PARLIAMENT QUESTION

QUESTION NO: 1148

TO BE ASKED ON: Thursday 16 August 2012

BY: Mr D.P Makgalemele, MP SHOSHONG

QUESTION:

To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development:

(i) To state the value of electricity towards attaining quality in Botswana given the various programmes requiring delivery through such a resource;

(ii) Whether she is confident of delivering quality education in the Shoshong Constituency when most primary schools do not have such a resource; and

(iii) If she will consider negotiating a special dispensation with the Ministry of Minerals Energy and Water Resources to deliver this resource on an emergency basis (including through Public Private Partnerships) as a key component to quality education towards ideals as detailed in Vision 2016.

ANSWER

i. Madam Speaker, electricity is an enabler in the delivery of quality education. Effective use of modern curriculum support materials is dependent upon the availability of electricity in schools.

ii. I am not satisfied with the current state of affairs in some of our primary schools which do not have electricity. That is precisely the reason why my Ministry took a decision to assist with the provision of electricity to primary schools despite the fact that such a matter falls outside its mandate.
iii. Madam Speaker, I am confident that the Ministry of Minerals Energy and Water Resources is competent enough to handle this matter, including exploring the different options for sourcing electricity.

I thank you.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT