



**GhISEP**

Ghana Institute of Safety &  
Environmental Professionals

**Date:** September 06, 2024

**Press Release:** IMMEDIATE

**To:** ALL MEDIA HOUSES  
MEDIA HANDLES

**Subject:** **URGENT CALL TO ACTION:  
ADDRESSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH IMPACTS OF  
ILLEGAL MINING IN THE PRA RIVER CATCHMENT AREA**

GhISEP is deeply concerned about the recent challenges faced by the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) in supplying water to communities in the Central Region due to illegal mining activities (galamsey) in the Pra River, as highlighted in GWCL's press release dated August 30, 2024. We urge the government to take immediate and decisive action to address this critical issue.

The pollution and siltation of the Pra River pose significant risks to the environment, human health, and the economy. We recommend the following measures:

1. Immediate cessation of illegal mining activities in the Pra River catchment area.
2. Collaboration with stakeholders to develop and implement sustainable mining practices.
3. Investment in water treatment technologies to mitigate the impacts of pollution.
4. Enforcement of environmental regulations and laws.

If urgent action is not taken within one month from the release of this press statement, GhISEP will call on all its members, and professional bodies alike to embark on a nationwide strike action joined by:

- All hygiene and sanitation workers
- Factory workers across various sectors
- Road safety workers
- Occupational Health, Safety, and Environment (OHSE) workers

This strike will halt all services, including but not limited to:

- Environmental impact assessments
- Safety audits and inspections
- Water quality monitoring
- Hazardous waste management
- Hygiene and sanitation services
- Factory operations
- Road safety services

We emphasize that water is a basic necessity, and it is the government's responsibility to ensure that the Ghana Water Company can provide clean, safe, and potable drinking water to the citizenry. We demand an immediate end to the activities of illegal mining and water pollution in the country.

We urge the government to take this matter seriously and work with us to address the issue. We are willing to collaborate and provide expertise, but we will not stand by and watch as the environment and public health are compromised.

Furthermore, we urge the Government to take the health and safety bill seriously and pass it into law, which will help in checking some of these critical issues in the country.

Safety Regards

**For and on behalf of**

Ghana Institute of Safety &  
Environmental Professionals  
- **GhISEP**



**MIRIAM EDUFUL** (Engr Mrs)  
National President

**Release Date: September 07, 2024**

**Contact number: 0244977517**

Copy to:

The Presidency - Jubilee House  
Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation  
Other relevant stakeholders

*Ghana Institute of Safety and Environmental Professionals (GhISEP) is the sole professional body for health, safety, and environmental professionals and practitioners in Ghana registered under the Professional Bodies Registration Decree, 1973(NRCD143) and a member of the Ghana Chamber of Construction Industry (GHCCI). [www.ghisep.org](http://www.ghisep.org), [info@ghisep.org](mailto:info@ghisep.org).*