

13th
PARLIAMENT



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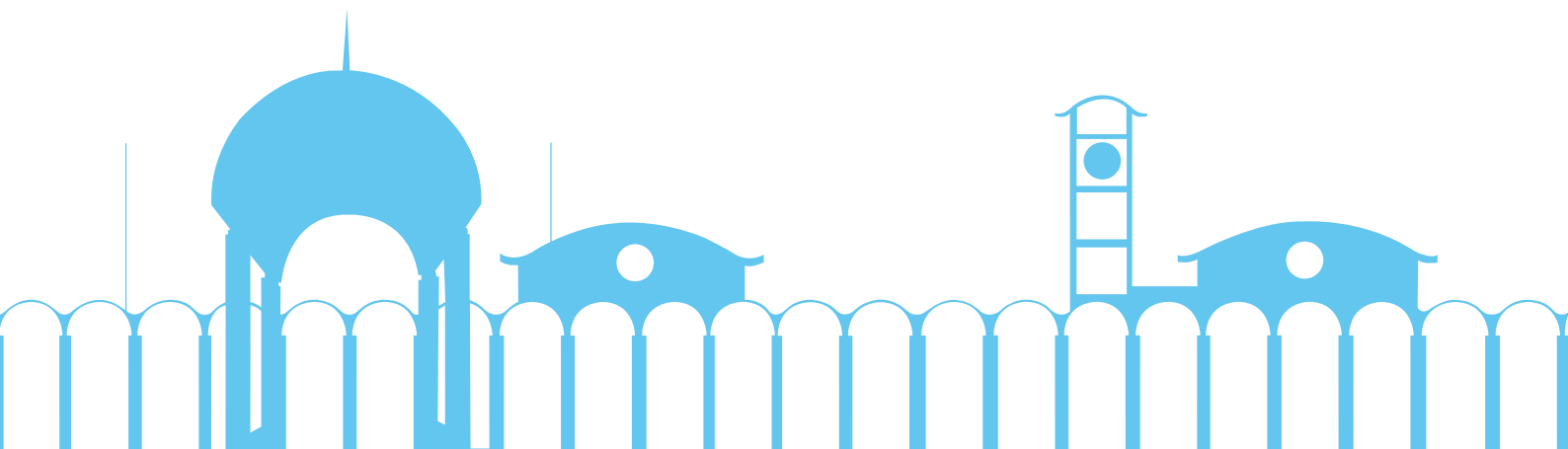
YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

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

MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2026

MIXED VERSION

HANSARD NO: 220



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Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	- Minister of Water and Human Settlement
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP.	- Minister of Minerals and Energy
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Hon. L. Chombo, MP.	- Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs
Hon. J. Kelebeng, MP.	- Minister of Sport and Arts
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Hon. A. Nyatanga, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Justice and Correctional Services
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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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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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(Botswana Democratic Party)

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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
MONDAY 23RD FEBRUARY, 2026

<i>CONTENTS</i>	<i>PAGE (S)</i>
SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	1
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER	1-11
APPROPRIATION (2026/2027) BILL, 2026 (NO. 1 OF 2026)	
<i>Second Reading (Resumed Debate)</i>	12-44

Monday 23rd February, 2026

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

* * * *

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE): Pray be seated. Afternoon Honourable Members, I hope you had a restful weekend.

I am pleased to inform you that Honourable Taolo Boipuso Lucas, Member for Bobirwa is the Acting Leader of the Opposition (LOO) from the 23rd to the 24th.

Honourable Members, we are also delighted as Parliament to welcome a delegation of eight officers from the Department of Clerks of the Parliament of Uganda, led by Ms Esther Nadunga. The delegation is on a study visit to the National Assembly of Botswana in the strengthening cooperation and sharing best Parliamentary practice. The delegation will be in the country from today until March 1st 2026. Can you kindly join me in extending a warm and cordial welcome to our distinguished guests seated in the public gallery.

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

MR SPEAKER: We welcome you, welcome to Botswana. Let us now proceed to the business of today and deal with questions.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

FUNDING DAY-CARE CENTRES THROUGH YDF

MR M. BAGAISAMANG (SHOSHONG): asked the Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs if her ministry does not see the need to prioritise funding youth for day care centres through the Youth Development Fund (YDF) programme, considering that many youths have studied Early Childhood Education and many day care centres are owned by foreigners.

MINISTER OF YOUTH AND GENDER AFFAIRS (MS CHOMBO): Good afternoon Mr Speaker and good afternoon to all the colleagues in the House. Thank you Honourable Bagaisamang for the question and for being present today, I have been waiting to answer this question Mr Speaker.

Mr Speaker, I wish to state to this Honourable House that the ministry has, through the Youth Development Fund (YDF), over the years funded a total of 44 day care centres and out of these, 27 day care centres are operational and these are in Maun, Kasane, Mochudi, Palapye, Masunga, Francistown and Shashe. While these remain operational; 17 day care centres have since closed and this was due to high rental costs, as well as low student enrolment. These are Tonota, Middlepits, Otse, Mahalapye, Shoshong, Gumare, Shakawe, Serowe and Moiyabana.

Mr Speaker, I think the important thing to note in the Honourable Member's question is prioritisation when it comes to YDF, so also me to note that the ministry is under review of the YDF in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and our goal is to ensure that it will be inclusive, impactful and that it will create meaningful employment opportunities for our young people. In determining which areas of funding to prioritise, the ministry will certainly align YDF with strategic sectors identified under the National Development Plan (NDP) 12, as well as the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP), particularly those that contribute to economic diversification, those that support employment intensity and value chain development and those that enhance citizen participation in high growth sectors.

For these reasons, the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs will be progressively prioritising sectors with a stronger potential for growth, productivity and wider economic impact. These Honourable Member will include agri-business, manufacturing and agro-processing, digital and creative industry, tourism, value chains renewable energy, knowledge-based and innovation driven ventures. I must note that prioritization does not mean restriction Mr Speaker and it does not mean exclusion. So, the YDF will remain open to valuable and sustainable youth enterprises across all sectors, for as long as they demonstrate clear demand, sustainability and measurable value.

I thank you Mr Speaker, I confirm that our position is balanced and we will strategically guide funding towards nationally identified priorities that has to accelerate structural transformation, but we will not close the door to viable innovative and market responsive ideas that are brought by our young people. I thank you.

MR BAGAISAMANG: Supplementary. *Ke a leboga Tona. Ke lebohle karabo le go supa gore go na le kwa le tsamaelang teng.* Last year I had a similar question to the ministry and what I gathered was that the policy is under review. Today you are still saying the policy is under review. Policy *e bokgakala bo le kae gore e tle mo Ntlong e Honourable Minister? Ke a leboga.*

MS CHOMBO: Thank you Mr Speaker. *Ya policy ke ya Youth Policy e e yang go tla* in this sitting, but as for the YDF, the programme we are revising it with the UNICEF, together with Tirelo Sechaba. We have already responded to their inception report, we will be carrying nationwide consultation following consultations *tse di tlaabong di dirilwe le a select few ya banana ba e leng* beneficiaries to the programme. Thereafter, we will ensure that it is validated across the country by *banana* from different walks of life. According to the work plan; it is said to be complete by end of March. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Baby of the House, you may need to correct that it will not come in this sitting, but this meeting.

MS CHOMBO: Thank you Mr Speaker, in this meeting.

DR DOW: Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker for allowing me to ask this question. Honourable Minister, we know that there is a very low enrolment, generally for preschools or kindergartens, but we know that there is demand. You have just told us that some of the programmes have closed because of limited enrolment. It cannot be because there are not enough children, there must be another reason, and it also talks about the economy. Has the ministry investigated as to what are the real reasons, are the prices too high, if they are what can be done about that? Are the regulations too stringent and therefore they need reviews?

Lastly, in view of the fact that when young children under five do not go to school, that actually limits women's ability to go out to work. So really you have a ...

(Inaudible)... here, youth and women on your portfolio. Have you considered also in view of the fact that we have been told that there is going to be broadening of the tax base, that you are talking to the Ministry of Finance that whatever you do Minister of Finance, you cannot introduce Value Added Tax (VAT) in education, have you talked about that, because there was an implication for even this enrolment you are talking about? Thank you, Mr Speaker.

MS CHOMBO: Thank you very much Mr Speaker. The question of prices; I must note that we were speaking of businesses and so, when young people apply for funding for their businesses, they are indeed guided through our programme such as mentorship in partnership with Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) and other institutions in terms of pricing. I am highly doubtful that the issue is pricing, because there is mentorship that is afforded. Mind you, this report *ya gore ba bo ba tswetse ka gore go a bo go sena* enrolment, *e tswa kwa go bone beng ba dikgwebo.* It is not necessarily just an assessment on our part.

The Honourable Member also asks about children not going to schools and how it limits women, I agree in that component. I think these are distinct issues, because she was speaking of businesses, but I do trust that the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education, it is something that it is a priority on her end. *Go na le mananeo a a apeileng go netefatsa gore* children do go to school. You will note over time, the President has as well affirmed that child welfare is a priority of this Government, but this is not related to the YDF businesses that we have funded *tse re buang ka tsone tse re reng di tswetswe.*

In the future Mr Speaker, *ka re le Goromente re na le keletso ya* to limit these silos, the intention is to ensure that the YDF is mindful of the broader ecosystem. I am going to take this as advice from the Honourable Member that, we need to ensure that all YDF funded businesses that are in the child welfare space should indeed be linked to the Ministry of Child Welfare, to ensure *gore* it is more than just business, but it is also *go netefatsa gore* these businesses are sustainable for the sake of the best interest of the children.

Pardon Mr Speaker, I did not quite get the last one on the Ministry of Finance.

DR DOW: *Thank you Mr Speaker. Minister wa Finance o tlhalositse gore, gore go tsene letseno, the tax base would be broadened. Broadening means levies jalojalo, ke ne ke re e re fa a dira jalo, o nne gaufi le ene, o mo reye o re, kwa dikoleng leave education to be zero VAT, because fa go nna VAT kwa education, go ya to increase the cost of actual access to education, including pre-school education. Ke re o mo lebelele thata.* Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: *Ee, Standing Order 40.3. Do you have anything to say Baby of the House?*

MS CHOMBO: I was just going to appreciate the Honourable Member's comment Mr Speaker. Thank you.

FREELANCE JOURNALISTS

DR K. GOBOTSWANG (TSWAPONG SOUTH): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to apprise this Honourable House on the conditions of service for freelance journalists at Mass-Media Complex; further, the Minister should state:

- (i) if he is aware that some of them have been freelancers for 10 years at a rate of P100 per hour; and
- (ii) whether there are plans to engage them on a permanent and pensionable basis.

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MR MOHWASA): Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I am aware that freelancers, including journalists at the Mass-Media Complex have been engaged for periods exceeding 10 years at a rate of P100 per hour. This arrangement was inherited from the previous administration, where long-term freelancer engagements continued without structured review, adjustments of rates or comprehensive reform of contractual conditions. Individuals performed core functions of the broadcaster over many years while the remaining outside formal employment frameworks. The Government has determined that such arrangements require review and reform.

Mr Speaker, freelancers engaged by the Department of Broadcasting Services and other divisions within the Mass-Media Complex are not permanent and pensionable public officers. They are engaged on a needs

basis to provide specialised services across reporting, production, language services, technical operations, presentation and content development. However, Mr Speaker, the Department is currently developing a new freelance dispensation. This review encompasses:

- Reassessment of the P100 per hour rate;
- Review of role categorisation and skills grading;
- Revised contractual structures;
- Clearer performance and deliverable standards, and
- Alignment with Employment and Labour Relations Act of 2025.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

DR GOBOTSWANG: Supplementary. Honourable Minister, *seemo se sa freelancers, a ga o lemoge gore go na le exploitation mo teng? Jaaka Goromente wa ditshwanelo tsa batho, la reng ka exploitation ya this cadre?*

Sa bobedi, kgang e ya freelancer compared to temporary employees, why do you continue labelling them freelancers mme ba nna nako e ntsi, e bile ba theogela o kare they are semi-permanent? My understanding of a freelancer ke... let us say motho a tshwana le rre yole who was running programme ya The Eye. E ne e le mmereki wa National Development Bank on a fulltime, a freelance kwa Botswana Television (BTV) a dira that programme fela ka nakonyana eo. These people ba re buang ka bone le ba bitsa freelancers, a batho ba tota ga ba temporary? Fa e le gore ba temporary, thulaganyo ya gore motho ga a ka ke a nna temporary 12 months, a nna temporary 12 months yo mongwe la reng ka yone? Gone e le potso ya bofelo, the Special Constables ba ne ba buelelwa mo Palamenteng, ba felela ba diretswe dispensation gore jaanong ba ya to be absorbed ke the police force. The temporary employees le bone o kare go tserwe tshwetso ya gore they must be fulltime, Honourable Minister, la reng ka freelancers? I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR MOHWASA: Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Gobotswang. Fa re le mo boammaaruring, o tlaa dumalana le nna gore diemo tse re sa tswa go di fitlhela, mme e bile re a di baakanya. Sa ntlha re dumela gore tsamaiso e ya gore batho ba bo ba dira ditiro tse di feletseng mme ba sa

atswiwe ka tsela e e siameng, ga se yone. Ke dumalana le wena gore ke go ja batho ntsoma. Ke sone se o bonang gompiano le bone ba ba ntseng ba bereka, 1st of April botlhe re tlaabo re simolola... le ba ba neng ba le *temporary* jaanong le fa konteraka e ka fela kamoso, ke rile *they should be extended* gore 1st of April ba tle ba kgone *to enjoy benefits* tse. Ke maikaelelo a Puso e e kgatlhegelang ditshwanelo tsa batho. Jaanong le bone ba e ne ya re re tsena, ga nna le dipotso di le mmalwa mo Palamenteng. Fa ke sena go utlwa dikgang tse ba bangwe ba sena go kwalela kwa *ministry*, re ne ra nna le diphuthego di ka nna pedi, di le tharo *Mr Speaker* le bone ba *freelancers*. Ra bo ra dira *a task team* go ya go lebelela dikgang tse, ba tlisitse *report* e re e sekasekang. Se se teng ke gore, mo bogautshwaneng dikonteraka tsa ba ba tlaabong di fela ba ba leng koo gompiano, re a di sekaseka ka gore, le Botswana Television jaaka le lemoga gore gompiano re simolotse *to change* le *programming* ka fa e ntseng e diragala ka teng. Le gompiano jaana re setse re tsentse dipuo di le mmalwa tse di ntseng di sa buiwe. Le gone go ka nna ga felela go ama le go supa ditsamaiso tsa Palamente. Ke sengwe se re se dirang, mme jaanong fa re dira jalo, re tshwanetse *to make sure* gore re *consistent with* se re dumelang mo go sone re le Puso. Go tlaa tshwanelwa ke gore go ja batho ntsoma mo go fele. Sengwe se a dirwa motlotlegi, mme ke mathata a re a fitlhelang fa re ntse re tswetsetse ka go leka go a baakanya.

Le molao o re o fetisitseng gone fa, Labour Relations Act le yone ga e dumalane le seemo se se ntseng jalo. Ka gore melao e yotlhe, re tlaabo re e dira e le mentsi jaana, re dira le bone bo *Constitutional Court*, ke go baakanya go leka go tshegetsa ditshwanelo tsa batho. Ke a leboga.

DR GOBOTSWANG: *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker: Honourable Minister*, nngwe ya diphuthego tse o di buang tseo, kana mo go nngwe ya tsone, ke dumela gore ke ya ntlha, o ne wa ba solofetsa gore *you are going to make sure that they are absorbed* mo tironing ya bone. *You promised them.* Jaanong ke batla o tlhalose maitlamo a gago gore a feletse kae?

Sa bobedi, jaaka dikonteraka tsa bone o re di a fela jaana, kana letshogo la bone ke gore, o kare maikaelelo ke gore e re fa ba tswa go bo go tsenngwa ba bangwe ba ba sha. *Honourable Minister*, fa e le gore le ka dira

tiro eo, le kwa legodimong ga ke bone gore le ka tsena. A kgang e o a e itse gore jaaka ba ntshiwa konteraka ya bone e fela, go tsenngwa ba ba sha bone ba a latlhiwa, wa reng ka yone?

MR MOHWASA: Nnyaa, eo Rre Gobotswang, ke dikakanyetso fela tse di senang kwa di tswang teng. Ga e ka ke ya re gompiano re na le seemo se re batlang go tsena *security officers, cleaners, gardeners* gore ba nnele ruri, Goromente a bo a bua gore yo konteraka ya gagwe e felang, o tshwanetse go hirwa go fitlhela re simolola re amogela... ke gore fa re na le thulaganyo ya go hira batho ba ba sha, yo e leng gore o foo, ga a tswe. Ke yone *position* ya ga Goromente gompiano mo kgannyeng ya *security*.

Le yone e ya gompiano, ke ka go tlhalosetsa gore re na le bothata jo re tshwanetseng gore re bo amogele. *We have over 300 people* ba ba berekang tiro e o e buang, e se *fulltime*, ba gotweng ke *freelancers*. Ke sa nyatse ka fa go ntseng ka teng, fa o re o lebelela *the output* kwa BTV, kwa Mass Media Complex, ga e tsamaelane le *human resource* e e koo. Re tshwanetse re baakanye seemo se. Maikaelelo ke gore re nne re na le batho ka bontsi ba ba berekang foo.

Re tshwanetse re tlhaloganye gore *the nature* ya *media* ka boyone, go thata gore o bo o ka se ka wa tlhoka go nna le palo ya batho ba ba berekang e le *freelancers*, mme *that number* e tshwanetse gore e nne palo e e kwa tlase, e e leng gore *I can safely say less than 5 per cent.* *You cannot have 300 people* ba kgobokana kwa Mass Media *being exploited*, ba sa bereke sentle, fa gongwe ba duelwa late. *These are the issues that we are dealing with.* Re na le tumelo ya gore mo kgwedding e ya *April* fa e ya go fela, dikgang tse re tlaabo re di baakantse ka gore maikaelelo a rona ke gore re batla go lwantsha thulaganyo e ya gore batho ba jewa ntsoma.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Procedure Mr Speaker:* Tanki *Mr Speaker.* O re thuse ka gore dikarabo tsa potso e *from different Ministers* di a farologana, *they are contradicting each other.* Ga ke itse gore o ka re thusa jang gore gongwe Goromente a tle ka *statement* se e leng gore ke sone sa gagwe sa boammaaruri. Maloba *Honourable Kgafela* kwa *Education* go dule *savingram* e re ba e leng gore ba kgonne go fetsa ngwaga e le *temporary* ba le mo dikonterakeng tseo, ba se ka ba hirwa gape. Gompiano Tona Mohwasa a re bone ba

batla go tsenya batho mo *Permanent and Pensionable*, so ga go na gore ba ka tlhoka go hira batho bao jang. *These are contradicting statements.* Tota Goromente wa UDC a reng?

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa*, order! Honourable Kekgonegile, *ga ke dumele gore* there is any contradiction in the sense that *fa e le gore* Honourable Kgafela o ne a *arabela ya* Education, *kana o bua ka* their policy position *mo go ya* Education; *ke raya* the savingram that you are alluding to. What the Honourable Minister is talking about now, he is answering for the state media. It is completely fine if the Government policy with regards to Ministry of Education is different from what they are doing in the Ministry for State President, for state media. I would agree with you if you were saying that they were talking about the same cadre, but now they are providing contradictory statements. Unless the Honourable Minister *a ka e tlhalosa botoka*. That is my understanding.

MR MOHWASA: *Mr Speaker*, fa ke sa fose, *I stand to be corrected by the Honourable Minister of Basic Education*, go ne ga ntshiwa mokwalo o o kwa morago o o neng o busetsa morago wa ntlha. Re tshwanetse re amogele gore *funds permitting, position* ya ga Goromente ke go lwantsa *exploitation wherever* e fitlhelwang teng mo bodirelapusong. Fa go ka fitlhelwa e le gore jaaka gompieno ke go raya ke re mo kgannyeng e re tsereng *position for example* le yone e e tshwanang ya gompieno e Rre Gobotswang a neng a bua ka batho ba e leng gore gatwe ba... ga go na ope kwa Mass Media yo o tlaa ntshiwang a bo go tsenngwa yo mongwe gone foo. Eo ke ka go bolelela, ga go na go diragala. Fa go ka diragalang teng, Goromente o tlaa go baakanya ka gore batho ba kgona go dira diphoso. Ke go bolelela se se tshwanetseng go direga. Ke gore le se ka la nna nako yotlhe le akanyetsa bosula.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, let me just find out, did I get you correctly that the savingram that Honourable Kekgonegile alluded to has been rescinded?

MR MOHWASA: *Ee Mr Speaker.*

MR HIKUAMA: *Further procedure Mr Speaker.* Ke a leboga *Honourable Speaker*. Ke sone se gongwe re reng gongwe gore tsamaiso e nne e e tlhamaletseng, le setšhaba se itse gore go diragala eng, gongwe go

botlhokwa gore ba tle ka a *statement* mo Palamenteng ka gore se se diragalang, *more especially* gone kwa *Ministry of Education*, ba kwadile jalo gore ga ba ka ke ba hira ba ba nang le dikgwedi tse 12, a bo go tla *another savingram* e itira e kete e a sutlha. Mme Tona maloba gone mo Palamenteng ya gago, *was standing by the word ya savingram* e kgologolo, a re ba ka se ke ba letlelele go gataka molao o o kwadilweng. Se se diragalang *on the ground*, ga ba hire ope yo o dirileng *12 months and beyond*. Gone ba tlwaetse go bua jaana, go bo go diragala se sele.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, ke bona o kare jaanong you are violating Order 40.3. *Ka gore jaanong* you are using this question to debate. Honourable Minister, I do not know whether you have something to say on this.

MR MOHWASA: *Mr Speaker*, tlaa re riana, go bua nnete, kgang e mokaulengwe Bagaisamang o ne a ntsha matshwenyego ka gore o ne a supa gore go na le bangwe ba e leng gore e bile fa go sena go supiwa gore go se ka ga nna ope yo o seegelwang kwa thoko, batho ba tswelsetse ka go seegelwa kwa thoko. *I engaged the* Department of Public Service Management (DPSM). Tlaa ke solofetse *Mr Speaker*, gore mo bogautshwanyaneng lephata le ka ke lone le le lebaganeng le bodirelapuso, re tle re bue *position* ya ga Goromente gore tota ke eng. *I think it is important* ka gore batho ba ba sa hirweng ba ba nang le mathata ke bana ba rona, bomonnaarona, ke masika a rona, e bile fa godimo ga moo, ke batho ba e leng gore re tshwanetse re sireletse dikgatlhago tsa bone. *For clarity*, re tshwanetse re tle re ntshe *position and share* le Mapalamente gore e re fa ba na le dikgang tse, ba itse gore ba tlaabo ba beile mo go eng go bona gore dikgang tse di a wela. Batho ba re tshwanetse re tshwaragane bagaetsho, re bone gore re sireletsa batho ba ba iphitlhelang ba le mo diemong tse. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, following the invocation of Standing Order 38.1(m) by Honourable Kekgonegile and Honourable Hikuama, the Minister will deliver a statement at the date to be determined in accordance with Order 41.1. Okay.

TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS

MR T. FURNITURE (TATI EAST): asked the Minister of Health if he is aware of Tuberculosis (TB) patients who were administered TB medication believed to be reduced efficiency from around midyear 2025, which was later withdrawn and substituted with alternative medication towards the end of November 2025; and if so, to state:

- (i) the number of patients who were administered the said medication during this period;
- (ii) whether there were any patients whose health deteriorated significantly while on the said medication and also provide details of the complications brought by the said medication;
- (iii) if any of the patients lost their lives during the period in which the said medication was administered;
- (iv) steps Government has taken to ensure that affected patients receive appropriate medical attention, including follow up care; and
- (v) if there are any special arrangements in place to support patients who have since developed serious infective TB.

Later Date.

HOSTING INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS

MR A. K. KHAN (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): asked the Minister of Sport and Arts when Botswana will begin to host international football tournaments such as the Council of Southern Africa Football Association (COSAFA) Cup, and the measures the ministry is putting in place to ensure that the country is adequately prepared to host such regional and international sporting events.

MINISTER OF SPORT AND ARTS (MR KELEBENG): Thank you Mr Speaker. The Government of Botswana is committed to stimulating economic diversification through sport tourism, including the hosting of international sporting competitions. The Botswana Football Association (BFA), on behalf of the country, successfully hosted the U17 CAF Youth

Championships in 2007. The CAF U17 Championship comprised of 16 countries. Botswana also hosted COSAFA under 20 Championship in 2010 and 2011.

Mr Speaker, Botswana continues to host other international sporting competitions. This year, Botswana hosted the All Africa Badminton Championships from the 9th -15th February 2026, at the Royal Aria Indoor Arena. Furthermore, the country will host the World Athletics Relay Championships in Gaborone on the 2nd -3rd May 2026. The country will also host the Confederation of Universities and Colleges of Southern Africa (CUCSA) games in July 2026, as well as the Africa Aquatics Zone 4 championships in September 2026.

Mr Speaker, I must inform the House that hosting the COSAFA Tournament Cup requires two stadia that conform to Confederation of African Football (CAF) category two or three. Both the National Stadium and Lobatse Sport Complex fulfil CAF category two requirements, while Obed Itani Chilume conform to CAF category three requirements, with five training football pitches needed for the tournament. The stadia facilities we have in the country are adequate to host the COSAFA Tournament Cup.

Mr Speaker, compared to the COSAFA Cup, the most expensive football tournament requiring a higher budget and greater logistical preparations is the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals. Botswana made a bid to host the AFCON 2027 finals, but the bid was unsuccessful. Efforts will be made to host other international tournaments in the future, subject to budget availability.

Lastly, Mr Speaker, our ministry, with the support of other relevant stakeholders, is planning to develop a hosting strategy, which will provide strategic guidance on hosting international sporting events. In addition to adequately preparing to host regional and international sporting events such as COSAFA, during the National Development Plan (NDP) 12, Government of Botswana, through the Ministry of Sport and Arts, has plans to build a 40,000-capacity national stadium. I thank you Mr Speaker.

PERSONS WITH ALBINISM

MR M. M. MOROLONG (KGATLENG CENTRAL): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to state:

- (i) if Government has specific legislation or policies addressing the rights and protection of persons living with albinism; and if not, what plans are in place to develop them;
- (ii) how his ministry plans to improve access to specialised dermatological care and sun protection resources for people living with albinism;
- (iii) what steps are being taken to ensure that albino children have equal access to education including provision for visual aid and inclusive learning environment; and
- (iv) how Government collaborates with organisations supporting albino persons to provide counselling, mobility assistance and address specific challenges they face.

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MR MOHWASA): *Ke a leboga* Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, let me start by promoting disability etiquette to acclimatise this House with appropriate terminologies relating to disability.

Mr Speaker, we say persons with disabilities in accordance with United Nations (UN) terminology as opposed to people living with disabilities, it follows that, we say persons with albinism and not persons living with albinism or albinos.

- (i) Mr Speaker, back to the question, the Government of Botswana has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, an international treaty whose primary objective is to promote, protect, and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities, a constituency that includes persons with albinism.

This Convention Mr Speaker, has been domesticated through the Persons with Disabilities Act No. 6 of 2024, as well as the Revised National Disability Policy of 2021, both of which were duly approved by this House. These national instruments were developed with the overarching purpose of safeguarding and advancing the rights of all persons with disabilities, including persons with albinism.

- (ii) Mr Speaker, currently Government provides free dermatological or skin care services through the Ministry of Health. These efforts aim to improve access to specialised dermatological care and sun-protection services for persons with albinism, in recognition of their increased vulnerability to sun-related health conditions. Government continues to strengthen dermatological services within the public health system through capacity building, improved referral systems, and the gradual expansion of specialist services under the oversight of the Ministry of Health.

In addition, efforts are being made to improve access to essential sun-protection resources and to enhance public health education, early detection, and regular skin screening. These interventions are guided by national disability and human rights frameworks and aim to promote equality, dignity, and improved health outcomes for persons with albinism.

- (iii) Government through Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education has taken a number of policy and programmatic steps to promote inclusive education for all learners, including children with albinism, recognising that they may have additional needs such as visual impairment and require supportive learning environments. Furthermore, students with special educational needs get appropriate assistance. As such, learners with albinism receive visual support to assist in their learning. This includes spectacles, in large fonts, additional time for test and examinations, sitting positions in class and other reasonable adjustments such as Scribes where necessary.

Mr Speaker, in addition, the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education provides special support services, including diagnostic assessments for informed provision of special education needs and placement of learners, including for learners with albinism.

- (iv) Botswana Government support Persons with Disabilities Organisations including Organisations of Persons with Albinism through funding (subventions), psycho-social support and assistive devices (for mobility assistance) through various

ministries; including Ministry for State President, Defence and Security, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education and Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs mainly for addressing their specific needs. Mr Speaker, these services are also accessible to persons with albinism. I thank you Mr Speaker.

LOBATSE ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION UNIT

MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE): asked the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship when the adopted 2013 Parliamentary Motion will be implemented which was calling for the Lobatse town to be treated as a special area as a way of reviving its economy through the Lobatse Economic Diversification Unit, similar to SPEDU.

Later Date.

MOGALE JSS TEACHERS' ACCOMMODATION

MR O. KWAPA (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): asked the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to state Government's interim plan to have all Mogale Junior Secondary School teachers accommodated in Maokane as a matter of urgency to improve the school's performance.

MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA):

Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me greet Members of this Honourable House *le Batswana ka kakaretso. Kwa tshimologong, ke baakanye sengwe, ke lemogile gore leina la me le nna le tshentshiwa, tshentshiwa fela bagaetsho. Le kwadilwe fa, ke Honourable K. N. Nono Kgafela-Mokoka, ga go na fa ke fanisiwang teng ka Kgafela please. So, a re tsweng mo tendency eo ya go nna gotwe Mma Kgafela kana Honourable Kgafela, ke Kgafela-Mokoka until further notice.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Mr Speaker, currently Mogale Junior Secondary School does not have enough accommodation for all the teachers to be accommodated within Maokane. As a result, 12 teachers are accommodated in the ministry teacher's houses at Jwaneng. Every day, teachers are transported to and from school at Government expense.

Mr Speaker, it has to be noted that the plan to expand Mogale Junior Secondary School teacher's houses

was part of the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education Development Manager (DM) projects that have been suspended pending separation of Government and DM. Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR KWAPA: Supplementary. Ke botse Tona jaana gore fa a re barutabana ba ba kwa Mogale *are transported at Government expense*, ba o fitlhelang ba eme fa Maokane *turn*, bone ke ba sekole sefe? Ba ruta kae? Ke dumela gore ke bone ba Maokane.

Potso e nngwe e e latelang e bo e re, a gone mo o fitlhelang ke ba fitlhela ba le mo setopong *Mr Speaker*, go sena koloi e e ba tsayang, ba ya go goroga kwa Maokane *at around 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. missing lessons* tse dingwe, a gone mo Tona ga a bone go baya bana ba kgaolo e kwa morago mo go rutiweng?

Potso ya boraro e bo e nna gore go pala eng gore ba hirisediwe kwa Maokane ka batsadi le bone ba teng ba letla gore matlo a bone ba ka sutela barutabana mo go one, gongwe ba ya go nna kwa merakeng gore bana ba kgaolo e ba kgone go rutiwa? Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. *I would not want to speculate in an attempt to address the supplementary questions asked.* Jaanong fa e le gore go na le ba ba fitlhelwang *at the stops*, tota ga ke ka ke ka e arabela. Gongwe e ka e ne e tsentswe mo teng ka gore ga ke itse gore a ba fitlhelwa mo *stops* ka gore ba ka tswa ba siilwe ke transport nngwe kana jang. Jaanong gongwe re tlaa e tseela fa thoko Mopalamente yo o tlotlegang, re e sa le morago sentle.

E tshwana le ya gore go ka kopiwa gore batsadi ba ba sutele, le yone tota ga se e ke ka e arabang gompieno. Mma re e tsele kwa thoko ke sena *to investigate* gore tota gatwe go diragala eng. Ke a leboga.

