

13th
PARLIAMENT



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

PARLIAMENT OF BOTSWANA
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DAILY HANSARD

YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

**THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION
OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT**

WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2026

MIXED VERSION

HANSARD NO: 220



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Hon. H. P. Manyeneng, MP. (Mmopane-Metsimotlhabe)

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Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Ms K. H. Ketshajwang
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Hon. K. Motshegwa, MP.	- Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs
Vacant	- Minister of Lands and Agriculture
Hon. D. Tshere, MP.	- Minister of Communications and Innovation
Hon. N. Kgafela-Mokoka, MP.	- Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education
Hon. P. Maele, MP.	- Minister of Higher Education
Hon. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP.	- Minister of Environment and Tourism
Hon. Dr S. Modise, MP.	- Minister of Health
Hon. Maj. Gen. P. Mokgware, MP.	- Minister of Labour and Home Affairs
Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	- Minister of Water and Human Settlement
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP.	- Minister of Minerals and Energy
Hon. T. Ntsima, MP.	- Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship
Hon. L. Chombo, MP.	- Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs
Hon. J. Kelebeng, MP.	- Minister of Sport and Arts
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	- Minister of Transport and Infrastructure
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Hon. A. Nyatanga, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Justice and Correctional Services
Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Traditional Affairs
Hon. Dr E. G. Dikoloti, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Lands and Agriculture
Hon. S. Ntlhaile, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Communications and Innovation
Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Health
Hon. B. Mathoothe, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Trade and Entrepreneurship
Hon. J. Hunyepa, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Child Welfare and Basic Education
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Water and Human Settlement
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Transport and Infrastructure

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(Botswana Congress Party)

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Hon. C. K. Hikuama, MP. (Opposition Whip)	Maun West
Hon. Dr U. Dow, MP.	Kgatlang West
Hon. Dr K. Gobotswang, MP.	Tswapong South
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Hon. J. J. Frenzel, MP.	Shashe West
Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	Nata-Gweta

(Botswana Democratic Party)

Hon. K. S. Gare, MP.	Moshupa-Manyana
Hon. K. T. Mmusi, MP.	Gabane-Mmankgodi
Hon. P. K. Motaosane, MP.	Thamaga-Kumakwane
Hon. M. M. Pule, MP.	Kgatlang East

(Independent Member of Parliament)

Hon. Dr E. G. Dikoloti, MP.	Goodhope- Mmathethe
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SPECIALLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Hon. Maj. Gen. P. Mokgware, MP.	Specially Elected
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP.	Specially Elected
Hon. M. C. Mohwasa, MP.	Specially Elected
Hon. N. Kgafela-Mokoka, MP.	Specially Elected
Hon. Dr S. Modise, MP.	Specially Elected
Hon. L. Chombo, MP.	Specially Elected

TABLE OF CONTENTS
THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION
OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT
WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026

<i>CONTENTS</i>	<i>PAGE (S)</i>
SPEAKER'S REMARKS	1
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER	1-8
BUSINESS MOTION	35
GOVERNMENT BILL	
Appropriation (2026/2027) Bill, 2026 (No. 1 of 2026) <i>Second Reading (Resumed Debate)</i>	9-43

Wednesday 11th February, 2026

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

* * * *

SPEAKER'S REMARKS

MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE): Order! Order! Honourable Members, good afternoon. I hope you are well rested and you are ready for today's sitting. Let us start our today's business with questions.

MR PULE: *Procedure.* Tanki mongwame. Mma ke go dumedise ka boikokobetso, ke dumedise le batlotlegi. Ga ke itse *Mr Speaker*, kana fa gongwe go tloga go sa lebege sentle fa re didimala fela. Fa ke re ke lebelela Order Paper ya maabane le ya gompiono, ga go na epe ya dipotso tsa rona tse di duleng, ga re itse gore a ke kgang ya gore gongwe ga di a tsena kana jang. Ke bona e bile ba bangwe ba setse ba ipoeletsa mo Order Paper. Ke tsibose seo fela gore gongwe o se ele tlhoko mongwame, batlhophi ba rona ba tloga ba akanya gore fa go botswa dipotso rona ga re botse. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: O se ka wa tshwenyega *Honourable Pule*, ke letsatsi la bobedi, *I am sure* go raya gore di teng mo line, but the Clerk will check.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

OVERPOPULATION OF STUDENTS

MR J. J. FRENZEL (SHASHE WEST): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs whether he is aware of the overpopulation of students in Chadibe, Borolong and Shashemooke Primary Schools; and if so:

- (i) what plans are being put in place to address the situation; and
- (ii) if the planned construction of new primary schools at the above stated villages using the Development Manager (DM) Model are still underway.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOTSHEGWA): Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke leboge Motlotlegi Mopalamente ka potso eo. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go rarabolola

bothata jo bo tlhalosiwang joo jwa barutwana, Lephata la Goromente wa Dikgaolo le Merero ya Ngwao, le diragatsa dikgato tsa nakwana go leka go fokotsa manokonoko a seemo se le go netefatsa gore thuto e tswelela ntle le go kgopakgopetsega.

Mo bogompionong, go dirisiwa motlhale wa go amogana diphapose tsa borutelo (*shifting*), segolobogolo kwa sekoleng sa Shashemooke ke ba Mophato wa Bobedi le wa Boraro (*Standard 2 and 3*) le kwa sekoleng sa Borolong ke ba Mophato wa Bobedi le wa bone (*Standard 2 and 4*).

Mme kwa sekoleng sa Chadibe North, go amogana diphapose ga go tlhokafale ka go nne sekole se dirisa sentle dikago tse di leng teng jaaka mafelo a motlobo wa dibuka go thusa go amogela palo e e oketsegileng ya barutwana.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, mma ke supe gape mo Ntlong e e tlotlegang gore kana dikole tse di potlana (*primary schools*) tse di neng di rulaganyeditswe gore re tlaa di neelwa jaaka go ne go umakilwe, di ne di solofetswe go agiwa ka mokgwa wa tsamaiso wa Development Manager (DM). Le fa go ntse jalo, dikago tse di santse di emisitswe ka nakwana morago ga tshwetso ya go dira tshakatsheko e e feletseng ya mokgwa wa DM. Tsela e e tlaa tsewang mabapi le go tsweledisa ga dikago tsa dikole tse, e tlaa itsisiwe semmuso fa tshakatsheko ya mokgwa ole wa ditlhabololo wa DM e sena go wediwa le go sena go akantshanwa mofuta o o tlaabong o siame e bile o le maleba thata wa go dira theko le tsamaiso ya tiro e e tlaa dirisiwang. E rile ke ntse ke buisana le Tona wa Dipalamo le Dikago, a bo a nthaya a re tsone tse di neng di saletse kwa morago tse di neng di tshwanetse go tlhabololwa ka DM, ba mo ditshekatshekong tsa bofelo tsa gore go tlaa dirwa ka mokgwa o o ntseng jang. O ne a re ba solofetse gore tiro e bo e wetse ka kgwedi e e tlaabong e latela ya Mopitlo. Ke gone mo re tlaa le kang go fatshafatsha gore re ka ya kwa pele ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Ke ne ke araba potso e ka legato la ntsha la nakwana le la gore go ya pele ditlhabololo go tlaa nna jang. Ke a leboga.

MR FRENZEL: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Honourable Speaker*. Ke leboge ka fa Tona a neng a tla ka yone ka teng. Kana fa o gakologelwa Tona, go ya ka *model* o o neng o dirisiwa wa DM, go ne go tshwanetse gore go nne le sekole se se botlana se se agiwa kwa motseng wa Shashemooke, Borolong le se sengwe kwa

Chadibe. Jaanong ke batla gore o mpeye mo dinakong gore ba ba nthomileng ba tle ba itse. Ba tshela ba nkgoga gore a mme di e tla. Jaanong ke batla gore o nthurifaletse gore dikole tse, fela jaaka o supa gore e tlaa re mo kgweding e e tlang e bo tshekatsheko yotlhe e wetse gore tse tsotlhe tse di neng di le teng di tlaa nna teng, a mme ke nne ke di solofetse ka fa di neng di ntse di tla ka teng Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente? Ke a leboga.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga. Kana ke ne ke e arabile motlotlegi. Gone ke a utlwa gore kgatelelo kgolo ya gago ke gore wa re ba a go botsa. Se ke neng ke se tlhalosa ke gore ba Lephata la Dipalamo le Dikago e rile fa ba sena go begela Khuduthamaga, e ne ya tsaya tshwetso ya gore *projects* tse di neng di simolotse di tswelele mme tse di neng go ise go simololwe gotlhelele, go ye go sekwasekwa mokgwa o o tlaabong o siame wa go di dira. Tiro eo ba re ka kgwedi ya Mopitlo ba dumela gore e tlaabo e fedile mme go bo go ka tlhatsweaga sentle gore dikole tsa kwa Shashemooke, Borolong le kwa Chadibe go tlaa nna ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ga ke rate go tuma ka go sa bua boammaaruri. Ke ne ke batla go ema gone foo, ke se ka ka segela ngwana thari a ise a belegwe.

SO2 AND KW6 AREAS

MR O. KWAPA (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state:

- (i) Government's plan regarding SO2 and KW6 areas respectively; and
- (ii) whether there are plans to allocate farms in the said areas.

ACTING MINISTER OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE (DR DIKOLOTI): *Mma ke go leboge Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.*

- (i) Mr Speaker, this Honourable House is informed that SO2 is part of the former Wildlife Management Area located within the Mabutsane District, covering approximately 238,594 hectares, and sharing boundaries with KW6 on the Kweneng District side. The area was de-zoned from wildlife to agricultural use following Presidential Directive CAB 12(B) of 2012, which instructed its redesignation for livestock and wildlife ranching. Mr Speaker, Ngwaketse Land Board, acting under this directive, undertook surveys and produced a layout plan resulting in the demarcation of 51

ranches, comprising livestock ranches, game ranches, small agricultural holdings, and communal reserves. The land board also undertook extensive consultations between 2012 and 2019 across all 11 villages in the Mabutsane District, as well as with traditional leadership structures.

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this House that I have recently received a full briefing from Ngwaketse Land Board regarding the status of SO2, including the concerns raised by members of the community about the consultation process and their reservations about ranch allocations. Following this briefing Mr Speaker, I have directed the land board to halt all ongoing or planned actions related with SO2 farms until further consultations have been carried out with communities and leadership in the Mabutsane area. This pause Mr Speaker is intended to ensure that all stakeholders are adequately heard and that land use decisions reflect both national development priorities and community interests.

- (ii) Regarding KW6, Government is also assessing the area in line with broader land use considerations. Similar to SO2, no allocations will proceed until the reassessment process is completed and proper consultations have been conducted.

Mr Speaker, the Government's position is that there will be no allocation of farms in SO2 or KW6 at this stage. Allocations can only proceed after a comprehensive and transparent consultation process has been concluded and a consensus reached. This will be followed by environmental, socio-economic and technical considerations. The intention Mr Speaker is to ensure that any future allocation if any, support sustainable land use, community development and national agricultural productivity.

Mr Speaker, I assure the House that Government remains committed to inclusive engagement and responsible land administration. Once consultations are completed and clear, mutually agreed way forward is established, the ministry will update this Honourable House accordingly. I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR KWAPA: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Ke go leboge Tona. Gongwe ke go tlhabe podi matseba mabapi le mabarebare a a utlwalang mo kgaolong gore mo letsatsing la gompieno go ntse go sa tswa go boa ba *Mapping and Surveys* gone kwa lefelong la SO2. Tota go utlwala e le gore go batliwa go bewa mongwe ka maretshwa kana ka boferefere.

Jaanong Tona, se ke batlang go se go bolelela pele ga ke botsa potso fela e ne e le gore kana e ne ya re fa ke ntse ke le mo Dikgotla *meeting* gone mo metseng e o e tlhalositseng e e lesome le bongwe eo, kganggolo ke gore ba kगतलhanong thata le go bewa dipolase, ga go a ka ga nna le morero gotlhelele. Ke dumela gore le bone ba Ngwaketse Land Board, ba ne ba go bolelela sentle gore golo kwa metse e ba kगतलhanong tota thata ka kgang ya go bewa ga dipolase ka gore fa o leba dipalo tse e leng gore...

MR SPEAKER: Botsa potso *Honourable Kwapa*.

MR KWAPA: Ke tlaa e botsa *Mr Speaker*. Ke ne ke batla fela gore e re fa ke e botsa Tona a bo a setse a tlhologanya sentle *background* ya teng *Mr Speaker*, fa o ntetla.

MR SPEAKER: Botsa potso *Honourable Member*.

MR KWAPA: A o a lemoga sentle gore le mo bogompionong metse e o buang ka yone, le Magosi ba santse ba le kगतलhanong le kgang ya go bewa ga dipolase mo SO2 gammogo le KW6?

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Kwapa, o agente gakere.* Order 40.3, "a Member shall not address the Assembly on a question, and a question shall not be made a pretext for a debate."

DR DIKOLOTI: Ke a go leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke leboge Motlotlegi Kwapa. Kana morongwa tota o dira jaaka wena jaana Motlotlegi Kwapa gore o alele... (*Interruptions*)... Ke go utlwile, mme o ntse o ntekodisa thata rra ka dikgang tse, ke dumela gore ke tlaa di tseeletsa thata jaaka ke solofetsa Ntlo e. Ke tshephisa gore ga go na sepe se se tlaa dirwang se le kwa ntle ga molao. Sengwe le sengwe se tlaa dirwa ka thokgamo go netefatsa gore tiriso ya lefatshe e nna yone, ba ba amegang ka tiriso ya lefatshe leo le bone ba rerisitswe. Go reriwe tota mongwe le mongwe a kgone go ipona mo teng.

O ntse o ntekodisa thata ka Marara, o kile wa ba wa tlisa lekoko la tla go buabua le nna ka dikgang tse di bothoko tse. Ke tshephisa batho ba kgaolo ya gago ya Mabutsane gore dikgang tse di a goroga. Ke itse gore o boletsa bone tota, *you have been forwarding messages to me*. Ke a leboga rra.

ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

MR O. KEDIKILWE (SEROWE WEST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs if he is aware that foreigners who entered Botswana through illegal or

unauthorised entry points are given passports of their country of origin while in Botswana; and if so, whether this will not encourage more of them to cross into Botswana illegally in order to get a passport.

ACTING MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR MMOLOTSI): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Kedikilwe ka potso ya gago.

Karabo ya yone ke gore tota fela ba lephata le, ga ba itse fa go na le bangwe ba batswakwa ba ba neelwang *passports* mo lefatsheng la Botswana, mme ba tsene mo lefatsheng le e se ka fa molaong. Le fa go ntse jalo rra, *ministry* o itse gore *High Commission of the Republic of Zimbabwe*, e ntse e leka go thusa ba ba mono e le gore *passports* tsa bone di tsamaela go fela kana di nna le mathata, mme ba dire thulaganyo ya gore ba ba thuse gore di ntshafadiwe bone ba ntse ba sa ya ka kwa, ba le ka kwano. *So*, thulaganyo e e ntseng jalo e ntse e le teng mongwame ba leka gore ba thuse.

Ba bangwe ba ba neng ba kwadisitswe fela ke bana ba ba tsholwang, ba le bone ba thusiwang ka thulaganyo ya *birth certificates* gore ba kgone gore ba itsege.

Jaanong *Mr Speaker*, e ne ya re ka *April* mo ngwageng o o fetileng, lephata la ga Rre Mabuse Pule, la amogela mokwalo go tswa kwa go ba *International Affairs* ba ba neng ba supa fa e le gore ba *High Commission* ya Zimbabwe, ba kopa gore ba tsamaye mo mafelong mangwe ba buisana le morafe wa gabone, mafelo a tshwana le Mahalapye, Palapye, Francistown, Tutume, Bobonong le Mmadinare. Ba ne ba tsamaya ba buisana le bone go leka go tlhola gore dipampiri tsa bone; *passports* le sengwe le sengwe se se ba bayang mono, se mo tshiamelong gore ba se ka ba iphitlhela e le gore ba nna mono ka dilo tse e leng gore ga di sa tlhole di tshela. Maikaelelo a mangwe e ne e le go leka go senka le go bona ba ba tswang kwa Zimbabwe ba ba nngang mo Botswana, mme e se gore ba nna *illegally*, ba batla *to document them*; go itsiwe gore ke palo ya bone ba le kae ba ba tswang koo, mme ba nna mo Botswana.

E ne ya re gone mo maetong ao, *embassy facilitated* gore *passports* le *birth certificates* di nne di baakangwe. Ba ne ba *issue* le *temporary travel documents* fa e neng e le gore di tlhokafala teng gore ba kgone *to replace passports* tsa bone go ya kwa Zimbabwe. Gape ba leka go ntsha bosupi jwa gore batho bao ke ba ba itsegeng jaaka go tlhokafala.

Gongwe ke supe fela gore thulaganyo e e neng e diriwa ke ba Zimbabwean Embassy, ga se e e dirwang ke bone fela, le rona kwa mafatsheng a mangwe, re a e dira fa Batswana ba le kwa mafatsheng jalojalo. Re a ne re leke go thusa go bona gore *travel documents* tsa bone di mo seemong se se siameng, mme e re fa e le gore ga di mo seemong se se siameng, re thuse ba ntse ba le gone koo, gore ba ka baakanyediwa dilo tse tsotlhe, ba kgone gore ba nne kwa mafatsheng ao ka *documents* tse di tshelang. Ke thulaganyo e e tswang kgakala, e e leng gore le Rre Mabuse Pule o e itse thata.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR MMOLOTSI: Tla ke wetse o tlaa tla o ngongorega. Tota fela ke ne ke re ke wetse ka go supa gore mo *exercise* e, Batswana ba bana ba bone le bone ba tsholetsweng kwa Zimbabwe, *they were facilitated too* gore ba leke *to apply for birth certificates* tsa bana ba bone ba ba tsholetsweng kwa Zimbabwe. Batswana ba ba ithutileng kgotsa ba ne ba tsena dikole kwa Zimbabwe, ba tlhoka gore ba rurifalediwe ditlankana tsa bone tsa dikole tse ba neng ba di tsena kwa Zimbabwe, le bone fela jalo, ba ne ba thusiwa mo go yone thulaganyo e.

Rre Kedikilwe, Botswana ke leloko la *organisation* nngwe e e bidiwang gotwe International Organisation for Migration. E neetswe boikarabelo jwa *to provide technical support* mo dikgannyeng tsa *research, migration management to member states*. Botswana *supports* thulaganyo eo, ke sone se o bonang go letlelesegile gore ba Zimbabwe ba kgone go tsamaya mo ba senka ba ga bone ba ba thusa ka tsela e e ntseng jalo.

Mo kgannyeng ya gago ya gore golo mo ga go ka ke ga rotloetsa gore jaanong batho ba ba tswang kwa Zimbabwe ba tloge ba tle mono ba sena ditesi, ga go ka ke ga diragala. Jaaka ke tlhalositse mongwame, ba ba neng ba thusiwa ke ba ba ntseng mono ka fa molaong. Ke fela gore dipasa tsa bone, dipampiri di ne di tsamaela go fela, jalo he ba thusiwa. Ga go na ope yo o tlodileng yo o neng a thusiwa mo thulaganyong e. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Pule, pele fa o tsena, mma ke reye *Honourable* Mmolotsi ke re, a ko o tlogele go tsobera *Honourable* Pule. Re a itse gore e ne e le mong wa lephata, mme ga e sa tlhole e le mong wa lephata.

MR PULE: *Procedure*. Ke a leboga ka gore o a nkarabela, kana Rre Mmolotsi ke tsala ya me e tona, o a itse. Ke a itse gore ke lepolotiki, fa o bona a ntse a re lephata le la me, e tlile gore kamoso go senngwa a bo a re le nna ke mo teng. Jaanong ke re *Mr Speaker*, re bolelele Rre Mmolotsi gore Mabuse Pule o sale a tswa kwa *immigration* ka 2018. O tlaa mpolaisa batho, ba tlaa nteletsa ba re, kana ke utlwile gotwe lephata ke la gago rraetsho, re thuse ka se le se. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: Ee, mme o utlwile.

MR JACOBS: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Ke botse Tona gore the repatriation part of it, of repatriating Zimbabweans back to Zimbabwe *fa ba tsena mo* Botswana and they are caught *ba sena dipampiri*, permits *kana* passports, what expenditure is the Government spending every year to really repatriate the Zimbabweans back to Botswana? Since *re itse* gore we have a financial issue, is there no way that we can try to curb this money to try and keep it in our country? Thank you very much.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Jacobs, I would understand if the Minister does not have that answer, because much as it is an immigration issue, I do not think it is related to what Honourable Kedikilwe has asked, but Honourable Minister?

MR MMOLOTSI: Gone *Honourable* Jacobs, ke boammaaruri gore mo thulaganyong e ya go tsaya batho ba Zimbabwe ba tlodisetswa ka kwa, go dirisiwa madi a mantsi a e leng gore tota mo nakong ya gompiano, ga ke mo seemong sa go go neela *figures* ka boammaaruri gore ke bokae. Ke madi a mantsi, ka lebaka la gore ba a tlodisiwa, maitseboa ba a bo ba boile. Ba bangwe ba a nna, kgwedi e fela ba dira *grocery* go tswa foo ba a ikisa, ba ya go tlodisiwa ba bo ba boa. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, *it is an exercise* e e dirisang madi a mantsi. Ke sone se mo nakong ya gompiano, ba lephata ba leng mo kgannyeng ya go leka go bona gore thulaganyo e tota e ka tlhofofadiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore e se ka ya imela Goromente ka madi a a kana.

MR MAPULANGA: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, tla ke latedise Tona. Kgang e ya go neela *permits* tsa go nna, ke kopa go utlwisisa gore mme gone ke eng re santse re na le batho ba ba nang le *more than 10 years*, 20, 30, 40, fa a kopa boagedi o neelwa *residence permit* ya go tswelela a tla a *renew* gape, gona le gore ba neelwe? Mabaka a mangwe o bo o utlwa gore ga o ise o beeletse thata mo lefatsheng la Botswana, ga re kgone

go bona *your worth value* ya gore o ka neelwa boagedi jwa lefatshe la Botswana. Ke eng go tsaya nako e e kana motho a ntse a ikopela go nna moagedi, o neelwa *renewable residence or work permits*? Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Standing Order 40.2, Honourable Minister, leka Mokwena.

MR MMOLOTSI: Gone go tswa mo nakong e e fetileng, kana molao ka fa o ntseng ka teng gompieno, gore o neelwe boagedi, go na le ditsetlana dingwe tse o tshwanelang ke gore o bo o di kgotsofaditse. Di di ntsinyana, jaanong ba ba sekasekang fa ba bona o kare *you do not satisfy some of them*, ba go itsa gore o bo o ka neelwa thulaganyo eo. O na le tshono ya gore fa o sa kgotsofalela karabo ya bone, o bo o ka ikuela mo go Tona ka sebele a sekaseke mabaka a gago. Fa e le gore mabaka a gago ke a a ka thusegang, a felele a go thusitse. Thulaganyo e e teng, Tona *waivered for* ba le bantsi mo nakong e e fetileng, mme ke a tlhaloganya gore ka boammaaruri di lejalejwe *especially* mo nakong ya gompieno e e leng gore ra re go na le batho ba ba nang le lebaka le le leele ba ntse ba nna mo Botswana, mo e leng gore tota *they relate more* le Botswana *than anywhere else*.

MR BARONGWANG: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente gore o bo o mphile sebaka sa go botsa ka kgang ya maZimbabwe, batho ba Mogoditshane ba ne ba ka ntsenya dingalo tota fa ke ne ke ka se ka ka *supplement* mo go yone. Tona, ke ratile thata thulaganyo e o neng o *report* ka yone, o supa e ne e dirwa kwa Mmadinare fa ke sa fose, ya gore *embassy* ya Zimbabwe e ne e tsamaya e batla go itse gore a maZimbabwe a nna mo Botswana ka thulaganyo e e siameng. Tota potso ya me ke gore, rona re le Puso, ga re na *programme* epe e e ikaelelang go itse gore tota mme gone mo Botswana re na le maZimbabwe ba le kae, kana batho ba letso lepe *who are undocumented* mo Botswana? Kwa Mogoditshane re na le mathata, re na le batho ba bantsi ba ditso tse di farologanyeng, ba gatelela itsholelo ya Mogoditshane ka gore go lwela *space* sa sengwe le sengwe se se leng teng, le gone go dira tafole fela go rekisetsa gone foo. Jaanong potso ya me ke gore, a mme re na le thulaganyo re le Puso ya gore re batle go itse gore tota batho ba ditso tsa mafatshe a sele ba kae, ba dira eng, e bile ba ama *economy* ya mafelo a a rileng go le kae? Ke a leboga.

MR MMOLOTSI: *Honourable* Pule o tlaa nthusa fa ke tlhaletseng teng...*(Laughter!)*... Ka boammaaruri ke gone gore, motho mongwe le mongwe yo o tsenang

mo lefatsheng la Botswana a tswa kwa a tswang teng, go a itsiwe gore go tsena motho a tswa kae jalojalo. *That information is there and it is available* gore mang o tswa kae, o tsene leng, o tlile go dira kgwebo ya mofuta mang, kana o tlile go bereka kana jang. *Information* fela e e leng gore ga e a felela e a tlhaela, e lephata le leng mo tseleng ya go bona gore ba ka e *expand* ka tsela e e ntseng jang, ke ya ba ba tsenang mono e se ka fa molaong. Ke yone e e tlhaelang, mme ba ba tseneng ka fa molaong, eo e teng. Lephata le mo maikaelelong a go bona *how to reach out* gore batho ba ba kgone go kwadisiwa, go itsiwe gore ba teng, *with a view to make decisions on the basis* ya gore ba kae, go ka dirwa jang ka bone go ya kwa pele. Ke a leboga.

EXPIRED COVID-19 VACCINES

MR L. LESEDI (SEROWE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Health to inform this Honourable House if any members of the public in Botswana were ever offered COVID-19 expired doses and vaccines; in particular, the Minister should state:

- (i) the number of people who were given expired Pfizer shots locally and who granted permission to unilaterally extend the vaccines' shelf life as well as the number of people who died during and after the COVID-19 vaccination;
- (ii) when the ministry noticed that vaccines had expired and further state how the expiry date is determined bearing in mind storage, handling and local temperatures;
- (iii) who extended the expiry date of vaccines, and if extending expiry dates of medicines is regular medical practice and the dangers posed by such to human life;
- (iv) which other COVID-19 vaccines which were available locally and had expired and how many Batswana were offered such and if any vaccines were destroyed as well as the quantities of those destroyed; and
- (v) the monetary value of all expired and destroyed vaccines, how these expired vaccines were destroyed to reduce the risk of damage to environmental health, in particular, soil and groundwater pollution as well as how many Batswana are suffering from the long-term effects of COVID-19 vaccines.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (MR OOKEDITSE): Thank you Mr Speaker, *ke leboge* Honourable Lesedi for the question. Mr Speaker, *le ntswa gongwe re ne re seyo ka COVID-19, Goromente o na le perpetual succession, so tsothle tse di diragetseng ka nako yone eo, re tshwanetse re tle re di tlhalose.* I will preface you with that, so that you know it is very clear where we are coming from.

Ke bo ke supa jalo gore ka motlha wa COVID-19, go supafala jalo e le gore vaccines tse di neng di dirisiwa kana di ne di fiwa mafatshe jalo, di ne di fiwa under extremely difficult circumstances or conditions, jaaka ba rotlhe re itse. Tsothle e ne e le gore di ne di neelwa jalo mo gotweng ke emergency use authorisation go tswa kwa makalaneng a a farologaneng a tshwana le ba World Health Organisation (WHO) le a a mo mafatsheng ka go farologana jalo. Ka jalo, the shelf life ya vaccines tse tsa COVID-19, le tsona di ne di dirwa jalo go lebeleletse data e e neng e tla jalo ka seemo sa tshoganetso. Jaanong ka sone seemo kana ka nako e go neng go dirisiwa melemo e, at the same time go ne jalo gape go ntse go dirwa dipatlisiso ka mo gotweng ke shelf life ya vaccines tsa teng. Ke mo gotweng re ne re dira re ntse re tswaletse.

