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Opposition Must Take Advantage Of 2012 Budget-Economist

Executive Director of Center for Policy Analysis says as the country ushers into the elections year, he was expecting the 2012 budget statement to have addressed job creation issues.

Dr. Joe Abbey who is also a renowned economist contends job creation is what is at the heart of the general populace.

Dr. Abbey explains this could have been done through reduction of interest rates and cost lending to Small and Medium Enterprises.

The budget statement dubbed, "Infrastructure Development for Accelerated Growth and Job Creation", according to minister is one of the best in the face of an election year to bring high hopes to the jobless.

Dr. Kwabena Duffour indicated that in pursuit of the social democratic principles of the NDC Government, the 2012 budget will continue the implementation of a number of pro-poor intervention programmes that will provide equal opportunities and improvement in the well-being of the people.

The Finance Minister noted that significant progress has been made in improving the well-being of the vulnerable through social intervention such as removal of Schools under Trees, provision of free uniforms and text books, up-scaling of the school feeding programme and the Local Enterprises and Skills Development Programme.

However Dr. Joe Abbey has tasked the opposition to take government to task on how the 2012 budget statement will create jobs.

He also cautions the opposition against engaging in technical debates and rather cash in from the flaws to enhance its electoral fortunes.

Dr. Joe Abbey says though the budget falls short of how it will address disputes arising from salary arrears on the single spine policy, he urges government to lay all impasses to rest before next year.

Source: Kapital Radio