

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



**OPENING REMARKS - PRESENTATION OF LAPTOPS BY THE MINISTRY OF
COMMUNICATION, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATIONS**

“ONE MILLION CODERS PROGRAMME”

ADDRESS BY:

**PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO
VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

**WEST AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CELL
BIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS PATHOGENS
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

Honourable Minister,

Senior Management,

Deans and Directors,

Dear Students,

Members of the Press,

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good afternoon,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the University of Ghana for this important ceremony. Today, the Ministry of Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations is presenting an additional 2,000 laptops to the University towards the One Million Coders Programme. On behalf of the University, Management, faculty, staff and students, I would like to express our profound appreciation to the Government of Ghana, particularly, the Honourable Minister for this investment in the future of our students and the nation.

The One Million Coders Programme advances several priorities in our University's Strategic Plan. It aligns with our commitment to deliver transformative student experience through technology-

enabled learning and digital skills development to enhance the employability of our graduates. It also strengthens our engagement and partnerships, supports the responsible stewardship of digital infrastructure and expands the capacity of our students and faculty for innovative research. Indeed, it supports our mission “to create an enabling environment that makes the University relevant to national and global development through cutting-edge research, as well as high-quality teaching and learning.”

The University previously received from the Ministry 500 laptops, which enabled us to establish our first seven ‘One Million Coders’ training centres. Our request for additional laptops was intended to help us expand this infrastructure and establish more centres so that a greater number of students can participate in the Programme. Today’s presentation of 2,000 additional laptops therefore provides a strong foundation for that expansion.

The OMCP offers certifications that are highly relevant to the present and future needs of our students. Certifications in Data Analytics will strengthen students’ ability to work with evidence and

make informed decisions. Cybersecurity and IT Support will prepare them to manage digital systems responsibly and securely, whereas project Management will equip them to plan and deliver complex initiatives.

At the University of Ghana, AI holds particular strategic importance because of its transformative impact on learning, research, industry and public service. We are therefore introducing four OMCP certifications namely Prompting Essentials, AI Essentials, AI Professional and Digital Literacy as part of a Level 100 University of Ghana Required Course (UGRC) beginning next semester.

These additional laptops are critical to this rollout because the course will require students to complete practical exercises, access online learning platforms and undertake certification assessments. The donation will therefore provide the computing capacity needed to move the UGRC from curriculum design to effective large-scale delivery.

Our objective is to ensure that every student develops a sound understanding of artificial intelligence and acquires practical skills

for using it responsibly, productively and ethically. This will strengthen teaching and learning across disciplines and prepare our graduates to respond effectively to emerging workplace demands.

Honourable minister, it will interest you to know that several lecturers have also started incorporating selected One Million Coders certifications into their course content, particularly within the Department of Computer Science. This approach connects academic knowledge with practical, industry-aligned competencies and gives students additional evidence of their skills beyond their university qualifications.

UG is equally committed to ensuring that the benefits of this Programme are accessible to all, including persons with disabilities. We already have facilities and expertise for teaching and supporting students with disabilities. With the Ministry's support, UG is prepared to establish dedicated One Million Coders training centres equipped to serve persons with disabilities and enable them to participate fully in digital training and professional certification.

Today's presentation therefore transcends a donation of laptops. It is an investment in human capital, digital transformation, innovation, inclusion and Ghana's future. I assure the Honourable Minister that the University will manage these devices responsibly and use them for their intended purpose. We remain fully committed to the Programme and to ensuring that this partnership delivers measurable benefits to our students and to the country.

To our students, I urge you to cease these opportunities purposefully. Earn the certifications but let it be the beginning rather than the end. Use the knowledge, to solve real world problems, create solutions and apply technology ethically and in service to society.

Once again, I thank the Government of Ghana, the Minister and all partners of the One Million Coders Programme for their confidence in the University of Ghana.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo
Vice-Chancellor
July 28, 2026