As a result, Mr Speaker, I will note that, I am told that no member of the public in Botswana was offered or administered expired Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. As at the 8th of August 2022, Botswana had received 463 098 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Early consignments of this vaccine were received on the 3rd June 2022 and on the 3rd September 2022. The last one was received on the 17th November 2022 *e na le shelf life ya six months.* All of these were distributed and utilised within their valid expiry periods as per the report that we have been given. Expiry date extensions Mr Speaker, were not unilaterally determined by Botswana. Such extensions were approved by the World Health Organisation, following scientific stability studies conducted by manufacturers and reviewed by global regulatory authorities. *Ka jalo Mr Speaker, ga re ise re nne le pego e re e filweng ya gore go na le lesa kana dintsho tse di bakilweng jalo ke COVID-19 vaccines, tse gotweng di ne di le expired jalojalo.* We had also noted that all other events following immunisation were investigated in accordance with International Pharmacovigilance Guidelines.

Mr Speaker, expiry dates for COVID-19 vaccines were determined through scientific stability testing conducted by these manufacturers and approved by

regulatory authorities under the WHO Emergency Use Validation Framework. This process takes into account storage conditions, handling procedures and temperature requirements, including ultra-temperature storage, minus 80 Degrees Celsius for the Pfizer vaccines in question. Any changes to expiry dates are communicated formally to member states following regulatory approval.

Ka jalo Mr Speaker, extensions tsa expiry dates tse di neng di nna teng, di ne di dirwa jalo di letleletse ke ba World Health Organisation, mme ba buisana jalo le makalana a mangwe a a ikemetseng, a tshwana le United States Food and Drug Administration le United Kingdom Regulatory Authorities tse di tshwanang jalo le tsa bo European Union. Such extensions were accepted regulatory practice during public health emergencies. These are usually accepted, provided that they are supported by stability data confirming vaccine safety, quality and efficacy. At no point, I am told, were expiry dates extended outside approved scientific and regulatory processes. No danger to human life was introduced through this mechanism.

Mr Speaker, while COVID-19 vaccines reached expiry before use, they were not offered or administered to the public. Expired vaccines included limited quantities of COVID-19 vaccines that could not be utilized before expiry due to changes in demand following the stabilization of the pandemic. These include AstraZeneca, Johnson&Johnson, Moderna and Sinovac. Mr Speaker, all expired vaccines were withdrawn from health facilities nationwide and we are told a total of 1,917,101 does were destroyed and disposal was conducted through centralized high temperature incineration.

The last part Mr Speaker, out of a total of 6,326,694 COVID-19 vaccines received, 500,128 vaccines expired, which constituted about 7.9 per cent of all COVID-19 vaccines received. The monetary value of all expired COVID-19 vaccines is P16,909,236.00. The destruction of expired vaccines was undertaken using approved high temperature incineration methods to minimize environmental risks, particularly to soil and ground water. As such Mr Speaker, there is no evidence that expired COVID-19 vaccines were administered to Batswana and therefore, no population level long-term health effects can be said to be attributed to expired vaccines. The ministry will continue to monitor vaccine safety in line with both our local and international guidelines.

I want to end Mr Speaker by noting that, maybe the Right Honourable gentleman from Serowe South could ask questions in a manner that also gives intelligence, where there may be intelligence that we could use to actually help our people.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Lesedi, hang on. You mean what? You need more information that can direct or point you to certain instances that may have arisen or you mean in terms of our Orders where it says the question must be intelligible?

MR OOKEDITSE: Thank you Mr Speaker. I mean in terms of... you know, if you look at the question, it seems like he may have information that may be helpful but maybe the nature of questioning is such that it ends up *go nna e kete* we are being evasive when we are not. *Fa e le gore go na le sengwe se motlotlegi a se itseng, o ka se re itsise*, so that *re kgone go se sala morago sentle* and be in a position to help our people. Thank you.

MR LESEDI: *Supplementary.* Ke a go leboga *Mr Speaker*. Tota gongwe jaaka Tona a ntse a araba, o ne a supa gore o boleletswe. Go raya gore gongwe dingwe tsa dikarabo tse a neng a di araba, gongwe di ka tswa di sena boammaaruri ka gore, o ne a di bolelelwa. Ga se gore o a di itse mo go kalo. Ke tlhomamise fa *Mr Speaker* gore, potso e ke batlang go e latedisa ke gore, *since* a dumela gore ga go ise go begiwe sepe sa dintsho kana leso le le ka bong le bakilwe ke *expired* kana mokento o wa COVID-19, a mme gongwe mo nakong ya gompiano, ga ba bone re lebile dintsho tse di kanakana tse di diragatseng bogolo jang morago ga mokento o, ga ba ise ba tle mo seemong sa gore ba ka itirela ditshekatsheko kana dipatlisiso tsa go bona gore a mokento o o ka tswa o sa ama Batswana ka tsela epe?

Gongwe gape sa bofelo ke gore, fa re bua ka molemo o o *expired* jaaka fa a supa fa a wela, ke supe gore sengwe sa dilo tse ke kileng ka di botsa fano e ne e le gore bangwe ba ne ba tlhobaetse gore ba kentiwa ka mokento o o *expired* kwa Serowe Nutrition Clinic. Jaanong ke sone se gongwe ke tlang ka potso e gore ba e atolose re itse gore ba ba ka bong ba kentiwe ka mokento o ba ka bo ba le kae? Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR OOKEDITSE: *Thank you Mr Speaker.* Ke itumelela gore o dira sone se ke neng ke se bua gore, fa nne motlotlegi gongwe potso ya teng fela e ne e boditswe fela sentle gore, a mme kwa Serowe kwa boketekete go na le ba ba kileng ba kentiwa jalo, gongwe motho o ka bo a e arabile mo go botoka. Jaanong le ya gore dintsho

tse di kanakana *are they not attributable to the vaccines*; ke sone se ke neng ke re, fa gongwe kana fa o botsa potso o re dintsho tse ga se tsa *vaccine* e e *expired*, re ya go e araba, re araba ka *vaccine* e e *expired*, *while in actual fact there may be something else that may be there*. Rra, ga re ise gongwe re nne le dipatlisiso tse ke ka go rayang ke re re na le tsone tse di supang gore batho ba tlhokafala ka lebaka la COVID-19 *vaccines*. Ke dumela gore re tlaa nna re ntse re tlhoile tsebe. Fa go na le sengwe se re tshwanetseng go se batlisisa, re tlaa nna re ntse re dira ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Ke rotloetsa motlotlegi gore a ikgoele fa go nna ka e bile re tswa golo go le gongwefela, a tle ka tse a di tshotseng re tle re bone gore re ka batlisisa sengwe. Ke a leboga.

DEMARICATION OF DISTRICT COUNCILS

MR T. B. LUCAS (BOBIRWA): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to state:

- (i) the criteria that were employed to demarcate the current district councils and whether he finds such criteria fair and consistent; and
- (ii) if there are any intentions to create additional district councils in the next four years.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOTSHEGWA): Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke leboge *the Shadow Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs* ka potso eo, e e bothhale thata.

- (i) Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, karabo yame e tlaa itebaganya le tsamaiso e e kileng ya dirwa ka ngwaga wa 2022, e le legato la ntlha. Ke gore tiragalo e e na le legato la ntlha le la bobedi; Phase 1 *and* Phase 2. Puso e ne ya tsaya tshwetso ka nako eo ya legato la ntlha ya go tsholetsa maemo a dikgaolo potlana; *sub districts* di le masome a mabedi le bobedi (22), go nna dikgaolo tse di ikemetseng (*full districts*). Go ne go dirisiwa ditsetla tse di latelang mo go tseyeng ditshwetso tse. Ke gore ga go dirisiwe ntlha e le nngwefela, go dirisiwa ditsetla di farologane go tla kwa tshwetso ya go atolosa go dira kgaolo e e tletseng.
- (a) Ya ntlha ke sebopego sa kgaolo, se akaretsa merafe e e fitlhelwang foo, matshelo a batho, metsamao ya bone, ditiro tse di ka fitlhelwang mo kgaolong, itsholelo le ditsatholego. Bogolo jang go ne go lebelelwa gore tshwetsho e e se ka ya kgaoganya merafe le matshelo a bone.

- (b) Ntlha e nngwe e e leng gore e nna ya tse di lebelelwang, ke tsa sepolotiki, gore go ne go lebelelwa thata gore tsamaiso ya Puso le merero ya selegae di atumele batho. Kgang e tona ke gore ditirelo di atumele batho, ba se ka ba nna kgakala le tsone. Melelwane ya dikgaolo e ne e lebagangwa ka botswerere le melelwane ya dikgaolo tsa bothlophi gore le tsone go se ka ga fitlhelwa go na le kgaogano e tona thata.
- (c) Go lebelelwa gape le tsa tikologo le popego ya lefatshe, gore go ne go lebelelwa gore go fokoleliwe banni ba dikgaolo mesepele e melele go latela ditlamelo kwa bathong, gore batho ba se ka ba tsamaya sebaka se se leele ba latela ditlamelo kwa *districts* e nngwe.
- (d) Go ne go lebelelwa dipalo tsa batho le kgolo mo kgaolong, le dipalo gore di bo e le gore ga di kwa tlase ga 50 000.
- (e) Ntlha e nngwe e e lebelelwang ke ditlhabololo le ditlamelo; gore ditlamelo tsa sennelaruri di bothlokwa go gaisa mo mosepeleng one oo, bogolo jang go ne go dirisiwa ditsetla tse di mo lenaneong la moalo, ditogamaano tsa lefatshe; Botswana National Spatial Plan 2036. Ditirelo di tshwanetse go fitlhelwa ke banni ka bofefo, kana banni ba tshwanetse go atumela ditirelo ka bofefo mo kgaolong kana bogolo ba ka di tsaya mo kgaolong e e gautshwane le bone. Ke one maikaelelo magolo.
- (ii) Legato le lengwe la potso e ne e re, a go ne go setswe tsamaiso e e tsepameng? Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, e re le mororo tsamaiso ya go kgaoganya le go tsholetsa dikgaolo potlana e thusitse go nonotsha boeteledipele jwa sepolotiki jwa dikgaolo tseo, le go tsaya ditshwetso segautshwane, go santse go na le dikgaolo tse e leng gore banni ba tsone ba santse ba tsamaya sekgala kana sebaka se se telele go latela ditlamelo. Gone go bo go ama matshelo a bone le dikgang tsa ditlhabololo go salela kwa morago.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke supe gape gore lenaneo le le neng le setswe morago kana tsamaiso ya go kgaoganya le go tsholetsa dikgaolo potlana, le ne le tsepame mo maikaelelong le tsamaiso ya go tokafatsa go isa ditlamelo kwa Batswaneng e bile e le go nonotsha Goromente wa Dikgaolo (*Local Government*) go tsaya ditshwetso gautshwane le batho le ka bofefo

ba lebeletse mabaka le diemo tsa nako eo. Ke sone se e reng le mo bogompionong le fa re sena go dira *districts*, re dumela gore go nne le *further decentralisation* kana go kgaoganya gape go nne le *service centres*. Ke gore kgaolo e tshwana le ya Jwaneng-Mabutsane, le ntswa e na le *district* jalo, go na le dikgaolo tse dingwe tse di tlhokang *service centres*, le yone eo ke ditsela tse re di dirang.

Kwa bofelong Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, Lephata la Dikgaolo le Merero ya Ngwao, le na le maikaelelo a go tlhoma dikgaolo tse di ntsha le legato la bobedi. Lele ke ne ke re e ne e le la ntlha go feleletsa leno mo dingwageng tse nne tse di tlang. Re setse re simolotse morero wa dikgaolo, moakanya e le gore go nne le dikgaolo tse disha kwa Okavango West, Shakawe, Kweneng South, Thamaga, Nata, Tswapong; e leng Lerala, Sefhare le Mmadinare. Ke eletsa go gakolola gore dikakanyo tse di tlaa diragala go dirisiwa lenaneo le ke ntseng ke le tlhalosa fa godimo, gape go setswe Lenaneo la Ditlhabololo tsa Lefatshe tse dingwe, fa go tlaabong go lebagane jalo. Go bo go dumalanwa e le tshwetso ya Khuduthamaga.

Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke akgole le Rre Hikuama, e ne ya re a ntse a bona ka lebaka ke tsentse sekopelo sa ga Vladimir Lenin, ke bona a tsentse Mao Tse-Tung, go raya gore o ntse o a nkgotsa.

MR LUCAS: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Rre Motshegwa. Ke go gakolole gore Labone ke kamoso, ba Lentswelemoriti ba solofetse dikarabo.

Ke botse jaana mothowetsho gore, mo dikgaolong tse di setseng di le teng, a go na le thulaganyo epe e le setseng gongwe le e simolotse ya go leka gore gongwe le sege melelwane ya tsone sesha gore di tle di kgone go tsamaelana le *criteria* e o neng o e bua ele? Ke gopotse *districts* tse ke batlang gongwe le wena o ka di akgela, *districts* tse di amang dikgaolo tsa Tswapong North and South, gore a mme ke dingwe tsa tse le di akanyetsang gore le ka sega melelwane sesha gore gongwe bo Tswapong botlhe ba nne mmogo? Ke akanya gape le dikgaolo di tshwana le tsa bo Tutume, ke lebile bophara jwa yone gore a go na le sepe se le setseng le se simolotse?

Ya bobedi e nna gore, tota mme dikakanyetso tsa gago mo go tse e leng gore gongwe le tlaa akanya go di kgaola sesha, le akanya go simolola tiro eo leng? A mme mo mading a a setseng a dule mo bogompionong, a go

na le sepe fela se se tsamaelanang le gore dikgaolo tse di ka segwa ka tsela e e farologaneng gore batho ba tle ba kgone ba akole ditlamelo tsa go nna *districts* tse di tletseng jaaka rona re di akola kwa Bobirwa District? Ke a leboga rraetsho.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke go leboge Motlotlegi Lucas.

O ne o botsa gore mo go tse di setseng di le teng go akarediwa le tse di sa tswang go dirwa tse disha, a ga go na maikaelelo a go leka go lebelela meelwane ya teng gore gongwe e ka tswa go na le fa e leng kgopo teng, e baakangwe. Ke tsaya ke re karabo ke yone eo ya gore re mo maikaelelong a teng, ke sone se e leng gore kwa Tutume ke ne ke bua le khansele ya bone mo dibekeng tse pedi tse di fetileng. Kana ngongorego ya bone, ke batla go dirisa yone e le sekai, ba ngongorega gore kana go na le Tutume kwa khansele e kopanelang teng, go bo go nna le Nata a le kgakala. Fa o tsena fa Sowa, go na le motse o mongwe o fa morago, o gaufi le Sowa, mme ba feta Sowa ba bo ba ya kwa Tutume ba ya go thusiwa teng. So, kgang e ya *districts* tse go tsamaelwang kwa go tse di meelwane e mesha, go tsentswe le meelwane ya metse e mengwe e e leng gore tota mme yone o ka thusega botoka fa o le mo kgaolong e e gaufi le bone gona le go ba isa kgakala. Ke raya gore karabo ya ntlha ke yone eo motlotlegi. O ne o file sekai sa Tutume, ke yone e ke tswang mo go yone.

Le yone ya Tswapong. Kana Tswapong e bile, rona ditshekatsheko tse re di dirang ke tsa *upgrading* kana go tsholetsa metse e mengwe go ya kwa *township*. Fa re tsaya Palapye, re simolotse *consultations* tsa teng; ke Palapye, Mogoditshane, Maun, Tlokweng...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ...(Inaudible)...

MR MOTSHEGWA: O ne o re Hukuntsi? Jaanong go ne go tsholediwa Palapye, go raya gore e araba le yone e o e tlhalosang ya Tswapong gore meelwane ba bo ba ka ikemela ka nosi. O ne o re, a re setse re simolotse; *consultations* di setse di simolotse. Re beile gore *by mid-February* jaaka re le mo go ene, ba bo ba setse ba feditse *consultation*. Gore re ya go e wetsa ka tsela e e ntseng jang, re sa tswa go kgaoganyeletswa madi a e tlaareng fa re tsena kwa *Committee of Supply*, re sena go tobaganya kwa *ministry*, re bo re ka bona gore go ka nna ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ba bangwe ba ne ba na le meakanya ya gore dikago tse ba ntseng ba na le tsone, ba ka di atolosa ka Constituency Community Project (CCP). Ke raya gore ke dilo tse di tlaa nnang di

buisanwa gore go ka wela botoka fa go ntse jang. Ga ke na karabo e e wetseng ka gore ke selo se se santseng se tlaa diragala. Ke boelela ka gore ga ke batle go tuma ka go sa bua boammaaruri.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: *Nako ya lona ya dipotso e wetswe batlotlegi.* Honourable Members, let us now go to the Appropriation (2026/2027) Bill, 2026 (No. 1 of 2026).

APPROPRIATION (2026/2027) BILL, 2026 (NO. 1 OF 2026)

Second Reading

(Resumed Debate)

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Pule. Honourable Members, today we start our debate and as a reminder, time has been allocated as follows; following the Business Advisory Committee on the General Assembly, Leader of the Opposition (LOO) - 40 minutes, Leader of the House - 30 minutes, Leaders of Minority Opposition Parties - 25 minutes each, Honourable Members - 20 minutes and the Minister of Finance, His Honour the Vice President (VP) will at the end reply to the debate and will be allocated 50 minutes.

Honourable Members, in accordance with Standing Order 9.3.4, the LOO shall be the first to respond to the Budget if he so chooses, and it is my hope that he will choose.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: He has chosen.

MR SPEAKER: He has chosen, thank you. Honourable Members, I want to bring your attention to Standing Order 53.4.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ...(Inaudible)...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Mmusi. *Mma ke se le balele fela* Honourable Members, "a Member shall not interrupt the Leader of the House or the Leader of Opposition in any way whatsoever during the presentation of the response to the State of the Nation Address (SONA) or the Budget Speech."

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ...(Inaudible)...

MR SPEAKER: *Owiii! Ga e na provisions tse dingwe* honourable, *e tlhamaletse fela jalo.* Honourable Members, I therefore, call upon the LOO, who is also a Member for Maun North to respond to the speech.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)...

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (MR SALESHANDO): Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, *Right Honourable Speaker* Dithapelo Keorapetse, *Your Honour the VP, Minister of Finance*, Mapalamente ka nna ba Palamente ya Bolesome le Boraro, mma ke le dumediseng. Ke kopa le ntetlelele gore puo ya me, ke se ka ka e simolola ka *introduction*, ke e simolole ka *conclusion* ka bontlha bongwe jwa mafoko a ke wetsang ka one. Mo *conclusion* e, ke adima bontlha bongwe mo mafokong a a dirisitsweng ke Motlotlegi Mothusa Tautona mo go ya gagwe *conclusion* kwa *paragraph* 161, fa a ne a bua gore ditshwetso dingwe tse re di tsayang re le baeteledipele kana tshenyetso-setšhaba e e ka diragalang mo mading a re a abang, di kgona gore pheletsong di felele bangwe ba tlhokafetse. Ditshwetso dingwe tse re di tsayang, di ka dira gore bangwe ba latlhegelwe ke matshelo. Mo ngwageng o o fetileng, Palamente e ntshitse madi a a kana ka P8,98 *billion* re a a fa Lephata la Botsogo, e le lone *the fourth largest allocation*. Ba bo ba okeletswa ditsompelo ka nako ya *medical emergency*. Boammaaruri ke gore, le fa re ntse re dirile tse, bangwe ba tlhokafetse, ba re tlogetse.

Bosheng, ke ne ke le kwa phitlhong kwa Kanye, kwa ngwana wa moswi a neng a tlhalosetsa ba ba neng ba tsile phitlhong gore mmaagwe o ne a robaditswe kwa sepateleng sa Princess Marina Hospital. Dingaka tsa mo kopa mmaagwe a le mo Intensive Care Unit (ICU) gore a ye go reka melemo mengwe, ba tle ba kgone go thusa mmaagwe. Mmaagwe re bua jaana, a le ka fa tlase ga lefatshe a fitlhilwe, ga se ene fela. Ke kopa re tseye motsotso re eme ka dinao, re gopole ba ba latlhegetsweng ke matshelo ka tlhalelo ya melemo mo dipateleng kwa dikgaolong tse re di emetseng.

...MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR SALESHANDO: Ke a le leboga ba le emeng ka dinao le fa kwa phathing e e busang, go emeletse a le mongwefela wa Kgalagadi North. Ke tsaya gore tse dingwe dikgaolo tsa phathi e busang, ga ba na mathata a dintsho tse dirilweng ke melemo e e seyong.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR SALESHANDO: *Mr Speaker*, mewa ya ba ba tlhokafetseng ka ntata ya melemo e e tlhaetseng, e ka robala fela ka kagiso fa re ka nna le segakolodi sa gore

re tshwanetse re dire botoka gona le jaaka re dirile pele. Mo metsotsong e ke e filweng, e bile ke le wa ntlha go tsibogela puo, ntetlelele ke simolole pele ka go tlhalosa dilo dingwe ka selo se gotweng kgaoganyo madi kana *budget*. *Budget* e tshwana fela le motho kwa lelwapeng a kgaoganya madi. O tshwanetse wa lebaganya gore a madi a o a solofetseng go a amogela, a tsamaelana le ditshenyegelo tse o batlang go itsenya mo go tsone. Se se ka dira dilo tse tharo. Fa madi a o a amogelang, o a solofetseng a lekana le ditshenyegelo, ke sone ba *Finance* ba a tleng ba re go na le *balanced budget*, e le selo se rotlhe re se eletsang. Fa ditshenyegelo di feta madi a o nang nao, ke gone mo o felelang gotwe o na le tlhalelo ya madi kana *deficit*. Golo mo go ka diragala fa e le gore o pateletsa gore o ye go adima, gore o tle o duele tse o neng o sa kgone go di duela. Fa o sena maikarabelo, o tsena mo *deficit budget* kgapetsakgapetsa, o ntse o bona gore ga go a go siamela o dirisa madi a o senang nao. Se se eletsegang, ke go bona motho a dirisa madi a a kwa tlase kana ditshenyegelo tse di kwa tlase ga madi a a amogelang, mo re a tleng re re *surplus budget* fa e le lefatshe. Ka Setswana re tlwaelese gile go bitsa se re re ke madi a makatadimetšhe a a nnileng teng.

Minister wa tsa Madi o ntshitse *budget* e, e le ya bobedi e sale a tsena mo maemong. O tsamaya jang mo kgannyeng e re e buang ya madi go lekana le ditshenyegelo, *very basic first question* le *economics* e nna ke e rutilweng ke mongwe yo o neng e se *economist*, motsadi wa me Mma Dumelang. Nako nngwe a bona gore e kare ke batla gore re reke dilo tse di fetang madi a re nang le one, a tsisa madi a gagwe a dituelo a kgwedi, a a baya fa pele ga me, a nneela *envelope* gore kgaoganya. Re duela boroko bokana, ntsha gone foo, ntsha madi a metsi, motlakase, dijo, pheletsong a mpotsa gore, “a ke neng ke re ke a a batla, a a ka tswa gone fa?” Ra dumalana gore ga a ka ke a kgona go tswa. A Tona fa a kgaoganya madi, a o lebelela sone se kana go kgaogannwa fela, a bo gotwe re tlaa bona fa re tlhalelang teng?

Ka 2024 ka fa tlase ga *budget* ya bofelo ya Goromente yo o neng a le teng, madi a re neng re na le one, e ne e le P69.9 *billion*, ditshenyegelo e le P81.6 *billion*. Ditshenyegelo di feta letseno ka P11.8 *billion*. 2025 ga tsena Goromente o moshana, ene ditshenyegelo tsa gagwe tsa feta letseno ka P25.5 *billion*. 2026 re beilwe pele gompiono *budget* e e leng gore ditshenyegelo di feta letseno ka P26.4 *billion*. *Deficit* e golela pele mo Pusong e ntšha. Fa re ne re ka re mo o go bitsang ka mafoko a mabedi, re ne re ka tla fela ra re, *it is bad economics*.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, mo letsatsing la gompieno *budget* re tshwanetse re tlhaloganye fela gore ga se go kgaoganya madi, ke Puso gape e supa gore tota maikaelelo a yone ke eng. Tse e di tseelang kwa godimo ke eng, *priorities* tsa yone ke eng, tse ba batlang gore batho ba di itse e le boammaaruri ke eng? Boammaaruri jo bo teng ke gore lefatshe la rona le mo dipharagobeng ka fa tlase ga kabo ya madi a gompieno. Diteemane tse re kileng ra bo re ikaegile ka tsone, di tshwana le molwetse a le kwa *intensive care*. Re ka itlhophela gore a re santse re batla go baya tshepho ya rona mo diteemaneng kana re batla go batla ditsela di sele.

Dipalo tse di tswang tsa itsholelo di supa gore itsholelo ya rona e na le mathata ka gore e ngotlegile gona le jaaka pele, *we are dealing with the reduced* Gross Domestic Product (GDP) re le lefatshe la Botswana. Se se raya gore ba le bantsi ba ba neng ba le mo mathateng a lehuma kana a letlhoko la ditiro, go ya go nna thata gore ba inoge mo mathateng a ba leng mo go one. Makgotla a a ikemetseng ka nosi a a dirang ditshekatsheko tsa go lebelela gore diitsholelo di tsamaisiwa jang e leng ba Moody's le ba Standard & Poor's (S&P), ba buile dikgang dingwe tsa go supa gore Botswana jaanong ba mo digela kwa tlase mo sekaleng se ba ntseng ba se dirisa mo ngwageng o o fetileng ka fa tlase ga Puso e re nang le yone e ntsha. Ba supa gore *this structural decline* ya itsholelo e raya gore ba solofetse gore go tlaa tswa ka dikakanyo tse disha. Potso ke gore a mme re tsile ka dikarabo dingwe tse di supang gore ba S&P le ba Moody's, ba ka re leba sesha ba re ka e le kgaoganyo madi, ba fokoditse ditshenyegelo tsa bone, ba tswa mo mathateng a *deficit* a go dirisa madi a ba senang nao? Gompieno setlhogo sa puo ya me ke gore '*Choosing a New Path*,' go tlhophela tsela e ntsha ka gore ga re ka ke ra rarabolola mathata a rona re dira se re fitlhetseng se ntse se dirwa pele re tsamaisa ka tsela e le nngwefela.

Ke batla go gakolola Tona gore nako ya a ntsha *the media statement* ya *budget*, ke ne ka bua gore fa e ne e dule ka Setswana, gongwe Batswana ba ne ba tlaa utlwa gore se Tona a neng a se bua ke gore go tlaa, ga go tle kgora mo ngwageng wa 2026. *Budget* ya gompieno e supa jalo. Potso ke gore a re kgona go supa gore re batla go fokotsa ditshenyegelo? Karabo ke gore bosheng, lebelo la Matona go dikologa lefatshe lotlhe la Botswana go bua ka *Constitutional Court*, go supa gore ga re ise re goroge mo go amogeleng gore ditsompelo tse re nang le tsone di kwa tlase. Mathata a rona a matona ga se gore madi a tsena thata a le mannye, ke gore tiriso ya rona ya madi re e oketsa go sa kgathalesege gore go na le bokae

mo sekgwameng. Tshimologo ya dilo tse gore re di baakanye, ke gore le yone *budget* re simolole go e direla mo pontsheng. Boammaaruri ke gore le fa go nnye le Budget Pitso Tona Gaolathe, fa o lebelela *budget cycle* gore go a bo go setse go tsamaiwa fa kae, go bitswa batho kgang e setse e wetse, *budget* e setse e fetile kwa *Cabinet*, ke gone go bo gotwe tlang re le reetse.

Fa o bala *budget* ya gompieno, go thata gore o re *priorities* di fa kae. Pele fa ke tsena ka se re akanyang gore e ka nna *priorities*, ke batla go itebaganya pele le fa e leng gore ke tse re dumalana le lona mo *Budget Speech* ka tsone. Sa ntlha re dumalana le lona gore Public Finance Management Act ya 2011 e tshwanetse e ye go sekwasekwa sesha. Go thusa mo tseleng e, re setse re dumalane le Mopalamente mongwe wa monana wa rona, Tlhabologo Furniture, gore a tle a tlise *Motion* wa gore Palamente e e supe gore e dumalana le molao wa mafatshe a Southern African Development Community (SADC) a go supa ka fa go tsamaisiwang madi ka teng.

Re dumalana le lona mo kgannyeng ya go emisa kana go leka go iphemela, go sa tsena mo dikgannyeng tsa bo *supplementary budgets* ka gore go le gantsi di ne di sa dirisiwe gore e bo e le tsa tshoganetso. Re dumalana le go fokotsa ditshenyegelo ga Puso. Re kopa gore *this issue*, kgang e ya Government Purchase Orders (GPOs) le fa o fokotsa ditshenyegelo, a e se ka ya tswala dikgwebo tse di setseng di kolotiwa ke Puso. Dikgwebo di teng tse dintsi tse di setseng di diretse Puso tiro mme ga di duelwe mo nakong ya gompieno. Madi a gore a ye kwa *maintenance*; P1.58 *billion*, a ba a ka se ka a ntshiwa koo, re dumalana le lona.