MR KWAPA: Further supplementary. E le ya bofelo *Mr Speaker, is the Minister aware* gape gore tsela e e yang Maokane e tswa mo Jwaneng, fa dipula di nele go tletse metsi mo go yone, barutabana ba felela ba sa ye sekolong go ya go ruta bana *as a result of the condition of the road? Thank you.*

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a leboga Mopalamente yo o tlotlegang. Ke ka dumalana le wena gore fa e le gore tsela ga ya nna sentle pula di a na, fa di

nna makgobokgobo barutabana ga ba kgone go goroga kwa dikoleng. E bile *it affects* thuto le thutego ya bana. Jaaka ke tlhalositse *Honourable Member of Parliament (MP)*, ke rile *expansion* ya sekole se e ne e ntse e le mo lenaneong *under* kgang ya Development Manager (DM) *project*. Ka re itse gore e ne e simolotswe e sekasekilwe, tse dingwe di seegelwa kwa thoko, ka maswabi ra iphitlhela le rona re lebaganwe ke selepe seo. Ga se gore ga re na maikaelelo le maitlamo a go baakanya seemo seo. Mo nakong ya gompiano go raya gore le bone ba *infrastructure* re tle re buisane le bone gore a ba ka se ka ba re baakanyetsa tsela eo kana ba e kgopha ka tsela e e faphegileng gore gongwe barutabana ba se ka ba sokola. Go oketsa tota go mo lenaneong la rona ka gore ga go na jaaka re ka batla barutabana ba tsamaya *long distances*, ga go *safe for* bone. Le name le re inetse mabogo mo metsing, re santse re lebeletse kgang e ya bo DM gore e emisitswe gore go tswa fa tsela re tsaya efe. Ke a leboga Mopalamente yo o tlotlegang.

MR PHOLOGOLO: Last supplementary. Thank you, Mr Speaker. Honourable Minister, *teng kwa Mogale*, are you aware of cases *tsa barutabana ba e leng gore* they have overstayed? This goes to the entire region; are you aware *gore go na le batho ba e leng gore* they overstayed? If you do, what is your plan in terms of making sure *gore golo mo go a baakanngwa? Re bua ka dikgaolo tse di nang le leshekerenyana*, if somebody overstays in those areas, chances of morale *wa bone o simolola o wela kwa tlase, le lerato la bone mo tirong le simolola go wela kwa tlase*. Thank you very much Honourable Minister.

MR SPEAKER: The question is not in line with Order 40.2. Honourable Minister, I do not know if you have an answer but I would understand because he is not in line with Order 40.2.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a leboga. Ke ka mo araba mo motsotsong o le mongwefela, fa a ntetla. Kgang e ya letshwenyego la babereki bogolo jang barutabana ba ba *overstayed* e teng, *it is spread across the country*. *That is why* re le lephata, ke nngwe ya dikgang tse re di setseng morago. Kwa dikgaolong tse di kwa ntle, o fitlhela re na le mathata a gore fa gongwe batho *are promoted* ba ya teng gone koo, ba feta ba nna *three months* ba bo ba boa ba sa batle go nna koo, a bo go sala ba ba ntseng ba le koo. Kgang e tona e ka nna

gore *the incentives* tse re ka tlang ka tsone re le lephata, tse di ka dirang gore e re le fa batho ba le koo ba tswelele ba ikgodisa *professionally*, e ka nna dife, *is one of the things* tse re ka di dirang gore ba se ka ba bewa ka fa mosing thata? Ke a leboga.

TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT'S PROCUREMENT PROCESS

DR U. DOW (KGATLENG WEST): asked the Minister of Finance whether he considers transparency, accountability, fairness and open competition to be core principles in the Government's procurement process and if there are any plans to bring a Bill to Parliament amending the current procurement laws, with a view to:

- (i) granting the President special procurement powers; and
- (ii) abandoning competitive bidding as the default position in the grant of Government tenders and contracts and substituting same with direct appointment.

Later Date.

DEBT OWED TO LOW RANKING PUBLIC SERVANTS

MR K. K. KAPINGA (OKAVANGO WEST): asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture if he is aware that there is a huge debt owed to low ranking public servants left over from the previous administration, especially for employees in the Department of Veterinary Services based at Disease Control Camps spread throughout the country; and if so, would he assuage the feelings of such public servants by letting them know how Government is planning to discharge its debt obligations to its employees.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ambassador Kenny Kinitiro Kapinga, Member for Okavango West.

MR KAPINGA: Mr Speaker, I notice that there is a corrigendum which has withdrawn the question from the Order Paper.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for alerting me to the corrigendum. Indeed, there is a corrigendum. Honourable Members, this is in line with my last week's ruling. Honourable Members, you would recall

that there was an issue about the re-direction of this question and I had made a ruling that the Ministry for State President will have to answer this question. I think it was erroneously put as a question to the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture. *E siame*, the corrigendum *kana go raya gore e e ntshitse mo* Order Paper. *Gape* as I said, *kana* ruling *ke gore e arabiwe ke ba* State President. *Le tlaa ba neela karabo*, when they beef up, they will do so.

INITIATIVES ON IMPROVING EDUCATION OUTCOMES

MR K. NKAWANA (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST): asked the Minister of Higher Education to apprise this Honourable House on initiatives that his ministry is implementing or planning to implement in order to improve education outcomes and provide the citizens with the skills needed for the job market.

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE): *Ke a leboga* Mr Speaker. Thank you so much *Rre* Nkawana.

Mr Speaker, the ministry's current focus is firmly on Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) strengthening, industry integration and strategic partnerships to ensure graduates are job-ready and aligned to economic priorities. We are repositioning TVET as a primary skills pipeline for the economy. Current actions include:

- Expanding apprenticeship and work-based learning in partnership with industry.
- Aligning technical programmes to mining, energy, construction, manufacturing, agriculture and digital trades.
- Embedding compulsory industrial attachment across technical qualifications.
- Reviewing brigade and technical college programmes to ensure competency-based training aligned to employer standards.

TVET must produce artisans, technicians and technologists who can immediately contribute to industry and infrastructure development.

The ministry has intensified direct engagement with the

industry to move beyond consultation to co-delivery. Employers are now involved in:

- Curriculum review and validation
- Student attachment placements
- Equipment support and exposure to modern technologies
- Joint research and innovation initiatives

This ensures institutions train for real jobs not theory. For example; in the recent past, the ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with De Beers Group to strengthen collaboration in higher education and skills development. The MoU focuses on:

- Skills development in mining engineering, geology, metallurgy and related technical fields.
- Support for research and innovation linked to minerals beneficiation.
- Structured student internships and experimental learning opportunities.
- Capacity building and exposure to global best practice in the mining value chain.

This partnership directly supports Botswana's mineral value addition agenda and ensures our graduates are trained for opportunities within the evolving mining sector.

Through strengthened TVET delivery, enforceable industry partnerships and strategic collaborations such as the MoU with De Beers, the ministry is ensuring that higher education produces skilled, employable and industry-ready citizens who contribute meaningfully to national development. *Ke a leboga* Mr Speaker.

MR NKAWANA: *Supplementary.* *Ke a leboga Mr Speaker.* Tona, ke a go leboga ka karabo ya gago e e *detailed.* Kana re bona bana ba o ntseng o *describe* gore ba tsamaya mo *programmes* tse di ntseng jang tse di batliwang ke *industry*, ba le bantsi mo mekgwatheng, ba sa hirwe, potso e bo e nna gore *are you overproducing* kana *the job market has shrunk?*

Number two ke gore fa e le gore bana ba ba tswa mo dikoleng ba rutunshitswe sentle ba tla ka *skills* tse di

tlhokiwang ke *those industries*, ke eng e re fa ditiro di bapadiwa (*advertise*), re bo re bona go kwalwa dingwaga tsa *experience* bo *five or 10 years*? *I believe* bangwe ba bone ba a bo ba setse ba dirile *internship*. So, a ko o re fetise gone foo gore re tlhologanye gore mathata a a tsalwa ke eng? Ke a leboga.

MR MAELE: *Thank you sir. It is common cause sir that the market* wa ditiro ka fa o ntseng ka teng, o setse e le mokang o leng *saturated*. *That is why* mo karabong ya rona re ne re tlhalosa thata gore re leka thata dikgang tsa *entrepreneurship*. Ga re batle go ntsha bana fela ba e leng gore re ba raya re re, “*go and look for a job*,” re batla bana ba e leng gore le bone e ka re ba tswa fa ba bo ba re, “*I am going to start up something for myself*.”

I went to the university just today go bona something called UniPod. *I would invite anyone who would want to go and see what UniPod is, where you see creative minds coming up with things* tse e leng gore o ne o sa dumele gore di ka dirwa mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ke tswa go bona dilo tse di gagamatsang tse di dirwang ke bana ba e leng gore ba re bone ba saletswe fela ke gore ba bo ba dira *commercialisation*. So, *that is why* ke re, *yes, I agree with you, we may be producing* bana ba bantsi mme *market* o sa kgone go ba tsaya botlhe. Totatota *to be honest, the market is saturated. We have identified that problem and now we are saying, let us try to make sure that* bana ba le bone e nna *entrepreneurs*, ba ka itshimololela *whatever they would want to do*.

Ya *experience* ya bo *five to 10 years*, le nna e ntsenya dingalo ka gore *I am the one that produces* bana ba but *I think* e ka arabiwa ke Motlotlegi Mokgware thata go feta nna. Ke dumela gore bana ba bangwe ba ba tswang gone koo, ke go ba rianariana fela ba bo ba tsena mo laeneng, ga go ka ke ga nna dingalo thata gore o ba rute. Mo gongwe e a bo e le *just to see* bana ba ba leng teng.

However, one of the things that we are thinking Honourable Nkawana, tse ke batlang gore o tle o re thuse gore o re tataise mo go tsone, *there are a lot of* bana ba e leng gore ga ba dire sepe mme ba tshwere ditlankana, *the problem* ke madinyana. *We are thinking of doing what is called retooling. We want to retool them because* ba bangwe o tlaa utlwa *industry* e ntse e re go tlhaelanyana sennanne. So, *we are saying, let us retool* bana ba *so that they can be industry relevant*. Mathata ke gore kana fa ke ba *retool* jaana, *I need some money*.

So, ke dumela gore e tlaa re fa ke tla ka *Committee of Supply*, le tlaa tla le nthebolela madi a a fetang gongwe a ke a kopang a, *so that I can do some of these things*. Ke a leboga motlotlegi.

MR MONAGENG: *Supplementary. Thank you, Mr Speaker.* Re a utlwa ka fa Tona a tlhalosang ka teng, bogolo jang gore kana jaanong go dulwe *from brigades* to ka fa go ntseng ka teng gompieno, TVET *and all that*. Motho o ka botsa gore mme ka nako ya *brigades* e ne e le thuto sekadiatla, ke gore go dira ka diatla mo go neng go tswa *artisans* tse di kgonang go ya go dira bo *bricklaying, carpentry*, bo eng bo eng, gompieno ka fa re tsamaileng ka teng, go kgakala go le kana ka eng go ntsha bana ba ba ka yang go dira bo *bricklaying* le *carpentry* e le *artisans*? Re kgakala go le kana ka eng le ka fa nneng Rre Van Rensburg a neng a akantse ka teng?

MR MAELE: *Mr Speaker*, ke dumela gore go botlhokwa thata gore ke tlhalosetse Palamente gore *we have developed* sengwe se e leng gore re batla gore ngwana fa a *choose pathway* ya gore nna ke *bricklayer*, a bo a tsamaya fela ka *bricklaying*, e bo e nna o kare ke motho yo o ka nnang le *Diploma* tsa *bricklaying* kana *Degree* tsa *bricklaying*, re e bitsa re re National Qualifications Framework (NQF). So, *we are saying with the NQF*, ga re batle gore ngwana a bo a re *because* gore ke nne le *Diploma*, ke tshwanetse ke tlolele ka kwa *mainstream*, ga re batle seemo seo. Re batla gore ngwana a bo a re ke “*motho wa bricklaying*.” Re simolotse ka Level One *up to Level 10*. Level 10 e a bo e le Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Bo *Level Three* jaana bo *technician*, bo *Level Six* jaana bo *Degree*, ke gone mo re le kang go go dira.

So, there is no problem Honourable Member in terms of fa ngwana a batla go tsamaya ka *pathway* ya *plumbing* kana *bricklaying*. *There is no problem, pathway* ya gagwe e tlaa nna e ntse e tswela fela *in terms of the levels*. Re tlaabo re e bitsa fela re re o mo *Level Six, Level Eight, Level 10* jalojalo fela *because otherwise* fa re ka tloga ra dira jaaka gongwe bogologolo e le gore bana ba tlolele ka kwa *mainstream* so that o ka nna le *Diploma* kana *Degree*, fa gongwe o fitlhela re ba tsenya dingalo.

I was giving an example maloba ya ngwana yo e leng gore ke ne ke ile kwa sekoleng sengwe e le gore tota ene o itse *only swimming*. Fa le tsena *at the classroom* go a pala *but* fa le tsena kwa *swimming* e nna *the best* mo go

yone. So, bana ba ba ntseng jalo, *we do not want to say we disturb pathway* ya bone ka gore a bo a re *because* ke batla go nna le *Diploma*-nyana kana le *Degree*, ke ye ka kwa *the main thing*. So, go raya gore a re tsamayeng ka National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCQF) gore a tsamaye fela ka *level* ya gagwe go fitlhelela a nna le *level* e a nnang mo go yone. *As I am talking to you*, ngwana wa teng o ya *swimming* kwa *internationals* mme fela fa o mo tsenya *inside the class*, go nna go ntsho, ga a bone le fa e le sepe, o itse *swimming* fela. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Members*, nako ya lona ya dipotso e ile, *let us go to the Appropriation*.

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

Second Reading (Resumed Debate)

MR PULE: *Procedure*. Mma ke simolole ka go ikokobetsa mo go wena mongwame ka go dumedisa, ke bo ke dumedise le maloko a Ntlo e. Mo bekeng e e fetileng fa ke gakologelwa sentle go le Labone, motlotlegi o ne a kopa *Honourable* Moswaane gore ka ntata ya dikgang tse a neng a di tshotse, a mo tlele ka bosupi gore a mo neele ka Mantaga. Ga ke itse gore a o ne a reela gore e tlaabo e le kwa ofising ya gagwe kana o tlaa tla a bo rola mo Palamenteng? Ke ne ke re gongwe fela *we should be appraised* gore o tsamaya fa kae ka bosupi joo *Mr Speaker*? Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Leader of the House*, o bale Standing Order 58.7, se tlaa go thusa thata.

Honourable Members, *I had made a ruling* ka kgang ya ga *Honourable* Moswaane gore a tlise bosupi kwa ofising. Bosupi joo fa e le gore bo gorogile, ga bo ise bo tle fa go nna, ga ke ise ke bo bone. Kana e ne e le gore ke bo sekaseke, ke bone gore a bo tsamaelana le se a neng a se bua kana bo tlhaelela kgakala, fa bo tlhaela, e bo e le gore ke ka tsaya tshwetso, ga bo ise bo tle. E bile ke na le lekwalo la ga *Honourable* Moswaane le le supang gore o kare ga a yo beke yotlhe. O tlaabo a le mo diphuthegong tsa Puso mme ga go re kganele gore re ka tseela kgang tshwetso gore a o teng kana ga a yo. Tsweetswee *Honourable* Pule, a re e tlogele e le foo.

Honourable Members, go lebega e le gore le setse le buisitse *budget* le le 50. Wa bo 50 e bong *Honourable* Dr Butale, o kwadile gore ga a na go nna teng gompiano ka mabaka a ke a tlhalogantseng, ke a utlwisisitse. Fa a ka nna *lucky* a latswiwa ke tlhware a fitlhela re santse re tswelletse, go raya gore o tlaabo a na le 18 *minutes* le 13 *seconds*. *The reason why I say that Honourable Members is that we anticipate this debate to end tomorrow afternoon*.

Gakere le ya *to break* ka bo 1:00 p.m., *from* 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *Then the Minister of Finance will respond that afternoon*, gone kamoso. Gakere re dumalane *Honourable Members* gore kamoso le tsena phakela ka 9:00 a.m?

Order! Honourable Members, *the debate on this Bill is resuming and as I have indicated, when the House adjourned last week Thursday, the 19th February 2026, Honourable* Dr Phenyo Butale, *Minister for International Affairs, Member for Gaborone Central was on the floor debating and he is left with 18 minutes, 13 seconds. I have indicated that he is not here. So, the floor is open*.

DR GOBOTSWANG (TSWAPONG SOUTH): Mma ke go leboga *Mr Speaker*, gore ke bo ke bone sebaka sa go tla go buisa *budget*. Pele ke batla go akgola dikole tsa kgaolo ya me tse di dirileng bontle fela jo bo gaggamatsang. Sekole sa Maape Primary se dirile 100 *per cent*, sa salwa morago ke se sengwe sa Maape, se se bidiwang Mophaneng ka 83 *per cent*. So, go raya gore le fa mathata a le kalo, go a supafala gore fale le fale dikole tse dingwe di a iteka.

