Mr Speaker, it is important that we recognise this day to reflect on the love and affection we show each other. A day for us to also begin to see how we can reorient the Ghanaian from spending time, showing love and romantic affections to others into consuming a key product in Ghana, which is our chocolate.

Mr Speaker, it is on these grounds that I would want to thank the Hon Minister for bringing it up and reminding us that, on this day, rather than just vain affection demonstrated by young people to each other, which can go to an edge of disagreement, we can utilise it to ultimately build our nation and consume what we produce.

Mr Speaker, I do have a problem pegging this day, which is tagged, “Chocolate Day” on a Valentine’s Day. The day is called, Valentine’s Day throughout Ghana and the world at large. On that day, people do not call it Chocolate Day. They call it Valentine’s Day, and they express those kinds of emotions to each other. If we want to actually make Chocolate Day a day which can be patronised by everybody, then, I would want to suggest that we move it away from Valentine’s Day and devote a day for it for Ghanaians, so that we can consume chocolate.

Mr Speaker, one of the dangers that we face in Africa, and Ghana in particular, is the fact that, we produce items and export those items or products which we do not consume at all. It is very unlikely that in any Ghanaian home, there is any day one can find chocolate on the table when one would want to have breakfast, lunch or supper. Nobody does that in Ghana. Nobody walks to a grocery shop to buy chocolate, unless it is on a special day or a child is worrying the person and he or she buys it. We do not normally consume chocolate.

It is a very good thing that the Hon Minister has brought up, and it is very good that, Ghanaians would patronise it. It is so important that, it is going to directly affect our production of cocoa. This is because, if we could continue to produce cocoa without eating or consuming it, the pain about it is that, anytime those who buy them from us do not buy them, then we would be at a loss and we would produce in vain.

Mr Speaker, I support the day as a very important day for the consumption of chocolate, but I would want to suggest that, Ghanaians should move this day away from the Valentine’s Day of old but to St. Valentine, which is celebrated around the world and which young people have seized to show each other love when the time comes.

Mr Speaker, let us have a special day for Chocolate Day, and invite the world and Africa to consume Ghanaian chocolate. It is reputed to be one of the best in the world because of the quality and content, whenever it is served anywhere in the world.
Mr Speaker, with these few words, I would want to thank you and the Hon Member who made the Statement for such a wonderful and insightful Statement.