Re dumalana le lona ka kgang ya Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSME) *financing*. Ka fa go akanngwang gore e dirwe ka teng gore banana ba e leng gore ga ba tswe mo malwapeng a a nang le dithoto le dikhumo, ba kgone gore le bone ba nne le seabe sa gore ba simolole dikgwebo tsa bone. Re dumalana le lona gore go bothlokwa gore Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) e bo e fokoditse dikoloto tsa yone tse di kolotwang baruakgomo.

Gape re batla go supa fa gore re le akgolela mebaraka e e bonweng ya *citrus products* kwa mafatsheng a a farologaneng. E ke tlaa bua ka yone fa re tsena mo go reng ke dife tse re tsayang gore di tshwanetse di tseelwe kwa godimo.

Mr Speaker, let me say to you gore Puso e e tshwanetse e lemoge gore kgang e ya gore, 'ra fitlhela batho ba jele madi' ga se yone o ka itshwarelelang ka yone go ya go ileng. Batswana ba ne ba bona gore seemo ga

se a iketla, le ba bolelela gore lona le ka kgona, ba le fa sebaka sa gore itshupeng. Ga e ka ke ya re le tsena le bo le ntse le re kana ke gore sekgwama se rile. Ka 2021 jaaka ke ne ke supa bosheng, re ne re na le *deficit* e e kwa tlase ga e re e beilweng pele mo letsatsing la gompiano, le okeleditswe dikoloto le le Puso e ntšha. E bile re bolelelwa gore seelo se se beilweng sa go leka go fokotsa kana go kganela dikoloto tse di ka tšetšelang tsa 40 *per cent*, le kgakala le gore jaanong le sone le se fete le ye kwa pele, le kope gore le adime go feta jaaka go setse go letlelelwa, ka gore tiriso ya lona ya madi, ga e lebelele gotlhelele gore gone mme go na le bokae. Ga le tshabe le go hira batho ba ba sa theogeleng ba nna kwa gae, e bo ba nna mo *salaries* tse di kwa godimo tsa Puso, ba Batswana ba a tleng ba re ‘moja o dutse.’ Fa e le gore re ka tswelela ka tsela e, re tswana le motho a leka go alafa serepa, a leka go se kenta a re se ka dira dilo dingwe.

Three areas tse re batlang gore le fa di builwe di gatelelwe thata mo *budget* go ya kwa pele, ya ntlha fela Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke gore tsamaiso ya rona ya Puso, e na le go senya madi e bo e sireletsa le ba ba a sentseng. Tona yo o kileng a nna mo setilong seo Rre Matsheka, o ne a supa *percentage* e e kwa godimo ya madi a e leng gore ke *wastage*. Ga re bone sepe se re se bonang mo teng, mme ga go na se se supang gore tota go diragala eng. Fa ke remeletse mo kgannyeng ya ‘*governance*,’ e Botswana Congress Party (BCP) go le gantsi re nnang re e gatelela; *where you have poor governance*. Tsaya fela go simolola ka State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) tsa rona, kwa Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) gompiano, e na le *more than a year* e duela *salaries* tsa *Chief Executives* tse pedi mme le bona go siame.

Botswana Railways (BR), ga ke itse gore e mo *board* ya bokae gompiano kana *Board Chairman* ya bokae fa e sa le le tsena mo Pusong. *Some of these parastatals* le fa ba tsere ditshwetso, Matona a gana go diragatsa ditshwetso tse ba di tsereng. Fa ba di ntshitse gore rona re ne re akanya gore semangmang ke ene a nonofetseng go nna *Chief Executive*, mme jaaka kwa Botswana Development Corporation (BDC), Tona o a emelela a re ga ke dumalane, re na le yo re mmatleng re le Puso. *This poor governance* e dira gore le babeletsisi ba bone go se molemo go tla go beeletsa mo lefatsheng la rona ka gore tsamaiso ya lona ga se yone e e ka ngokang motho go tla go beeletsa mo lefatsheng la rona go feta jaaka a setse a beleditse.

Corruption; le le Puso e ntšha le sireleditse batho ba e leng gore dikatlholo tsa lekgotla di supile fa ba senyeditse setšhaba. Le a ba sireletsa, le bona go siame fela gore go tswelwe. Gompiano re tabogile lepaapaa re batla madi a re yang go a duela motho yo o sentsweng leina ke Puso. Ba ba neng ba mo senya leina ba ntse ba theogetse, ga go letsapa le le fisang pelo, ga le dire sepe go leka go bona gore ba a di arabela, lona le bona go siame fela gore go ka ntshiwa madi a mangwe.

Bosheng go ne go na le dipego tse di neng di tswa ka ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi di supa gore tsamaiso ya rona ya *budget, oversight* ya Palamente e bokowa mo go yone. *This is a governance issue* e re tshwanetseng go itebaganya le yone. Fa o bona re setse re tsamaela ngwaga wa bo 60 re lefatshe la Botswana mme go ise go ke go nne le nako epe e Palamente e kileng ya kgona go fetola *budget* ka tsela epe, golo moo go supa gore *governance* e e tsamaelanang le dikgang tsa *budget*, ga se yone sentle. Mafatshe a mangwe a na le mo gotweng *the Budget Act*, molao wa kgaoganyo ya madi. Gompiano fa re e fetisitse, fa Tautona le Matona a gagwe ba batla go fetola dilo dingwe ba sa re rerise, ga go na sepe se se ba kganelang. Ba kile ba fetola, ra bolelelwa gore jaanong selo se se tona mo *budget* se e leng gore ke sone *the pet project* ya ga Tautona nako eo, ke go ya go batla dikgomo di pegiwa difofane di tswa kwa mafatsheng a sele di tlisiwa kwano. Gompiano Tautona le ene o re bolelela gore se se tona se a se batlang ke gore a fitlhele re na le *shares* tse dintsi mo komponeng ya De Beers. Re le Palamente, ga re ise re rere seo. *Budget* ya *last year*, ga e ise e tsene mo dikgannyeng tseo.

National Development Plan (NDP) 12, ga e remelele mo dikgannyeng tseo. *Budget* ya 2026 e supa gore le fa re na le lenyora leo, ga re na madi a go reka kwa ntle ga re re re tlaa ya go tsaya dikoloto tse dingwe jaaka ke setse ke ntse ke tlhalosa.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC), komiti e e tlhodumelang dibuka tsa Puso tsa madi morago ga gore a dirisiwe, re a itse gore e ka bua ya bo ya fela lentswe, ga e na dithata tsa go tsaya dikgato dipe. *This is a governance issue*. Go raya gore ga re dire sepe se e leng gore *oversight* e ka raya gore e ka re isa golo gongwe.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, sengwe se se teng ka Puso, se e santseng e batla go se tswelidisa pele, ke gore e bo e lebelela dilo tse e leng gore *the private sector* ba di dira ka botswere. Puso le yone e nna le lenyora la gore mme le nna ke batla go di dira. E bo re felela re tsena mo mathateng. Mo nakong e e

fetileng, mohama wa leokwane (*petroleum industry*), o ne o tsamaisiwa sentle ke bagwebi ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi. Puso e ne ya tsaya tshwetso gore e batla go nna le kompone e jaanong le yone e dirang tiro e e neng e ntse e dirwa ke ba e leng gore ba reka leokwane kwa ntle. Ke mathata gompiano. Ke tsaya gore Matona ba a itse gore go le gantsi le tsone di BX, *driver* o kgona go ya go fola (*queue*) letsatsi lotlhe go sena leokwane. Gompiano ka gore *the gambling industry is doing well*, go lebeba ba e leng gore ke ba dikompone tse di tshayang mataese ba dira letseno le le kwa godimo, go setse go na le mekwalo e e supang gore Puso le yone jaanong e batla go nna le kompone ya yone ya go tshaya mataese. Le ka bo le ikamogela gore lona *you are a regulator, not a player*, ga se mo go ka re thusang ka sepe.

Sengwe se ke batlang go se bua ke sa gore go ikokoanyetsa madi mo gae, go tlwaelesegile gore nako le nako go tabogelwa kwa ntle gotwe, “re ya go batla babeetsi, re ya go batla madi.” Bangwe ba madi ao ba re saleng re ba bontshiwa gotwe ke ba ba gorogile, ba tlisa madi, ba *Finance* ba supile fa re le mo dithuto-dipuisanyong le bone, ga ba itse gore madi ao a kae, a ne a neelwa mang, a dira eng mo nakong e re buang ka yone. *Domestic resource mobilisation* ke selo se se tona, go ikgobokanyetsa madi mo gae, e seng go tabogela kwa ntle. Mekwalo e mentsi e e supang dikgang tse di tshwanang le tsa gore o ka phutha makgetho jang o sa oketse bokete jwa lekgetho mme o lebelela ba e leng gore gongwe ba ntse ba na le botsipa jwa go tila go duela lekgetho *either through tax evasion or tax avoidance*, go leka go bona jalo gore ba ka tsaya *advantage* ya melao ya rona jang gore ba se ka ba duela. *So*, mafatshe a le mantsi a lemogile *this weak tax enforcement*. Mafatshe a tshwana le a bo Cameroon, Malawi le Sierra Leone, fa o bala Africa Pulse Report, e e duleng ka 2024, e supa ka fa mafatshe a mantsi a kgonneng go oketsa lekgetho ba sa fetole *the rate of taxation*.

I must also explain this gore nna ga ke itse *economics* e e reng fa go le thata, go le *recession*, o tsenye letsogo mo dikgetsing tsa batho o batle lekgetho le le feteletseng, *adjusting the rate*. Re tlhaloganye gore dilo tse di a farologana. Go na le go oketsa *rate* ya lekgetho le go itebaganya le go nna *more efficient* mo go kgethiseng. Dikompone di teng tse di itsiweng mo Botswana tse e leng gore fa re tsena kwa go tsone, ba go bolelela gore ga re duelwe ka karata, re batla *cash* mme o reka koloi. *The reason is*, ba raya gore ba kgone go tila go duela lekgetho. Fa o ka tsena gone koo, o ka bona madi a mangwe. Le lona tshwetso e le e tsereng ya gore le

oketse lekgetho ka bokete le mo go ba ba ntseng ba duela gale, ga go re thuse ka gore *simple economics, you tax more*, batho ba sala ka madi a a kwa tlase. Fa ba setse ka madi a a kwa tlase, ba fokotsa dilo tse ba di rekang, *the economy goes back into another deep and a possible recession*.

So, ga ke itse botlhale, gongwe lona le tlaa tla le bo tlhalosa nako e le tlising melao ya gore le batla go kgethisa go feta jaaka le ntse le kgethisa. Gape ga ke dumalane gore motho yo o amogelang P33 000 ka kgwedi o ka supiwa ka monwana gatwe ke mohumi yo e leng gore fa go le thata Puso e palelwa ke go fokotsa ditshenyegelo, e palelwa ke go ikitsa tse e sa di tlhokeng mme e di eletsa jaaka bo *Constitutional Court*, go raya gore jaanong re tsene mo dikgetsing tsa bone, e nne bone ba duelelang bokete jo re bo bonang. Ga ke dumalane gore gone moo go ka re berekela. Ke sone se ke reng, a re lebeleleng sešha gore a mme *is there fairness? Are we getting value of our money* kwa bathong ba e leng gore re batla gore ba duele lekgetho mo nakong ya gompiano, ba sa le duele?

Re tshwanetse gape ra itebaganya le kgang e e leng teng ya *subsidies*. Re ipotse gore a mme ba re ba thusang re le Puso ka *subsidies*, a ke ba ba di tlhokang? A *Chief Executive* ya *parastatal* e ka kgona gore le yone e bone *subsidy* ya *agriculture* a ntse a theogetse, e e lekanang le ya motho yo e leng gore *he is a fulltime farmer?* A gone moo go a re busetsa? Madi a a tshwanang le a dithuso tse di tshwanang le *social welfare*, re le mo seemong se re leng mo go sone, a mogodi yo o 70 years, a ise a ko a bereke gope, a ra re go siame gore a bo a amogela madi a *tandabala* a a lekanang le motho yo e neng e le Permanent Secretary (PS), *Chief Executive* kana Tautona wa lefatshe la Botswana? Gone foo, re kopa gore a re yeng go lebelela gape ka gore ga go lebege e le gone mo re go tlhokang mo nakong ya gompiano.

Mafatshe a mangwe a dirisitse selo se se tshwanang le mo gotweng Value Added Tax (VAT) *exemptions* gore di se ka tsa nna phetelela, di itebaganye fela le ba e leng gore ke ba ba di tlhokang. Mafatshe a mangwe a beile seelo gore *these VAT exemptions* ga di ka ke tsa nna *more than 1 per cent of GDP*, e le tsela nngwe ya go oketsa letseno la madi a a tsenang mo Pusong.

Land barons, batho ba ba nang le lefatshe le le ntsi, go na le madi a ba tshwanetseng go a duela a e leng gore bontsi jwa bone mo nakong ya gompiano, ga ba duele ka gore Puso ga e na ditsela tse di tsepameng tsa gore e goroga jang kwa go bone.

Re a itse gone fa gore dikgang tse di tshwanang le madi a a duelwang kwa khanseleng ke beng ba dikago, dikhansela di le dintsi ga di bone madi a di tshwanetseng di ka bo di a bona. Ke one a re ka bong re a tsholetsa gona le go tsena mo dikgetsing tsa Batswana.

Mr Speaker, student loans; ba le bantsi re tsentswe sekole ke Puso mme e boitseme mo go kopeng ba ba nnileng le lesego la go bereka gore ba busetse Puso madi a bone. Ke nngwe ya dilo tse re ka bong re di lebelela sešha mo nakong ya gompiano.

Ditsela tsa rona di mo seemong se se sa itumediseng. Re na le dingwaga re bua ka go tlisa *tollgates*. *Tollgates* ga di yo, ditsela ga di tsamae. A ga se gore go itlhaganelwe, e seng go bua? Ke itse gore ba bangwe ba tsile gore re buile dilo tse. Le di buile, ga le a di dira mme mo *budget* ya bobedi, ke mo le ka bong le setse le re re lebelele ditiro, e seng dipuo kana dikgang tse le di buileng.

Economic diversification; *Mr Speaker*, fa e le gore bangwe ba santse ba tsaya gore *economy* ya rona e ka tlišiwa ke diteemane, ba tšhelela mo lefifing. Fa e le gore bangwe ba tsaya gore go ya go sotlhometsa madi a mangwe a mantsi kwa go reng re batla go laola diteemane tsa lefatshe, go ka re tlišetsa dipoelo, ga ba itse kwa lefatshe le yang teng. Ga ba tlhaloganye le yone itsholelo ya diteemane tsa lefatshe la Botswana gore *under De Beers*. . . *In any case*, De Beers e na le maphata a a farologaneng. *The organ* e e tlišang madi ke *mining*. *Majority* a yone, *yes*, ke Debswana mme boammaaruri ke gore gone kwa Debswana gompiano, se Botswana a se tsayang mo dipoelong tse di dirwang, *it is equal to 86 per cent of total profits; 50 per cent* e le madi a *shareholding*, go tswa foo go na le makgetho le *royalties*. Tota ra re re ya go reka eng se re senang naso mo nakong ya gompiano? Re tshwanetse re ipotse dipotso tseo. Botswana o tshwanetse gone gompiano jaana, re itlhaganelele go godisa itsholelo ya rona ka mehama e e ka tswang e sa dire go lekane, mme e na le bokgoni. Nngwe ya mehama eo ke bojanala, le gone fa re nna re bua, re tswa kgakala re reeditse Matona a a tlišeng pele a bojanala ba re bolelela ka bo *cultural tourism* tse re itseng gore ga di yo gompiano, re tswa kgakala go buiwa gore go tlaa tlišiwa *tourism* mo ditoropong. Mo Gaborone re sale re bone base e ralala toropo letsatsi le le lengwefela, e bo e boa e ya *to park*, go bo gotwe go dirilwe bojanala. A re tlhoafaleleng kgang e, re se ka ra e tsaya fela e le mo makgoa ba e tšeng ba re *just ticking the box*.

Mafelo a tshwana le bo Maun a a tlišang bajanala ba le bantsi ba bahumi, bangwe ba bone *are royalties* mo mafatsheng a bone. Re itse gore *airport* ya Maun go le gantsi tota fela ke a *transit*. Ke mo ba emang ka nakwana, sefofane se a *land* se tswa kwa Aferika Borwa se tletse bajanala, fa o le mo *airport* o bona ba le bantsi ba ntse fela ba emetse tse di nnyennyane go tswelwa kwa ntle. *Come with a plan* e e ka dirang gore batho ba ba kgalthegele go lala mo Maun le go tsamaela kwa Nata ba ye go bona dingwe tse di ka ba kgalthang teng. Ba tsamaele kwa Gantsi ba ye go bona gore fa gotwe *beef industry* ya Botswana, go tewa e ikaegile ka eng. Ke dilo tse di nnang di buiwa fela, mme gore di diragadiwe go kgakala gore re bone di diragadiwa.

Agriculture e ke neng ke le akgola go batla mmaraka wa *the citrus fruits*, gompiano kana le yone namune, e na le dilo tse dintsi tse e di dirang fela jaaka kgomo. Re e tsaya fela e ntse jalo e tsamaya ka ditiro tsotlhe tse e ka bong e di dira mo lefatsheng la Botswana, e dira dilo tse di farologanyeng. Re boelela diphoso tse di dirilweng ke ba ba tlišeng pele ga phathi e e busang gompiano, ya go isa ditiro kwa ntle ga lefatshe la Botswana.

Ke itumelele gore nngwe ya dilo tse le tlišeng go di leka ke gore *agriculture* e fetoge, *the Shadow Minister* wa *Lands and Agriculture*, Rre Ngaka Gobotswang o tlaa tliša a *Private Member's Bill* e e buang ka *agronomics* mo Palamenteng e, e le bontlha bongwe jwa go tokafatsa tsamaiso ya ka fa re dirang ka teng mo go tsone tse.

Tsa bodiragatsi, *again, this is an area* e rotlhe re itseng gore re nna re bua fela ka yone. Nako ya COVID re bone ditswerere tse dintsi di itshupa tse di neng di dira, ga ke itse gore *they fall under the comedians performance*. *You see, this digital content economy* ya bodiragatsi, *it is estimated* gore *it is worth billions* in US Dollars. Botswana o na le *population* e e leng gore *60 per cent* ke banana ba ba tlhaloganyang tsamaiso ya dikgang tsa bodiragatsi le go dirisa maranyane. Fa re ka dira gore go nne motlhofo, *costs* ya go dirisa dikgang tse e nne kwa tlase, go ne go ka re sologela molemo re le lefatshe la Botswana. *Yes*, ke dumela gore Botswana re ka tsamaela kwa go reng re itirele mo mafatsheng a a tlhabologileng a mangwe ba kileng ba go bitsa *development of the Silicon Valley*. Kwa ba neng ba dirisa teng tlhabologo e tona ya maranyane, *e-commerce, fintech*, tsotlhe tse o ka di akanyang.

Sengwe se ke batlang go se bua ka tse di tlhangelang mo *budget* e, re bo re tlišetswa *budget* e e leng gore go setse go le mo mpaananeng gore pheletsong ya yone, *by the*

end of the financial year, re tlaabo re robile molao wa 40 per cent of debt to GDP. E kwadilwe jalo, go sa kgathalesege gore Palamente ya reng. Ke a itse gore bangwe ba tlaare re tlaa tla re rerisiwa, e tlaabo e se morero, go tlaabo go tshwerwe tlhobolo e beilwe mo tlhogong ya gago gore kana mme fa o sa fetise *budget*, lefatshe le a phutlhama. *It is designed in such a way*, go raya gore re ya go patelesega gore re bo e le gore nako e go tlang gotwe tswang mo go 40 per cent le oketse dikoloto tse re tlaa di tlogelelang banana ba lefatshe le ba ba sa berekeng, sa rona e tlaabo e le go botsa fela gore re saena fa kae.

To the neglected farmers ba ba teng kwa, banana, barutabana ba ba berekang ba sa itse gore a ke ba sennelaruri kana ba nakwana. Ke bua se ka gore ke a itse gore le fa gotwe go kwadilwe mo *budget*, Tona o ne a re o kopa gore go akanngwe jaana. Ba emeeme fela ga ba a utlwa molaetsa wa gore tota mme gatwe tselapedi go iwa kae ka *budget* e. 2026 *speech* se netefatsa se re se boneng ka 2025 *Budget*, se se neng se supa gore tse le di solofeditseng Batswana le di itlhokomolositse. Le itebaditse maikano a le neng le a dira, *your social contract Honourable* Gaolathe, ga ke na pelaelo ya gore o ne o na le seabe mo go kwaleng gore itsholelo ya lona e tlaa gola ka 10 per cent per annum. Ke a itse le ne le e tle le dire diphuthago tsa Alliance for Progressives (AP) go goiwa *slogan* bangwe ba re, “itsholelo!” go ntse gotwe, “e e makgakga!”

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR SALESHANDO: Ke e itsholelo ya lona, ga go na le fa e le gope fa o ka reng ke yone e e neng e batliwa ke AP e e makgakga... (*Interruptions*)... E bodipa, ga e gole, ga e thuse batho. Bomaitseanape ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi ba ba tshwanang le ba E-Consult, ba supile gore le NDP 12 e re e buang, ga e tle go kgonagala. Ga le a bolelela Batswana boammaaruri pele ga ditlhopho, le tsene mo Pusong le palelwa ke go ba raya le re re itshwareleng, le boa le kwala tse di sha tse e leng gore bomaitseanape ba bua gore ga di ka ke tsa kgonagala, le dira molato wa bobedi, ikopeng maitshwarelo mo Batswaneng le lese go oketsa melato ya ditsholofetso tse le itseng gore ga di ka ke tsa kgonagala.

Nngwe ya dilo tse le ka di dirang go supa gore tota le leka go dira *physical consolidation*, go fokotsa ditshenyegelo tsa Puso, ke go fokotsa Khuduthamaga ya Matona. Ke a itse gore e e kgopisa bangwe, e ne ya re ke e bua mo nakong e e fetileng, go bo gotwe go raya gore re emise maemo a Leader of the Opposition (LOO). Tautona Rre

Boko a re ene fa a tsaya Puso, tota maikaelelo a gagwe e ne e le gore a Matona a se ka a feta lesome, *after all* le a itse gore go na le Matona a a sa tseneng Palamente. Re digela beke yone e bangwe re sale re ba bone la bofelo ba tlele *Budget Speech*. Ba bangwe ga ba a tla le yone *Budget Speech*, re ya go tsena Palamente re bo re fetsa ba ise ba fetse beke mo Palamenteng. Golo mo go raya gore ga re tlhoke *ministries* tse di kalokalo. Motho bogolo o ka tlhomogela pelo wa *Agriculture* o o simolotseng o na le a *full Minister and Assistant Minister*. *Agriculture* e wetswe ke mathata, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) ke e, kwa Pandamatenga go merwalela, *ministry* wa teng o tsamaisiwa ka a *temporary gap*, an *acting Minister*. O tshwanetse a bo a setse a tshwere *record* ya *period* ya to *act*, mme a sena yo a mo tshwareletseng. Golo mo ga go supe tlhoafalo ya gore le batla go tsamaisa ka tsela e e farologanyeng.

Minister Gaolathe, e le go supa gape wena le *Honourable Speaker*, gongwe ke akgole *Speaker* gore re ne ra bona phokotso ya bokete jwa dijo tse di dirisiwang fa go na le *Budget Speech*. A mo nakong e e tlang re tseye fela gore baeng ba rona ba *Budget Speech*, ke ba ba tsenang mo Ntlong e. Re se ka ra senya madi ka magasigasi a a nnang kwa ntle ka gore batho ba le bantsi ba kgona go lebelela *budget* kwa malwapeng, mo *radio* ba kgona go reetsa. A re fokotseng ditshenyegelo. Ke raya le Matona a mangwe otlhe kwa *ministries* tsa lona, a re fokotseng ditshenyegelo tsa lona.

Ba *agriculture* gongwe ke ise ke fete ka bone, ke bue gore re ikuele mo baruing gore kgang ya Foot and Mouth (FMD) re beile mo Motswaneng mongwe le mongwe gore a dire gotlhe mo a ka go kgonang go fokotsa gore bolwetse bo ka anama. Le fa e le gore lephata ga le na Tona, mme gone a re lekeng re le Batswana, se a re go tlogelwa tsatsing se ikise meriting.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)...

MR SALESHANDO: Pele ga ke tsamaela kwa go digeleng mafoko a me, ke batla go boela gape kwa *conclusion* e ke neng ke re e ne e le kwa *introduction* e e buang ka tsa botsogo. Ke batla go bua ka mme mongwe o ne a kwala mo maranyaneng, a sa tsoga sentle go sena melemo, Matona le ba phathi e e busang gompiano ba itlhokomolosa ba re bone ga ba ka ke ba emelela go gopola ba ba duleng setlhabelo sa ditshwetso tsa bone. Motswana mongwe wa leina la Salome Dodo Bosenyang o ne a ikuela mo maranyaneng ka gore o ne a lwala bolwetse jwa diphilo. Sepatela se feletswe ke molemo o a o tlhokang, a dikologa le dipatela tsotlhe a

bolelelwa gore o fedile mo dipateleng tsotlhe tsa Puso. A felela a ntsha molaetsa a ikuela, mme mo molaetseng wa gagwe o a neng a o kwadile mo maranyaneng a re, *“I want to shame the Ministry of Health for putting our lives at risk and dragging their feet to rectify the situation. I want to thank the nurses, the pharmacists, the doctors who are doing their best. Ga ke ka ke ka kgona go nwa metsi, bolwetse jwa kidney failure ga bo utlwane le metsi a a nowang, especially go sena melemo jaana.”* O mo lebitleng jaaka re bua le lona mo letsatsing la gompiano, a tserwe ke bolwetse ka gore go ne go sena melemo e lona le reng ga le ka ke la tshikinnwa ke segakolodi sepe sa lona, le fa ba gopolwa ba mofuta o, le tlaa nama le ntse fa fatshe mo ditilong tsa lona ka ga le bone mathata. Le tsaya gore re tshwanetse fela re nwe metsi.

In conclusion Mr Speaker, ke batla go raya ba Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) ke re, re a le rapelela ka gore lefatshe la rona le lengwefela, *we only have one country*. Re a le rapelela gore le fetole maikutlo le tsamaiso e le tsamaisang ka yone. Re a le rapelela gore ditsholofetso tsa lona, le se ka la tsamaya le bolelela Batswana gore ga le a ikgolega, ga le na konteraka le bone. Le fetsa go tswa mo Palamenteng le re go na le *social contract*, fa le tswela kwa ntle le bo le leba Batswana gape mo sefathlegong le ba raya le re *there is no social contract*. Le bo le ba bolelela gore lona ka fa le ba bonang ka teng, ba tshwanetse ba bo ba le tlhophetse bontle le le UDC. Re le rapelela jaana ka gore fa lefatshe le ka nwela, le rona re tsamaya le lone, re itse seo. Dikoloto tse le di phuthang, re a itse gore pheletsong di ya go duelwa ke bana ba rona, ba re tlaa ba tlogelelang dikoloto tse di phuthilweng ke Puso ya letsatsi la gompiano.