Sengwe se ke batlang go feta ka sone bagaetsho, e rile fa re simolola, *Honourable* Leader of the Opposition (LOO), a re kopa gore re eme ka dinao re tseye thapelo, re gopole ba e leng gore tota rotlhe re ne re dumalana gore ka ntata ya seemo sa botsogo, re latlhegetswe ke matshelo. O ne a dira sengwe se ke neng ke sa solofela gore bakaulengwe ka kwa ba ka se gana. O kile wa bona batho ba gana thapelo. Ao! Le fa o utlwa go ntse gotwe batho ba bosula, ba bo ba gana thapelo, ba gana go ema ka dinao. Ga re a simolola sentle fela ka fa re simolotseng ka teng...*(Interruptions)*... Ke raya gore le fa ke sa go rate *Honourable* Caesar Mohwasa, fa o re emelela re rapele, ke ka rapela fela le fa ke itse gore gongwe thapelo ya gago e ka nna ya ya go sele.

Bagaetsho, go na le dilo di se kae tse ke batlang gore re di ele tlhoko mabapi le *Budget Speech* ya ga His Honour the Vice President (VP). Fa e sale ke tsalwa ke nna kana, ga ke ise ke bone *Budget Speech* e e atumelang *four hours*. Ka tshakatsheko ya me, ke lemogile gore His Honour the VP o ne a kopantse *speeches* tse pedi fa o mo reeditse sentle. E ne e le State of the Nation Address (SONA) le *Budget Speech*, le *motivation* go sidila batho maikutlo ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Tota o tsere nako *unnecessarily. I think he can do better, one and half hours should be sufficient*. Le mmolelele jalo gore ga go a siama.

Gape e ne e le lantlha ke bona *Budget Speech* e nna *President* a le teng, *six Cabinet Ministers* ba seyo. Ga ke itse gore go raya eng gone moo? Kana ke *lack of discipline on the part of* bakaulengwe ba *Cabinet* kana ba ne ba romilwe thomo e e leng gore tota fela ke ya lesa le botshelo. Ga ke itse ka gore *budget* le SONA, tsholofelo ke gore rotlhe re bo re le fa ka gore ke melaetsa ya botlhokwa.

Bagaetsho, ke batla go tsena mo go kgweng bangwe dikgaba, ba ba buileng. Ba buile ba le bantsi, ga re ka ke ra kgona go ba kgwa dikgaba, ke raya bakaulengwe ba Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), mme ba e leng gore ga re ka ke ra le umaka, ga go reye gore ga le a bua sepe se se botlhokwa. Go raya fela gore nako ga e yo, ba ba neng ba bua ka bo thokolosi le matswai, bone ga se ba re ka reng re ka arabela dikgang tsa bone.

Honourable Ookeditse, ka gore ke ene a simolotseng, o simolotse a re o kopa LOO gore o ka bo a ntshitse *budget* ya kganetso kana ya Botswana Congress Party (BCP), a raya Tautona wa BCP, mme a bua jaana e le Tautona wa Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF). Karabo ke tsaya gore e mo go ene. Ke mo a ka bong a ikarabile gore mathata a gagwe ke eng a sa tlisa *an alternative budget*. *Otherwise*, o ka bo a boditse ba UDC ka gore ba sale ba tsena ka 2024, gore kante ke eng ba sa tlise *alternative budget*? Ba ka bo ba mo file karabo, o ka bo a sa tla fa go tla go re diela nako ka dikgang tse di ntseng jalo.

Honourable Tshere, hei! O ne a tshwere bothata a leka go tlhalosa kgang ya gore ga re a le solofetsa sepe, ga re a ikgolega, e e neng e builwe ke Tautona a re ga re a ikgolega. A leka go e tlhalosa mme e pala. *Honourable* Kaizer o e buile sentle, a re tsamaya o ye go bala kana

o botse ka *promissory estoppel*. Sekgoa sa diagente, o botse *President Advocate*, o tlaa go e tlhalosetsa gore fa o solofeditse motho selo jaaka le ne le *campaign* le solofetsa Batswana ka maitlamo, Batswana ba bo ba le tlhophha ka kutlwisiso ya gore le ya go a diragatsa, gone moo ke tumalano, ke yone e gotweng *promissory estoppel*. *So*, o tshwanetse gore o ithute tsone tseo. Rre Motshegwa ene tota *the least we talk about his tantrums, the better*. *So*, ke ne ke raya gore ke bue tsone tseo.

Bagaetsho, mma ke fete ka *Honourable* Caesar Mohwasa, ene tota o buile sengwe, o tlhatswitse kgang e nngwe e e neng e le gore o a e itatola. E ne e rile fa moragonyana fale a leka gore a re, bone ba le Puso ya UDC, ga ba ka ke ba arabela dikgang tsa UDC, mme e rile a eme gone fa a bua a re, “tsone NDP 12 tse le mananeo a Puso a, a tlhotlhelediwa ke maitlamo a UDC.” Kgang e tlhapile. Ke tsaya gore ga a ka ke a tlhola a boelela kgang ya gore e re re mmotsa ka maitlamo a UDC le ditsholofetso, a bo a di itatola. Ke mo lebogela sone seo.

Bagaetsho, ke batla go supa gore *the BCP shall hold UDC accountable*. Seo sone re tsile go se dira, go le gakolola maitlamo le maikano. Fa le solofeditse batho maP4000, le bo le sa a diragatsa jaaka re bona gore o kare le simolola go a itatola, le boela morago maP4000, ka fa re utlwileng Tautona ka fa a buang ka teng, re tlaa nna re le gakolola gore le tshwanetse go diragatsa maitlamo. Fa le solofetsa batho gore le tlaa dira ditiro di le 450 000 to 500 000, re tlile go nna re le gakolola gore bagaetsho, kana le solofeditse batho, ditiro di tla leng? Ke raya gore seo le tshwanetse le se solofele mo go rona.

Selelo sa lona sa gore le fitlhetse mathata, le ja boswa, ee bagaetsho, le tlaa tshwanelwa ke go itse gore le ya go ja boswa jwa tse di siameng le tse di sa siamang. Jaanong le itatola tse di sa siamang, tse di siameng tse le di jang le di akola, o fitlhela le le kwa ga mothakga e bile le itumetse. Gakere le ja boswa jwa P1.3 million wa *furniture*. Le ja boswa jwa dikoloi tsa P60 million tsa ga Tautona, e bile le tlile go ja boswa jwa *helicopters* tsa P1 billion. Joo boswa le ya go bo itumelela, e bile le batla go tsaya lefatshe la Batawana la Ngamiland, leo lone le a le itumelela, le ja boswa. *So*, jo bo monate le a bo itumelela, jo bo bosula ga go ka ke ga nna jalo bagaetsho. Tswelelang fela le akole boswa jo jotlhe

jaaka le bo akola bakaulengwe.

Let me go to some positive aspects tsa budget tse ke di lemogileng. Ke itumeletse gore jaanong fa e sale re tse na mo Palamenteng e, ga go na supplementary budget. Kana supplementary budget, the Ministries were blackmailing Members of Parliament (MPs). Ba tlaabo ba sa tsenye budget ya gore ba kolota badirelapuso. Go tswa foo ba tla ba kibakiba mo Palamenteng ba batla supplementary budget. Ba itse gore ga re ka ke ra e gana. Golo mo e ne e le blackmail. Ke itumelela gore gompiano e bo e seyo.

Re bone P1.85 billion gotwe ke maintenance wa dikole, dipatela, ditsela and so forth. Ke ratile gape gore it has been ringfenced, e lotletswe ga o ka ke wa tsaya sepe mo teng. Ga re itse ka gore fa Mothusa Tautona a ne a re boleletse gore madi otlhe a a baakanyang tsothle tse di senyegileng e ka nna bokae, re ka bo re kgona go lemoga gore mme gone madi a a mannyennyane kana a mantsi. Gone madi ke a re a bona, reinforced. Ke solofela gore ditsela tsa kgaolo e ke e emetseng tse di maswe tse di tshwanang le tsa Pilikwe/Maape, Ramokgonami/Mokobeng, tse e leng gore fa pula e na ga di tsamaege, sengwe se tlaa tswa mo teng. Se sengwe gape ke gore, go na le madi a road levy. Bagaetsho, madi a must be ringfenced le one, a tshwanetse gore a lotlelwe because fa a ne a ka lotlelwa, re ka bo re sa lele thata ka ditsela, ka gore re ka bo re itse gore re na le madi a road levy a a tshwanetseng gore a baakanye ditsela tsa rona. Ke sone se ke se lebogelang.

Go na le kgang ya centralized Government Purchasing Orders (GPOs), ke tsaya gore Rre Nkawana o e buile sentle gore ee, ke lemao le le ntlha pedi, le ka bo le e lebile dintlha tsothle. Go na le kgang e re neng re e solofeditse ya gore le tlaa fokotsa mesepele e e sa tlhokafaleng, ke batla go gwetlha the Vice President (VP) gore fa a araba, a re bolelele gore mo go fokotseng mesepele e e sa tlhokafaleng, o bolokile bokae, ka gore kwa GPOs re bone gore o bolokile bokae. Re batla go itse gore mo go a o bolokile bokae, ka gore ke bone maloba Dr Modise a le kwa Ethiopia, fa ke re ke lebelela gore o ile go dira eng ke sa kgone go bona, ke bona dinepe fela a itsere le Ministers tsa pele Professor Shiela Tlou le Mme Joy Phumaphi. Ke tsaya gore moo re tshwanetse re ka bo re go boleletse Mr Speaker.

E nngwe ke ya solar, gore jaanong re tsamaela kwa solar, ke kgang e e siameng thata. Bagaetsho, madi ga a nke a lekana, kgang ya gore madi ga a yo, ga go na sepepe, budget ke e e a supa gore madi a teng, kgang ke gore le ya go a dirisa jang, ka gore 2026 le solofetse P76 billion, le solofetse go ya to spend madi a mantsintsi a a fetang a le a solofetseng. Ke gone fa bothata bo leng teng gone foo.

Jaanong tlaa ke gacolole gore re ka fokotsa jang go dirisa madi bakaulengwe. List ya me e telele, mme ke tlaa leka gore ke remelele mo go di se kae. His Honour the Vice o ne a re solofeditse gore, he will introduce budget tracking gore re kgone go bona gore madi a dirisiwa jang. Ke batla gore fa a re araba, a bue gore e tsamaya fa kae, ka gore ke yone e e botlhokwa e e ka re supegetsang gore madi a dirisiwa jang letsatsi le letsatsi. We must audit the Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS), the DIS is porous le gone kwa madi a tswang teng. Thibang leroba la DIS, le tlaabo le berekile. Strictly enforce unnecessary travels, including those of the President bagaetsho. President ga a ka ke a re kgapetsagapetsa o bo a tsamaya private visit, kgantele o tsamaya another private visit. Bagaetsho, fokotsang dikgang tse di ntseng jalo. Reduce the size of Cabinet, ke dumalana le LOO. 28 Cabinet Ministers, nnyaa bagaetsho. Population ya less than three million, ntshang bakaulengwe Assistant Ministers. Ga se gore ke a go fufagelela Honourable Motsamai, mme gone fela a ko le ntshiweng, ga go na sepe se le se dirang se se kalokalo.

We must adopt a means test for social protection. Nna ke sale ke dumela mo go reng, ga e ka ke ya re ke tsaya pension kwa university, ke bo jaanong ke tsenngwa gape mo Old Age Pension. Rraetsho Ian Khama Seretse Khama o tlaabo a tsaya pension ya Botswana Defence Force (BDF), o tsaya 80 per cent gatwe ya salary, go tswa fa a bo a tsenngwa gape a tsaya Old Age Pension, nnyaa bagaetsho. Fa e le gore le tswela le dira jaana, mongwe le mongwe a fiwa Old Age Pension, a Disability Allowance le yone e fiwe banalebogole botlhe gore go nne fair.

De Beers e a wa bagaetsho, ga se e re ka tlholang re e...

MR LESEDI: On a point of procedure. Ke go dumedise Mr Speaker, ke go leboqe. Ke re Honourable Member fa a debate, a ele tlhoko gore fa a dirisa maina a ba ba seyong fano, kana ga ba kitla ba kgona go ikarabela. E

re ntswa ke tlhologanya gore o ne a eletsa go fa sekai, mme gongwe a tswe pele mo go Khama. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: *O utlwile*, I think the import of his argument is on double-dipping, *o simolotse ka ene*. So I am not inclined to believe that there is any ill-will or ... (Inaudible)...

DR GOBOTSWANG: Ke a leboga. Ka *corruption* bagaetsho, go setse go supagetse gore go na le *Ministers* dingwe kana bagolo ba Puso ba ba tlhotlhomisiwang. Re tshwanetse re dumele gore *even under this Government, corruption* e teng e tshwanetse gore e lwantshiwe. Ba ja boswa jwa gore e bo e le gore fa mongwe o kare o a tlhotlhomisiwa, a bo a isiwa go sele (*transfer*). Seo se tshwanetse se eme. *Declaration of Assets* e tshwanetse gore tota fela e dirwe. Ke dumela gore bangwe ba Matona fa ba ka tswa ba ise ba *declare assets* tsa bone, *and* fa go nna jalo, go raya gore re tlaa belaela gore ba batla *to accumulate* pele *before they can declare*. Kgang eo ga e a siama.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Dr Gobotswang, you are imputing. As far as I know the law that you passed, and I think you were in the last Parliament, does not have disclosure clause. In fact, the very act of disclosing can attract a penalty. So, I do not know how you would know that some Ministers have not declared. *O ka e bua ga ke itse gore gongwe e le pelaelo, mme tsweetswee* honourable, do not impute improper motive.

DR GOBOTSWANG: Ke na le pelaelo *Mr Speaker*, gore go ka tswa go ntse jalo. Fa re tsena *into the priorities* bagaetsho, dilo tse di a re tshwenya gompiano, kana ke Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) le tsa botsogo. Ke bona e le tsone tse di re emeng pele, tse re tshwanetseng re di ele tlhoko. Fa go tla mo go tsa botsogo bagaetsho, ke na le dikakanyo tsa gore go tshwanetse go dirwe jang mo go tsa botsogo. Ke akanya gore sa ntlha, Central Medical Stores (CMS), e tshwanetse e ikemele. Sa bobedi, re tshwanetse re sale morago Botswana National Value Chain Strategy for Medical Commodities 2023-2028. Ke tsaya gore fa re ka se sala morago, re tlaabo re dirile se se tshwanetseng. Ke tsone dikgang tse ke neng ke re *in terms of health*, ke bue ka tsone, jaaka Vladimir Lenin a kile a bua *what has to be done*.

In terms of FMD bagaetsho, re tshwanetse re ka bo re sekasekile dikgang tse dingwe fa godimo ga tse re di

itseng. Re tshwanetse re ele tlhoko thata kgang ya go bolaya dikgomo ka *rate* e di bolawang ka yone (*mass slaughter*). Kgang ya *consultation* kwa Borolong kwa go tserweng terata e bo go teratela noka e batho ba e dirisang, go ne go tshwanetse go ka bo go nnile le morero. Kgang e nngwe ke ya *compensation; compensation* ya P700 ga se e re tshwanetseng re ka bo re santse re e dirisa mo nakong ya gompiano.

Fa ke tsamaela kwa bokhutlong, go na le dikgang tse ke batlang go feta ka tsone. E nngwe ke ya gore go nnile le phetogo ya Puso, mme ga go na sepe se se fetogileng. Le ene Tautona o a dumela gore tota Puso e ya gagwe, e tshwaragane le ya Botswana Democratic Party (BDP). Fa ke ka *quote* se a se buileng a re, “ga re Puso ya Botswana National Front (BNF) fela, re Puso ya Botswana Democratic Party, re busa le bone, ke batho ba rona, re ba eteletse pele.” Kgang e e supa gore e re ntswa ba tlhola ba bua gore BCP ke yone e e dirisanyang le BDP, mme jaanong go tlhamaletse e bile go papametse, e bile Tautona o buile gore bone e le UDC, ba dirisana le Botswana Democratic Party. A e jeke UDC! Ke sone fela se o ka se buang.

