ENCHI TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE	ENCHI	1976-1980	Educational Courses
E. BISHOP BEARDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL	ACCRA	1974-1975	Technical Courses
F. MONSIGNOR ANSAH MIDDLE SCHOOL Cert	TAKORADI	1972-1973	Mid. Sch. Leav'g
G. ROMAN CATHOLIC BOYS' MIDDLE SCHOOL	TARKWA	1969-1972	Middle Sch. Courses
H. LOCAL AUTHORITY ANGLICAN PRIMARY Courses	AXIM	1963-1969	Primary Sch

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

<u>DEGREE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
A. Masters Of Business Administration (Management Information Systems)	2004
B. Bachelor Of Education (Mathematics & Physical Education)	1994
C. Teachers' Diploma In Mathematics	1988
D. Teachers' Certificate 'A' (4-YEAR)	1980

I have held a number of positions and served on a number of boards in my present school, the Takoradi Polytechnic.