Re batla go bolelela Batswana gore fa BCP e re, *“kgololesego ya setšhaba”* e a bo e raya Motswana a gololesega mo lethokong la ditiro, tse lona le neng le solofeditse gore le ya go dira 100 000 *in one year*; a bo le re *in 5 years* le ya go dira *between 450 000 and 500 000*. Gompiano le ba bolelela gore nnyaa, 500 000 le ne le raya 2036, le ba fetoletse mmutla ka katse. Le bonye Puso ka go tlhoka boammaaruri. Re kopa fela gore a jaanong re dumalaneng gore go tsweng fa go ya pele, a go tsenwe mo boammaaruring e seng sepe gape. Ke sone fela se re se kopang, se re se le rapelelang. Ke kopa gore Batswana ba itse gore pheletsong phoso e dirwa ke motho, phoso e baakanngwa ke motho. Phoso ya ba ba tseetseng Puso bontle, go tlaa tla nako ya gore re e baakanye. Ke a go leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, the floor is open. On this one, anyone can catch the Speaker’s eye, but I have a list from the ruling party or from this side of the aisle.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (MR OOKEDITSE): *Thank you Mr Speaker.* Ke supe gore ke ne ke solofetse go le gontsi thata, mme legale gongwe go santse go tlaa tla go tla ka gore ga go ise go goroge. Ke simolole fela ka go leboga Tona wa Madi...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR OOKEDITSE: *Do not heckle, I am going to put a few important things before you.* Ke supe jalo Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente gore, ke leboge Motlotlegi Tona wa Madi wa lefatshe la Botswana, go bo a tsile ka *a properly structured budget*. Fa a ne a tla ka yone, o ne a supa fela sentle go tlhamaletse gore seemo sa lefatshe la Botswana ke eng gompiano, mme kwa re batlang go ya teng, gore re goroge teng, ke fa re ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Ke mo ke neng ke dumela gore motlotlegi e le Moeteledipele wa Baganetsi, o ne a tlaa tsena ka sone *and reflecting on* gore *what is the true state of the nation’s economy and its finances*. Ka ke ne ke solofetse gore o tlaa tla ka pego e e ntseng jalo, o supile jalo gore go santse go na le tlhalelo ya go ka sekaseka, o bo o supa gore seemo sa itsholelo ya Botswana ke eng. E bo e re a tswa gone foo, a bo a ka re bontsha gore fa e ne e le ene a le *in charge of the country*, o ne a tlaabo a ya go dira jang gore a kgone go kgobokanya madi a a ka dirang gore tse dintsi di kgonagale. *At the end of the day* fa o bua ka *Government budgeting*, o a bo o bua ka tshekatsheko ya gore seemo sa itsholelo ya lefatshe ke eng, e bile go ka dirwa eng go dira gore letseno le nne teng. *A budget has been put before you*, e e supang jalo gore *on the basis* ya mo re kgonang *to collect* le mo re go dirang, re ka kgona go bona bokae. *The expectation was therefore, that he will come* a bo a tla a re bontsha gore, bagaetsho fa e ne e le nna yo ke busang ka *shadow Ministers* tsa me tse 15, le ntswa a re di tshwanetse di nne 10, re ka bo re ne re ya go kgona go bona bokana, re bo bona kwa le kwa, re bo re kgaoganya ka tsela e e ntseng jaana. *We have not seen that alternative*, and go bo re sa kgona go bona gore *alternative* ya bone e ka bo e ne e le eng, go supa gore ene fela ka boene, tota o setse e le motho jaaka a ne a supa, yo o setseng a ithatela metlae le go tla go supa gore o ka dira *some political stunts*, jaaka a ne a re batho ba eme ka dinao ka tse a neng a di bua.

Fa re leng teng *we inherited a country that is not functional, especially in terms of an economy* e e neng e le kwa tlase. *Response* ya rona e nnile eng mo seemong seo? Ga e a ka ya nna go rwala matsogo mo tlhogong, e nnile gore go nne le ka fa re ka tsosolosang *economy* ka teng. NDP 12 e supilwe e ikaegile ka Botswana Economic Transformation Plan (BETP), e e tsileng go tla *to raise money for* lefatshe la Botswana e sa ikaega ka diteemane jaaka ene a bua. *I think he is still living in 2023 or in the world before 2024*, e gongwe go neng go buiwa ka diteemane ke ba ba neng ba di bua. Fa re leng teng, *we have come before this Parliament last year* e le mongwe wa bone go tla go supa gore go na le lenaneo la *to transform economy* ya Botswana ka BETP, le e leng gore *as Parliament*, le ne la rurifatsa le lona gore le a dumalana gore *this is how we will grow the economy going forward*.

Jaanong fa o tla gompiano o bo o tla o re, go se ka ga buiwa ka diteemane le eng, le eng, le ntswa o filwe *an economic blueprint* ya gore re ya go tlhabolola itsholelo jang go ya pele, o bo o rurifatsa mo Palamenteng e e fetileng, *then you are being disingenuous. It is a political stunt* fela jaaka se o ntseng o se supa, o leka go se dira o re batho ba sule ka lebaka le, le le.

Yes, we are in deep trouble, we have been in trouble fa o lebeletse se se ntseng se diragala ka itsholelo *translating into* theko ya melemo le tse dingwe. Mathata a theko ya melemo ke mathata a re setseng re a supile gore bothata jwa teng bo fa kae, bo ne bo ntse jang. Fa o ne o reeditse sentle o sa reeletsa go ganetsa, o ka bo o ne o tlhalogantse gore go supagetse dilo di ka nna pedi kana tharo tse di builweng mo *Budget Speech*, go buiwa ka tsa botsogo gore re ya go dira eng go baakanya tsa botsogo. *Publicity stunts aside, the expectation that the nation has* mo moeteledipeleng yo e leng wa botsogo kana yo e ka nnang Tautona fa a bua ka botsogo ke gore, e bo *at a strategic level*, o kgona go supa gore go na le ka fa e leng gore dilo tse kana diemo tse di ka baakanngwang ka teng.

You missed two or three major things which unfortunately you subsumed them under humour and political banter: Santlha ke gore, bothata jo re nang le jone, bo tlhoka gore go baakanngwe *the procurement value chain* ya tsa melemo. E bile go supagetse jalo *from the Budget* gore Central Medical Stores (CMS) e e rekang melemo, se se yang go diragala ke gore, go ya go nna le gore e ka nna lekalana le le ikemetseng ka nosi, mme e bile theko ya teng e bo e nna mo o rekang

directly kwa go ba ba dirang melemo. O sa reke fela kwa go ba ba dirang melemo, o bo o leka *to develop pharmaceutical industries* tsa mo Botswana. Go teng mo BETP *that you have approved*, e e leng gore fa o ne o e lebeletse, o ka bo o tlhologanya jalo gore *there is actually a plan* ya go baakanya diemo tseo. E seng *stunts* tsa go tla go emisa Mapalamente o ntse o itse gore *you are not really helping, you just want to appeal to people's emotions* jaaka le batla go dira.

Then the second point e e leng gore *is there*, e o tshwanetseng gore *this level* ya *strategic* e bile re bua ka *budget* re se kwa *Committee of Supply*, o tshwanetse o e tlhaloganye *and internalise* ke gore, *there is a plan* ya gore re nne le a National Health Insurance (NHI) e e atolositsweng thata le *on the budget*. E e leng gore *the intention* ke gore, Mma Lawrence a le kwa Mosetse, a kgone *to access the same scheme* sa *healthcare* e e leng gore yo mongwe yo e leng gore ke makgorwane a le mo Gaborone *accesses it. These are things* tse e leng gore *I would have expected...*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR OOKEDITSE: Didimala pele, e bile ke utlwile gotwe o ya go tla ka Molao-kakanyetso o e leng gore o *short-sighted* ka lebaka la gore *already where we are, there is a review* e e leng gore *is going on*. E e lebeletseng Public Finance Management *to align with SADC protocols and then align* le *other international benchmarks* tse di ka thusang go isa kwa gotweng o ya go tla ka Molao-kakanyetso o o tlaabong o bua ka *finance*. Se ke se buang ke gore, re santse re tlhoafetse, jaanong ke santse ke bua *addressing* e le setseng le e dirisa e le molamu wa gore go nne ntse gotwe, “hee! melemo, batho ba sule.” *The next thing that is going to happen* ke gore, fa re leng teng *we are digitising health care*, re dira gore tse tsotlhe tse re dirang tsa botsogo, o kgone *to access them* go dirisiwa maranyane. Ke dilo tse di ntseng di tla di alosiwa. Ke ne ke solofetse gore motlotlegi o tlaa tla a di tlhobosa fa a di tlhobosa. Fa a sa di tlhobose, ke ne ke solofetse gore o tlaa di opela diatla gore, mme sengwe se a diragala ka tsa botsogo mo lefatsheng la rona.

Jaanong ke tle ke tswelile ke supe jalo gore, fa o tla o supa se e leng gore wa re ke *deficit spending*, o bo o re ke go tlhoka maikarabelo gore go bo go ka nna le *deficit spending*, ke go tlhoka nnete. Ke go tlhoka nnete *especially* fa o le motho yo o ithutetseng tsa bo itsholelo tsa *economics* ka gore, *you can go across the world, you know very well* gore *deficit spending is actually more or less the norm* gongwe le gongwe fa o leng teng.

Deficit spending ya rona gompiano ke bo 8 per cent or 8.9 per cent. Fa o tsaya mafatshe a e leng gore *we are comparable*, mme e bile gongwe ba sena mathata a a lekanang le a re nang le one, le bone *deficit spending* ya bone *is between* bo 6 to 8 per cent. *Not only* a a lekanang le rona, *you can take* France, Italy, United Kingdom (UK) le America, mafatshe a otlhe, *they are all experiencing deficit spending*. So, *the only thing you must come and say*, se o tshwanetseng go tla go se re bolelela ke go re raya o re, re se ka ra adima madi a re a adimang *for consumption*. Re reye o re adimang madi *for investment*, so that you can grow the economy going further. Mo gongwe mo ke go leka go tsietsa Motswana yo o kwa gae, mme o mo tsietsa o dirisa thuto e e leng gore o go e file ka botlhoko jo bo tseneletseng, a ne a solofetse gore gompiano o tlaa tla go mo fatlholola gore a tlhaloganye, a bo a itse gore *economies* ka mefuta le ka go farologana mo lefatsheng ba dirisa *a lot of deficit spending*. *Deficit spending* e, le *budget* e ya rona ya gompiano, se ke tshwanetseng ke se supe ke bo ke se akgola ke gore, gantsinyana fa go nang le mathata a itsholelo, go nna le gone gore ba ba kobo dikhutshwane kana ba ba kwa tlase *in the society*, ke bone ba ba kokonelwang go gaisa mongwe le mongwe. *Budget* e e supile gore mohama wa thuto, wa botsogo le wa *social services under Local Government* e fiwa *priority*. Go bo e fiwa *priority* jaana, go raya gore botsadi kwa gae, ba e leng gore ke bone ba tlhokang thuso mo go tseneletseng, ba tlaa tswela ba kgona go bona dithuso tse di botokanyana gore e re fa re ntse re utlwa manokonoko a itsholelo e e leng gore...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR OOKEDITSE: *Comrade, I am still in class*. So, ke ne ke santse ke supa fela jalo gore, fa o le mo dinakong tse e leng gore di thata, le se ke neng ke se solofetse, *from Leader of the Opposition* e ne e le go tla go supa jalo gore, *the mantra or the principle* ya gore fa go le thata re tshwanetse re leke go tshegetsa ba ba kobo dikhutshwane kana ba kwa tlase, re dule mo go yone. Mme se se supafalang ke gore, le ntsa go na le *the deficit* e re nang le yone, re na le mathata a re nang le one, re setse re supile jalo gore, *we are not leaving anyone behind, especially* ba go katweng ba kobo dikhutshwane. Go supilwe jalo mo pegong e gore, re ya go tsweladisa re dira gore bagodi ba kgone go bona madi a a botokanyana, a a tlaa kgonang go ba tshetsa.

Go supilwe jalo gore bomme le borre ba ba nang le bana ba ba kwa tlase ga dikgwedi di ka nna *twelve*, ba tlaa nna ba ntse ba bona sengwenyana se ba se dirisang, bo

meloranyana go thusa bana ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Go supilwe jalo gape gore lenaneo la Ipelegeng le e leng gore fa go le maswe go tswa goo-lowe mo lefatsheng la Botswana, re etle re ikaege ka lone, le ya go tswela. Mme e bile e tlaabo e le gore jaanong ke Ikageng, e bo e tla ka mananeo a go tlaabong go tla dikatso tse dingwe di tokafetse. Go na le *element of transferring skills*, go bo go nna le gore ba ka tswela ba baakanya ditlamelo le didirisiwa tsa Puso jalojalo. Se se diregang ke gone gore, fa itsholelo e kete ga e dire sentle, jaaka go kgona go diragala, jaaka gompiano, ke gore re babalele ba ba kwa tlase. E bile gape go bo go supega jalo, o tlhaloganye gore fa re leng teng o re boleletse o sa oshaoshe o re raya o re, “Domkrag e ne e sa le kolote go le tlogelela madi.” Jaanong ka o re laetse gore ga e re kolote go re direla madi, re tswa go itirela moalo wa BETP. *You are an economist by training, and you know very well* gore...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Minister.

MR OOKEDITSE: I am not addressing him Mr Speaker, *o intshwarele*.

MR SPEAKER: Yeah! I want to bring your attention to Order 51.1 that you shall address your remarks or your observation to the Speaker. *Tswela* Honourable Minister.

MR OOKEDITSE: *Thank you Mr Speaker. The same sentiment would apply to you even though it was quite directed to you* gore, o le *a social scientist and you have done a lot of economics* Mr Speaker, o tlaa itse jalo gore, gore o tseye itsholelo o bo o re, *I am diversifying it* ke e ntsha *from* mo gotweng ke *reliance* mo diteemaneng, ke dire gore e nne itsholelo e e ikaegileng ka tse dingwe, ga se selo se se yang go kgonagala mo dikgweding tse *twelve*. Le *Foreign Direct Investment* Mr Speaker, e o ka tsamayang o ntse o kopa baaeeletsi gore ba tle go beeletsa mo Botswana, ga se mo e leng gore fa o tsena mo lefatsheng le lengwe kana o kopana le mogwebi, e bile letsatsi leo o tla a tsere madi a le mo kgwatlheng a bo a...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

MR OOKEDITSE: ...go tsaya sebakanyana gore e bo e le gore...

MR LEKAU: *Point of procedure. Good afternoon*. Ke ne ke re Standing Order se o neng o se bala sele *Mr Speaker*; ke a se rata tota. Mme ne ke ne eletsa gore go tsweng fa go ya pele, o leke *to apply it* mo go mongwe le

mongwe, ka gore *the previous speaker when addressing people*, o ne a supa batho ba botlhe. Jaanong ga ke itse gore a o ne o idiwa ke Standing Order sa gore a se ka a kgorelediwa, mme fela a golo moo le ene e re fa a bua *next time*, go lebelelwe. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, a utlwetse *Honourable* Lekau, a utlwetse Phuti. Tswelela *Honourable Minister*.

MR OOKEDITSE: Ke a leboga *Right Honourable Speaker*. Ke itumelele gore ga se nna ke go ganetsang. Jaanong ke bo ke supe jalo gore, fa o bua ka bobeeletsi le go godisa itsholelo, o dirisa *private money*, o dirisa jalo *other sectors of the economy, it does not always follow* gore madi a teng a tlaa tla gone foo. Ba ba tlhaloganyang *investment* le *flows* tsa yone, ba setse ba itse gore go na le *a stage* se e leng gore gatwe ke sa *establishment* ya *investment*, jaaka le tlaabo le e ngoka gore e goroge. Go bo go nna le *stage* se e tlaa reng e ntse e tswelsetse, *the investment will take routes, and then eventually you will start having it mature*. Go bo go raya gore *across these stages*, letseno le ditiro le tse dingwe di tlaa nna di ntse di tla jaaka selaga se tsamaya jalo. Go bo re leka go gogomosa batho maikutlo ka gore re tle re leke go dira gore e nne e kete letseno le itsholelo e ka bo e setse e phophoma, e bile gotwe ke e e makgakga *already*, tota fela e a bo e le go leka go baya batho bobi mo matlhong. *It will take a bit of time for investment* gore e ka tsholetsega jaaka re batla.

Jaanong, gore go nne jalo, gore re ye kwa itsholelong e e phatsimang, *it will take time*. Jaanong moalo wa teng *have been approved* le le Palamente mo nakong e e fetileng. *Mr Speaker*, ke santse ke emetse gore ke utlwe yo o tlaa tlang a bo a re nnyaa, mme kana moalo wa BETP wa maloba re o *approve*, tota fela go raya gore jaanong ke o kgwela mathe, ke ne ke sa akanya sentle. *Until they come and say that*, go tlaabo go raya gore jaanong mmogo re santse re dumalana gore...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR OOKEDITSE: *Mr Speaker*, jaanong ke tle ke lebagane le Batswana *and assure them* gore le se ka la nna fa gongwe le tsiediwa ke diemo tse e leng gore motho o tlaa batla go le ithatisa le go le kगतlha, a dirisa diemo tse di utlwisang botlhoko, tse e leng gore batho ba latlhegelwa ke matshelo. Ga go ise go diragale, e bile ga go kitla go diragala gore mo tsamaisong e re leng mo go yone e, e bo e le gore go na le yo o ka batlang go bona e le gore yo mongwe o latlhegelwa ke botshelo.

Re na le *challenge* e e leng gore ga re a e loba, re e beile fa pele ga mongwe le mongwe gore *the biggest problem we have in the country at the moment* ke *an economy which was not functioning optimally*. *We have a challenge* ya letseno, mme re a le baakanya. Jaanong yo e leng gore o tla kwa go lona a akantse gore go tla go itumela le go tla go supa fa a ka tshameka ka lesa ke golo mo go ka dirang gore a fiwe tlhopho kana tshono ya go tsamaisa lefatshe...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification!

MR OOKEDITSE: ...le mmontshe fela jalo gore ga re tšhaba ya bo lesa le dirwang.

Jaanong bagaetsho, ke bo ke supa jalo gore re tlaa tla re tla re tsena mo *stage* se gotweng ke *Committee of Supply*, mme ke tlaa tla jalo ke supa ka fa e leng gore kgaoganyo ya madi e ne e supafala e ntse ka teng, ke bo ke supa tse ke neng ke ka di ratela ba e leng gore ke ba dikgaolo tsa rona jalojalo.

Ke tle ke wele ka go akgola Tona wa Madi, ke supe jalo gore o supile *very responsible stewardship* ya *economy* ya rona ka dinako tse di thata, tse e leng gore rraetsho, bontsi bo ka bo bo sa kgone *to keep this country afloat as it is*. So, go bo o ne o tsere matsapa a go dira gore o kgame GPOs o baakanye *such that only essential expenditure* ke yone e ka nnang teng, go dirile gore re nne mo tshiamelong ya gore gompiano fa re ntseng teng, e bo e le gore yone *deficit* kana tlhaelo ya madi e e buiwang, ga se e e oketsegileng mo go feteletseng.

E bile gape yone itsholelo e, e ne e supafala gore mo ngwageng e e fetileng, e ne ya ngotlega ka selekanyo sa *more than 3 per cent* ka gore go ne go akantswe gore le mo ngwageng wa gompiano, e tlaa tla e ngotlega go feta *3 per cent*, mme jaanong go supafala gore tsone tse o ntseng o di dira tse, di dira gore jaanong gongwe go ngotlega ga teng go tle go nne gongwe kwa go seng *above 1 per cent*. Mo go rayang gore jaanong e le ntswa gongwe e ise e simolole go gola, mme gongwe kwelotlase ya teng e simolotse go fokotsega. *So, that should give hope* mo Batswaneng ya gore kwa re yang teng go lebege e le gore tsela mme e ntse e a bonala, ba se ka ba tsiediwa ke ba e leng gore tiro ya bone ke go tlhobosa, mme ba tlhobosa jaaka re ntse re bona ba tlhobosa jaana, motho a sa tle go supa gore fa e ne e le ene o ne a tlaa *collect* bokae, kae, a tla a kgaoganya ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Ke wela ka e e leng gore ke tlhokonnete e e buiwang gotwe fa go na le *budget deficit* ga o ka ke wa dirisa lekgetho go fokotsa *deficit*. Fa go na le *budget deficit* mo lefatsheng *Honourable Saleshando, addressing you through you Mr Speaker*. Fa go na le *budget deficit*, o dirisa go oketsa lekgetho *as part of a sheet of initiatives* tse e leng gore di ka dira gore o fokotse *deficit*. Go na le jaaka go setse go supagetse gore o ka fokotsa *expenditure* jaaka o supile, mme o bo o dira *taxation amongst other measures as a way* e e leng gore *you raise money*, a bo o ka kgona *to stimulate economy* gore e kgone go gola.

Tota fela ke ne ke solofetse go le gontsi *on the alternative, but we have not quite seen it*. Kana fa ke ka solofela gore tsala yame Furniture o tlaa tla ka go le kalo, ke dumela gore go tlaabo go wetse gone foo. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)...

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

(MR MMOLOTSI): Tlaa ke go leboge *Mr Speaker*. Ke leboge Batswana botlhe fela lefatshe ka kakaretso, ke boe ke le leboge lotlhe Batlotlegi Mapalamente ba le leng fano.

Ke tseye nako e ke leboge Tona wa Madi yo e leng gore ke dumela gore fa e sale a simolola go tshegetsatsa tiro e ya gagwe, o dirile go tlaa ka diatla go bona gore itsholelo ya rona ga e phuthlame. Itsholelo e e leng gore *otherwise* e ne e le mo seemong se se bokete, e ne e iphitlhela e le gore *on a weekly basis* e tshwanelwa ke go *honour payment of invoices* tsa *billions* tse go neng go sena kwa e leng gore madi ao a ne a ka tsewa teng fa e ne e le gore ga re a ka ra nna le tsamaiso e re neng re ka tshwanelwa ke *to make sure that obligations* tsa ga Goromente di a tswela.

Re a ne re utlwa fa gongwe go omanwa, mme ke tsaya gore go omana ga teng ga se mathata ka gore batho ga ba kgone go tlhologanya sentle gore re fitlhetse seemo se le maswe go le kae. Tona wa Madi o ne a tlhalosa jaaka ke bona o kare bangwe ba batla go go dira o kare *is a joke*, a bua gore itsholelo ya rona e makgwakgwa. Ka boammaaruri a bolelela ruri, re a itse gore itsholelo ya rona *has been dropping, it has been going down over the years, ka bo 3 per cent, 4 per cent. In fact, in 2025* itsholelo ya rona e wetswe kwa tlase ka bo *2.8 per cent*. Selo se, se tswa kgakala se ntse se diragala, mme e le gore *commitments* tse di neng di dirwa ke Goromente yo re neng re ntse re na le ene mo nakong e e fetileng, di ne di sa supe fa e le gore itsholelo ya rona e na le mathata

a a kalokalo. Ke sone se e leng gore mo nakong ya gompiano *contracts that are running on a weekly basis* di tshwanelwa ke gore di duelwe madi a a seng kana ka sepe. *That is why* ke re re tshwanela ke go leboga Tona wa Madi gore a bo a kgonne *to keep the ship, otherwise* fa gongwe fa re ne ra se ka ra nna le seemo se e leng gore go na le motlhalefi yo o kalokalo, ke dumela gore gongwe itsholelo ya rona *would have collapsed* mo nakong ya gompiano. E ka bo e paletswe le ke gone go duela *salaries* tse e leng gore badirelapuso ba a di amogela gompiano, le go duela *service providers* mo go Goromente, mme *because of the good stewardship* sa ga *Minister of Finance*, letsatsi leno re mo seemong se e leng gore re a bona le rona gore go na le kwa go iwang teng.

Ba ntse ba tlhalosa gore *there was deep and dark hole* ya GPOs e e leng gore Goromente *was able to save a lot of money* ka gone go tla ka thulaganyo ya *to centralize* GPOs. *Minister* o ne a tlhalosa gore go kgonnwe gore *every month* go bolokwe madi a a fetang *P500 million, and you can imagine on a monthly basis* saving over *P500 million*. Bakaulengwe ke dumela gore fa e ne e le gore re batho ba re siameng fela sentle ba re senang lefufa le le ntsi, re ka bo re ema ka dinao fela re leboga gore re bo re le mo seemong se se ntseng jaana.

Gompiano jaana re a itse gore le yone Palamente yone e, le ne le tsamaya le le bantsi *attending capacity building workshops*...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

MR MMOLOTSI: ...go fokoditswe, *most of Ministers* gompiano jaana ba tsamaya *trips* tse e leng gore *they are fully funded by sponsors*. Goromente ene wa ga *Minister of Finance* has also determined gore fa o tswa o ya koo ka a *fully funded trip, you are not going to get even 10 per cent* wa *per diem*. O itsamaela fela o sa fiwa le fa e le sepe. Jaaka ke tswa America mo mosong wa gompiano, ke ne ke itsamaetse fela, Goromente a sa nneela le fa e le thebe wa madi a gagwe. Yo o belaelang, o ka nna a ya *to check, that information is there*. Tota e le maikaelelo a *cost containment*, go bona gore Goromente madi a gagwe, a dirwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, ke dumela gore re mo seemong se se thata, se re tshwanelwang ke gore ba rotlhe, ka gore ke tsaya gore re a kgona go di bala dipalo, re se lemoge. Ope wa rona a se ka a dirisa seemo se go akanya gore o ka kgatlha ope ka sone, gore ga go diragale se, go tshonnye. Ke eng go sa diragale jaana, go sa tweng. Ba rotlhe re a itse gore re mo seemong se se ntseng jang sa itsholelo.

Ke yone nako e e leng gore maloba fa ke le kwa Tati Siding, rre mongwe o ne a nthaya a re, o na le kgatlhego ya gore le ene e le Motswana, a gakolole. A mpotsa gore o ka gakolola ka tsela e e ntseng jang? Itsholelo e ka tokafadiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang? Ka mo raya ka re, *you are more than welcome to participate as a Motswana, by contributing your ideas* tsa gore o akanya gore itsholelo ya lefatshe le, e ka tokafadiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke sengwe sa dilo tse o ka solofelang gore bakaulengwe ba e leng Mapalamente, go sa kgathalesege gore o mo phathing efe, re tshwanelwang ke gore re dire jalo *to contribute ideas and not only to find fault*, gore re ka ntsha lefatshe le, mo seemong sa itsholelo e e kwa tlase ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

MR MONAGENG: *Elucidation.* Nnyaa, mme Tona o e tshwere sentle thatathata, jaaka a re o ntse a goroga from America, mme a sa tsaya le fa e le sepe. Re le Mapalamente, gakere o a itse Tona, e bile o gakolole Ntlo e gore *trips* tse dingwe tse re di tsayang, le bone tota ka fa, di a bo di sa duelelwa ke Goromente. Re ne re tsamaile le bo *Honourable* Pule kwa France go sa duela Goromente. Di teng *trips* tse di ntsi tse e leng gore batho ba gakgamala gore ke eng re di tsaya mme di tla di sa duelelwa ke Goromente.

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga Rre Monageng. Re tshwanetse gore bagaetsho, re supe fela gore Goromente wa UDC gompiano, a bo a tabogela gore re tswa kgakala itsholelo ya rona e beile mo selong se le sengwefela, e bong teemane. Re gorogile mo nakong e e leng gore *we cannot rely on a single commodity* go ya go ileng. E bo e le gore Goromente o tsaya tshwetso ya gore re tsene mo thulaganyong ya *a private sector-led economy*. Ke sone go tliwang ka thulaganyo ya BETP, e re neng re bolelelwa gore re na le *about 186 projects* tse e leng gore *once* di simolola, *will diversify the economy of this country*.

Mo e leng gore *moving forward*, ga re ka ke ra tlhola re iphitlhela re le mo seemong se itsholelo ya rona e wang ka gore re tlaabo re na le metswedi e e farologanyeng, *different sectors* tsa itsholelo *that will function* go tliisa maduo. Ke dumela gore mo nakong ya gompiano, re mo seemong seo sa go kabakanya itsholelo ya lefatshe le gore e gole go ya kwa Rre Saleshando a neng a bua ka gone. Re ne re re, *we anticipate* gore itsholelo ya rona e ka gola *between 6 per cent and 10 per cent. That is what we want and that is where we want to go. That is why* re bua ka *186 projects* tse e leng gore *once* di simolola *to operate, then* itsholelo ya rona e tlaa simolola go gola

ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. E bo e le gore e nna itsholelo e e makgakga e re e batlang, e e mabela e e ka tlišang ditiro tse re di batlang, e e ka tlišang *an average salary* mo Motswaneng ya bo P9,000. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, ke dilo tse gompiano re lekang go di baakanya. Go go sha gore e bo re iphitlhela re le mo seemong seo.

Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, nngwe ya dilo tse Goromente mongwe le mongwe a di dirang *Honourable* Saleshando ke gore, fa go na le mathata a *budget*, go a adimiwa madi, *deficit* e a oketsega. Gompiano jaana mafatshe a a tlhabologileng, ke raya gore fa o tsaya lefatshe le tshwana le America, *deficit* ya bone *is over P38 trillion* US\$ ya 2025/2026. Fa o tsaya United Kingdom (UK), *deficit* ya bone *is over £153 billion* ya 2024/2025. Germany le yone *deficit* ya bone *is 4 per cent* gompiano of the GDP. Fa o tsaya Japan, *deficit* ya bone ya *this financial year is P5 billion*. Fa o tsaya South Africa, gone ka fa, *deficit* ya bone *is R243 billion*. Fa o tsaya Namibia, *next door, deficit* ya bone *is 22.12 billion*. Fa o re go dira *deficit* ke go tlhoka boikarabelo, go raya gore mafatshe otlhe fela ga a na boikarabelo *because* ga ke itse lefatshe lepe le e leng gore le *function* ka *budget*, ga le na *deficit*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!) ...