Bagaetsho, ke batla go fetsa ke re, go na le Batswana ba ba dirang ditiro tse re tshwanetseng go di lemoga, re bo re di rotloetsa. Bona Motswana wa maloba a baakanya *pothole* mo tseleng, a thusiwa ke ba bangwe ba leka go baakanya *pothole* eo. Re tshwanetse go lemoga Batswana ba ba ntseng jalo. Kwa kgaolong e ke e emetseng, go na le mephato e e ithaopetseng go sireletsa barui go lwantsha bogodu jwa dikgomo. Maloba re ne re bona kwa Ngami batho ba ithaopela go baakanya ditafole tsa bana ba sekole, kwa Ngami Junior Secondary School. Jaanong dikgang tse re tshwanetse go di rotloetsa. Kwa kgaolong e ke e emetseng, maloba ke fitlhetse mogokgo kwa Mokobeng Junior, a thusana le ba ba ithaopileng go baakanya malao a bana ba *boarding*. Dikgang tse bagaetsho, re tshwanetse go di rotloetsa re le setšhaba, re bo re lemoge ba ba di dirang. Kwa *Foot and Mouth* re a utlwa gore Batswana ba ithaopetse gore ba baakanya diterata. Jaanong dikgang tse re tshwanetse go di rotloetsa re le setšhaba, mme fa re ka dira jalo, ke tsaya gore re tlaabo re tswetsetse ka tsela e e botlhokwa thata.

Ya bofelo e tona e ke tshwanetseng go e bua ke gore, *the legitimacy of the UDC is under question*. Maloba Rre

Dumelang o buile gone fa gore, e rile a etetse Tautona morago ga ditlhopho a ile go mo dumedisa, Tautona o mmoleletse gore ditlhopho tse UDC e ka bo e sa di fenyfa fa e ne e se DIS. Tautona ga a ise a tle go itatola kgang e, mme fa e le gore ga a e itatole, go raya gore ka nnete UDC ka tsela nngwe e utswetswe ditlhopho ke DIS. E bile re dumela gore mo ditlhophong tse di tlang, lebaka la gore ba bo ba sa kobe...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Gobotswang, order! Kana jaanong se o se buang ga ke dumalane le gore se ka tsamaelana le Penal Code. Kana fa o bua jalo jaanong o bua ka *treason*, ga ke itse gore a fa o tlhalosa gore *the ruling party* e utsweditswe ditlhopho, *it is a very serious allegation that you will have to substantiate. Because you are referring to a matter that was said at...* wa re e ne e buiwa kae?

DR GOBOTSWANG: ...(Inaudible)...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Gobotswang, *kana ke sone se ke nnang ke re, dikgang tse le tswang ka tsone kwa ntle*, if you cannot substantiate them *mo Ntlong e, le se ka la di bua. Jaanong* you are raising a very, very serious allegation and that serious allegation to subvert the electoral process and also implicating the President in affirming that, is very serious. So, you will need to withdraw that Honourable Gobotswang, *o bo o ka tswela le statement sa gago.*

DR GOBOTSWANG: *Mr Speaker, I think* fa o ka dira jalo ka dumalana le se o se buang, go tlaabo go raya gore jaanong kgololesego ya rona ya *to debate* re phuthologile mo Palamenteng, o batla go re e tseela. Se ke batlang go se bua ke gore, kgang e e builwe mo Palamenteng, *it is in the public domain, President* o a e itse, mme ga a e itatola. Jaanong fa a sa e itatola, kana go mo go ene gore a e itatole fa e le gore ga se boammaaruri...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Interruptions!)...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Gobotswang, *kana* I have made a ruling *ya gore ga o ka ke wa tla mo Palamenteng wa re the ruling party e utsweditswe ditlhopho ke DIS*, and go even further and implicate the President in having affirmed that, without adducing any evidence whatsoever. Banking on hearsay, I will not allow that. You will have to withdraw that statement, I am not attempting to interfere with

your freedom of expression, but to say that *e ne e le* a statement of fact, we cannot allow that Honourable Dr Gobotswang.

DR GOBOTSWANG: *Mr Speaker*, ke a go utlwa, ke na le mathata le *ruling* ya gago. *I cannot believe the leader of the official opposition* a bo a bua puo e a e buileng mo setšhabeng se mo reeditse, o bo o re *it is hearsay*, e bile o kare o batla gore ke kgang ya kwa dipepereng. *We are talking of Leader of the Opposition, the leader of the official opposition, so you cannot say* gore se a se buileng le *President, President* le ene a kile a bua gore o buile sengwe le ene...

MR SPEAKER: Hang on Dr Gobotswang.

...Silence...

MR SPEAKER: I was just conferring with the Parliamentary Council (PC) on the ruling. Honourable Gobotswang, *kana kgang e ga e matswakabele, e tlhamaletse fela, gakere wa re o utlwa* Leader of the Opposition *a re o ne a bua le Tautona?* Kana that is what you are banking on, *jaanong* that is hearsay, *ga o ka ke wa tla ka* hearsay and draw an inference *ya gore*, basing on *mafoko a a neng a buiwa ke* Leader of the Opposition *a re o ne a a utlwa mo go Tautona, go raya gore* the ruling party *e utsweditswe ditlhopho ke DIS*. The gravity of the allegation that you are making is very serious and I am inclined to believe that it would be treasonous, not on Dr Gobotswang but on whoever would have done that. So, we cannot just throw those allegations widely like that, that is why I am saying you will have to withdraw, unless you bring me evidence. *Le gone fa e le gore o na le* evidence *ya teng*, I do not know what you would have done *ka yone* Honourable Dr Gobotswang. *Tsweetswee, se dire jalo*, because this obviously will be against our rules Honourable Dr Gobotswang, apart from imputing improper motive on your colleagues, the gravity of the allegation is very serious.

DR GOBOTSWANG: *Mr Speaker*, ke a go tlotla, *I will withdraw*, mme se ke batlang go se bua fela ke gore, kgang e ke dumalana le wena *Mr Speaker, it is a very, very serious matter*. Foo ke dumalana le wena, ga ke itse gore ke eng *Mr Speaker* re le setšhaba o kare re tsaya dikgang tse motlhofo...

MR SPEAKER: E go tshwere...

DR GOBOTSWANG: I withdraw Mr Speaker, thank you.

MR SEGOKGO (TLOKWENG): *Mr Speaker*, tlaa ke tseye motsotso ke go leboge gore o bo o mphile sebaka gore ke buise Palamente e.

Mr Speaker, go tlaabo go tshwanetse gore pele ga ke tsena mo dikgannyeng tsame, kana *as a preface*, ke tseye motsotso o go ka leboga thata and *congratulate* ba sekole sa Matlala se e leng gore mo dikoleng tse tsotlhe mo Botswana se nnile *number 18*. Ba itekile thata fa re tshwantshanya le mo dingwageng tse e leng gore di fetile. Ke tseye sebaka se ke leboge Mogokgo Rre Kefilwe, mothusi wa gagwe Mma Batsalelwang. Le sekole sa kwa Tlokweng JSS le bone ke re ke ba rotloetse thata. Ke a itse gore ba bereka ka thata, le ka natla le bone, bogolo jang Rre Tselaesele, gammogo le barutabana ba botlhe ba dikole tsone tsa kwa Tlokweng. Sekole sa Botsalano Primary School se e leng gore le sone se itekile thata se gaisitse dikole tse tsotlhe mo Tlokweng, Mogokgo Mme Maotonyane gammogo le Mothusi wa gagwe Mme Dintle Timela. Ke bo ke rotloetsa le bagokgo ba bangwe ba Kgosi Kgosi, Batlokwa National School kwa ke neng ke tsena teng, ba Mafitlhakgosi Primary School gore le bone ba iteke thata. Ke tlaabo ke ba eme nokeng thata mo ngwageng o jaaka ke ntse ke ba eme mo ngwageng o o fetileng. Gammogo le barutabana botlhe fela ba kgaolo ya Tlokweng, ke re ke ba rotloetse. Re a itse gore ba berekela mo diemong tse di thata tse re di fitlhelang di ntse di le teng, tsa boroko jwa bone, tsa go tlhoka gongwe dituelo tse di siameng, tsa go nna ba ruta bana fa gongwe *classes* di le bo 40, bo 45. Kwa Matlala go na le diemo tse e leng gore le gompiano bana ba santse ba rutelwa mo ditanteng le mo *porta cabins*. Ke ntwana e leng gore re tlaabo re e lwa fela thata.

Ke kope maitshwarelo mo go ba Tlokweng, ke a itse gore ba solofetse gore gongwe ke tlaabo ke ya go bua ka dikgang tse di ntsi tse e leng gore di a ba ama thata, dikgang tsa *storm water drainage* tse di kwa Tlokweng, *sewer lines* tse e leng gore ke mathata ka kwa Ranfurwa, ka kwa Letlapeng jalojalo. Kgang ya *primary school* e e leng gore e etla. Le dikgang tse dintsintsi fela tse e leng gore di ama *internal roads* mo motseng wa rona wa Tlokweng. Ke tlhalose jalo gore ba reetse thata Palamente mo bekeng e le e tlang fa re tlaabo jaanong re tsena thata mo dintlheng tsa *budget*,

mo gotweng ke *Committee of Supply*, kwa e leng gore re tlaabo re ya go ama dintlha thata tse e leng gore ke tsa botlhokwatlhokwa. Ba ntetle fela gompiano ke tsene mo dikgannyeng tse e leng *principles* tsa *budget* go bona gore re ka e tsamaya ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Mr Speaker, ntetle ke tlhalose gore tota fa re le mo Ntlong e, Batswana ba re reeditse, tota e bile rona bogolo jang ba re thutugang mo sepolotiking; bo *Honourable Kelebeng*, *Honourable Kaizer*, *Honourable Furniture*, re a bo re lebile mo bagolong jaaka ba re ruta mo Palamenteng jaana gore tota mme ditsamaiso tsa Palamente di tsamaya ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Fa gongwe fa re le fa re bua dikgang tse e seng boammaaruri, kana fa gongwe re kgobera Batswana maikutlo, golo moo ga go a siamela Batswana. Kgantele ba a re nyatsa le fa re le mo dintshong, mo manyalong, ga ba sa tlhole ba re tsaya tsia *Mr Speaker*. Go batla re tsena mo Palamenteng e re bua dikgang tsa boammaaruri. Ke raya gore le nna ke tlaabo ke sa dire sentle gore ke bo ke simolola ke bua gore kana *furniture* e go buiwang ka yone, *the Leader of Opposition benefited P1.2 million* mo go yone. Jaanong o bo o ipotsa gore ke eng re sa ye go simolola ka ene fa e le gore re batla go nna *example* ya gore gongwe re ka nna *the ruling party*. *The Leader of the Opposition* gompiano Batswana ba mo duelela 90 *per cent* ya *communication* ya gagwe, gore a o bua le maBCP, a o bua le ba Maun, kana o bua le ba kae. Dikgang tse ga go batle re di bua mo Palamenteng, go batla re itebaganya mo go tse e leng gore Batswana ba re di rometse mo Palamenteng.

The Leader of the Opposition fa a ka tlhagelwa ke bolwetse gone fa, Batswana ba mo isa kwa Aferika Borwa, jaaka gongwe ke sa rate go bua ka dikgang tse e leng gore ga ke batle gore re di bue mo Palamenteng, mme go batla dikgang tse e re fa ba bangwe ba ba leng ka kwa, ba di bue le bone gore kana mme fa *Leader of the Opposition* a kubugelwa ke bolwetse, o isiwa kwa Aferika Borwa ka madi a makgetho a Batswana. Dikgang tse go batla re di bua. *Leader of the Opposition* ga a duele le fa e le thebe mo motlakaseng le metsi a gagwe, Batswana ba mo duelela madi a a seng kana ka sepe. O tsamaya ka koloi e ntsho e e leng gore o tshwana le Matona, mme dikgang tse ga go batle re di bua ka gore Batswana ba tloga ba re bona ka tsela e sele. Fa re ka balelela madi a e leng gore *Leader of the Opposition* o a dirisitse gompiano *Mr Speaker*, *Leader*

of the Opposition o dirisitse bo P8 million go fofa a tsamaya mo mafatsheng mo ka *business class* a tsamaya *trips* tse di seng kana ka sepe, mme ga go batle dikgang tse re di bua. Re tlaa kgobera Batswana maikutlo. Go batla re *focus* mo dikgannyeng tse e leng gore di...

MR HIKUAMA: *Point of procedure Mr Speaker.* Kana *Honourable* Segokgo o a ntshosa, o bua e kete gatwe go utswelwa bangwe, ga go a tshwanela gore go buiwe mo Palamenteng. Ke tsaya gore fa e le gore ke tsamaiso ya Puso ya UDC e bile e dumela mo go sone, ga re ka ke ra tsaya gore e kete go a utswiwa. Fa e le gore go a utswiwa, *I think* a tlhalosetse setšhaba gore nnyaa, go a utswiwa, ga go ka fa molaong gore Matona ba direlwe tse ba di direlwang, *Leader of the Opposition* a direlwe se a se direlwang, go utswelwa ene a le nosi. Fa e le gore go utswelwa ene a le nosi, ke dilo tse e leng gore ga re ka ke ra di letlelela. Fa e le gore di ka tshosa, ga di a tshwanela go buiwa mo Palamenteng, ga se dilo tse re tshwanetseng re di letlelele. Fa e le gore ke tsamaiso mme *we feel* gore ga e a siama, a re e bue, e baakannge. Ga re ka ke ra re ga re a tshwanela go bua ka gore *Leader of the Opposition* o a utswelwa. Re ka tshaba fela fa e le gore o a utswelwa, Puso e dumela gore e a mo utswela, ga a dire se se siameng.

Mr Speaker, se ke batlang go se bua ke gore, ga go na se re sa tshwanelang go se bua. Fa e le gore go direla *Leader of the Opposition* jalo ga go a siamela lefatshe le, a re go bue fela mo Palamenteng yone e, re bue gore ga go a siama, a re go ntshe, e seng gore ke bogodu, go se ka ga buiwa gone fa.

MR SPEAKER: *Order! Honourable Members.* Ke a go utlwa *Honourable Opposition Whip*. Nnyaa, kana se *Honourable* Segokgo a se tlhalosang fela ka bokhutshwane ke gore, o kare le ganeletse thata mo dikatsong kana *benefits* tsa ba ba ka fa, mme jaanong ene ka fa a buang ka teng ke gore, tota mme *why are we dwelling on the benefits* ka gore jaanong le ene ga a bone go ka siama gore jaanong a jwelelele mo go tsa ga *Leader of the Opposition? That is what he is saying.*

To answer se o se buang *Honourable* Hikuama, *you are saying he is free to talk about that in Parliament; which is correct, but gone o ka bo o dirile clarification* fela wa mo raya o re nnyaa, gololesega o bue ka gore ga go na sepe se se go patikang gore o se ka wa bua ka yone.

MR SEGOKGO: Re tshosa Batswana *Honourable Speaker. Honourable* Hikuama ene yo o buang, o sa tswa go goroga go tswa kwa Finland le kwa China, mme dikgang tse ga a ka ke a di bua. P15 million gompieno yo o dirisiwang ke Batswana go tla...

MR HIKUAMA: *Point of procedure Mr Speaker.* O kgalemele monna yo a bue boammaaruri. Ga ke ise ke ko ke ye Finland mo botshelong jwame. Fa e le China, ga go na thebe ya lefatshe la Botswana e e dirisitsweng mo go nna. O tshwanetse gore a tlhalose jalo fa e le gore o batla go bua nnete.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Segokgo, gakere o reeditse *Honourable* Hikuama. Se a se buang ke gore a re o se ka wa mo pateletsa. O bue fela sengwe le sengwe mme o se ka wa mo pateletsa.

MR HIKUAMA: O se ka wa bua mafoko a a senang boammaaruri. E bile o se ka wa kgalhiwa ke *mic*. Fa e seng jalo, mo tseele sone *slot* ka gore go lebelega a kgalhiwa ke *mic*, a sa tlhole a itse gore o emetse eng. Mo o bonang a bua gore ke ile kwa *and spent* P15 million wa Puso ya lefatshe la Botswana, ga a bue nnete. E bile go supa gore ke moemedi yo o senang boammaaruri. Le batho ba Tlokweng ba tshwanetse ba lemoga gore ga a na boammaaruri.

MR SPEAKER: Go utlwetse *Honourable Opposition Whip. Honourable* Segokgo, o se ka wa rumola *Honourable* Hikuama, o a ne o mo pateletsa kwa a iseng a ko a ye teng.

