E-mail: pnpghana@gmail.com

Tel: 0302 400 328 Mob: 020 417 4390

Location: Kokomlemle, Adjacent Hubitel

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For Immediate Release

APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE NATIONAL HEROES DEPENDANTS PROTECTION ACT

The People's National Party (PNP) extends our deepest condolences to the families of the gallant men who recently lost their lives in service to our beloved country in an air crash that claimed eight lives. Among the bereaved are children, spouses, and elderly mothers one of whom is the mother of the Minister for Defence, who was her only child.

We have taken note of the President's intention to create a fund for the children of the deceased. While well-meaning, this approach is inadequate and unsustainable. A fund can be depleted, discontinued, or politicised. It risks becoming a token gesture that fades away with time.

The PNP therefore firmly rejects the creation of a temporary fund as the sole measure of support. Instead, we call for the urgent passage of the National Heroes Dependants Protection Act — a permanent, state-backed welfare system enshrined in law, funded through the Consolidated Fund, and administered under the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection.

This legislation must:

- 1. Provide a monthly salary-style stipend to the widows to cater for the children and, in some cases, the parents of the deceased who have no other children for support.
- 2. Guarantee that such benefits are not politicised and remain consistent regardless of which party forms the government.
- 3. Ensure that the children of the deceased are supported through their education, and upon completion of tertiary studies, are given priority employment opportunities within the public sector.

4. Ensure full transparency and accountability so the system is never misused as a conduit for siphoning money from the state purse.

This is not charity it is a solemn duty. Those who gave their lives in service to Ghana paid the ultimate price. Their families must not be left vulnerable to the changing winds of politics or the exhaustion of public sympathy. A strong, permanent legislative framework is the only way to ensure that the debt we owe them is honoured not for a few years, but for generations to come.

PNP: My Family, My Community. My Motherland

Janet Asana Nabla

Chairperson and Leader

People's National Party (PNP)

0244174074