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (MR SALESHANDO): *On a point of order.* Fa a batla go nnopola, a *quote* sentle. Ga ke ise ke re, ga go na boikarabelo go nna le *deficit*. Ke rile go dira *deficit* o di tlhomaganya, mme go sena a *clear plan* ya gore o tswa jang mo go gone, ke go tlhoka maikarabelo, ee.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, o utlwile *honourable*, o tlaa baakanya.

MR MMOLOTSI: Ee, mme *deficit* e re ntseng re e dira, re na le *plan* ya gore re tlaa tswa mo go yone ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, fa gongwe o itheetse. Ke wena o neng o bua o re, “ke go tlhoka boikarabelo.” O ne o bua o tshikhinya mmele otlhe gore ke go tlhoka boikarabelo. *That is why* ke re, go raya gore mafatshe a otlhe ga a na boikarabelo ka gore a bereka ka *deficit*. *Deficit is one-way* ya *to complement budget* fa e na le mathata. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, re le Goromente, ke dumela gore *Budget Speech* ya ga *Minister of Finance* e re bontsha gore re ya golo gongwe, re ya go tswa. Re ne re utlwa *projections* tsa gore re solofetse kgolo ka *at least* ka 3.1 *per cent* mo ngwageng ono. Fa e le gore e ka wela ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, *is another sign* ya gore go na le golo gongwe kwa re tsamaelang teng.

Tota go utlwise botlhoko gore fa gongwe fa re bua ka dikgang tse di ntseng jaana tsa *budget*, re bo re simolola re tsaya dikgang di sele, re di gogela mo *budget*. Re a itse gore kgang e ya botsogo, e botlhoko. *That is why we support increase ya budget ya Ministry of Health*, gore ba itepatepanye le seemo sa tlhalelo kwa dikokelong. Ga e ka ke ya re re ntse re itse gore go na le mathata a a ntseng jalo, gore go na le batho ba ba utlwileng botlhoko, ba ga bone ba tlhokafetse ka mabaka a a farologanyeng, re bo re tla mo Palamenteng batho ba re ba fola dipelo kwa malwapeng, re tla go bua maina a bana ba bone gore ba ka fa tlase ga lebitla. Setho sa rona re le Batswana, ga se sone seo. Re le Batswana, re a itse gore motho o ka tswa a bolailwe ke eng, re tshwanelwa ke go akanyetsa ba ba utlwileng botlhoko gona le gore re tle mo Palamenteng, re bo re tla go mmala ka maina, re bua o kare re a ikgattha re re fa ke bua jaana o mo lebitleng. Golo mo re tshwanelwa ke gore re ikele tlhoko, mo go reng le fa re batla gore Batswana ba bone gore seemo se maswe, mme re se ka ra dira ka tsela e e ntseng jaana. Ke sone se e leng gore fa go buiwa ka *Constitutional Court*, batho ba bo ba phamola dikgang gore, “*no Constitutional Court fa go sena melemo.*” Batho ba tlhaloganya gore re tla mo *Budget Session* gompieno, e e leng gore maikaelelo ke go bona gore *ministry* mongwe le mongwe, o neelwa madi go ya go dira ditiro ka go farologana.

Ministry of Health o tshwanelwa ke go neelwa madi a a loileng, go lwantshana le seemo se re leng mo go sone. *Ministry of Environment and Tourism* o tshwanelwa ke go neelwa madi go a go lwantshana le mathata a ba nang le one. *Ministries of Water and Communications* ba tshwanelwa ke go neelwa madi. *Ministry of Justice* ba neelwe madi ba ye go dira *Constitutional Court*. *Ministry of what* le bone ba neelwe madi ba ye go dira sa bone. Ke raya Batswana kwa Matsiloje kwa gae ke ba raya ke re, kwa Russia go ntwana, go a lowa. Russia e lwa le Ukraine mme dikole ga di a tswalwa, botsogo ga bo a tswalwa, ditiro di tswaletse, tse dingwe go ntse go na le mathata a ntwana batho ba le mo seemong se se ntseng jalo. Ga ke dumele gore ra re, ka go na le mathata a ba *Ministry of Health* ba tshwanetseng ba a emele ka dinao, *Local Government* e emise *tandabala*. Ga ke dumele gore ra re, ka gore go na le mathata a re a bonang a a kanakana, go raya gore dikole di tswalwe, *no*. Re tshwanetse re tlhaloganye gore *this works like an engine* ya koloi e e berekang ka *different parts, that is Government. I feel* gore *it is disingenuous* go tsamaya re raya Batswana re re, fa batho ba tla go bua ka *Constitutional Court*, le ba reye le re, “ga re tsene

foo fa go sena dipilisi.” Bakaulengwe a re kgoneng go tlhaloganya gore dilo tse di bereka ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke sone se le bonang re le mo *budget* gompieno, e Mopalamente fa a dumela gore *budget* ya *Ministry of Health* e a tlhalela, o na le tshwanelo ya gore o ka tlisa paakanyo ya *budget*.

Leader of the Opposition (LOO) kgantele o ne a bua gore fa e saleng go duwa kwa go duwang teng, ga go ise go kgone gore re baakanye *budget*. Ga go ise go kgonagale gore go baakanngwe *budget*, ga go reye gore ga go kgonagale gore e baakanngwe. Fa e le gore re dumela gore *it is something that we should do*, *Honourable* Hikuama o ka ema ka dinao a *adjust budget* ka fa a eletsang go dira ka teng. Re se ka ra re fa re sa dire selo, ra re ga se se se ka kgonang go se dira.

Jaaka ke ne ke le kwa Matsiloje, ke ne ke ba bolelela ka *Constitutional Court* ke re kwa Palamenteng fa o bona e tlaa re thusa jaana, gore e re fa *Constitutional Review* e sena go nna e dirwa, e bo e isiwa teng *for certification*. Ke gone gore nna *for example*, ke morutabana fela wa Modimo, Rre Gaolathe ke *economist*, Rre Tshere *is biomedical engineer*, Furniture le ene o ithutetse se a se ithutetseng. Ga re a ithutela go dira molao, mme jaanong diphoso *are highly likely to be* ka tsela e di gagamatsang tsa molao o re yang go o dira mo Ntlong e. *That is why* go tlhoka gore go tle go nne le bo mankge ba ba ka lebelelang *Constitutional Court. These are things* tse re tlaa di buang *Honourable* Furniture.

Ke dumalana le Rre Saleshando mo kgannyeng ya gore gongwe nako e gorogile ya *to means test* dikgang tsa bo *tandabala*. A mme o raya gore fa motho a ne a amogela madi a mantsi, *pension* ya gagwe e le ntsi, a go a tlhokafala gore re tswelele re mo neela *tandabala* le ene? Ke golo gongwe kwa ke dumalanang le wena gore re ka leka go fokotsa teng go ya kwa pele. Ke dumalana le wena gore *students' loans* le tsone ba ba iseng ba di duele, ba tshwanelwa ke go duela tsa bone. Ke dumela gore fa re ka kopanya megopolo sentle, itsholelo ya rona bagaetsho e tlaa tsoga.

Fa ke le fa sekai fela ka dikakanyo tsa rona go ya kwa pele re le kwa *environment and tourism*, ka fa bojanala jwa rona bo ntseng bo tsamaya ka teng, re leka go bo fetola. Gompieno bojanala bo tsenya 5.1 *per cent* mo GDP ya lefatshe. *Why?* Ke ka gore re tlogetse fela gore go dirwe ka tsela e e tlaa *benefit private sector* fela. Gompieno kwa re lebileng teng re eletsang gore re tsene *into partnerships* mo dikgwebong tse re le Goromente jaaka re itse gore itsholelo ya rona e tlhabolotswe ke tirisanyo-

mmogo ya ga Goromente le De Beers. Re batla go tsena mo thulaganyong e e ntseng jalo le kwa bojanaleng gore re kgone go nna *in partnerships* le *investors*. Re kgone go nna le madi a a tsenang mo lefatsheng le mo *economy* a a botoka, go na le *tax*, *lease fees* le *royalty fees*. Re dumela gore fa re tsamaela koo, *income generation* ya lefatshe e tlaa tokafala. Ke a itse gore go ka nna ga utlwisa *Honourable* Aaron botlhoko, mme tota fela mo nakong ya gompiano, Batswana ba tshwanelwa ke go akola bojanala jwa lefatshe la Botswana ka gore *it is a resource* e re e neetsweng ke Modimo. Ga re ka ke ra letlelela gore jaanong batswakwa e nne bone ba ba yang *to benefit more than Batswana themselves. That is why partnerships with the Government are very important so that we also benefit* mo mading a a kanakana a a dirwang ke bojanala.

Re eletsa go leka ka bojotlhe *to diversify the product* ya rona ya bojanala. Ke sone se gompiano re rotloetsang se re se bitsang re re ‘*city tourism*,’ ka maikaelelo a go leka go tokafatsa, re godise bojanala jwa rona kwa ditoropong le kwa metseng e megolwane. Re setse re simolodisitse (*launched*) mo Gaborone, maloba re ne re *launch* kwa Francistown ka maikaelelo a gore bojanala bo tsoge gongwe le gongwe mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Re mo thulaganyong gompiano ya go simolola mo go bidiwang gotwe ‘*dam tourism*,’ e e leng gore kwa matamong a rona a bo Shashe, Ntimbale, Thune le mo Gaborone, go nne le bojanala jaaka o bona go diragala kwa mafatsheng a mangwe. Go dira jalo ke go leka go tlhabolola itsholelo *e because* re a bona gore te mane ga e sa tlhole e le mo seemong se e re busetsang se re se eletsang. Re dumela gore bojanala bo ka kgona gore bo tseye seemo se te mane e kileng ya bo e le mo go sone. Ke *ideas* tse re reng kwa pele re eletsa go tlhabolola itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana ka teng.

Tumelo ya me ke gore le le bakaulengwe, le nonofile thata go ka tswa ka megopolo ya gore re ka thusana ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke dumela gore mongwe le mongwe wa rona o na le lerothodi la botlhale, mme fa re ka tsaya marothodi a botlhale ra a pataganya, a kganetso le a Puso e e busang, re ya go nna le *a perennial river of wisdom* e re ka kgonang go ntsha Batswana ba ba re tlhophileng mo khumanegong e e kanakana e ba leng mo go yone. Re ka kgona go ntsha *economy* ya rona mo seemong se re bonang e le mo go sone, mme le foo ke fano. Itsholelo ya rona kwa re yang teng e ya go nna e e makgakga, e e tlaabong e tsisa se Batswana ba se tlhokang.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR MMOLOTSI: Fa e le gore le a ganetsa, emang fela le tle le bone. Ke sone se *Honourable* Dums nna kwa bofelong, ke gagamalela gore o bo o ngongoregela *the number of Ministers*, fokotsa *shadow cabinet* ya gago o dire 10 kana *five*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MR MMOLOTSI: Kana fa e ne e se gore le a tlhabela ka koo ga le 18, ba ka bo ba le 18 jaanong *you have doubled*. Jaanong ga go lope ope sepe, *but you will be showing an example* ya gore rona re ka bo re dira dilo ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Jaanong ga le supe sekai se se siameng bakaulengwe. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: It is time for the opposition, if it so wishes. Honourable Moalosi, Member for Nkange.

MR MOALOSI (NKANGE): Thank you Honourable Speaker. *Ke simolole ka go dumedisa* Batswana *kwa gae*. I would like to address my response in English, with a topic called, “The Poetry of Poverty, a response to 2026 Budget.”

Mr Speaker, my first point is called a Suitor’s Surprise: A lesson in Heavy Lifting. Mr Speaker, before I dive into the “literary masterpiece” presented by the Honourable Minister on Monday, I want to share a story about a modern-day romance. It is a story that many Batswana especially the youth who were promised the world in 2024, will find all too familiar. Mr Speaker, there was a man who spent months wooing a woman. He did not just ask for her hand, he performed theatrical campaign for her heart. He spoke of “new horizons”, “economic empowerment” and “shared prosperity.” He was a silver-tongued suitor, a man who talk the birds out of the trees and make them sing a UDC melody. He told her, “my dear, once you choose me, you will never walk in the dust again. Your life will be transformed.” Eventually, the woman, hopeful for a better life and tired of the old promises of years past, agreed to be his. On their first month-end together, the man called her. His voice filled with excitement. He said, “my dear, I am coming home with the fruits of my labour. I have everything we need to build our future. Meet me at the bus stop and please bring a wheelbarrow.”

Naturally Mr Speaker, the woman was very happy. She thought, “a wheelbarrow? He must be bringing home bags of maize, a new stove or the very bricks we need to finally start our family home.” She raced to the bus

stop pushing the wheelbarrow with a song in her heart and a spring in her step. She was ready to receive the harvest. The bus arrived, he stumbled out, drunk to a stupor, unable to even stand on two feet. He looked up at her from the dirt, eyes glazed over with the intoxication of his own success and mumbled, “do not just stand there staring, help me into the wheelbarrow and push me home.”

Mr Speaker, that woman is the voter of Botswana, and that man is the UDC Government.

MR LEKAU: *Point of order. Mr Speaker, ke ne ke re gongwe o busetse sebui se se emeng fa mo tseleng, a itebaganya le Budget Speech. Tota re sale re utlwile mainane bogologolo, ke tsaya gore ga re a tlhoke gone jaana gore a re a tlhabele. Se se teng se se beilweng fa pele ga Palamente, ke sone se go tshwanetseng go buiwa ka sone, e seng go ka bua ka baimana le girlfriends and stuff. Tanki.*

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme o mo setlhogong. Fa a ne a ka tswa, ke ne ke ka mmalela Standing Order sa gore a tsepame mo setlhogong, 57.1. O se setse morago, o ne a ala gore a tle a simolole sentle. Tswelela *Honourable Moalosi*.

MR MOALOSI: Thank you Mr Speaker. *Ga a diega kwa sekoleng, ga a tsena mo topics tse di ntseng jaana.*

Mr Speaker, that woman is the voter of Botswana and that man is the UDC Government. We brought the wheelbarrow to the bus stop expecting a harvest of prosperity; instead, we have been met by an administration that is too intoxicated by its own cool aid. Now, they have the audacity to climb into the wheelbarrow and demand that the taxpayers, who are already tired and hungry, push them the rest of the way!

II. The Bitter Fruit of Rhetoric

Mr Speaker, I must commend the Honourable Minister for his literary prowess. On Monday, we did not just hear a budget; we listened to a masterpiece of prose; a speech filled with flowery metaphors of “National True Norths” and “dances no one has ever seen.” It was beautiful rendition, Mr Speaker. If we could pay our bills with adjectives, Botswana would be the richest nation on earth.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MR MOALOSI: The Minister concluded his “poetry” by quoting James 3:17, speaking of a “wisdom from above” that is “full of good fruits.” But let us look at the orchard, Mr Speaker. The fruits of this administration are bitter and rotten to the core.

For every poetic line in that speech, there is a Motswana sitting in the dark because they cannot afford electricity. For every “dance” the Minister describes, there is a patient in a clinic without basic paracetamol. For every “True North” he mentions, there is a farmer in Tutume staring at a dry field without Government support. We were promised a “New Botswana” in 2025. Instead, we have received a budget big on adjectives but tragically small on action. This is not a roadmap; it is a collection of recycled promises proving that this Government is hopelessly drunk in its own rhetoric. The Minister is still dancing, but the music stopped months ago. He expects us to applaud the choreography while the very stage he stands on is collapsing under the weight of his failures.

III. The Land Illusion & The Water Desert

Mr Speaker, the Minister speaks of “sustainable land use,” but I ask a simple question: where is the land for the people? Scripture tells us in Isaiah 32:18: “My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes.” That is the divine standard. Yet, the only significant land allocations the Minister boasts about are five tourism sites and luxury lodge renewals for the elite and our people live in squalor.

What about the “undisturbed places of rest” for the thousands of Batswana on waiting lists? Let us look at the cold, hard numbers that the Minister’s poetry tried to hide:

- In Tutume, the last person to receive a residential plot applied in June 2011. That is 15 years of waiting! A child born when that application was made is now sitting for their Junior Secondary exams, and their parents are still waiting for a place to call home.
- In Makuta, the wait goes back to July 2011.
- In Changate and Matobo, people have been waiting since 2015.

What is the Government doing about this? Absolutely nothing. Our people’s attempts to restore and reclaim their dignity is held at ransom by the parked wheelbarrow of land reform. If you want to build a house in Tutume today, you do not need a wheelbarrow for cement; you

need it to carry decades-long frustration of waiting for a Government that does not care. Mr Speaker, land is the foundation for building generational wealth and our people are robbed of that ability.

And it is not just the land, Mr Speaker, it is the basic need for human life; water. In the Nkange Constituency, in Senete, Dagwi, Changate, Nkange and Maitengwe, our people are facing a water desert. The Minister mentions a project in Maitengwe. We hope it is a reverse osmosis plant, but we have heard this “acceleration” talk before; hopefully the padel does not break or get stuck along the way. Right now, the only “transformation” our people see is the sight of elderly women, our grandmothers, pushing wheelbarrows for kilometres under a scorching sun just to find a working public standpipe or a river bed to dig. The Government is “offline,” the system is “down,” and the people are tired of pushing.

The Botswana Congress Party (BCP) Position: The BCP believes that the current system of land allocation, which relies on archaic land boards, is inefficient and disconnected from reality. We will abolish land boards and introduce a tech-based National Land and Geospatial Authority. This authority will merge the Department of Surveys and Mapping, Town and Country Planning, and the Land Information Centre into one streamlined, digital entity. The Surveyor General and regional assistants will be held directly accountable by a Parliamentary Committee. We will end the 15-year wait by using technology to allocate land, not metaphors.

IV. The Health Crisis: A Budget with No Pulse

Our healthcare system is on its knees begging for dear life with no semblance of oxygen coming its way. In 2025, we were promised a restructured Central Medical Stores (CMS) that would “enhance access to medicines.” We were told the days of empty shelves were over. But six months later, the system did not just falter, it collapsed. It was so bad that the Government had to declare a State of Public Health Emergency; which the Executive is yet to account for before this August House.

And what was the “New Botswana” solution? Instead of fixing our own internal systems, we are running to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to bail us out. We are outsourcing our national health security because this Government cannot manage a warehouse. Mr Speaker, I challenge the Honourable Minister of Health to persuade his colleague, the Minister for State President to cede a healthy chunk of his budget to breathe life in our

healthcare system. While defence spending is necessary, our people health takes precedence in this day and time. Mr Minister, will you rise to the occasion?

Will you give Tutume District its long promised district hospital and upgraded health posts in Makuta, Moseitse and Semitwe? The Honourable Minister from Moseitse did not even talk about it because he knows that the promises that were made are not being met. This budget is silent on those. It is as if Tutume has been erased from the map of the Minister’s “True North.”

The sad reality is this: When an expectant mother in a rural village needs to get to a clinic that has no ambulance, she will be lucky if she can find a wheelbarrow to be pushed in. That is the UDC health plan: if the Government won’t provide the vehicle, the family must provide the wheelbarrow. It is a national disgrace.

The BCP Solution: We are not just complaining; we are working. The BCP is currently meeting with health stakeholders; doctors, nurses, and administrators to draft a sustainable, long-term health policy. We believe in decentralised medicine procurement and a ring-fenced health fund that ensures that when a Motswana walks into a clinic, the medicine is there, regardless of whether a “system is down” in Gaborone.

V. Economic Sabotage: Debt and the GPO Freeze

The Minister speaks of “fiscal prudence,” but the numbers tell a story of a national credit card spinning out of control. In 12 months, public debt has ballooned from 71 billion to 90 billion. That is a 19 billion increase in one year! The patient is bleeding, yet the Minister calls this a “Steady Path.”

To make matters worse, the suspension of Government Purchase Order (GPO) generation, the so-called “centralisation,” has been an act of economic sabotage. Let us look at this, Office of the Ombudsman or any other office cannot even buy toilet paper because of GPO centralisation, the Government has failed in its most basic duty of providing a dignified workplace.

In Tutume, Wildlife Officers cannot attend to emergencies; we have elephants that are attacking our farmers’ fields because their vehicles have no tyres, batteries, and spares. The fleet is rotting while the “system is down.”

- The Economic Ripple Effect: Thousands of small businesses, the backbone of our economy, are dying. When the Government stops paying its bills, the private sector defaults on bank loans, lays off staff and faces foreclosures.

The Minister thinks he is saving money by not generating GPOs. He is not. He is just stopping the engine of the economy. When the engine stops, he expects the private sector to get out and push the wheelbarrow of the economy. You cannot run a modern economy with a wheelbarrow mentality!

BCP solution: We believe that the Government spending when done transparently is the fuel of the economy. We will prioritise local companies, rewarding actual manufacturers and punishing briefcase suppliers. We have proposed a Public Procurement (Amendment) Bill to refine conflict of interest laws. We want to ensure that qualified Batswana are not just excluded because of their last name while ensuring that those with actual influence over a tender are strictly barred.

VI. The Abandoned Farmer

Mr Speaker, our farmers are also bleeding. In 2025, a major shift in subsidies was promised. Instead P500 million was diverted from agricultural programmes to plug holes elsewhere.

- In Nswazi, farmers like Ms Gamakama are crying foul because they were promised fencing under Temo Letlotlo and then that has not been provided.
- Under the new Lemang Dijo, farmers are now assisted with one hectare instead of the four hectares that they were used to under Temo Letlotlo.

How do you expect a farmer to feed a nation on one hectare? One hectare is a garden not a farm! The Minister has downgraded our farmers from tractors back to wheelbarrows. He expects them to carry the weight of national food security in a single wheelbarrow while he watches from his air-conditioned office in Gaborone. What happened to the heterodoxy that Botswana National Front (BNF) swears by when neoliberalism seems to have taken over our economic policy and posture? Is it AP-conomics at play?

VII. The Wheelbarrow of Corruption

Mr Speaker, let us be honest about why our coffers are empty. It is not just global market forces. The country

is where it is because of corruption, corruption that was mooted by the Khama Regime, perfected by the Masisi Regime, and is now being protected by the UDC.

We expected lightning speed changes to laws to curb this cancer. Instead the UDC Government has looked the other way as a new wave of corrupt officials takes over. We have seen Cabinet Ministers accused of receiving bribes walking shoulder to shoulder with the Minister of Finance. Honourable Minister, it is no use telling us you will not rob us of a single coin when you allow your colleagues to steal the whole treasury.

- We hear of a Minister who asked a company that won a tender at one of his SOEs to finish his private house before the tender could be mobilised.
- We hear of a Minister whose SOEs heads were appointed by party handlers in backrooms, bypassing every professional process.
- We know of a Minister who admitted to receiving a luxury Fortuner from a company he awarded...

MR LEKAU: *Procedure Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, ke utlwa ba BCP ba mo opela legofi mme ba sa rotloetse ngwana gore e nne e re o bua dikgang tse, o bo o ntse o tla ka bosupi. Jaanong Mr Speaker, allegations tse di bewang fa, they are very serious fa e le gore UDC ya re ga e na go tse na gope mo corruption. Fa motho a e label ka corruption, go botlhokwa Mr Speaker gore a tlise bosupi jo bo ntseng jalo.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Ke a go utlwa Honourable Lekau. Honourable Moalosi, kana Standing Order 57.5 states that a member shall not impute improper motives to another member. Jaanong kana o ntse a re bo Minister, mme ga a ba bue ka maina. Kana se a se tlhalosang ke gore they are shoulder to shoulder with the exchequer. Ke dumalana le Honourable Lekau fa a re these are serious allegations tse di tlhokang to be substantiated. Jaanong le fa a sa bue maina, mme se se botlhokwa ke gore jaaka a re Ministers, gape a re ba... (Interruptions)... a kgone gore a rurifatse magatwe a a buang.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR MOALOSI: Ke a go utlwa Mr Speaker. I will continue saying dilo tse...

MR LESEDI: Point of procedure Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Lesedi, *point of procedure*. Kana ga ke ise ke mo utlwe gore a reng. Ke batla gore a wele, o bo o ka tla wa tsena.

MR MOALOSI: Bagaetsho, ke ne ke bua ka dilo tse re di utlwang, tse e leng gore *everybody hears*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR MOALOSI: I did not say I know, I said we hear. *Ke se ka ka utlwa, ke thibe ditsebe fa ke utlwa?* Mr Speaker, *gongwe ke tsewelele ke re*, these are things that we hear. It makes me wonder whether the national wheelbarrow has become a getaway vehicle for carrying away the loot. Remember Mr Speaker, there is no honour among thieves; one day the truth will come out.

VIII. The BCP Solution: Six Pillars of Integrity

Mr Speaker, fixing the...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (MR NYATANGA): *Point of order Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, we are taking some of these discussions very serious.* Jaanong ke ne ke sa batle gore go tsewelele fela *as if* ga go na bothata. Ke raya gore *the assertions that have been raised will call for proper empirical evidence*. Fa e le gore ga go na, *my honourable friend* o ka busa mafoko ao ka gore fa a tsewelela e tlaabo e nna o kare *we are condoning that and we will be setting a very wrong precedent*. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Nyatanga, mme kana *I have cautioned him* gore a ele tlhoko thata Standing Order 57.5. Jaanong kana ke gore a re o utlwa magatwe. Le gone ga a supe gore mang, ke gone fa e nngang bokete teng...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: *I have cautioned him* thata. *Order! Honourable Members. Order!* Gakere o itlhalositse a re o utlwa magatwe. Kana magatwe bagaetsho, a ka re latsa fa...(Interruptions)...A rialo a re *Ministers. Honourable Moalosi, o ele tlhoko Standing Order 57.5, do not impute improper motives especially on matters that you cannot substantiate*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR MOALOSI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I think the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) e ne ya tlhalosa gore *it is investigating Ministers* ba

past regime and this regime. Therefore, ba DCEC ba tlhalositse. Fa ke re ke utlwile magatwe, ke ne ke utlwa le ka DCEC. Fa e le gore le batla bosupi, ke ka ya go bo tlisa jwa DCEC ba bua gore ba tlhotlhomisa Matona a Goromente yo o mo teng.

Ke tsewelele Mr Speaker, ke re *solution* ya BCP ke gore, *we need to fix the DCEC*...

MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MR NTSIMA): *Procedure Mr Speaker. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Honourable Member, a re o utlwa magatwe. Ga ke itse gore a re tshwanetse go tlisa magatwe mo Palamenteng kana re simolole go tlisa magatwe mo Palamenteng?*

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntsima, *kana jaanong Honourable Moalosi o dule mo magatweng a a seng substantiated*. He has moved a step further to say that the Anti-Corruption Agency of the country has actually indicated that it is investigating former Ministers and current Ministers...(Interruptions)...Order! *Jaanong mo godimo ga moo, a re fa le eletsa gore o ka tla ka bosupi jwa fa DCEC e rialo, o ka bo tlisa.*

MR NTSIMA: *Further procedure. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. He is dodging from the statement that he put before Parliament. O ne a supa gore Ministers dingwe, jaanong a re o tlaa tla ka bosupi jwa gore go a tlhotlhomisiwa, but he has said allegations against Ministers. A o ya go tla ka bosupi jo a neng a bo bua, exactly what he said here in Parliament kana o ya go tla ka bosupi jwa gore bangwe ba a tlhotlhomisiwa?*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further procedure.

MR SPEAKER: *Order! Honourable Members, gakere le utlwile Honourable Moalosi gore a reng? Honourable Moalosi se a se tlhalosang a re, o tlaa tla ka bosupi jwa gore DCEC ya reng gakere?*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Ee, jaanong ke tlhaloseditse *Honourable Moalosi not to impute improper motives on things that he cannot substantiate*. Ke tsaya gore o utlwile, se sengwe se ke se tsayang ke gore fa a bua gore *the Anti-Corruption Agency* ya reng le gore o na le matshwenyego, ke dumela gore ke *line* ya *debate* e a e tsereng. A re e tlogeleng e ntse jalo *Honourable Members*.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR NTLHAILE): *Point of order.* Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, ke kopa gore o kope Honourable Moalosi gore mafoko a dipampiri kana a ditlhotlhomiso, a ntshe leina la ga Mothusa Tautona mo go one. O buile mongwe le mongwe a mo reeditse gore, bone ba a reng ba tlhotlhomisiwa ke DCEC, ba kopane le Mothusa Tautona.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR NTLHAILE: Ee, a ntshe leina la gagwe mo teng.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, Honourable Ntlhaile, gongwe you are stretching it too far. Kana tota... unless he means something totally different, gakere Cabinet Minister mongwe le mongwe o gaufi le Mothusa Tautona, o bereka le ene, le budget e le e buisanang e ke ya ga Mothusa Tautona. So ke tsaya gore ke sone se a neng a se bua, unless e le gore he means something totally different.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further procedure Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Pule, re bo re tswelela.