MR SEGOKGO: O nna mo *furniture* ya mahala, e e leng gore wena *Mr Speaker*, o mo dueletse P1 million gore a nne mo *furniture* yone eo.

Bagaetsho, nte ke tsene mo dikgannyeng tse ke tlang ka tsone gompieno mo *prologue* e e leng gore ke e tshwere. Fa ke lebelela mo *principles* tse ke di tshwereng gompieno, pele ga ke lebelela *budget*, ke lebelela *the nexus between the UDC manifesto and the budget document as a policy paper*. Ke bo ke lebelela gape gore *is there interface between budget* yone e le dikeletso tsa Batswana le tsa batho ba Tlokweng, gore *is there linkage between this budget* le dikeletso tse e leng gore ke tsa Batswana. Mo godimo ga moo, ke boa gape ke lebelela gore *this budget is at the epicentre* ya BETP *and the NDP 12*, e Batswana ba re e beileng pele. Fa re lebelela *budget* e, *do we cascade the NDP down* ka

dingwaga jaaka re ntse re e kgaogantse?

Selo se sengwe se ke se lebelelang *Mr Speaker*, in this preface, ke gore a mme *the Chancellor of the Exchequer* o dirile mo gotweng ke *participatory budget*? A mme o rerisitse Batswana gore a tsenye se Batswana ba se batlang? Ka Sekgoa re go bitsa re re, *participatory budget*. Ka go dira jalo *Mr Speaker*, tse ke di balang tse, ke a bona gore *the Minister of Finance* tse tsotlhe tse, ke mo tshwaela bo *good* mo go tsona. Ga ke a re ke monna yo o molemo, o ka se ke a tlhoke molato kana o ka se ke a dire diphoso. Le ene ke motho wa nama le madi, go na le diphoso tse a di dirang tse e tlaareng fa ke ntse ke ya kwa tlase, ke bo ke ntse ke tsamaya le tsona. Jaaka ke ne ke bua *Mr Speaker*, go batla e re fa re lebelela *budget* e gape, re e bale ka bokete re le Mapalamente. Tsholofelo ke gore, re bale ditsamaiso le ditshetlana tsotlhe tse di teng in this budget.

Ke utlwa ditsala tsa me ba tlhalosa gore ba ya go tla ka molao o ba reng ke Budget Act. Fa o bala *paragraph 34 to 36, the Minister of Finance has demystified better* gore go ya go diragala ka tsela e e ntseng jang go dira *the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act*. Re ye go e baakanya gore dikgang tsotlhe tse ba neng ba bua ka tsona, di tle di tsene mo teng. *Plagiarizing* fa gongwe fa o utlwa ke re, re etle re kgobere Batswana maikutlo, e nna o kare ga go dirwe sepe. Fa o lebelela mo teng mo, ke dikgang tse di teng mo *budget* e.

Mr Speaker, ke batla go tsena gape ka kgang e nngwe e e leng gore fa gongwe re kgobera Batswana maikutlo, re bua ka *the budget deficit as if* ke dilo tse di *wrong*, ga di a siama. *In my literature review*, ke tlile go tsamaya kwa moragonyana *Mr Speaker*, ke ya go lebelela *the classical economy* e e kwa moragonyana ya bo Adam Smith. O ne a tlhalosa jalo gore *markets* di ya go dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang. *Argument* ya gagwe e ne e le gore *markets* di tlogelwe fela, *they will self-correct*. Mo godimo ga moo, go ne ga tla le *neoclassical economics*, ke dumela gore o a e itse *Mr Speaker*, ya bo Milton Friedman yo o neng a bua ka *the theory of money supply*, gore a madi a latlhelwe mo itsholelong, re tle re kgone go bona gore a ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Kwa moragonyana *in the cold war*, go ne ga tla *the British economist, Professor John Maynard Keynes* wa *the Keynesian model of economics*, yo o tlhalosang thata, *demystifying*, a dira *illustration* ya gore *deficit* e

ka bereka ka tsela e e ntseng jang. *When the economy is on technical recess like now, you have to stimulate the economy by injecting capital in it*, go bona gore e ka gola ka tsela e e ntseng jang. O bua jalo ka kgang ya *full employment*. *The reason why the Minister of Finance* a re, mapodise a *Special Constable*, ba hirwe ba botlhe, ke gone jaaka re tsamaela kwa *the full employment* e *Professor John Maynard Keynes*, a buang ka yone. Mokaulengwe wa me yo ke mo ratang thata Mma Kgafela, o bua gore barutabana ba *temporary* o batla go ba tsaya ba botlhe mo *financial year* e e tlang e. Ke gone jaaka re bua ka *full employment* e e tlaa nnang teng le gore Tona o e tlhalositse.

Deficit e *Mr Speaker*, e bo e dirwa e le *Government intervention*, go bona gore *how do we stimulate the economy*, mo go bidiwang gotwe ke *expansionary fiscal and monetary policies* tse re tlang ka tsona re le *party* ya UDC. Ke batla go tlhalosa kgang e gore *deficit, the era of balanced budget*, ke dilo tsa maloba. *Ever since the financial quagmire of 2007*, mafatshe a otlhe a tsamaya mo *deficit* tseo, go ya go bona gore *the Government interventions* di ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang. *A model of a capitalist country* e e tshwanang le United States of America (USA), e e leng gore *we know* gore *is a capitalist country*. *Even after the financial quagmire of 2007/2008, after the Lehman brothers' scandal*, ba feletse e le gore go nna le *Government intervention from the US Government*. Ga se selo se se molato fa o lebelela *gompiano in contemporary economics*. Mo godimo ga moo *Mr Speaker*, go na le kgang e e buelang thata ya gore gongwe re tlaa feta *threshold* ya *40 per cent*. *I have a report* gompiano ya *the Bretton Woods* ya World Bank, e e tlhalosang jalo gore lefatshe la Botswana fa ba le lebile ba dira *forecasts* tsa lone, e tshwanetse gore *in three years*, re bo re setse re atumetsa PSM Act ya rona re e isa kwa go *60 per cent* gore re tswelele re rudise *the economy*.

Se se tona ke gore, batho ba kwa Maun ba bone dikole le ditsela. Batho ba kwa Mochudi le Tswapong, ba bone dilo tseo. E bile go na le *equity and equitable distribution*, go sa gatelele fela mo gotweng ke ba *party* ya UDC ba ba tlaa bonang sengwe. *Deficit* e *Mr Speaker*, dikadimo tse, re bo re di direla ba ba teng ba kganetso ba kwa Bobirwa, Tsetsebjwe, Phikwe, bo Rre Nkawana ba bone sengwe jalojalo.

Fa o lebelela *comparative analysis, you look at the country of India*, e e leng gore gompiano ditshekatsheko tsa World Economic Outlook (WEO), di supa gore *debt ratio to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is at 58 per cent but the economic growth is at 88 per cent*. South Africa is 78 per cent, the debt ratio to the GDP. Fa o lebelela *the forecast ya economic growth*, e tsamaya kwa go 2 per cent. The USA is at 124 per cent debt ratio to the GDP. Kgolo ya bone e ya go tsamaya kwa go 1.8 per cent. Zambia e a itwela, e ne e ntse e le kwa go 101 per cent, mme e wetse kwa tlase kwa go 87 per cent, but *the economic growth forecast* di supa gore *it is going to be at 6 per cent*. Re ka bua mafatshe a mantsintsi fa ke dira *research* ya me ke baakanyetsa *response* ya letsatsi la gompiano. Ke ne ke dira *comparative analysis*, ke tsaya mafatshe a otlhe, *the first, second and third world*.

Ke tlhalosa gore golo mo *in contemporary economics*, mo gotweng lefatshe le tlaa kolota jangjang, fa o dira *correlation* ya yone le *economic growth*, ga se selo se se molato. *The contemporary modern economists* ba bua ka dikgang tse jaaka o bona le bona ba Bretton Woods, ba re file gore re ka tswelela pele. *Mr Speaker*, jaaka ke ne ke tlhalosa, ga se gore tse tsotlhe, ke tse di siameng, ke go kopa jalo *the Minister of Finance* ka gore ke a bona gore re dirile *that 2.5 per cent ya tax*. Ke ka bo ke ya go tlhalosa tse tsotlhe botoka, *the regressive taxation, progressive taxation* le *proportional taxation*. Jaanong ga ke na nako *Mr Speaker*.

Se ke se kopang ke gore, *it is high time we introduce* mo gotweng ke *broad automatic indexing*, e e dirwang kwa USA, *Scandinavian countries* le Canada. Re lebelele *the inflation and deflationary factors*, fa re oketsa *tax* kana re e fokotsa. Fa e le *inflation, I know* gore *the medium-term objective range* ya rona, e tsamaya kwa go 3 to 6 per cent. Fa gongwe ga re nke re ya *upper bond* kana *lower bond* thata. Re tshwanetse *to tag increase and decrease of the tax* mo koketsong ya *inflation* gore re se ka ra *tax* fela.

Golo moo ke dumela gore le bone babereki ba rona ba *unions*, ba tlaa itumela gore dilo tse le tsone fa re di lebelela, re se ka ra lebelela mo lekgethong, le *salaries* tsa bone di bo di tsamaya *in concordance* le *the inflationary and deflationary ready*. Dilo tseo *avoid* mo ka Sekgoa sa itsholelo go bidwang gotwe ke *the bracket creep*. Ke gone mo re tlaabong re leka go go tila.

Keletso ke gore re tsamaele gone koo.

Mo godimo ga moo *Mr Speaker*, ke kope tota gore *it is high time we introduce* gape mo gotweng ke *employment bureau* mo dikgaolong tse tsotlhe *as we will be pushing to the full employment* e *the Minister of Finance* a buang ka yone ya 500, 000 *jobs*. Mo dikgaolong tsa rona, re bone gore re ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore banana ba botlhe ba bogologolo ba ba neng ba le mo *internship* le ba ba mo *internship* gompiano, re tswe ka *a structured way* ya go bona gore re ka ba *absorb* ka tsela e e ntseng jang ka bonako, e le *a way of social safety net*. Re tsamaela kwa go 500, 000 *jobs* tsa 2030, ke sone se ke se kopang.

Mo godimo ga moo, ke a bona gore *there is too much fiscal prudence and fiscal discipline* e e leng gore *the Minister of Finance* o bua ka yone mo *budget* e jaaka ke ne ke bua mo *page 32 to 36*. Keletso ya me ke gore, tota *it is high time* re dira mo gotweng ke *fiscal decentralisation* kana ke *fiscal devolution*. Ke dumela gore madi a re nang le one a itsholelo bogolo jang a *Pension Fund* jalojalo, e re fa re wela kwa tlase, re letlelele dikhansela gore le tsone di itshwarele madi a bone a *pension*. *It is high time* re leka *to devolve the centralisation* ya *taxes* tsa rona *so that* di ye go bereka kwa Tlokweng. Di ye go bereka kwa Mogoditshane le Shoshong, e le *injection to the fiscus*. E le madi a a tlaa tlang a boa. Jaaka re bona *Honourable Khan*, fa o feta kwa Klerksdorp, o bona gotwe Matlosana Municipality Mall e dirilwe ka *pensions* tsa batho ba Mmasepala gone koo.

I will come with a law Mr Speaker, ka gore thotloetso ke gore Batswana ba solofela gore re tle ka melao. *I will come up with a law* e e buang ka gore *it is high time we devolve*, re bona gore re ka thuba *our Pension Fund* e e leng gore gompiano *is bloated* mme e bile ga re kgone go dira sepe. *I believe in domestic funding Honourable Pule*. Ke dumela gore *as much as we talk more of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and as there is so much domestic money* a a teng, re ka bona gore re ka a *utilise* k a tsela e e ntseng jang gore banana ba kwa Ga Mmampotlo, Nkaikela, Ditshwegeng, Sefoke, Masetlheng le kwa Selokwana, ba ye go bona gore ba ka bona ditiro ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke kang e ke neng ke eletsa gore re tle re kgone go ya go tla ka yone.

Selo se ke wetsang ka sone *Mr Speaker, President of this country* Rre Gideon Boko o na le diphoso tsa gagwe, le ene ke motho wa nama le madi. Selo se ke se mo ratelang *Mr Speaker, is the unity* e a neng a batla go tla ka yone. Fa ke tshwantshanya *the apathetic structure, the segregation in South Africa* ka 1994 gore Nelson Mandela o ne a batla gore o ka kopanya ditšhaba tsofhe tsa South Africa. Ke sone selo se *Comrade President Duma Gideon Boko* o fitlhelang a ntlhomola pelo fa a bua ka *unity* ya Batswana. Ba bangwe fa ba mo nopola *as if* a re o tsamaisa le BDP. Tota o batla Batswana e nna selo se le sengwe, e se ka ya nna o kare o tlopolo fela kwa UDC. Jaaka a ne a tlopolo kwa BCP maloba a dira mongwe wa bone *Ambassador*, o raya gore go kopanwe e nne selo se le sengwefela, e se ka ya nna o kare ke Phathi ya UDC, go nne le *unity*.

Mr Speaker, ba UDC ba tlaa intshwarela, *I would say this out; in our caucus, Comrade President* o ne a rile a re ye go tsaya *even BCP Member* e nne *Deputy Speaker*. *I can say it because the President said it even after Parliament* fa re tswa mo re sena go ikanisiwa. A bua *in media* gore keletso ya gagwe ke gore moBCP a ye go nna *Deputy Speaker* ka gore o ne a re o eletsa jalo ka gore Batswana *have been brutalised for the past 58 years*, go beelwe diphaphang kwa thoko, re kopane re nne selo se le sengwe.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SEGOKGO: Le fa moBCP e ka nna *Deputy Speaker*, ga go re sepe.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SEGOKGO: A leka go kopanya Batswana, jaanong bone ba batla go e baya *as if* a re o busa le Domkrag jangjang.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SEGOKGO: MaDomkrag le bone ke Batswana, maBCP, maBPF ke Batswana. *Comrade Duma Boko* a re o batla go tsaya mo gotlhe a lebile mo re go bitsang re re, o a go itse *Mr Speaker*, re tsene sekole rotlhe kwa Mmadikole. Go bidiwa gotwe ke *meritocracy* gore a se ka a felela e le gore o tsaya fela ka gore batho ke bo *comrade*, a tseye ka kitso gore fa e le gore *Comrade Nkawana* kana *Comrade Kaizer* o na le boitseanape, re

mo tseye re mo dire *Minister* wa *Sports* kana wa *Energy*. Ke se *Comrade President* a buang ka sone.

Kwa bofelong bagaetsho, re tshwanetse go kopana re nne selo se le sengwe. Batswana ba re tlhophile. Fa re le 69 *Mr Speaker*, ga re a tshwanela go kgobera Batswana maikutlo, re tshwanetse go tla fa ka melao re kopane, re nne selo se le sengwe. Banana ba lefatshe la Botswana ba ntlhomola pelo ga ba na ditiro, ba beile tshepho ya bone mo go rona gore re ye go tswa ka megopolo e e tlaa kgonang go fetlha diphatlha tsa mebereko.

Mapodise a kwa gaetsho kwa Tlokweg ga ba na boroko gotlhelele, ba solofela gore re tswa ka megopolo ya go bona gore madi a re kopanye re sa ikgaoganye ka mebala ya dikereke, gore re ka a kgaoganya ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Barutabana ba me kwa Matlala, Batlokwa National School ba tlhabela ka boroko. Batswana ba solofetse gore dikgang tse re di bue, e seng go tla mo Palamenteng *to sensationalise them* re ba kgobera maikutlo.

Mr Speaker, it is high time mo Standing Orders ke ya go tla ka kgang ya gore fa re tsena mo Palamenteng, *we have to be serious*. Re se ka ra tla fa, motho a bo a tla a goa *slogan* sa bo, "A e jeke." Ke dikgang tsa kwa kae tseo? Ga re kwa dipepereng, *we are serious here*. Golo fa re mo Palamenteng, re tshwanetse go tsaya Palamente ka tlhwaafalo *Mr Speaker*, re bue dikgang tsa go bona gore *budget* e re ka e dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore Batswana ba tle ba kgone go bona bomolemo. Batho ba Tlokweg ba itumele, ba se ka ba felela e le gore ba tsenwa ke tsebetsebe.

