SUPPORTING STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON THE TRAFFIC AND INCONVENIENCES ON KASOA-AWUTU-BERAKU BY HONOURABLE GEORGE NENYI KOJO ANDAH, MP FOR AWUTU-SENYA WEST, BY HON JAMES KLUTSE AVEDZI, MP FOR KETU NORTH - 7 FEBRUARY, 2017

Mr Speaker, I thank you very much for the opportunity to contribute to the Statement on the floor.

Mr Speaker, this Statement is very important. It has come at the right time.

Mr Speaker, the Statement is coming from an Hon Member of the new Administration on the one month anniversary of taking over office. Today being 7th February, 2017, it is exactly one month when the New Patriotic Party took over the administration of this country.

Mr Speaker, the Statement is very important, in the sense that it is true that commuters both on our national and regional roads as well as in the city suffer the issue of congestion.

Mr Speaker, it is also true that Governments over the years have made a lot of efforts to ensure that our roads are made motorable and in good shape to ensure that users of the roads do not suffer that much.

Mr Speaker, it is also true that a lot has been said in terms of the traffic and the efforts that have been made by previous Governments to ensure that even at the toll booths, the road users do not suffer undue delay waiting to probably pay their tolls.

What should be recommended is for the public transport system to be improved upon, so that people who use their private vehicles can decide to use the public transport in order to reduce the number of vehicles on our roads.

Mr Speaker, another area to look at is the expansion of the roads. We should have more lanes provided because the population of vehicles keep increasing every day. Ghanaians buy new vehicles and the number of vehicles are increasing. So, to ensure that we have a free flow of vehicles, we need to expand our roads as well.

Mr Speaker, the previous Government has done a lot, and a number of interchanges and overpasses have been provided. As part of the Meridian Port Services Contract, which was approved by the previous Government to expand the ports, it was to also provide an additional lane at the Tema end of the roundabout. This was to ensure that we had a dedicated lane for trucks that were coming and going to the ports.

Mr Speaker, during the time of campaign for the elections last year, a lot had been said in terms of provision of resources and assurances were given to Ghanaians that Ghana had a lot of resources and there was no need to even borrow to do major projects.

Mr Speaker, now that the new Administration that gave these assurances to the people of Ghana is in charge of running the affairs of this
country, I strongly believe that they would be able to provide the resources despite the promise of reduction in taxes of this country — to provide the resources to ensure that we expand the road network and improve on the public transport system. This is so, that the issue of congestion could be managed to some level to provide relief for the users of the road in Ghana, our cities and elsewhere in the country.

Mr Speaker, I thank you very much for the opportunity to contribute to the Statement on the floor.