MR PULE: *Point of procedure.* Mongwame, nna ke sebetse se molangwana. Kana Rre Moalosi when debating; and you have always said this in Parliament, ke etle ke go utlwe fela nicely motlotlegi o re, "this is his line of debate." Fa o bua ka magatwe, tota re a itse gore magatwe a a buiwa le ka kwa, rona ba re leng fa, "the fours" re mo mathateng a magatwe a ka kwa. Ga ke ise ke utlwe nako epe fela re ema ka dinao re raya motho re re, ntsha bosupi. Ba bangwe ba kgona go ntshupa ka monwana fa pele ga gago Mr Speaker, ke sa go supe ka monwana ba bua ba re, "bo Mabuse, bo Kagiso Mmusi ba a utswa." Jaanong ga ke itse gore fa batho ba bua jalo, ba se ka ba kopiwa magatwe. Borre le bomme ba ba ka kwa, ba babiwa ke eng fa e kete golo mo go a ba...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Order! Honourable Ntlhaile, tima microphone...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, ke sone se ke le bolelelang ka magatwe gore a e re le tla ka dikgang fa, substantiate them Honourable Members. E seng jalo re tlaabo re tsena mo go one mathata a, mme le a itse gore you are

all culprits of magatwe a go akaretsa, gore Domkrag e sentse, e ne e utswa. O bolelela ruri Mabuse Pule, go and check the Hansard, you will find those words in the Hansard.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members, ke sone se ke reng, do not impute improper motives, le se ka la tla ka magatwe a le ka sekang la a substantiate. I have made a ruling Honourable Moalosi, tswala debate ya gago, o setse ka 3 minutes 55 seconds.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MR SPEAKER: I am not taking any point of Order.

MR MOALOSI: Thank you very much Mr Speaker.

Ke ne ke re the BCP solution comes up with six pillars of integrity. Fixing the DCEC Act alone is like putting a bandage on a broken leg, it will not work. To this end, I have personally submitted six Bills to the Speaker's office. These are six pillars of integrity that the BCP offers as a roadmap out of this corruption mess.

- (1) The first one is Whistleblowing (Amendment) Bill: this Bill provides for the anonymous reporting and a whistleblower reward scheme. We must protect and incentivise the patriots who speak truth to power.
- (2) The second one is Procurement Practitioners Management Bill, we need to professionalise procurement. This Bill establishes the Botswana Institute of Procurement Professionals. If you are procurement officer and you take a bribe or "finish somebody's house," you will be disbarred and banned from the profession forever.
- (3) Ombudsman (Independent and Enforcement) Amendment Bill; we must move the appointment of the Ombudsman to the National Assembly. More importantly, this Bill makes the Ombudsman's remedial actions binding.
- (4) Public Audit (Amendment) Bill; this gives the Auditor General the functional and financial independence to refer cases of theft directly to prosecutors, by passing political interference.
- (5) Declaration of Assets and Liabilities (Amendment) Bill; based on the "Romanian Model," this creates a Public Asset Register accessible to every citizen

online. If a Minister suddenly buys a Fortuner or build a mansion, the public will see the data in real-time. We will remove criminal penalties for journalists who disclose this information to the public.

- (6) The last one is the Attorney General (Amendment) Bill; this ensures that the Attorney General has security of tenure and operational autonomy, safeguarding the office from being used as a political tool.

Mr Speaker, maybe I will conclude by saying this Budget is an exercise in exaggerated claims. It speaks of mega-projects while our schools are crumbling and Tutume's Wildlife officers are stranded without tyres. It speaks of job creation while it bankrupts the small businesses that actually hire our children.

Poetry feeds the soul, not the stomach. Feed our people not in poetry, but meaningful jobs. They cannot pay rent with metaphors, they need medicines in clinics, land to build to on, and Government that keeps its word. The time for dancing and Bible verses is over. The "suitor" has had his fun, and he is now slumped in the wheelbarrow, expecting the taxpayers to push him to the finish line. We refuse to push! We demand a Government that can stand on its own feet, lead with integrity and deliver on its promises. So stop the poetry, stop the excuses, and for once, Honourable Minister start working. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. *Mr Speaker*, sa ntlha re nne re ela tlhoko *these Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated speeches* tse di tlang di balwa mo Ntlong e, ka gore *with AI* o tshwara kwa le kwa fela go sena *reference* e e kalo.

Mr Speaker, ke batla go tsibogela mafoko a ga Mothusa Tautona e bile e le Tona wa Madi, a a beileng setšhaba ka Mosupologo. Sa ntlha ke leboge Leader of the Opposition gore a bo a kgonne go bua ka FMD mo Ntlong e. Ke tsaya gore ka gore ene o tswa kwa North West, go raya gore o itse bokete jwa yone, ke sone se a kopileng batho gore re tshwaraganele ntwa e ya FMD, ke leboga thata ka seo.

Mr Speaker, ke ne ke kile ka bua maloba gore polelo e e neng e buiwa ke Mothusa Tautona e bile e le Tona wa Madi, e fa tsholofelo. E mphile tsholofelo e tona ka

gore mo tsholofelong e ke e bonang, ke bone ka fa a dirileng dilo ka teng. Le go mo tshepha thata jaanong, ke a mo tshepha ka gore ke bone gore o ne a fokotsa tiriso ya madi botlhaswa, e bile a supa ka dipalo gore Goromente o ne a dirisa a a kana ka P1.14 *billion in GPOs*, *over P3.41 billion in commitment letters* tse e neng e le ngwao e re neng re e fitlhela. Ya re fa a lemoga seo, a bo a tsaya ditomo jaanong a baakanya. Ke sone se o bonang madi a ne a wela kwa tlase thata, go tswa mo go one a *billions* ao go ya kwa go P584 *million* ka ngwaga o le fa re tsamayang teng gone jaana. Se ke katlego, re ne re tshwanetse re dire jalo, ka gore o ne a bua jalo gore ga go na madi, re tshwanetse re a *contain*. O bona one mogopolo fela wa gore o kgone go dira jalo, ke one o ke o lebogelang ka gore ke one o o supang gore re ka ya golo gongwe, ke one o o tlišang tshopho ya gore fa re ka tshwara madi sentle mo Pusong e ntšha e, jaaka e bile a dirisa leero la Sekgoa le a neng a re, re netefatse gore *we match every Pula and Thebe that we spend*, mme re kgone go supa gore re dirile eng. Dilo tse di fa tsholofelo *Mr Speaker* le fa re ise re tlhatloge. Go a lemotshega gore... gongwe ke gore ke bua ke le mo Khuduthamageng ka gore, ke bone re le kwa tlase, re ya kwa tlase le mo ngwageng o o fetileng, ke a bona gompiano ka tsholofelo e ke e filweng ke puo ya ga Mothusa Tautona e bile e le Tona ya madi gore re a simolola. Le fa re ise re tlhatloge mo go bonalang, mme re simolotse go ela kwa go tlhatlogeng mo seemong se re neng re le mo go sone. Ke tsholofelo e ke nang le yone. Ke eletsa gore Batswana le bone ba nne le tsholofelo e ya gore re tlile go tlhatloga. Ga se lantlha re nna le mathata a a ntseng jaana, a kile a tla mo nakong e e fetileng. Mathata a a tla, mathata a a feta ka *interventions* kana ka dilo tse o ka di dirang o le Puso jaaka gompiano Tona wa Madi a supa.

Ke itumelela thata gore e bile o ikaegile thata ka boranyane jwa *digitalisation* ka fa a buang ka teng. Seemo se se ya go tokafala go feta selekanyo jaanong fa re setse re dira *rolling out of digitalisation*. Fa ke batla gore ke gatelele mafoko a a neng a a bua le a a neng a buiwa ke Tautona maabane kwa Mahalapye gore, kana Omang yo mosha o etla. Go na le Omang yo mosha yo o tlang, yo o bitswang *the Digital ID*. Omang yo re setseng re tsamaya kgakala go ya go goroga kwa re yang teng, go setse go bonala gore re ya kae gore re tlise Omang yo mosha wa maranyane. Yo o tlaa dirang gore go nne motlhofo gore santlha o tsene mo maranyaneng, e bile sa bobedi o kgone go mo dirisa gape jaaka o kare karata ya banka. Mo e leng gore bagodi le ba kwa Ipelegeng ba ba ntseng ba amogela dithuso go tswa kwa go Goromente,

ba tlaabo ba sa tlhoke go tlhola ba fola. Jaaka o bona ke se ke ke bua ka go fola ka gore re tsepamisitse matlho mo goreng re dire *digitalisation*, dilo tse di nne motlhofo mo Motswaneng ka tsela e e gakgamatsang.

Ke itumelela gape gore o tshwaraganya le kgang e ya *digitalisation in terms of e-procurement* kana go reka dithoto le ditirelo tsa Puso go dirisiwa maranyane, go sena mo go ka iphitlhwang ka gone, go sena *any human interference* mo go yone *process* ya *procurement*. *It will all be done by the system. Artificial Intelligence is already there to help* gore re kgone go wela mo *e-procurement*. Ke leboga thata ka se. Ke sone se o bonang ke re, thulaganyo e e mphile tsholofelo e e gakgamatsang ya gore lefatshe la Botswana le ya go tthatloga mo seemong se.

Ba bangwe ba tlaabo ba gakgamala... Ke gakologelwa ke bua gape mo Palamenteng e ka makgetho. Ba tlaabo ba re, nnyaa, e re fa batho ba sokola jaana o se ka wa oketsa makgetho. Bagaetsho, lefatshe lepe fela mo lefatsheng ka bophara le tsamaisiwa ka makgetho. Ga go na gore re ka ikgatholosa gore re ka tshwanelwa ke go dira makgetho kana re duele lekgetho gore re kgone go tsamaisa ditirelo tsa Puso. E seng jalo tsone tse a ntseng a di bua; sekole kwa Tutume, kae, le sepatela ga di ka ke tsa diragala fa o sa duele lekgetho *Honourable* Moalosi. *That is a fact*. Jaanong lona le tlaabo le re ga le a utlwa...Ga ke itse gore ke eng le se ke le simolola ka gore gongwe ga le a mo utlwa sentle. Le re ga ke a utlwa Tautona sentle, ka gore Tautona o buile *straight* fa a dirisa mafoko a gore, re se ka ra kgethisa batho ba ba humanegileng. E santse e le *position* ya ga Tautona le gompieno jaana. O rile jalo, o rile, re se ka ra kgethisa batho ba ba humanegileng, a ba tshwantshanya le gore *you are undressing a naked man. Here we are not talking about a naked man, we are talking about a heavily dressed man* jaaka *Honourable* Hikuama a amogela madi a a fetang P400, 000.00 ka ngwaga, ke one a a yang go kgethisiwa. Le gone ga gotwe o ya go kgethisiwa *an arm and a leg*, gatwe *only income tax 2.5 per cent increase* mo tax e o ntseng o e duela. *What is that? We have to pay tax, that is all. It is not even negotiable. Give Caesar what belongs to Caesar, that is it.*

Jaanong *corporate tax* e okediwa ka *a mere 3 per cent* and we have to now shout and go over the moon and say go na le mathata, *we are taxing, we are impoverishing people. As a mathematician, we can see 3 per cent of corporate tax is ineligible, 2.5 per cent income on people who are earning high up there. We are not even taxing*

the poor. These are the very rich we are taxing here. Ga go na gore re ka itlhokomolosa jang *Mr Speaker*. Kgang e ya makgetho re tshwanetse re e tlhologanye ka gore ke thulaganyo ya go tsamaisa lefatshe la Botswana. Ga go na kwa madi re ka a tsayang teng. Ga re ka ke ra adima fela, re tshwanetse gore re bo re duela le makgetho. E bile ke ka bo ke itumela fa le ne le re re tlhoafalele go tsaya makgetho. A re tlhoafaleleng go tsaya makgetho. Ke gone mo o go batlang. Ke sone se o bonang re dira *digitalisation*. *When we digitalise, we are not going to ask you, we are going to send you a message of all the money you received digitally and the computer will tell you how much and give you an option to press here to pay. That is all we will be asking from you. We will have proof* ya gore o amogetse madi a kae, a tlaabo a tsene *digitally and digitally it will be computed and you will be told* gore wena o kolota bokae. *We are serious about collecting tax and we are going to intensify it, because* re batla ditiro di dirwa. Ga go na gore di ka dirwa jang go sa dirwa makgetho. Ke raya gore kgang e re e tlhologanye.

Mr Speaker, ke ne ke batla go akgela ka kgang e nngwe ya Mahalapye e ke tsayang gore e a re tshwenya. *Mr Speaker and the Minister of Finance and also the Vice President*, go na le kgang kwa Mahalapye ya motlakase. Motlakase wa rona o a tima fa go nna le marunyana, fa gongwe go na le legadimanyana. Go tima ga motlakase o ke setse ke lemogile gore go beile Mahalapye ka fa mosing ka gore, bagwebi ba lebelela kgang e ya motlakase and *availability of utility* e le sengwe se ba se tlhokang thata. Re ka dumalana jalo. Jaanong se se diragalang ke gore dikgwebo di tlaa felela di tswetswe kwa motseng wa Mahalapye, le batho ba tlaa se ke ba kगतlhegele go tla mo motseng wa Mahalapye. Le Goromente o tlaa se ke a kगतlhegele go dira ditlhabololo tse di tlhokang motlakase jaaka *data centres* le tse dingwe. Golo mo ke bothata *Madam Speaker*. Ke ntsha mafoko a tota ke batla gore *His Honour the Vice President and Minister of Finance* a e utlwe gongwe a tle a re akanyetse.

“EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERSHIP”

MR TSHERE: Ke ne ka dira ditlhotlhomiso gore, tota selo se se bakiwa ke eng. Mabaka a mantsi. Sa ntlha mme ke tlhalose gore, Mahalapye *village is supplied* motlakase go tswa kwa Palapye *at a 66kv line* e e tsamayang *almost 72 km along A1*, re a e bona gone fale e tliša motlakase mo motseng wa Mahalapye. Fa ke bua ka motse wa Mahalapye fa, ke bua ka Mahalapye District, ka gore *distribution* ya *this 66kv* when it lends mo Mahalapye, ke yone *that feeds all other villages,*

bo Shoshong, Mmutlane *everybody there*. So, every time Mahalapye a tima go raya gore *the surrounding Mahalapye le ene switches off*. We have to understand it in that manner. However, there is only one line e e tlang mo Mahalapye, a 66kv line. Gangwe le gape e a thulwa, le dikotsi along A1. Fela fa o bona go nna le kotsi mo pole e, *Your Honour*, ga re na motlakase kwa motseng wa Mahalapye. Jaanong for that, go na le another 66kv line e e emang fa Serorome, near Pallaroad. Kopo ya me e tona ke gore, a re tseye that 66kv line e fetele kwa Mahalapye, e ye go tsena mo substation e e kwa Mahalapye, e bo e ema foo gore fa re nngang le bothata from the north, then we can feed from the south. Then we are sure gore go tlaa nna go na le motlakase mo motseng wa Mahalapye and go tlaa boloka dikgwebo kwa motseng wa Mahalapye. Selo se ke bothata jo bo seng kana ka sepe *Madam Speaker and Your Honour the Vice President*. Ke kopa thata gore gongwe kgang e re e lebelele. Fa re sena go nna re tsenya that 66kv line, of which I think is under 60 km because ke bua ka Serorome Valley to Mahalapye, substation ya teng is just after Mahalapye River; o tlola Mahalapye River along A1, it is on your right going north. Jaanong ke yone e re batlang line ya teng e dirwa to bring stability ka motlakase mo motseng wa Mahalapye.

Se sengwe se re se eletsang ke gore, kana...

MR LESEDI: *Point of clarification*. Mma ke go leboge, ke go dumedise *Madam Speaker*. Mma ke go leboge Tona. Ke ne ke re gongwe ke go utlwisise sentle motlhomphegi, gore a se o se kopang se, o raya gore go nne le kgonagalo ya gore fa go na le dipe tse re di lebang ka tsela e o di lebang ka yone, le rona re ka ikopela? Ke a leboga.

MR TSHERE: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ee, nnyaa o ka ikopela, heela! Palamente go a ikopelwa fela tota, fa go dumalanwa, go a dumalanwa. Jaanong ke a e latlhela le nna *Your Honour* ka gore ke tsaya gore gongwe ga ke na go nna le tshono ya go bua fa go setse go tsena kwa *Committee of Supply* fa re bua ka energy, so ke e latlhelela ruri fela gore e nne kgang e e teng.

Jaanong se sengwe gape, *power lines* mo motseng wa Mahalapye. Kana motse wa Mahalapye o mogologolo jaaka re itse, jaanong go na le *power lines* tse e leng gore di tsamaya fa godimo ga buildings. Literally, *power lines* di feta fa godimo ga dikago mo Mahalapye Central Business District (CBD). Selo se poses a very serious danger mo bathong ba ba teng foo. Keletso ke gore we migrate these power supply lines and take them underground gore di kgone go tsamaya sentle.

If you look at Mahalapye gompieno, go na le buildings tse e leng gore ga di a fela, I am sure le tlhola le bona gore fa o feta gone fale, go na le building e nngwe e e leng gore kwa godimo ga e a fela, but e a dirisiwa kwa tlase, if you find out what is the problem there, it is actually the power line, e feta fela fa roof e yang go nna teng. Jaanong ke bothata gone foo. Ke a kopa thata gore gongwe kgang e re e lebelele, re beye madinyana gore motlakase wa Mahalapye o kgone go dirwa underground, re se ka ra nna le mathata a go tima.

Selo se sengwe se re se itemogelang, ke bogodu jwa cables tsona tse. Not only cables ka gore cables ke a di bona, mathata a matona ke mo paleng ya motlakase fela jaana. Kana there is an earth cable mo go yone pale ya motlakase, jaanong dipale tsotlhe di tseetswe the...

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure Madam Speaker*. Nnyaa, mme *Madam Speaker*, ke ne ke re gongwe o mo gakolole gore kana re santse re le mo general principles, ene o setse a sietse kwa *Committee of Supply* le kwa cables, ke stage se se kwa morago, jaanong a a itebaganye le general principles of the budget.

MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG): Nnyaa, mme ke tsaya gore it is his line of debate, ke ka fa a batlang go e tsena ka teng.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)...

MR TSHERE: *Thank you very much*. Ke wetse rra fa e le gore go buelela batho ba Mahalapye go a go tena, mme kana ke na le batho ba ga lona kwa Mahalapye, ga ke itse gore ke eng go sa go kgatlhe. Ke wela ka gore, yone cable e ke buang ka yone e e mo paleng e, di utswilwe, ke tsona tse go supafalang di dira gore motlakase o time mo go kana.

Fa ke ya kwa bokhutlong, *Madam Speaker*, nna kana ke modiri wa botsogo, professionally I am a trained healthcare professional. Jaanong ka botsogo ga o letlelelwe gotlhelele, ke sone se o bonang go sena ope yo o ka le arabang. Ga o letlelelwe gore e ka re fa o raya motho o re, "motho yo o bolailwe ke gore ga go na dipilisi," ga ke letlelelwe gore ke ka ema ka dinao ka go bolelela gore what is the cause of death, kana motho yo o bolailwe ke eng. Jaanong ke sone se o bonang e le gore ga go na ope wa botsogo yo o tlleng go araba. Jaanong fa re tshameka ka botsogo, jaaka ke bona re tshameka ka jone jaana, bo le masisi jaaka bo le masisi jaana, e bo e le gore re tlaabo re ema mo Ntlong e re re go ne go sena dipilisi, motho o sule e bile o ka fa tlase ga lefatshe, golo mo ga se puo e e siameng gotlhelele.

Go tlhokwa ga melemo ke seemo se e leng gore se teng, e bile gape ke sone se e leng gore Goromente o eme ka dinao go bona gore melemo e teng mo dikokelong le dikokelwana tsa lefatshe la Botswana. Gape go nna le *alternative medication* o e leng gore o ka o bona fa e le gore molemo ga o yo. Fela gore re bo re simolola re re, “o bolailwe ke gore ga go na molemo,” hei! o bua kgang e e leng gore mo botsogong ga se gone. Kana fa o ema fa o bo o re ke bone *Death Certificate* ya re *cause of death* ke gore go ne go sena melemo, jaanong re ka bo re go utlwa. Jaanong ga re go utlwe fa o bua jaana kwa botsogong.

Jaanong se se bokete le go feta ke gore, fa gongwe fa re emelela mo Ntlong e re re, ga go na dipilisi, ga go na dipilisi, rona kwa botsogong o tshwanetse o bo o re ga go na pilisi... gakere jaanong ga re batle go bua ka botsogo rona kwa *health professional, that is why* o bona ke se ke ke *entertain* dikgang tsa teng. Fa o bua o re, ga go na dipilisi, ga go na dipilisi, tota boammaaruri fa re setse re e bua sepolotiki, kana ke gore o re bolelele gore o raya dife ka gore rona re itse gore tse dingwe di teng. Gongwe ene o na le pilisi e e leng gore ke yone e mmerekelang, jaanong gongwe ke sone se e leng gore o ka re bolelele gore pilisi eo ke yone mang ra ya go e batla kwa e ka tswang e le teng. Fa e le gore o ka ema mo Palamenteng wa re ga go na pilisi, o tshwanetse o kgone go bua gore o raya pilisi efe, ya bolwetse bofe. Jaanong selo se se bothokwa.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Point of order.* Tanki *Madam Speaker.* Re ne re re gongwe re baakanyetse *Honourable Tshere*, kana fa motho a mo reeditse a le kwa gae, o tseela gore go eme ‘Ngaka Tshere,’ re reye batho re re nnyaa, ke tse a di utlwang fela ba le kwa *Cabinet*, tota ene ke *mechanic* wa didirisiwa tsa kwa sepateleng.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!) ...

MR TSHERE: Nnyaa, o ne a ntiela nako. *Madam Speaker*, kgang e ya botsogo e masisi, ga e batle re e tshameka jaaka re e bua jaana. Ke gore ke bua jaana selo se ka gore ke a itse gore go raya eng fa re bua jaana.

(Certain words were expunged from the record as ordered by the Speaker.)

MR TSHERE: Jaanong kwa bofelelong, *social contract*. Kana ba tlaabo ba re Tautona ga a bue sentle a re fa o kwadile dilo mo *manifesto, cannot constitute a contract*. Ke boammaaruri, ga go na boammaaruri jo bo fetang foo, *the law on contracts* ga e *apply* mo *pledges*

tse o di dirang kwa *rally*. Jaanong kana Tautona ke motho wa molao, *so* fa e le gore fa a bua a tlhamalatsa dilo e bo e le gore lona le tsaya gore *he is being arrogant, no, it is not a contract. A contract* e teng, e a saenwa, e bile e na le *termination clause*.

(Certain words were expunged from the record as ordered by the Speaker.)

MR HIKUAMA: Yes, that is why we are here, to guide the procedure.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Hikuama. *Ke kopa gore go tlisiwe* Hansard, so that I can rule over his comments.

MR TSHERE: *Thank you very much. Madam Speaker*, ke ne ke bua ka konteraka *in social contract*. Konteraka *is very clear* ka fa molaong gore go tewa eng. Ga go reye gore fa Tautona a rialo, o tlaabo a itlhomolosa *the pledges that we made as UDC. We are wide awake to the promises that we made*. Jaanong jaaka ke bua, re ne re simolola go tthatloga jaana, *I am sure* ka bo *May, after April*, go tlaabo go sena dikgang tsa bo P1800, tsa bo eng. Ke a ipotsa gore ba tlaabo ba bua ya eng. O a e bona kgang? Ke rile, le se ka la *base argument* mo goreng gongwe re palelwe.

Go tshwana le fa o *hope* gore fa o sena go tlhala mosadi, a sotlege gore batho ba tle ba bone gore ke wena o neng o ntse o mo tlhokomela. Fa e le gore re batla gore re dire UDC gore e *fail*, gore re tle re palame re re nnyaa mme ba feitse, ba ne ba rile ba re, ba re, ga ba a dira, moo go tle go fela. *The real* mabaka, re bo re a tlhoka mo tafoleng. *So, for that, I support the Bill. Thank you.*

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MR MATHOOTHE):

Thank you Madam Speaker. Mma le nna ke nne le mafoko mo pegong ya madi. Ke supe jaana gore re na le Tona wa *Finance* Rre Ndaba Gaolathe, yo re tshwanetseng ra mo tshepha. Ke bua jaana ka gore ke sala ke kopane le ene bogologolo, ka dinako tsele tsa dingwaga tsa bo 2000, re santse re le ka kwa ga nkuku mo matlotleng. Re na le bo Rre Motswaledi le Modulasetilo wa banana koo. E ne e le mogakolodi wa tsa madi ka nako eo. Go ntse go supa gore o tshwere fela jalo, gore ke modisa yo o molemo.

Fa re lebelela ka fa pego e beilweng ka teng, e beilwe ka boammaaruri jo bo leng teng, ka fa go diragalang ka teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ke batla go akgela ke itebagantse le tsela e re tshwanetseng ra e tsaya,

e e tokafatsang itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana. Ke tlhologanya jalo gore go na le tse dingwe tse di tlhalositsweng ka kabakanyo ya madi. E e leng gore *it is the key* mo dikgannyeng tse. Fa re tsamaya, re tsamaya ka tsela efe ya gore re tokafatse itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana.

Dingwe tse ke batlang go itebaganya thata le tsone, ke BETP, e re tlaabong re e setse morago. Re e setse morago jaana e le yone *a shift*, e e supang gore ga re sa tlhole re ka ikaega thata mo diteemaneng. Ga ke batle go dumela thata gore re le Puso e ntšha, re santse re lebile thata kwa diteemaneng. Fa o bona go tlile *programme* e, ke yone e tsayang *a shift* e lefatshe la Botswana le tshwanetseng le tseye tsela e nngwe, e seng tsela ya maloba e e neng e le gore *we rely* thata mo diteemaneng. Jaaka a supa, re ikaege thata ka *the private sector*, e nne yone e e tsamayang kwa pele.

Ke dumela jalo *Madam Speaker* ka gore, morago fa go sena go nna go bidiwa baanelwa botlhe fa go dirwa *programme* e, go tserwe ba botlhe ba ba amegang, ga fitlhelwa go na le *projects* di ka tshwara 186 tse di tlaabong di lebilwe ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Dingwe tsa *projects* tse ke itemogelang di le teng, di sa tlhalosiwa gone fa, ka gore *the Budget Speech* ka fa e ntseng ka teng, ga go reye gore e ka goboka tsotlhe tse di teng, di diragala mo lefatsheng la Botswana.

Fa o lebile ntlha e ya *manufacturing*, o tlaa fitlhela re na le nngwe kompone e e bidiwang gotwe Botlala Energy. E na le *project* ya *gas* kwa motseng wa Serowe. *Gas* e, ke nngwe ya tse e leng gore fa o tsaya selekanyetso sa yone, se tshwana le e e fitlhelwang kwa lefatsheng la Australia. O bona gore *this programme* ya BETP, e dirile gore dikompone tse di ikemetseng ka bonosi, di bo di ka itlhalosa, di atolosa gore di ka thusa lefatshe la Botswana jang. Ke dingwe tse e leng gore fa re bua jaana, ba kompone e, morago ga ba sena go nna ba bona *gas*, ba saenne *an off-take agreement* le nngwe kompone kwa Aferika Borwa *that deals* ka ditshipi. Dipatlisiso di setse di supile gore ka ngwaga wa 2028, go tlaabo go na le *shortage* ya *gas* mo Southern Africa. O bona gore *this programme*, e dirile jalo gore dikompone tse di ikemetseng ka nosi tse di tshwanang le tsa Botlala Energy, di bo di kgonne gore le tsone di bo di ka lebelwa kwa pele gore mo lefatsheng la Botswana le le nang le *gas* e e kanakana, e nne dingwe tse e leng gore fa re kabakanya itsholelo re tswa kwa diteemaneng, jaanong re ka tsena kwa *gas*. *This company they signed* le ya kwa Africa Borwa, ba tlhologanya gore ka ngwaga wa 2028, ba tlaabo ba tlhalelwa ke *gas*. Ba setse ba dirile

ditumalano gore jaanong ba tlaabo ba tsaya *liquified natural gas* e e kwa Botlala Energy e e tlaabong e ya kwa lefatsheng la Africa Borwa. O ka bona gore fa ba setse ba simolola, ba ya go tlhama ditiro tse di seng kana ka sepe.