Ka go rialo *Mr Speaker*, ke ne ke kopa jalo bakaulengwe, ke re re amogele *Budget Speech* e gore e tsamaye e ye go berekela Batswana le marakadu kwa Kgaolong ya rona ya Tlokweg. *I submit Mr Speaker. Thank you.*

MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA): Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Gatwe ke dumedise le kwa gae kwa Kgatleng East, gaabo motho go thebe phatshwa. Abuti o teng fa, o a itse gore re gata mmogo.

Re simolole ka go baakanya dintlhanyana dingwe tse di fatlhang, fa re ka di tlogela fela di builwe mo Ntlong e, e

tlaa ne e kare ke boammaaruri. Ke tsile go bua gore fa go na le mongwe, ga ke bitse ope ka leina, yo o ipelaetsang gore ga re a tsaya Puso ka fa mokgweng, a a tlhamalale fela a re botse gore re dirile jang. Gongwe ke fe sekai fela gore *we are a result of the padlock revolution. We fought intelligently* go netefatsa gore mabokoso a goroga kwa a balelwang teng a sa kgotlhelediwa le one. Re a *padlock; padlock revolution, padlock Government*. Ke e le ka itseng gore re simolotse ka yone, tse dingwe ga nke ke tsena mo go tsone.

Gongwe ke ise ke ye kgakala, *as a literary critic and scholar*; ke tlhalosetse Ntlo *and analyse* mo go bidiwang *poem* ya ga Rre Ndaba ka gore o kare re tlaa latlha setšhaba jaaka o kare ke sengwe se se buelwang mo lefaufang, se se sa ikaegang ka sepe le fa e le ka maitlamo ape. Gongwe o ntetlelele Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, kwa *Paragraph 165*, “*This nation will emerge from the troubled waters. We will rise as a people. We will build a nation in which every citizen in every hamlet, in every valley, in every village and every town will have a fair chance, an opportunity to find and live a life that is empowering, fulfilling and that brings out the best in who we are.*” Ke leboko.

Ka bokhutshwane ke le soboka, *it actually speaks to the manifesto of UDC. In every corner, in every policy that we come up with, in every conceptual framework that we come up with, in every strategy as the UDC Government that we come up with...*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR HIKUAMA: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga. Ke lebogela gore a bo o mphile sebaka *Honourable Nono Kgafela-Mokoka*. Ke itumelela selo seo e bile ke itumelela gore a bo o tsile ka leboko leo. Jaaka o le motho wa maboko o na le dilo tse, gakere o itse gore maboko a bua ka dilo tsa matshelo a batho, ga go tlholontšha gore le ene a bo a boka a lebelela seemo sa rona mme a sa tle ka ditharabololo a le mo pokong fela. Gakere ga go molato ka fa poko e tsamayang ka teng?

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ga ke na go tsaya *analysis* ya gagwe, a a ntlogele fela ke tlhalose gore go amana jang le *UDC Government* le *manifesto*. Le tsamaiso ya rona gompiano, *it speaks to principles of inclusivity, of equitable distribution of resources, human capital and so forth. It also speaks to empowerment* ya

Batswana gore re kgone *to transform* matshelo a bone. Ga se leboko fela, mo le go bitsang le re ke leboko le le tserweng mo phefong. Ba bangwe ba ne ba re o ne a nopola bo James, a re se ka ra feletsa re *blaspheme*. Lefoko la Modimo ke lefoko la Modimo, mongwe le mongwe o tshwanetse *to quote from the Bible*. Fa re *quote from the Bible* ga re tshameke, re bua ka lefoko le mongwe le mongwe a ikaegang ka lone. Ga ke batle go bua ka bangwe gone fa ...*(Laughter!)*... *Comrade Hikuama* ga ke go rumole mme ga nke ke go bua, ke a bona gore o nkemetse gore ke dirise leina la gago. Dinako tse dingwe re se ka ra ne re ema fa re tlhobosa dilo ka dikgang tse di sa tsepamang.

Gongwe ke tsene gape mo go e nngwe e ke batlang go e baakanya ya *travel*. Go ne gotwe re bue gore go tsamailwe go le kae kana ga emisiwa leng. Le fa madi a seyo, *should the business of Government stop?*

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Hikuama*, o tlaabo o diga *quorum. Freeze the clock*, o tlaabo o diga *quorum* fa o tswa.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Bagaetsho, fa le ka itse gore re tsamaile maetonyana fela a se mantsi, le akanya gore re tsamaile maeto a mantsi ka gore se re se dirang morago ga maemo ao a *benchmarking*, se segolo, se ka nna sa raela bangwe gore ba akanye gore re tsamaile go le gontsi. Ke le lemose gore re na le *development partners*, ba e leng gore bangwe ba rona maeto a a fetang boraro *for example*, o tsamaile maeto a le *five*, mo *five* eo boraro joo *it was fully sponsored by a partner*. Re tlhamalatse dikgang tse, Batswana ba se ka ba nna ba bolelelwa fela gore re tsere sepe. Nnyaa bagaetsho, mme *business* ya ga Goromente yone ke ka solofetsa gore e tlaa nna e ntse e tsweletse fela.

Ke fete gape ke tsene mo kgannyeng e nngwe ya gore nako le nako re a kgoberwa ka dipuo gotwe re ja boswa, ka gore go kile ga buiwa ke *Honourable Ramogapi* gore *Honourable Kgafela-Mokoka* o ja boswa jo bo botlhoko. Jaanong kgang e e a boelelwa kgapetsakgapetsa, mme gongwe ke gatisa gore nnyaa, fa e le gore re ja boswa jwa Green Book, ga se rona fela re jang boswa joo. Ee, le ka lemoga gore le ene Leader of the Opposition (LOO), o itumeletse *furniture* e ya *at least P1.2 million*. O tsamaya ka koloi e ntsho, ga a ngongorege ka yone, ga go ngongoregwe ka *housing allowance* e e *over P20,000* e a nang le yone. O na le *communication allowance*, in

addition o na le *cell phone*, le 90 per cent ya *phone bill* ya gagwe e duelwa ke Goramente. Ga ke ise ke utlwe ka kwa letlhakoreng leo le bua ka yone. Mongwe le mongwe wa rona jaaka a ntse jaana fa, re na le gore re ka ya kwa ntle ka tsela nngwe ya tshoganelso e re ka se keng ra e ipiletsa, Goramente o tlaabo a ntsha madi a sefofane le *accommodation* go ya gongwe *for medical reasons*, Goramente o ntsha fela jalo *as per the Green Book*. Jaanong bagaetsho, le LOO o neelwa 90 per cent *and subsidised water bills* jalojalo. Jaanong *Opposition* e e ka fa e...

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Procedure.* O tlaa mpaakanyetsa *Mr Speaker*; go na le pharologanyo fa gare ga go sa dumalana le fa motho a sa bue mo e leng boammaaruri. Rona ka kwano re le Mapalamente ga re amiwe ke Green Book, e bile rona ka kwano re le Mapalamente fa go tla mo *medical costs* tsa rona, re a ituelela. Jaanong a re farologanye le bone. Tanki.

MR SPEAKER: Mma ke go baakanyetse se a se buang, se a se buang a re Green Book *covers* LOO. Jaanong tse a di buang tseo, ke tse a reng ke *benefits* tsa ga LOO *under the Green Book*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: A re le rona!

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, fa e le gore o ne a re le lona, ga ke a mo utlwa, mme o ne a tlaabo a sa bolelele ruri. Ya Green Book ke tsaya gore ke yone a le kang go e tlhalosa.

DR DOW: *Further procedure.* Fa re santse re le *on that point*, gongwe a tlhalose gore LOO o lekana le *Assistant Minister*. Fa a bua ka ditshwanelo tsa ga LOO, o bua ka tsa *Assistant Minister*, e se ka ya nna o kare ke tsa gagwe a le nosi. Ee, gape a tlhalose gore tota molao le tsamaiso, e mo diatleng tsa UDC.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ga se *procedure* *Mother of the House*, o ne o ka mo tlaletsa fela ka *clarification*.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a le boga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. *I am aware* gore LOO o lekana le *Assistant Minister*; *that is why* ke bua ka Green Book. Ke bua ka Green Book e e nankololang *benefits* tse tsa gagwe, tse e iseng e re ka letsatsi lepe fa re le *Ministers* re supwiwa ka menwana ke ba *Opposition* ka kwa, ke bo ke utlwa ba di bua. Ke ye kwa Mapalamenteng le nna ke le Mopalamente, gore Mapalamente ga ba bue sepe ka P15 million wa *furniture* ya Parliamentary Village.

Dinako tse dingwe fa gotwe re ja boswa, re bo je jo rotlhe, le bone ba itse gore ba ja boswa joo. Fa o supa motho ka monwana o, o itse gore o mongwe le one o go supile. Ke re *next time* ba rotlhe re bue ka *benefits* tsa rona.

Jaanong ke boele mo puong ya me ka *Budget Speech*, ke simolole ka gore ke amogela *Budget Speech* ya ga Vice President (VP) *who is also the Minister of Finance*. Ke a tle ke utlwe fa ke ntse ke tsamaya gotwe, *for you to be regarded as a credible witness before the court of law*, o tshwanetse gore o nne *honest* tota. Ke gore o se ka wa re kgantele e bo e le gore wena o ipeile ka fa molemong fela ga o bue tse di ka nngang botlhabetse. Ke tsaya gore *this is an honest statement* ya *budget*, e e tlisitsweng fa pele ga rona ke *Honourable* Gaolathe. Ke mo akgole gore mo nakong e e thata jaana ya itsholelo, a ba a kgonne go nna masigo le masigo a sa robale, ka ga re robale, a leka go tla ka pamphitshana e ya *budget* e e supang seemo sa itsholelo. Gore mo nakong ya gompiano, *budget* e e kwalwa mo nakong e re le baganeng le matsubutsubu a diphefo, re itse sentle gore diteemane tsa rona ga di dire sentle.

E rile nako nngwe ke le mo *floor* ya Ntlo e e tlotlegang e ka re bagaetsho, go simolotswa *narrative* ya gore nako le nako fa re emelela, re setse re tlhaba sefela sengwe re ntse re re go kwakwaletse. Ke gore o kare re a kganelwa, gatwe go na le *freedom of expression*, mme rona re kganelwa go bua boammaaruri. *I put it to this House at that point in time* gore, fa go na le mongwe yo e kileng ya re ka letsatsi lepe fa re tsena mo Pusong, a nna le *information* epe e e farologaneng le e re e itseng kana e re e fitlhetseng ka seemo sa itsholelo le matlole a lefatshe, a a tlise *information* eo fa. A re reye a re UDC *Government* ga le bue nnete fa le re ga le a fitlhela sepe, le fitlhetsa se. Se se makatsang ke gore fa go buiwa kgang e, ga go ke go buiwa ka dikoloto tse re di fitlhetseng tse gompiano re mekamekaneng le tsone. Go bo gotwe re rata go ja boswa jo bo molemo fela, ga re tseye jo bo bosula. Nnyaa, jo bo botlhoko re a bo ja bagaetsho, le jwa dikoloto re mekamekane le tsone.

MR LESEDI: *Point of procedure.* O intshwarele *Mr Speaker*; kgang e ya P15 million e gotweng ke a mo fiwa, ke rile ke a itshoka ka yone, ke rile ke batla kutlwisiso mo go yone mme ga ke e tshware. Fa gotwe ke didimaletse P15 million go tewa jang *Mr Speaker*?

Gongwe kana kang e e tloga e ntsha Ntlo mo tseleng, go bo go lebega jaaka e kete ke ja P15 million. Ke ne ke re gongwe e tlhatswege.

MR SPEAKER: Ee, a rialo. A re o ja P15 million, ka gore *furniture* ya lona Mapalamente, *to furnish* Parliamentary Village, ke raya ka fa a buang ka teng, e lopile P15 million, o raya jalo.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further procedure Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ga go na *procedure*. Honourable Lesedi, mma ke go utlwe.

MR LESEDI: *Further procedure*. Ke ne ke re kana gongwe e tloga e nna *as if* Mopalamente o jele P15 million, e tlhatswege gore gongwe o raya *furniture* ya matlo otlhe, le ba ba sa nngeng teng tota.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Lesedi, ke tlhalositse gore Tona a re *furniture* e e reketsweng Mapalamente e lopile P15 million, tota ke yone kang ya gagwe eo.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a leboga Honourable Speaker, ka gore ke rile...

MR MOTAOSANE: *Procedure*. Mr Speaker, ke a go utlwa mogolole, mme *with all due respect to you, I think this needs to be qualified*. Fa e ntse fela jaaka e ntse jaana, ga e a siama, *it implies* gore o kare Mopalamente o neelwa *furniture* ya P15 million. Ke kopa gore e nne *qualified*, ka gore...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, Honourable Motaosane, ke raya gore ke mang yo o ka akanyang jalo *when she is very clear* ka Parliamentary Village? Kana o bua ka matlo a Mapalamente, otlhe.

MR MOTAOSANE: Batlhophi ba rona ba tloga ba utlwa gotwe go ne go tsentswe P15 million. Rona ga re batle go utlwa dikgang tseo.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, Honourable Motaosane. Tswelela Honourable Minister.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Gongwe ke e *qualify*. Ke buile gore P15 million wa *furniture for* Parliamentary Village. Ke tsaya gore ke e tlhalositse. Jaanong gongwe a re boele mo setlhogong e leng *Budget Speech*. Fa re lebelela *Budget Speech* e, go tloga fela kwa tshimologong Mapalamente a a tlotlegang, e bua ka setlhogo ya re, *and I quote paragraph 3*.

MR SPEAKER: Please do.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: “A New Era of Economic Transformation and Fiscal Prudence.” *E bo e ya kwa tlase* in the same paragraph *e re*, “the budget signals a fundamental shift in how growth will be driven away from dependence on public spending as the primary engine of opportunity and towards an economy anchored in productivity, private initiative and disciplined execution.”

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure*. Mr Speaker, ga ke itse gore ke ka dirisa Standing Order sefe, kana go raya gore *almost* P1.5 million, go tewa malao a le mararo le *fridge* le ditafole tse di mo *sitting room*. Jaanong go raya gore go ka tswa go na le *audit query* ka gore fa e le gore madi a a kalokalo a dirile gore a ntshe dilonyana tse di mo matlong a re leng mo go one ale, P1.5 million? *I suspect audit query*. Gongwe o ka nthusa gore re ka dira jang gore...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, Opposition Whip.

MR HIKUAMA: Re ka dira jang gore re *instigate an audit query* gone gompiano, go ye go lebiwa gore go tshamekisitswe madi...

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

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, Honourable Members, ga ke itse gore tota kang ya ga Honourable Kgafela-Mokoka e le tsietsa fa kae. Gakere le a itse gore matlo a lona a a kwa Parliamentary Village, ke lebala gore a kae ka palo, mme o kare a feta 30 a e leng gore *are furnished*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: 38.

MR SPEAKER: 38? Ee, fa e le gore ke 38, go raya gore o ka dira dipalo tsa gago, go raya gore ntlo e le nngwefela e ne e le *furnished* ka bokae... (*Interruptions*)... Nnyaa, tlholang dipalo bakaulengwe. Honourable Minister, tswelela ka *debate* ya gago.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ee, ba tsamaya ba nkgoreletsa. Jaanong ke simolole ka ya *moving away from dependence on Government or from public spending as the primary engine* ya *opportunity*. Re itemogetse go le gantsi gore mo nakong e e fetileng, Goromente e ne e le ene a tshegetsang *businesses* tse tsotlhe ka *tenders*, Batswana ba bantsi ba dikgwebo, *institutions* tse dintsi di ne di beile mo go Goromente

gore ke ene a tshwanetseng a ntshe madi, a tsosolose a bo a tshetgetse itsholelo. Jaanong kana golo moo ke *consumerism*, ba e leng gore ba dirile *economics*. Rona ga re rialo. Ra re bagaetsho, a re tsweng foo, re *engage the private sector*, e nne yone e e re kgweletsang itsholelo. *That is why* re le fa, re tlile ka mogopolo wa Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). A *investors* di goroge, di tshwaragane le Goromente, di tlise madi a tsone, di tsosolose itsholelo, di re thuse go baakanya *infrastructure in the process*, ba fetlhe mebereko. Re ya gone koo.

