

## Mills outraged by cocaine saga - Okudzeto

Source: joy-online

Thursday, 15 December 2011 14:21 -

---



President John Mills is outraged by a cocaine exhibit said to have been metamorphosed into baking powder at a circuit court in Accra.

This is according to a Deputy Information Minister, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa in an interview with Joy News, Wednesday.

A cocaine exhibit tendered in evidence in court is said to have later metamorphosed into baking powder under mysterious circumstances, leading to the acquittal of the suspect, one Nana Ama Martin.

The police, haunted by a similar scandal when cocaine exhibit later became dried cassava powder (kokonte) in 2007, have been quick to blame the judiciary for the current incident.

Okudzeto Ablakwa said the president is angry and the law will take its course.

He said a crack team from the BNI has been tasked to investigate and present a report in seven days.

Those found culpable will be dealt with under the law, he added.

The Judiciary has also announced a committee to investigate and unravel the circumstances under which the cocaine was swapped.

The deputy Information Minister believes the concurrent investigations would not in any way scuttle the BNI investigations.

The police have meanwhile washed its hands completely off what it believes is a cocaine swap.

At a press conference in Accra on Wednesday, Director of CID, DCOP Prosper Ablorh said the police tendered in evidence an exhibit which was accepted by all - prosecution and defence - as cocaine and handed it over to the court.

He said the police can therefore not be held responsible for the swap since it did not happen under its watch.

The Head of Narcotics Unit of the CID, DSP Kofi Adjei Tuadzrah later told Joy News' Dzifah Bampoh the police opened the exhibit in court with all interested parties agreeing it was cocaine before it was handed over to the court.

## **Mills outraged by cocaine saga - Okudzeto**

Source: joy-online

Thursday, 15 December 2011 14:21 -

---

According to him, after the seals of the exhibit were broken before the court, the “chain of custody” was broken with the court now taking custody of the exhibit.

He described as “misleading” headlines which stated the cocaine exhibit was tampered with at the Police Headquarters, stating, no cocaine got missing in the CID HQ.

“There is no evidence that the police changed the cocaine exhibit. The incident happened in court,” he said.