Mangwe a maikaelelo a bone gape ke gore mo dingweng tsa *projects they proposed*, ba tlaabo ba nna le *hybrid power station*, e ba tlaabong ba dirisa *the gas to generate about 20 megawatts* kwa Serowe, ba dira ka *gas* ba e tlhakantse le *solar*. O ka bona gore thulaganyo e e dirile gore dikompone ka bontsi di nne le sebaka sa go itshupa ba bone gore ba ka nna le seabe mo go tokafatseng itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana. Fa o ka lebelela dilo tse, di diragala morago ga Puso e sena go fetoga. Ke tsaya gore Puso e e leng teng, e tsere dikgato tse di maleba mo nakong e khutshwanyane ka gore go setse go fetile dikgwedi fela gongwe di le lesome le bone e le ntšha e le mo Pusong. Fa o bona go diragala diphetogo tse, ke boammaaruri jo bo leng teng, jo re bonang gore di nna teng.

Tse dingwe gape tse di tshwanetseng gore di bo di itshupile, go na le dikompone tsa Batswana ka thulaganyo e go neng go biditswe dikompone gore seabe sa lona le ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore le tokafatse itsholelo. Go na le kompone e nngwe ya bana ba Batswana kwa Phakalane, ba ba itebagantseng le gore ba tlaabo ba dira *metres* tse di dirisiwang kwa Botswana Power Corporation (BPC). Fa o ka lebelela, re ntse re reka *metres* kwa ntle ga lefatshe la Botswana, jaanong fa re bona bana mo lefatsheng le ba kgona go bona gore le rona *we will be starting to manufacture metres* tse BPC e tlaabong e itse gore di teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana, e bile re ka go bona ka tlhwatlhwa e e kwa tlase. Ke *the shift* e re tsamaelang kwa go yone. Mathata a re iphitlhelang re tsene mo go one, go nnile lebaka le le leele, dingwaga tse 58 re sa bone *the transformation* le kabakanyo ya itsholelo. Fa gongwe *under two years*, re bo re setse re bona dikompone di na le seabe se se kana, go supa gore kwa re yang teng re tsamaela golo gongwe.

MR LEKAU: *Elucidation.* Ke ne ke re o e tshwere sentle mokaulengwe. O supe gore *shift* eo e ntse e le selo se se sa tlwaelesegang. Jaaka o bona kompone e ne ya dira *bulbs* tse di tsereng dingwaga go tsena mo *market*, di bo di ya go bonwa kwa mafatsheng a sele pele ga rona re di amogela. UDC e tsamaela gone koo *in recognising skill* sa mongwe le mongwe yo o mo Botswana.

MR MATHOOTHE: Ke a go leboga motlotlegi, ke gone kwa re tsamaelang teng.

Jaaka ke bua, dilo tse tsotlhe di diragala ka fa tlase ga dingwaga tse pedi. Motho o ka ipotsa gore fa e le gore fa re tsamayang teng re simolola go bona diphetogo tse di ntseng jaana, e tlaa re *five years* o Batswana ba neetseng UDC ka ene, go tlaabo go tsamaya fa kae fa a wela? Ke dingwe tse ke supang gore fa re na le bana e bile Goromente a ba rotloetsa, ba dira *manufacturing* mo lefatsheng la Botswana, ke gone kwa re tlaa bonang diemo di tokafala.

Re na le kompone e e tlaabong e dira *cement* mo lefatsheng la Botswana, e ya go tlhoma ka fa Oodi-Matebeleng. *This company is very big*, fa e simolola *cement* mo lefatsheng la Botswana, kana se na le *some ingredients* tse di tsenngwang mo teng gore re nne le *a high-quality cement*. Dingwe tsa *ingredients* tse di tsenngwang mo teng ke limestone, gypsum e ba dirang *clinker* ka yone. Ke dilo tse di teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Go raya gore *this company* fa e tlhomiwa mono, e tlaabo e simolola go reka dingwe tsa ditswammung tse di leng teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ke gone mo ke dumelang thata ka tlhoafalo gore *this transformation programme*, e supa *the shift* e e tsereng ka go fa dikai tse di diragalang. Fa re dira *cement* mo lefatsheng la Botswana, *it is time* ya gore ba *railways*, ba Tautona a laetseng gore e iteke le yone e tsenye letseno mo lefatsheng la Botswana, *it is an advantage for them*. Jaanong ba bo ba itse gore *cement* se ba ka kgona *to transport it* ba tsenye madi, e re ba se tsaya ba se isa kwa bo Francistown, fa ba boa ba bo ba tla ka *some other ingredients* tse ba tlaabong ba di dirisa. Ke gone kwa re tsamaelang teng.

Se se leng botlhokwa ke gore fa *investors* di tla jaana di tlhoma mo lefatsheng la Botswana, *facilitation* ya teng e tshwanetse go nna motlhofo, e se ka ya nna mogoga moleele. Fa e ka nna mogoga moleele, ba tlaa felela ba ya go tlhoma kwa mafatsheng a mangwe ka gore go supafala gore kompone e e tona thata, e ya go thusa. E tlaa re ba ba leng teng ka fa Mochudi kana bana ba lefatshe la Botswana, ba bone ditiro. Ke dingwe tse re buang re lebile jalo ka gore seemo se re tsamayang teng gompieno, ga re a tshwanela go supana ka menwana. Re tshwanetse go tshwaragana rotlhe ra itse gore re ntsha lefatshe la Botswana fa le leng teng. Fa re ka supana ka monwana, fa e le gore jaanong *economy* ga e gole, re ya go nna mo mathateng. Ke ne ke re ke supe jalo ka gore ke bone gore ke tseye tsela e e supang sentle ka dikai

gore fa re re go kabakanya itsholelo, re raya go ntse jang le ka dikai re kgona go di ntsha.

Dingwe gape tse re tshwanetseng go di lebelela, fa o ka lebelela kgang ya BMC gore e tsere lebaka le le kae e ntse e sa kgone go dira dipoelo. E tsere lebaka le le kae Goromente ngwaga le ngwaga a tsenya madi mo teng, mme gompieno fela mo lebakeng le le khutshwanyane, re bona BMC e tsoga e bile e kgona go duela dikoloto tse di *over P600 million*. Ke dingwe tse o bonang gore go a bonala e bile go a supafala kwa re yang teng. E bile ke supe gore Motlotlegi Rre Saleshando a bo le ene a dumalana le kgang e ya gore diphetogo di nna teng. Ke dingwe tse e leng gore fa re bua ka kgomo, ke mokokotlo wa Batswana. Jaanong fa re bona diphetogo tse di supa gore go na le tsholofelo e ntsi thata fa re ya kwa pele.

Dingwe gape tse re tshwanetseng go di lebelela, re tswa kgakala fa re bua ka mashi mo lefatsheng la Botswana, re *import* a mantsi kwa mafatsheng a re bapileng le one. Re tshwanetse go akgola ba BDC, ba ba ka fa tlase ga *ministry* wa rona gore ba bo ba tsere tshwetso ya go ya go tsaya dikgomo tsa mashi kwa Brazil, ba tle ba di ise kwa Milk Valley. Mo go neela *farmers* tse di teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana gore fa dikgomo tsele di dira sentle, le bone ba ka itse gore tse di ka re thusang mo lefatsheng la Botswana ke dife gore re tle re fokotse *the importation* ya mashi kwa ntle ga lefatshe la Botswana. Ke dingwe tse o bonang gore re tsamaela gone kwa re batlang go goroga teng, re fitlhele e le gore dingwe tsa dijo tse re di tsayang kwa ntle ga lefatshe la Botswana, re bone di tswa mono. Ke dingwe tse o kgonang go bona motlhala le gore diphetogo di nna teng.

Fa re bua ka kgang ya *citrus* e re bonang gore *market* o teng, dingwe tse re batlang go di lebelela ke gore Batswana ba ba nang le kगतlhego, ba na le masimo a bone, ba batla go tsena mo *citrus production*, re ba *facilitate* ka tsela e e ntseng jang *so that* re tle re *tap* mo *market* o o tsweleng o bulega. Ke dingwe tse re tlaa sianang thata ka tsone ka gore ga re batle mo gotweng gongwe le gongwe ntsha lefatshe re tle re leme. Go na le Batswana ba ba nang le lefatshe le le rileng, ba na le metsi mme jaanong *if they can be capacitated*, ba rutiwa, ba tsena gone foo, ba ka kgona gore le bone ba bo ba na le seabe, e se ka ya nna fela gongwe ba ba tlaabong ba ntsha lefatshe ba bo ba lebelela motshameko o tshamekiwa. Ke dingwe tse e leng gore re tsamaela gone koo. Dilo tse ke dikai, go a itshupa gore re tshwanetse re tsamaele koo ka gore ga go na ka fa re ka tlholang e le

gore re ka tswa re lebile diteemane thata. Le fa o bona diteemane di ile kwa tlase mme golo gongwenyana, di ntse di tsenya letseno mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Fa re ka tsamaya ka tsela e Mothusa Tautona a e tlhalositseng fa, ke yone e ka re bolokang fela thata.

Dingwe tse go builweng ka tsone, tse mo dikgaolong tsa rona re setseng e bile re gatela kwa pele mo go tsone, ke kgang ya moringa. Fa *market* o bonetse kwa mafatsheng a sele, go raya gore jaanong Batswana ka bontsi ba tshwanetse ba ikopanye kwa ba leng teng. Dikgang tse tsa dikoporase, di ka fa tlase ga lephata la rona. Re batla gore ba ba mo masimong a a golo go le gongwefela ba tle ba ikopanye ba dire *projects* tsa go nna jaana gore *production* e tle e nne kwa godimo. Dikoporase ke nngwe ya dithulaganyo tse di ka thusang mo itsholelong ya lefatsheng la Botswana. Fa ke ka fa sekai; fa o ya kwa dikgaolong tse tsa bo North West, *up north*, o fitlhela go na le *trusts* tse di dirang madi. *These trusts* fa di ka ikopanya tsa nna koporase ka botsone, ba phutha madi a bone, fa ba batla go aga *malls* e e rileng kwa bo Maun, ba ka kgona gore ba dire ka tsela e e ntseng jalo ka ba tlhaloganya gore kana diphologolo tse ga di a nnela ruri mme madi a ba a dirang ba tshwanetse gore jaanong ba a tseye ba bone gore ba ka dira jang. Re se ka ra *rely* fela mo mading a a tswang kwa ntle, re itse gore le bone fa ba dira *trusts* tse di ntseng jalo tse di dirang madi a a seng kana ka sepe, ba ka kgona gore ba ikopanye ba dire *malls* e le banni ba kwa dikgaolong tseo, ba bo ba itse gore ke bone ba ba tsentseng madi ka go nna jalo.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI):

Clarification. Ke a leboga thata *Madam Speaker*. Ke dumedise. Ke tseye nako e khutshwane ka go kopa tshedimoso ka se Mopalamente a se buang. A o raya jaaka gompiano jaana mo dikgaolong tse dingwe tsa rona tse di kwa tennyanteng tsa bo Chobe, Okavango, Maun jalojalo, go na le batho ba ba tshelang ka *trusts* le Batswana ba ba tshelang fela ka go itirela ka diatlanyana jaana, ba sela bo sengaparile kana melemonyana fale le fale? A o raya gore ba rotloediwe, ba ikgobokanye, ba nne le letseno le le rileng ka fa tlase ga Goromente wa UDC? A ke sone se o se buang rraetsho?

MR MATHOOTHE: Ke sone se ke se buang gore le tsone dibapalwanageng tse di leng teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana, ba ka ikgobokanya ka gore kwa mafatsheng a mangwe ba tlhokana le gone gore ba ka dirisa ditlhare tseo ba ntsha melemo. Maloba fa ke ne ke le ka fa baagisanying kwa Afrika Borwa, ke ne ka kopana le ba bangwe ba ntshupegetsa setlhare se sengwe se se dirang *hydraulic oils* le melemo. Fa ke lebelela setlhare se, ke bo ke se bona gore o kare se teng mo lefatsheng la

Botswana. Go nnete, go ntse jalo, go na le setlhare se gotweng mokhure se se nang le *some seeds* tse di dirang *oil* e e dirang *hydraulics* le melemo. Go botlhokwa thata gore re *research* ka dilo tsa rona mme e bile gape re di *protect* mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Jaanong dilo tsa go nna jalo di botlhokwa rraetsho.

Fa ke wela *Madam Speaker*, go na le kgang ya gore ka 2030 re bo re setse re na le dikgomo di le 5 *million*. Nngwe ntlha e re tshwanetseng ra e lebelela thata ke ba ba neetsweng dipolase gore o kare *they are underutilised*. Bone e le bo radipolase, re le mo seemong se se thata sa itsholelo e e kwa tlase e, ba tshwanetse le bone ba ipope e nne koporase ka bobone, ba nne le fa ba tlaa direlang ditiro tsa bone teng, ba nne le a *service centre* e ba ka kgonang go aga masaka a bone teng, go baya *malls* le *clinic* ya bone teng; fa ba ka kgonang go direla teng golo go le gongwefela gona le gore fa gongwe ba nne ba tsamaya gotwe ngwaga o o tlang re kwa polaseng ele, re kwa polaseng ele. Ga re ba direle golo go le gongwefela. Fa ba dira dilo tse ba ikgobokantse e le koporase, o tlaa bona *production* ya dikgomo e ya kwa godimo. Gompiano fa o lebelela kwa dipolaseng, ba gaisiwa ke batho ba bangwe ba ba ithuetseng mo merakeng. Ke dingwe tse re tlaabong re di lebelela ka tsela e e ntseng jalo gore fa ba ka ikgobokanya ba ka thusiwa botoka. Le bone fa ba ntse ba ntsha madinyana a ba a ntshang, ba ka kgona go itlhabolola ka gore re mo seemong se se thata.

Fa ke wela, bogolo jang ke ne ke lebile fa go kgaogangwa madi go lebilwe ditsela, ke na le motse o teng o bidiwa Majwanaadipitse, ke motse o o kgakala thata le ditlamelo. Ke mengwe ya metse e ke dumelang thata gore gope fa re ka bonang teng, metse yone e, e nne metse ya ntlha re e leba fa re bua ka ditsela. *Madam Speaker*, ke ne ke raya gore ke wele go le kalo. *Thank you.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members. I understand the Minister of Communications and Innovation has a Motion to move.

BUSINESS MOTION

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE):

Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke kopa go sutisa mo Ntlong e ke dirisa Standing Order 27.1 (b) gore re oketse nako ya go nna mo Palamenteng ka 30 *minutes* gore re se ka ra tswala Ntlo e ka 6:00 p.m. mme *instead* re e tswale ka 6:30 p.m. Ke kopa gape Tshutiso e, e tsewelele fela jalo go fitlhelela di 24 *March* 2026 fa re fetsa *Bill* e re mo go yone. *I move accordingly.*

Question put and agreed to.



MADAM SPEAKER: The floor is open, opposition side.

MR MAPULANGA (CHOBE): Tla ke go leboge *Madam Speaker*. Ke le dumedise bakaulengwe. *Madam Speaker*, re neetswe pego ya kgaoganyo ya madi mme re re ka gore re santse re ya go e *debate* kwa *sectors* tse dingwe gape, gongwe ga re na go atologa thata. Re leke go e *summarise* jaaka Vice President (VP) a ne a re e neela gone fa. Ke simolole ka go lemoga le go leboga ba ba neng ba re dule matshidiso ka gore re sa tswa go nna le seemo kwa kgaolong re latlhegelwa ke Kgosi. A mowa wa gagwe o tswellele o robale ka kagiso.

Sengwe se ke eletsang gore ke se fetise *Madam Speaker*, ke kgang ya gore maduo a bana a dule mme fa a dule jaana, a ne a se monate. Ga ke itse ka dikgaolo tsa lona mme kwa go tsa rona a ne a se monate ka gore *the highest was only at 39 per cent*. Kana mo go raya gore *more than 60 per cent* ya bana ba ba ya go lebagana le kgwetlho ya botshelo gone jaana. Re ne re solofetse go le gontsi go utlwa gore *budget* e, e isa kae bana ba rona ba e leng gore gongwe ga ba nna le lesego la go feta ba ya kwa *senior secondary schools*. Gongwe ga ba na go nna le lesego la go bona ditiro gone jaana ka gore ba bangwe ba ba nnyennyane, le bone bo Omang tota ga ba ise ba nne le bone. Re dumela gore re tlaa tswellela re leka fa re lekang teng go bona gore bana le dikole di ntshe maduo a a botoka gore *the graph, triangle* yone e, e simolole go gola kwa go bo A, gona le go gola kwa tlase kwa go bo E le D. *It is unfortunate* gore ke diemo tse re fitlhelang re le mo go tsone, mme re tlaa dumela gore go tlaa siama.

Madam Speaker, re neetswe *budget* ya ngwaga o, P91 billion, ya ngwaga o o fetileng was P89 billion. Se se raya eng? *Budget* ke eng tota? Kana *budget* fa re e lebile, go raya gore ke batho ka bo bone, itsholelo kana ditsompelo tse ba nang le tsone le *the distribution* ya *wealth* ya teng gore jaaka a ne a kgaogannwa jaana, mme fa ke a lebile madi a, re bona e ne e ka nna ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Re bona bokete bo santse bo ya kwa Botswana Defence Force (BDF), *State President* le *Security*, kwa re dumelang *Madam Speaker* gore golo fa o kare jaanong ga re na *structural break*. Ga re ise re tswa mo tlhologong e re ntseng re tla re e tlwaetse. Go reng re santse re isa madi a a kanakana? Re sa a *shift* ra a isa kwa bo *Education, Trade*, re ye go aga madirelo a re reng re a isa kwa BETP, a tsoge *within these two or three years*. Re tlaa tla re boela kwa go bone ba BDF le *State*

President fa nako e tsile madi a le teng. Re buse madi a ye kwa dilong tse di ka dirang itsholelo. Ga ke itse, re tlaa tswellela re gakololana.

Re leboge thata *Madam Speaker*, re tewa gotwe *Government to Government initiative* e e tlaa ya go re thusa kwa *health*. Re e amogele mme e bile re solofele gore *the United Arab Emirates (UAE)* e tlaa tla ka sengwe se se botoka. Re gakolole thata mo go yone gore a ko e re go diragala jalo, re dumalana gore ba tlaa re thusa kwa melemong. A e nne melemo e e nang le boleng. Sengwe se se tshwenyang mo lefatsheng la Botswana, ke melemo e e reng fa o e neelwa, kwa bowelong jwa *treatment* go baka malwetse a mangwe. Malwetse a mangwe a re a lwalang gompieno a tswa mo melemong e re e neelwang gape. Re go alafela pelo, kwa bowelong jwa go alafelwa pelo, o simolola o nna le mathata *honourable* mo diemong tse go yang go ama mmele wa gago, mo e leng gore le lelwapa le kgona go senyega. E le dikgang tse e leng gore melemo e, kwa bowelong jwa teng, ga e re alafe selo se le sengwe fela, se ya go baka gape malwetse a mangwe. Ke solofele gore go tlaa ya go ntse go siama.

Re leboge gore re bone *x-ray* kwa Pandamatenga, mme re kope *Minister* yo o lebaneng gore e se ka *x-ray* ya bewa fela, e nne le badirisi ba yone ka re santse re kokonelwa gore ga go na *staffing* mo dikokelong tse re nang le tsone. A re lekeng gore *budget* e, e *address staff or the staffing* sa *to recruit* baoki, dingaka, re nne le ditirelo tse di botoka mo *budget* ya gompieno *Madam Speaker*.

Ke ye fa pelenyana ke supe jaana gore ke santse ke le bete se molangwana ka NHI. Ke leka go e amanya le *primary healthcare systems* gore fa re lebile *the cost effectiveness* ya yone, kana e batla madi gore o ye kwa dipatela. *The healthcare system* e re neng re e dirisa thatathata mo go yone, e ne e le go kganela malwetse mo setšhabeng. Kwa re neng re rotloetsa boitekanelo thata pele go tsena malwetse. A ko re di lebisise dilo tse gore a mme se se tlang pele, *health insurance* e, e e tlaa felelang gongwe re ya go adima madi, gona le *to promote the primary healthcare systems* tsa rona gore batho ba se ka ba tsenwa ke malwetse ntateng ya go sa itlthokomela kana go sa itse go itshwara mo botshelong jwa bone. Se re neng re ka se kgona ka bonako ke sefe? Ke dumela gore e lebiwe Tona yo o lebaneng gore re *promote the primary healthcare* gore jaanong malwetse a fokotsege ka gore go ya go alafiwa ga go re thusa. Re tshwanetse ra emisa gore malwetse a nne teng.

Sengwe se ke batlang gore ke tsene mo go sone mo kgannyeng e, ke *ratio* ya dingaka. Dingaka tse di nne teng gore fa gotwe *ratio* ke 1000 *people for one doctor*, a go diragale jalo ka gore re santse re tlhalelwa ke dingaka mo e leng gore *we are referring people* go tswa kgakala kwa Shakawe kana Parakarungu o mo tsisa mo Gaborone. Fa a tsena mo Gaborone re santse re na le seemo sa gore o tsile go ema fa kgwedi. Ga ke itse gore kgang e fa re e bua gatwe e *sensitive*, mo go lona gone fa, le fa re ka tlhola *messages Madam Speaker*, mongwe le mongwe o nna Mopalamente, pele o nna *Minister*, o tshwanetse wa bo o na le *message* wa mongwe wa balwetse kwa kgaolong o o reng go na le seemo sa kalafi ya gore melemo e a tlhalela ga e yo. Kana o a neng a o batla, ga a a o fitlhela. Dikarata di nna kwa dikokelwaneng go lekiwa gore go tsamaye go bonwa gore re ka o bona kwa kae. Kgang e ga ke itse gore ke eng re batla go tsaya gore fa e buiwa ke ya *opposition*.

Batho ba na le seemo, melemo ga e yo mo dikokelwaneng le mo dipateleng, balwetse ba na le seemo. Re batla go bolelela ba bangwe gore mathata a kwa go lona ba *opposition*. *Well*, fa e le gore mo Pusong kwa go lona go siame, ga go na bothata, mme re na le seemo sa gore balwetse ba santse bangwe ba sa bone melemo e e tlhokegang, e e alafang malwetse a bone. Ke le kope gore *let us not downplay* gore ke kgang e ke yang go gogomosa batho maikutlo. Seemo se teng, melemo e a tlhalela, *we are encouraging and motivating* gore a re lekeng ka bojotlhe gore e nne teng. E seng gore re bolelelwe gore ke kgang ya BCP. Ga se ya BCP kana ya *opposition*. Batswana ba a robadiwa, re reka melemo, magare a a dirang loaro gore jaanong batho ba alafiwe kana ba dirwe *surgeries* tseo. Dikgang tse, ga se tsa Mopalamente wa *opposition*. Ga ke itse *Madam Speaker*, fa e le gore fa o le Tona go raya gore *constituency* ya gago batho ba tshela sentle. Re tlaa tla re bona re tsena mo Pusong.

Mma ke ye kwa pele *Madam Speaker*, ke batla go tsena mo *agriculture*, ke lebogethata Puso mo nakong ya gompiano ka go fetola *promptly* fa go tla kgang ya FMD. Kgang e ga e motlhofo e bile re e tlhagisitse. Ke gakologelwa gore P97 *million* o begilwe gore o ile go thusa. Sengwe se ke batlang gore re wele mo go sone, ga ke ise ke nne motho yo o dumelang gore kgomo fa gotwe e na le FMD go bo gotwe e a bolawa. Re na le *market* wa dikgomo tse e leng gore fa di na le malwetse, *we can still benefit from them* gona le go humanegisa Batswana. Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) e gone

mo e e kentelang bolwetse jo. A re batleng tsela ya go kwarantana dikgomo tse, di se ka tsa bolawa, di phepafadiwe. Maun Abattoir e tlhaba dikgomo tse di tswang mo *zones* tsa FMD. Francistown e ne e le teng, a re leke go bona gore *market* o o dikologileng Botswana ba ba ka tsayang dikgomo tse di alafilweng di na le FMD, gona le go bolaya.

Kana fa re sena go bolaya dikgomo *Madam Speaker*, re a di katela, fa re sena go di katela re kgotlela *the same underground water*. *We are in a climate change era*, re ya go felela re kgotlela metsi a a ka fa tlase ga lefatshe. Re ntse re tlhalelwa ke metsi, re ntse re sena metsi a a *enough or* a a ka nowang. Kgang e a re e lebisise, re emise go tlhaba dikgomo kana di bolawa ka gore di na le FMD. *Let us quarantine them* re di alafe, di fole *and consume for our local markets*. Ke dumela gore e a utlwala *Madam Speaker*, mme ke sutelele fa pele.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOTSHEGWA):

Point of clarification. Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Mapulanga. Ke batla go botsa. Ke a go utlwa ka kgang ya FMD. Jaanong ke kopa gore o lebelele ntlha ya gore kana lefatshe la Botswana fa go tla mo dikgannyeng tsa nama, le beile thata mo mebarakeng e e tshwanang le ya Europe, e ba nang le ditsamaiso tse di felelang di pateletsa ditsela tse re di tsayang. Gongwe fa o ntse o atolosa kgang, o ame le botlhokwa joo gore kgang ga se *local market* fela, le kwa ntle jaaka re batla go tsosa mohama o. Ke a leboga, o motho yo o bonolo ke itse jalo.

MR MAPULANGA: ... (Inaudible) ... Ke a leboga *Honourable Minister*. Kgang ya *European market*, *I think* jaaka re bua ka *structural break*, a ko re tseye nako re ipotsa gore a mme gone *market* o re o ngaparetseng ka bokete jo bo kanakana, mme re na le mafatshe a a kgonang go reka ka *rate* e kwa godimo gone mo Africa, a ga se nako ya gore re simolole go lebisisa ka gore dikonteraka tse re sale re nna mo go tsone bogologolo, a di santse di re *benefit*? Kana e tshwana le e re e setseng morago ya diteemane, *can we find time to revisit our contracts and agreements*, gore re simolole go leba *sides* tse dingwe tse re ka bonang *market* o o botoka.

Ka nako e a taboga *Madam Speaker*, ke batla go wela ka kgang ya Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), Batswana gompiano ga re kgone go lema dijo re bo re boa gape re sala le ka peo re tla re e jwala gape. A kgang e e lebisisiwe ya go bona gore re nna le dipeo tsa rona,

tse e leng gore fa go tla kgang e thata jaaka gompiano re ne re bolelelwa ka 1 Hectare (h), Puso e tšhonne jaaka e tšhonne, e sa tlhole e ka kgona go rekela Motswana dipeo, a re ikanyeng dipeo tsa rona tsa tlhologo. Ke bue le barutegi ba lefatshe le, *the veterinarians* gore a ko peo kana letsopa la tswana, re le batle le busediwe. Batswana ba le rue ba kgone ba itshetse *in terms of climate challenges* tse re yang kwa go tsone.

Ke ya kwa pele *Madam Speaker*, sengwe se ke batlang go wela mo go sone ke kgang ya *announcement* ya almost 26 *markets* tse re di boneng tsa go rekisa maungo. Ga re e gane, re a e amogela. Kgankgolo ke gore, *the beneficiation* ya *raw materials and whatever we are producing*, fa re sa laole se re se jang, se re se lemanang, re ya go tswelela re nna le *import bill* e e kwa godimo. Re tlhoka gore jaanong jaaka re santse re batla *market* gore re ise dinamune tsa rona koo, ka bonako jo bo kgonagalang, a ko re dire gore re age madirelo a a silang mabele, a a *process* dinama, a a dirang *drinks* tsa rona gore kwa bowelong jwa letsatsi, re fokotse go reka dijo tse re di jang. Kana sengwe se se jang madi a lefatshe la Botswana, ke go reka dijo tse di tswang kwa ntle, golo mo ga go re busetse. Ke dumela gore maphata a lebaneng ba tlaa iteka go bona gore ba tsholetse mosepele kwa Pandamatenga Special Economic Zone (SEZ) *Project*.

Go na le kgang ya metsi e e builweng, ga ke ise ke dumalane le yone ya go goga metsi kwa Zambezi, le a tliša ka kwano. Ga re dumalane le yone, e bile ga e ise e ko e fete *feasibility consultations*, ga e a dumalanwa. Golo mo go ya go re ama *in the biodiversity* ya rona ya *tourism*, ka gore *once* le goga metsi, ditlhare tsele di ya go tlhalelwa ke metsi, *once* a tlhabela metsi ale, *underground water* le yone e ya kwa tlase. Go raya gore *the tourism sector is dying* ka tsela e, le ya go bolaya mohama wa bofelo o o tšhegeditseng itsholelo. Lebisang kgang e, go aga letamo ga go tewe kwa go nang le dithaba, letamo o kgona go le epa 100 *metres by 2 kilometres*, a bo le *harvest* metsi a bo le a baya, le a agiwa, ga go tlhoke dithaba. Ke kopa gore ke kope Puso e *Madam Speaker* gore, a ko re ageng matamo, re *harvest* metsi, pula e e nang go tswa kwa Jwaneng go ya Sekoma le Kokotsha, e ne e le ntsi thata *Honourable OmLuu*. E ntsi thata mo e leng gore matamo a rona a ka bo a tletse metsi gompiano jaana. Kgang e ya go goga metsi *from the Zambezi is a challenge*. Fa re kopa metsi *to Pandamatenga*, ga re a re gogang metsi le tlise kwa Gaborone, re kopa metsi a a yang kwa Pandamatenga. *Go and revisit this project, otherwise* re ya go nna le seemo.

Gompiano gone kwa *tourism* e e yang go imelwa ke go tlhoka metsi kwa Chobe River, re go emetse Tona gore wa reng ka *the revised fees*. *Directive* e e duleng ya re le ya go oketsa ditlhwatlhwa kwa *tourism*, re santse re emetse go utlwa seemo se o re se bayang pele gore le gorogile jang mo go tsweng mo go P190 wa *park fee* *to P640*. Re eme re batla go utlwa gore Puso, la reng ka gore golo fa go ya go nna le seemo se e leng gore fa *the prices* di nna *affected* jaana ka *April*, mme o itse gore *the clientele* ya *tourism* ke *pre-booking* e e kgonang go tsaya bo *two years*, *how are they going to be affected?*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR MAPULANGA: Re ya *to reimburse* kana re ba baakanyetsa ka tsela e e ntseng jang? Nako yame e tšhaile motlotlegi, re tlaa *clarify* kwa *sector* ya gago.

Mma ke riana *Madam Speaker... (Laughter!)... Sports and Arts*. Kgang e ya botaki le metshameko, lefoko “metshameko” ke sone se bagolo e reng o tswa bolong maitseboa, a bo ba go omanyetsa gore o ne o tswa go tshameka, ga o pase. Re batle tsela nngwe, e le gore *we can rename it*, gore re tlhaloganye gore metshameko e na le boleng jo bo seng kana ka sepe mo go reng motho o ka itirela.

Creative industry gompiano se e se tlhokang *Madam Speaker* ke gore, a re ba thuse go ba agela *infrastructure*. Ba *drama* ba tle ba itshetse ka sengwe le sengwe se ba se kgonang, se ba nang le sone, talente e ba nang le yone. Rotloetsang Botswana Television e reke di *content* tsa Botswana, kgang e ya *to switch to France Television* ga e re berekele. Bana ba Botswana ba na le tiro e ba e dirileng e ntsi, a ko re lekeng ka bojotlhe go bona gore re a e reka, re a e tshameka gore fa re bua ka *cinematography* jaaka e tla jaana, *content* eo re ba duele. Golo mo go re busetsa kwa morago, *you go to China, I think it is over 80 per cent of their GDP*, e dirwa ke *creative industry*. *I think South Africa has almost 250,000 employment opportunities created*, rona re palelwa ke eng mo lefatsheng la rona re na le sengwe le sengwe. Go aga *amphitheatres, stadiums and auditoriums*. Banana ba itirele, ba tswa mo dipateng tsa rona le go ya go batla ditiro. *Unemployment* fa e tsholetsega re ya go nna le seemo.

Madam Speaker, ka e tšhaile mma, ke wele ka *corruption*. *Corruption* a re se ka ra batla *corruption* ya *tinned stuff*, *corruption* ya lefatshe la Botswana *is a high-profile corruption, it is a white-collar corruption*. Ke yone e e re isang kwa tlase. A bao ba ba lebaneng le *to sign agreements* le dikonteraka, se ipatleng ma 5 *per cent* a *to sign* dikonteraka, golo mo go a tshwenya.

Gompiano le batho ba ba neng ba le *deported*, fa o ya kwa Bonno Scheme ba setse ba buseditse mo *system*, *they are partners* mo lefatsheng la Botswana. *Money launderers and drug lords are your partners* kwa Bonno Scheme. Dikgang tse ga se tsone, *corruption* ga re ka ke ra e lwantsha ka tsela e e ntseng jaana. Nako ya me e njele *Madam Speaker*, o ka oketsa.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. The floor is open Honourable Members.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR ATAMELANG): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke dumedisa Matona ba ba leng fa...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MR ATAMELANG: ... le Mma Dow kwa a leng teng.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MR ATAMELANG: Ke simolole pele ka go dumedisa Batswana. Ke dumedise segolobogolo ba ba leng kwa Boteti, kwa Letlhakane, Mosu, Mmatshumo, Xhumo le Khwee. Ke tlaa simolola fela ka go bua ka maiteko a rona a go baakanya seemo sa itsholelo. P1.85 billion o seegetswe fa thoko gore a itebaganya le *maintenance*, go baakanya dikole, ditsela le diofisi ka kakaretso tsa Puso. Bagaetsho, ga se gore re boka mathata fa re bua gore ditsela di tlhokana le gore di petšhiwe. Ke ne ke utlwa mokaulengwe ka fa a bua gore, go lekwe *to invest in other sectors, but the challenge we are facing gompiano ke gore re ka tswa re batla to diversify the economy, but what we need to do first is to actually fix those roads that will lead us to prosperity*. Tota keletso ya rona e ne e se gore fa re tsena mo Pusong re tla re baakanya ditsela, *we wanted to build new productive routes, industries, stadiums*, jaaka go sa tswa go buiwa *earlier, but the unfortunate part* ke gore re fitlhela e le gore *the maintenance plan that was used by the previous administration*, e dirile gore re goroge fa re leng gore sengwe le sengwe *is collapsing*.

Ke utlwiwiwa botlhoko ke mafoko a a neng a buisiwa ke *Honourable Moalosi* kgantele a re, re palelwa ke *to manage* seemo sa molemo, a re “CMS *is just a mere warehouse*.” Go utlwiwa botlhoko gore morutegi fela jaaka ene *can reduce the procurement system*,

distribution ya melemo le *to address challenges* tsa *primary health* to just managing a warehouse...

MR MOALOSI: *Procedure Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga. *Madam Speaker*, CMS *is a warehouse, and house* e na le *processes* tsa yone tsa *procurement*, tsa *distribution, is a warehouse management system*. So fa a re ke bua dilo tse e leng gore ga se tsone, ke dumela gore ga a mpuise sentle, ga a bue sentle, ka gore CMS ke *warehouse, that is why* e bidiwa Central Medical Stores, *is a store, you store* melemo, mme o a e tsaya kwa o e tsayang teng *and warehouse it, then you distribute, so it is a warehouse system*.

MR ATAMELANG: I still maintain *gore* his interpretation *e utlwiwa botlhoko* gore he will reduce it to a mere warehouse.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)...

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Atamelang, please can you clarify* gore o ne a reng se o reng ga a se bua sentle?

MR ATAMELANG: Ka re go utlwiwa botlhoko gore *he reduces distribution* ya melemo, *procurement* ya melemo le *the attention that is given to primary health* to just a mere warehouse management system. *That is what I am saying* gore, *he should not just reduce it to that, because there are so many variables* tse di dirang gore *warehouse* e a reng ke *warehouse*, e bo e le gore *it is malfunctioning* jaaka e dira jaana. Mme *these are the steps* tse Puso ya rona e le kang go di baakanya. *That is what I am saying* gore, *interpretation* e e ntseng jaana e tswa kwa moruteging e utlwiwa botlhoko. Ke ka tswelala *Madam Speaker*?

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme go ne go sa re sepe, gakere ene o ne a e bua jaaka... wena o ka e baakanya wa e bua ka *line* ya gago gona le gore o re morutegi, o ka bua wena ka ya gago fela ra tswelala. *Continue Honourable Atamelang* ka debate.

MR ATAMELANG: O dirisitse *his interpretation*, le nna ke dirisa *interpretation* ya se a se buang, *I am interpreting* se a se buang ka *my own line of debate*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmurs)...

MR ATAMELANG: *Go utlwiwa botlhoko* yes, I will repeat it, it is sad, *gore o isitswe kwa sekoleng* and you reason like that. It is quite unfortunate for this country, but anyways, *mma re se ka ra boka mathata*.

Mo Budget Speech the Vice President (VP) o buile ka gore supplementary budgets will be suspended, e bile tse e leng gore will be approved go lebilwe mabaka a a nonofileng, di tshwanetse gore di dirisiwe for their intended purposes...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Aaron, ke kopa gore o nne sentle mo Palamenteng. Honourable Atamelang, tswelela.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke ne ke re ke lebogela gore mo Budget Speech go builwe gore supplementary budgets di ya go emisiwa, le gore tse e leng gore will be approved go lebilwe mabaka a a nonofileng, di tshwanetse gore di dirisetswe for their intended purposes. History e supa gore madi a ntse a fetisiwa a isiwa kwa a neng a sa tshwanela go ya teng. Jaanong ke one maiteko a Puso go leka go baakanya seemo. Sekai, fa re bua ka go emisa GPOs le commitments gore go fokoditse spending ya ga Goromente, ke maiteko a re tshwanetseng go a lebelela fela ka leitlho le le ntshotsho. Ke tlaa fa sekai, workshops di le dintsi o fitlhele go rekiwa metsi, 500 millilitres (ml) of water, mme I can bet gore go na le motho yo e leng gore mo 500 ml yoo ga a na go a fetsa metsi a teng. How many bottles of water have we used tse metsi a teng a felelang a sa nowe ke ba ba neng ba tshwanetse gore ba nwe metsi ao? So, these are the procurement issues tse e leng gore go emisa ga GPOs go dirile gore Goromente a se ka a senyegelwa kana a fokotse ditshenyegelo. E nngwe gape kgang e e nametsang kana e molemo ke ya the e-procurement (electronic procurement). The e-procurement le yone is going to reduce spending, e bile e tlele to track le gore prices tsa dithoto tse di rekiwang ke Goromente re ka kgona to trace them jang. Re setse re itemogetse gore go na le price e e leng gore ke le Atamelang ke kgona go reka ka yone, mme fa ke tla ke le mo boemong jwa ga Goromente, they charge ka price ya ga Goromente.

MR LEKAU: Elucidation. Ee rra, ke ne ke re ka re o bua sentle honourable. O leke go supa ntlha ya gore fela jaaka Puso e tsere tshwetso ya gore e ya go leka go dirisa Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) gore e leke go fokotsa costs, jaaka o fitlhela e le gore o ne o kgona go bona koloi gotwe kwa Molepolole gore e baakanngwe ke P70,000. Mme nngwe ya maikaelelo e le gore go ya go tsewa dikoloi tseo di ya go baakanngwa kwa di technical colleges go fokotsa kana go babalela sekgwama sa Puso.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke a leboga sir. Tota go boammaaruri, dilo tse dingwe re tshwanetse go di lebelela ka tsela e e faphegileng e e ntseng jalo. Ke raya re tshwanetse gore re lebelele maiteko a...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification Honourable Minister.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke tla go neela, nako e santse e le ntsi sir, my points ga di kalokalo. Ke ne ke leka fela go bua ka maiteko a ga Goromente gore re leka go dira jang just to stabilise the economy, so that fa re setse re ya kwa pele, re bo re itse gore re ya go baakanya kana we are going to create ditiro tse re buang ka tsone ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Kgang e nngwe e e builweng mo the Budget Speech, ke ya Letlhakane Solar Farm. Ke itumelela gore the VP mentioned it, a bua gore the 400 megawatts (mw) solar farms tse di kwa Letlhakane, di pedi tota, ke 200:200, a re di setse di le on process, re tsamaela gone koo. So it is a welcome development kwa kgaolong ya rona gore electricians tse e leng gore some of them ke graduates tse di tswang kwa go bo TVET jaana, ba tlaa bona ditiro when these projects take off.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification mo go yone eo Comrade.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke rile nako e ntsi tlhe rra o a ntshenyetsa. Ke bo ke bua ka BETP le NDP 12. Bagaetsho, programme ya BETP ke tool e e leng gore historically it has never been done before mo Botswana. Jaanong ke programme e e leng gore it is a self-assessing toolkit. O tliša botlhe batsayakarolo ba e leng gore on those 186 projects identified, we eliminate red flag or bottlenecks tse e leng gore di ka tlhaga for those projects to be realised. Jaanong BETP e ya go dira gore yone the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the P1.8 billion yo re buileng ka ene wa maintenance, re kgone go bona gore o a dirisiwa to the latter.

Bagaetsho, the opposing aisle, ba na le tendency e e leng gore they like to blow things out of proportion. Once and again ke nna ke bua gore go utlwisa botlhoko gore first you come here and then you say gore you do not owe Botswana alternatives and then le di alarmists. You come here to announce gore batho ba bolailwe ke lethoko la dipilisi, and you do not acknowledge mathata a re leng mo go one. Jaanong bagaetsho, fa le ntse le bua jaana, you are exposing yourselves and your weaknesses. Le tswelela fela le ntse le sa bue gore alternative ke eng.

Ke gakologelwa mo Palamenteng e ke botsa Rre Kekgonegile to quote on their manifesto gore bone itsholelo fa e ntse jaaka e ntse jaana, how are they going

to improve kana how are they going to raise funds, how are they going to develop the infrastructure that we need? He failed to answer me, a bo a dikologa, and then you have Honourable Members ba emelela gape ba bua gore you cannot operate lefatshe ka deficit. It is unfortunate gore we find ourselves re tsaya nako e telele re ngangisana ka dikgang tse e leng gore tota ga di na boleng fela jo bo kalokalo. Ke batho ba e leng gore ga ba na mabaka, they do not have alternatives, all they focus on is just to nullify all our efforts ka gore bone ba eletsa gore we need to fail.

MR MOALOSI: Clarification. Ke a leboga Honourable Assistant Minister. O ne o bua ka kgang ya jobs, o bo o bua ka kgang ya TVET, gore dikoloi di ya go baakannngwa kwa dikoleng. Do you not see that as a way of killing the very jobs that you want to create, gore fa ke le mechanic ke na le workshop, ke ne ke ntse ke thusa Gorumente ke kgona go bona letsenonyana, ke na le Batswana ba ke neng ke ba hirile gone foo go dira that job, e bo e le gore jaanong dikoloi tsa ga Gorumente di ya kwa sekoleng go ya go baakannngwa ke bana ba sekole, would I not be forced to retrench? Fa e le gore ke electrician jaaka o ne o bua gore go na le electrician kwa Letlhakane, ke ne ke ntse ke kgona go bona piece jobs tsa maintenance, go bo go raya gore go tla bana ba brigade ba tla go dira maintenance, do you not see that as a way of killing jobs? Ke a leboga sir.

MR LEKAU: Procedure. Ke ne ke re ka re gongwe re tloga re e tlodisa matlho, o busetse motlotlegi mo tseleng gore, kana jaanong o address dikgang tsa motho yo o sa tshwarang floor. E ne e le elucidation. Jaanong ga di ise di ko di tsamaye di buiwe ke motho yo o tshwereng floor.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke lebogela your question Rre Moalosi. Again, if you look at the unemployment rate, e supa gore there is still that deficit or that need.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ntsha lebogo mo pateng sir.

MR ATAMELANG: I am going to trend. Ke ne ke re if you use status or the statistics tsa unemployment, ga ke itse gore bone ba o buang ka bone o ntse o re re ya go ntsha batho ba e leng gore currently they are working mo ditirong, ga ke tlhologanye gore o raya jang, because one thing se re se lemogileng ka Botswana, and I believe gore le wena o tlaa dumalana le nna, ke gore, re na le graduates tse e leng gore fa ba tswa mo sekoleng, they are considered gore ga ba na skills. So, incorporating

TVETs in Government Fleet Management, go tlaa dira gore by the time they graduate, ba bo ba na le experience ya go baakanya dikoloi. Gape, go tlaa dira gore le bone ba se ka ba nna mo malwapeng. Fa e le gore go na le section which has graduated, they can now be incorporated in Government Fleet Management. That way we do not centralise...

MR KEKGONEGILE: Point of order. Tanki Madam Speaker. Kana leina la me le kgabotse gotwe ga ke a kgona go araba potso, mme ke ne ke re gongwe re e baakanye ka gore Ntlo e ka tloga ya tswa mo tseleng, setšhaba sa dumela gore ga ke a kgona go araba potso. Ka gore fa re ka ya kwa Hansard, e tlaa supa fela sentle gore motlotlegi ke ne ka mo raya ke re gongwe a simolole pele ka gore a a leng teng madi, a dirisiwa jang pele ga a batla alternatives tsa go add fa godimo. Ka gore selo santlha fela P270 million o o yang go dirisiwa mo Constitutional Court, ga a tlhokafale. Selo sa bobedi fela, mesepele ya ga Tautona, mo a re etelang mo lefatsheng la rona, ga go tlhokafale. Selo sa boraro fela, yone tender e e kwa Ministry of Education ya P662 million, e e yang go ruta bana gore ba ka ithuta jang ka maranyane, ba ithutela ka fa tlase ga ditlhare, classrooms di nna bo mmamanthwane, ga e tlhokafale. A re simolole gone fa ka tshenyoo e pele ga re ya go godisa itsholelo. Ke mo arabile jalo.

MR ATAMELANG: The question was, ke page mang mo Manifesto wa BCP, mme o ntse o tswelsetse ga a arabe. Ke ne ke re a fe reference gore mo manifesto wa bone what are the alternatives relative to go adima madi at the time? Jaanong ke ne ke bua gore, ga a araba potso ya teng. Bone fela se ba se dirang ke gore ba a ganetsa ba sena alternatives. Ke ne ke leka go rialo, that was my bone of contention gore reference in your manifesto, gore how would you actually grow the economy without borrowing? O paletswe ke go araba. Jaanong gompiono gape o bua the same thing, but Batswana ba ikutlhwetse, ba reeditse, e bile ga se batho ba e leng gore re ka re re ba tseye motlhofo. They are listening gore borre ba se ba se dirang fela ke go senya nako, e bile gape ke go nyatsa bone ba e leng gore ba re romile. Kana jaanong le nketsha mo tune.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!) ...

MR ATAMELANG: Nnyaa, I am being honest. Ke gore dinako tse dingwe fa re leka go bua nnete, you find gore these are the tactics tse e leng gore they try to deploy them gore ba re ntshe mo seporong. Fela maitenko a Puso...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Moalosi!

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Murmurs)...

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Atamelang, le wena a ko o fetse.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)...

MADAM SPEAKER: A ko o fetse.

MR ATAMELANG: *Madam Speaker, kana jaanong ke ne ke solofetse gore o tlaa ntshireletsa.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ke go sireletsa gone gore fetsa o lese go neela batho ka fa le ka fa. Fetsa.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke wena o ba neelang *the opportunity* ya gore ba bue.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ke tseye *floor*?

MR ATAMELANG: Nnyaa, mma, o se ka wa tsaya *floor*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ee, fetsa.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke a fetsa *Madam Speaker*.

Mafoko a me a bofelo ke gore Batswana ba se ka ba fela pelo, e bile ba se ka ba itewa tsebe ke ba e leng gore bone maiteko a rona ba a ikgatholosa, ga ba a bone. Nnete fela ke gore re fitlhetse lefatshe le e le gore sengwe le sengwe se senyegile. Re a itse gore *if o sa service* koloi ya gago, *there is going to be a point* e e leng gore sengwe le sengwe *breaks down, fan belt, breaks, everything* se a senyega. *But for you* gore o baakanye *economy*, o tshwanetse o bo o na le ditsela tse di siameng. *That is why budget* e ile kwa *maintenance*. O tshwanetse o bo o na le dipatela tse di siameng, *that is why budget* e *tackle those things*. *We cannot say* re batla go godisa *revenue collection* re sena *offices* e *revenue* e tseelwang teng. Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) ga e na *offices*. Department of Road Transport Services (DRTS) ga e na *offices*. Ga re na *personnel*, *so we need to maintain these facilities* gore di goroge *to a point* e re tlaa kgonang go godisa itsholelo...

MR MONAGENG: *Clarification*. Ke reela gore gone fa o leng teng foo Mothusu Tona, a o raya gore fa re ne re fitlhetse sepatšhe se se makgwakgwa madi a le teng, re ka bo re kgonne go dira sengwe le sengwe se re se kwadileng mo *manifesto*? Ga re kgone go fitlhelela *manifesto* wa rona ka ntata ya gore sepatšhe se makgwakgwa.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke sone se ke lekang go bua ka sone gore *if the economy was above the green line*, re ka bo gompieno jaana re *implement the BETP* mo *developmental projects* re itse gore *everything* se siame. *The unfortunate part* ke gore re duela dikoloto. *Farmers* tsa BMC ba a kolotiwa. Re baakanya ditsela tse di tshwanetseng di ka bo di baakantswe *a long time ago*. Re baakanya dikole tse e leng gore *for the longest time*, di ntse di tlhokomologilwe.

Ka go rialo, Batswana ba se ka ba fela pelo. Ba itse gore NDP 12, BETP di tsile go baakanya seo, e bile di tsile go isa lefatshe le kwa pele. Modimo a segofatse batho ba Boteti. Modimo a segofatse Botswana. *I support the budget. Thank you.*

MR LESEDI: *Procedure. Madam Speaker*, mma ke go leboge. Tota fa re le fano, re tshwanetse ra gakolola, o kare bontsi jwa nako batlotlegi ba palelwa ke go dirisa mafoko a a lebaneng Ntlo e. Ke gore o tlaabo o utlwa motlotlegi a kgona go raya yo mongwe a re, ke ngwana. Dilo tse *Madam Speaker*, re di ele tlhoko ka gore motlotlegi o bidiwa *honourable* fela, e bile le gone ga go na mo gotweng rre yo. Dilo tseo a re di eleng tlhoko re ithute, re tseye nako go ithuta, ga se sepe fela. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ee, ke kgakololo e e siameng *sir*. Ba a itse, ba a bo ba batla fela gore ba ntshe Ntlo mo taolong. Ba a itse, le ene fa motho a ka mo raya jalo ga go na go nna monate.

MR LEKAU (MOGODITSHANE WEST): Ke a leboga Motsamaisa...

MADAM SPEAKER: *Order! Order! Honourable Lekau*, nna fa fatshe. *Honourable Moalosi, that was the last chance* o bua fela jalo o rumolana. Go ntse go kgalemiwa *now*, ke la bofelo.

MR LEKAU: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke eme fa, ke kope ba ba robetseng gore ba tsoge ba reetse, segolo jang Mapalamente a a kwa morago ka ke bone ba ba ka tshabelelwang ke go thulamela. Botsadi, ke ema fa ke *support budget* e. Ke kope gape fa go na le batlhalefi ba ba itlotlomatsang ka go rutega gore, yo o emeng fa ke mmantswitswidi wa madi. Ba reetse thata ka gore ke tlaabo ke ba tsenya mo dithuto-se-ka-dipuisanyo tsa gore *budget* e ne e raya eng mo go bone. Maitseboa ano, ba ya go kopana ba buisana gore a mme Rre Lekau o bua sentle.

Sa ntlha ke batla go supa gore fa go ne go buiwa ka *budget*, go buiwa gore re *operate under a deficit*, bagaetsho, maikaelelo a UDC ke go leka go dira metswedi e e farologanyeng ya *to collect revenue, tax*. Metswedi e, ga e ka ke ya simolola *overnight* re fitlhela go ne go lebagane le selo se le *one* fela se e leng gore ke lekgetho. Le lone le le nang le diphatlha tse di ntsi tsa gore batho ba bo ba ka se ke ba kgone go duela. E le gore mofuta o o dirisiwang, ke o o ithaopang gore o ka duela lekgetho jang, e bile o ka *submit* lekgetho ka sebopego se se ntseng jang. Gompiano go tla thuto e e supang gore madi mangwe le mangwe le gope kwa o rekang teng, lekgetho la gago le tlaabo le tshwanelwa ke go tsewa. Gompiano *the system* e e dirisiwang e re ntseng re fitlhela e le teng e tswa kwa Mauritius, e *porous* mo e leng gore re fitlhela fa gongwe le yone e dira gore re *operate* ka *negative*. Puso e, e tsere tshwetso ya gore go ya go nna mo maranyaneng. Ke a kgothatsa gore go nne mo maranyaneng. Madi a re buang ka one gore Batswana fa ba tsena mo Pusong gore ba duelele ditlamelo, go nna bokete ka gore mofuta o o ntseng o dirisiwa o mongwefela wa go duela ditlamelo tsa Puso, ke fa o tshotse madi kana karata ya go ka *swipe*. Re gatela pele gore madi a gago, jaanong ga a sa tlhole a le mo karateng ya gago ya *bank* e le *cash*. Le fa o tla wena ka sefatlhego sa gago, *you will be scanned* gore go ntshiwe madi mo go wena.

Dilo tse ke di buang tse ka gore ba garona ba BCP ba kgakala thata le go tlhologanya *technology*, ba tlaa gagkamala. Mo mafatsheng a a tlhabologileng, gope fa o tsenang teng kana o bula kgoro, *your face is scanned* mme sefatlhego se se kopantswe le *accounts* tsa gago le matsalo a gago, le gore o tswa kae. Fa e le gore o tlamega go duela P5, go a bo gore sefatlhego se se ka ntsha P5...

MR LESEDI: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Honourable* Lekau. O tswelole o tlhalose le gore fa e le bagwebi mme ba sena *bank accounts* tse ba di butsenseng mono, e bile mo go bone fa o duela o ka se ka wa letlelelwa *to swipe* go batliwa *cash* fela, tlhalosa gore bone mo seemo se re ya go tsamaisa jang? Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*.

MR LEKAU: *Thank you very much.* Nngwe ya dilo tse ke batlang go le ruta ka tsone gape ke gore, fa re tswa fa re ya go lebelela gore ope yo o direlwang kgwebo mo Botswana, gore o neelwe *licence*, ke gore *procedure* e bo e simolotswe kwa khanseleng o neelwa *licence*. E supa gore re neela motho yo o *tax compliant*;

yo o neelwang *licence* ka gore o *comply* le dilo tsa *tax*. *One of the requirements* ke gore fa re itse gore wa re o mogwebi, e bile o tswa kwa ntle o *investor*; ga go na ka fa re ka letlelelang gore mogwebi wa go nna jalo a bo a se *tax compliant*. *One of the requirements could be* jaaka re bua ka kgang ya gore sepe se o tsenang o se reka *in the shop* fa o se duetse, se tlaa supa gore semangmang o duetse. *The requirement* e tlaa nna *machine* wa gore ga se gore *method* wa go duela fela kwa shopong (*shop*) eo ke madi. O ka duela kwa shopong eo ka monwana wa gago, o tobetsa gore madi a tsene kae. Go bo go nna le *a requirement* gore dikgwebo tseo di nne le *machine* o o *swipe*. *I am advocating* gore kgwebo nngwe le nngwe *operating* mo Botswana fela fa e bona ka letsatsi e dira P2000, e tshwanetse go nna le *machine* o o *swipe* gore re tle re *trace* gore P2000 yo o mo tsentseng ka letsatsi leo, o mo isitse kae.

Go ntse go le kwa ga tlebebe gore kgwebo nngwe le nngwe e e dirang, a ba a *bank* kana ga ba *bank*, ga go na *the control systems*. *Now it should be the requirement* ya Puso gore go nne le *control* mo kgwebong nngwe le nngwe e e dirang mo Botswana. E seng gore motho a bo a tla a re ke rekile polase ya P50, 000 ka *cash*. Ga re batle dilo tseo. Re ya go batla gore go sena madi a a tlaa nnang kwa lelwapeng kana mo jolong. Re batla gore madi mangwe le mangwe a nne kwa bankeng. Re itse gore a tsene mo go mangmang, a tsene jang...

Dilo tseo bagaetsho, Puso ya UDC e ikaelela gore fa e sena go di dira tsotlhe, di tlaabo di supa gore gompiano...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ... (Inaudible)...

MR LEKAU: Go kgaela mo go botoka ka gore jaanong go le tsenya thuto ya go itse gore go tsweng fa go ya pele...

MADAM SPEAKER: Order Honourable Members! It is now 6:30 p.m. I shall now call upon the Minister to move a Motion of adjournment.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): *Ke a leboga Madam Speaker.* As it is now time up, I now move that this House do now adjourn. Thank you.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 6:30 p.m. until Thursday 12th February, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.



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