Ke *mention* kgang ya *moving from consumerism to productivity*. A ke tseye sekai fela se se motlhofo. Re ka bona gore fa gongwe, ke sa rumolane, ke sa reng, ke fa sekai. Fa ke aba lefatshe gore ke ye go aga *supermarket* fale, yo mongwe a bo a tla a bapa le nna ka *supermarket*, a bo *supermarkets* di nna dintsintsi, a mme kgantele, re ka se ka ra akanya gore gongwe *supermarkets* gona le gore di agiwe di le dintsi jaana, e kare motho a tla a re ke kopa go aga sengwe fale, ka gore rona tota under BETP *guidance*, re batla go tsholetsa *manufacturing*, re bo re re mme ka o na le Thebe e, a mme ga se gore gongwe o tlhome *manufacturing industry* kana *factory* foo, *so that there is production*.

Production e kana jaaka re setse re buile, e tlhokana le *skilled labour*. Jaanong ke tlile go sutelela mo Human Capital Development (HCD). *Honourable* Maele o ntse a le fa kgantele, a nankola, a araba potso ka fa TVET e tlileng go suteletsa *different, distinct pathways* tsa bana ba re ba rutang mo *colleges* kana mo *vocational institutions* kana *technical colleges* gore ba kgone go tsamaya ka tsela nngwe, mme re sa simolole mo TVET fela, re simolola le kwa go STEAM *from zero to three and upwards*. Re tsamaya re *infuse vocational training and skill*, re ba fa *certificates* gore fa ba ya kwa go Rre Maele fale, ba bo ba setse ba na le *basis*. Fa re dira jalo, re raya gore fa re ntsha *graduate at whatever level*, e bo e le gore o setse a na le boitseanape le bokgoni jwa gore a eme fale a le nosi, a ka re le nna ke ka *participate* mo *industry* ya *production*, *not just consumerism*.

Now, mma ke sutelele, le se ka la nkemisa gope. E bua ka *disciplined execution*. Mo ngwageng o o fetileng re ne re ntse re tla ka *proposals*, re akanya ka *priorities*, mme ke ka le solofetsa gore mo nakong ya gompiano, Goromente wa UDC, o mo *execution stage*, *which*

means projects tse re buang ka tsone tse di *suggested by* BETP, ga o sa tlhole o nna fa fatshe o bo o re ke emela madi pele, ke tlaa tla ke dira jaana. Nnyaa bagaetsho, go raya gore *project* e foo, *plan* e teng, *implementation plan* e teng e e nang le *timelines*, e e *costed*. E a tsamaya terena e tala, ga go na gore re ka ba ra e emisa gope.

Re bua ka *high income* Botswana e e *digitalised*. Rre Tshere ga a thulamele ke yo, ga ke mo sebe. Ke tshwaragana le ene nako le nako ka gore thuto le yone e tshwanetse *to be digitalised*. Re suteletse. Re batla go nna a *paperless economy or country*, mo re tsamayang fela re ntse re *press codes* tse, le di bitsa eng? Ga re sa tlhola re batla pampiri fa pele ga rona. Fa o re Omang, re ya gone kwa motobetsong kwa, re a tlatsa koo. Fa o re ngwana o kae, *data*, re gone koo. Fa gotwe ngwana o a tsholwa maP300, *data* e gone koo. Fa gotwe *birth certificates*, go gone koo. Fa gotwe Visa, *passport*, *Old Age Pension*, re gone koo. Ao batho ba Modimo, *is this not spectacular?* Ga le ope diatla?

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Jaanong bagaetsho, ke tsene kwa *education*. Gompiano jaana re ntse re lela gore bana ba ya dikoleng kwa bokgakaleng. *We are speaking satellite schools* gone jaana, *in the interim*, gore re tseye *satellite schools*, ke a itse gore kwa kgaolong e ke ka se kang ka lwa le *Honourable* Motaosane, *satellite schools* di teng. Maitlhommo a rona ke gore jaanong re di beye di le dintsinyana le kwa bo Okavango, kwa kgakala, gore bana *from preschool up to Standard 4*, ba bo ba le foo, ba tsamaya mo go gaufi, re se ka ra nna le mathata a gore re ba kgaoganya le barutabana.

Go na le kgang ya *hostels*. Bagaetsho, mma ke amogele fa pele ga setshaba gore re fitlhela mathata. Ke ka le solofetsa gore re semeletse le ka PPP, gore re baakanye seemo se. Gakere le utlwile gore go na le P1.8 *billion*, *education* le yone e mo teng. Gompiano ga ke batle go bua ka mananeo a bo Bula Buka, ka gore ao le a a itse, ke kopelo. Ga ke sa tlhole ke batla go bua gore ke tsaya bana ba D ba maForm 3 ba ba paletsweng. *The strategy is on*, *I am mopping up the streets* le lephata la rona. *Therefore*, ke ka re *Budget* e ka fa e ntseng ka teng le fa e sa lekana mo *Ministry* wa rona wa *Child Welfare and Basic Education*, Motswana o rile, “lemme ga le bolaye go bolaya lefifi,” e tlaa re fa re ntse re totoba ka *Budget* e, *the partners* le *investors* di tlaa tla di tla go re thusa.

Ke a itse gore le tlaa nthaya le re, *how*, emang fela foo, ke rile re nne re apaya pitsana, re se ka ra tsenya *spices* tse di *poisonous* ra tloga ra dira *poison pot*.

Mr Speaker, ka a le kalo ke amogela pego e ya ga Rre Gaolathe. Ke re Batswana le Ntlo e ba e amogele ka pelo e tshweu. *I support it. Thank you, Mr Speaker.*

MR MOTAOSANE (THAMAGA-KUMAKWANE): Tanki *Mr Speaker*. Mma ke dumedise Batlotlegi Mapalamente, ke dumedise ba Thamaga-Kumakwane *Constituency* go tswa kwa Basarwa, Motale, Phuduhudu, Kubung, Dikhutlaneng, Tlapeng le Rammidi. Ke ye kwa Gakgatla le dikgaolo tsotlhe tse di mo Gakgatla.

Mr Speaker, mma ke go leboge, ke itumelela gore ke bua o le teng...*(Laughter!)*... *you will understand why*. Ke batla go simolola fela ka go leboga Tona Rre Ndaba Gaolathe gore, mme gone *at least he does not fail to give us a Budget Speech*. Ngwaga le ngwaga re a e bona re tla go e bua gone fa re sa itseng di tsweng mo go yone, ditswammung tsa yone di tlaa tla di ntse jang. Mme gone o nna a re neela selo se. Ke nna ke mo rapedisa gore o kare ene le lekoko la gagwe la UDC, e ka re fa a bua a ba gakolola ba mo reetsa, ka ke dumela gore ba tshwanetse ba bo ba mo tsenya mo khoneng e e bokete fa a le kwa Khuduthamageng a tla ka tse a tlang ka tsone. Mme ke raya gore moo ga go molato.

Ke re *Mr Speaker*, Matona e ka bo e nna bone *who guide us*, ka gore tota *this Budget* ke ya bone, ba e buisantse. E ne e tshwanetse gore e ka bo e ganeletse mo Mapalamenteng, mme e bile re fiwa nako e e botoka gona le e re e fiwang, ka gore bone *this is their baby*. Ke a itse gore le bone ba na le dikgaolo, mme *they should not be given* nako e e lekanang le ya rona ka gore *they have discussed it, they know what is in the Budget, therefore they should give us chance*. Ba lese gore ba bangwe ba bone ba tle fa ka metlae, e seng botlhe. *I have to be honest, Mr Speaker I think there is a tendency* ya Palamente e ya UDC gore nako le nako fa ba tshwanelwa ke gore ba fe dikarabo kana ba bue sepe fela, ba tlaabo ba bua ka fa ba jang boswa jo bo nkgang ka teng. Jo bo nkgang monate ga ba bo bue, *they give credit to themselves*, mme ba a ja boswa, jaaka ke go bolelela gompiano jaana gore *UDC Government has not brought a single new project or policy to this country*. Ga go na epe *programme* ya bone. *Everything* se ba gatang mo go sone se o bonang ba nna ba dira

meletlo kwa ya ma600 a ba a buang a, ba akola dilo tse di dirilweng ke Domkrag. Jaaka Rre Tshere ba ne ba le kwa bo America ba ikitshitse di *out*, ba ne ba akola ditiro tse di dirilweng ke Domkrag, lenaneo la ga Domkrag. *That satellite is a product* ya BDP *Government*. So dilo tse dingwe tse fa ba ipoka ka tsone, sekai fela ke jaaka Motlotlegi Tona wa Banana a ne a bua...*(Inaudible)*... e ke...*(Inaudible)*... BDP *Government*.

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): *On a point of procedure. Thank you, Mr Speaker. It is just a procedural issue* gore *Honourable* Motaosane, kang e re kile ra e araba mo Palamenteng gore, kana Domkrag e tlogetse *satellite* e le fa fatshe, e bile e ise e felele go baakanngwa. Rona re e baakantse, e bile re e pegile mo lefaufaug. Jaanong fa a tla fa a bo a re ke ne ke intsha bodutu kwa America, ga a bue sentle. Boela mafoko ao morago ka o a bona gore re dirile tiro ya go pega kwa lefaufaug. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Tshere, *you could have clarified* gore le fitlhetse go ntse jang, le bo le dira jang. Ga se *point of procedure*.

MR MOTAOSANE: Tanki *Mr Speaker*. Ke ka fa antseng ka teng. Fa go na le *Minister* mo Ntlong e yo o se keng a bua boammaaruri, ke *Honourable* Tshere. Sekai, le ka dikoloi tsa motlakase o paletswe ke go araba potso ya teng gone fa, ka o ne a itse gore *he is inheriting* selo se se molemo. Le *satellite* e gore o ne a e fitlhela e le fa kae, *the whole package* o e fitlhela e ntse e dirilwe, e fedile. Ke sone se ke reng bogolo o ka bo a re *correction*...

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Motaosane, Standing Order 57.5, *you are imputing now*. Fa o re ga a ke a ba a bua le fa e le boammaaruri, fa ke akanya mafoko a a kanakana a *Honourable* Tshere a a buileng, fa e le gore ga a ke a bua le fa e le boammaaruri, re tlaabo re le mo mathateng. Baakanya *Honourable* Motaosane.

MR MOTAOSANE: *Mr Speaker*, fela ene, *at least three quarters of* se a se buang, ga se ke se nna boammaaruri. Le fa maabane a bua ka kang ya *Constitutional Court*, o ka bo o mo reeditse fela gore rre yo ga a ke a bua boammaaruri.

MR TSHERE: *On a point of procedure. Mr Speaker*, ga ke itse gore ke dirileng *Honourable* Motaosane. Ga ke

itse gore fa a re ga ke na boammaaruri mo Palamenteng *and* ke santlha ke utlwa motho a re ga ke na boammaaruri mo Palamenteng ka gore ke nna ke bua dilo tse di nang le boammaaruri ka dinako tsotlhe. *Mr Speaker*; mafoko a ga a siama. Le fa batho ba ka tla ba a bala kwa morago kwa ba tlile go mpona ke le motho yo o sa siamang. Ke kopa gore a a boele morago, e bile a sutlhiwe, gore bana ba se ka ba tla ba a bala. Gotwe ga ke na boammaaruri, ke na le dingwaga tse kanakana mo Palamenteng, go raya gore dilo tsotlhe tse ke di buileng a ga di na le fa e le boammaaruri? ...*(Laughter!)*...

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Motaosane, a ko o baakanye, *you are still imputing*.

MR MOTAOSANE: *Mr Speaker*; ka o nkopa jalo, mme gone ga ke batle mafoko a mangwe a tswa ka gore ke ka a fa dikai tse a bolelelang batho boammaaruri mo Ntlong e. Tota dikgang tse di a ntshwenya *more so* o a tle a nne *Minister-at-large*, a arabele maphata a mangwe. O ne o utlwa kwa Ntlong ya Dikgosi *the Former President Khama* a re go raya gore ga ba a mmolelela sentle, go raya gore a boele kwa morago, ke tlaa e tlisa *the substantive Minister* a le teng. *That is how* ke buang ka go tlhoka go bua dilo jaaka di ntse ga ga *Honourable Tshere*. Legale mma ke go reetse mogolole, ke boele mafoko morago. Kana jaanong go ya go dira nna maaka ka gore o kare ga ke bue se a se buang. Fela ene tota ga se motho le boammaaruri.

Dikgang tse di ntseng jaana *Mr Speaker*; di utlwisa botlhoko fa batho ba a ja boswa jo bo siameng ba bo ba sa bue boammaaruri, ba na le gore ba a tlhopho, go na le jo bo nkgang, le jo bo siameng. Jo bo siameng ba ipoka ka jone o kare ke bone ba dirileng. *Like I have said*, UDC ga e a tla ka *programme* epe kwa ntle ga *programme* e gotweng Lemang Dijo, e ba kgaoletseng batho temo. E e leng gore *it is a disaster as we speak*, batho ga ba a lema. *That is the only programme* e UDC e ka ikgantshang ka yone. Jaanong dilo tse *Mr Speaker*; ga re e re batho ba bua ba bo ba etla ba itheeditse ba leba kwa morago gore mme gone ba dirile eng.

Tlaa ke go fe sekai, go tlhoka boammaaruri ga *some of these Ministers*, *Honourable Mokgware* o ne a eme ka dinao fale a re *in the past 10 years*, BDP Government ga e ise e ko e age le fa e le sekole se sengwefela. Tlaa ke go di bolelele, di mo, 12 *new primary schools* tsa maemo a ntlha tse re di agileng re le Domkrag. Tse

pedi di mo Gaborone, se sengwe se kwa Kumakwane, Lesirane, tse dingwe di kwa Serowe, Francistown, bo Oodi; di di ntsintsi fela. Ke ka bua ka tsone, *but the whole Minister stands in this House and tell* batho gore *for the past 10 years* BDP ga e ise e ko e age le fa e le sekole se sengwefela. Ke gore dilo tse di utlwisa botlhoko. Ke ne ke re gongwe e re ke bua jaana, ke bo ke tlhamaletse gore *as much as I appreciate this budget*, dingwe tse di buiwang mo *budget* e tse di tshwanang le *to absorb teachers*, *I appreciate that*, and ke a eletsa gore di diragale.

Ke eletsa mo *budget* e jaaka ke bona e le gore gatwe go na le P5 *billion* yo o tlaabong a duela masole *their dues*, tse e leng gore *due to the incompetence* ya ga *Honourable Mokgware*, *that is why* masole le jaana ba ne ba sa duelwa. Jaanong o potile ka fa, o itira botoka gore o a ba buelela. *He was the accountant* kwa BDF, *all these things*, a sa dire dilo tsa batho sentle, di bo di sa direge, masole a Modimo ba bo ba sokola jaaka ba sokola, *when he comes here*, o ipaya jaaka o kare o a ba buelela. *Honourable Mokgwathi*, o a itse, *he was the Accountant General* yo o neng a lebagane le BDF. O ne a itse gore go diragala eng, ke bone ba sa tlhakanyang dilo tsa batho ka fa tshwanelong, ke bone ba itseng gore...

MR SPEAKER: Hang on *Honourable Motaosane*, *kana Major General Mokgware* is a member of this House, you are allowed *gore o ka* question *sepe fela ka ene*. *Jaanong* certainly now *fa o ya* to his professional conduct as a General of the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), *o gothagotlhana le ditsamaiso tsa rona*. I am sure you would recall that *fa gongwe fa ba leka go dira jalo ka Honourable Pule* as he was Director of Immigration, *ke ba omanyana thata*.

Jaanong Honourable Members, *lotlhe jaaka fa le ntse jaana*, *le ne le tshwere ditiro tse di farologanyeng mo Pusong le mo makalaneng a a farologanyeng*. *Ga ke eletse gore jaanong* your professional conduct is put under question in the House. *Gakere le a utlwa Honourable Members?* *Ga ke batle gotwe Honourable Gobotswang e rile o le professor kwa university o ne o dira jaana le jaana*. *Ba ne ba etle ba re kgobe le ba bangwe re santse re le mo leave kwa University of Botswana*, *jaanong mme ga ke eletse gore go nne jalo tsweetswee Honourable Members*. As I say, *Honourable*

General Mokgware's professional conduct as the General in the BDF, *a e felele koo. Le bue ka ene a le fa e le Mopalamente jaaka lona, kana e le Minister. Fa a palelwa e le Tona, le bue ka go palelwa ga gagwe e le Tona. Gakere ke a utlwala?* Honourable Motaosane, *tsweetswee tsaya kgakololo motlotlegi.*

MR MOTAOSANE: *Honourable Speaker, ke a amega ka gore the same people ba ba re buang jaaka ba re bua, ke gore o reetse mafoko a gagwe, a re we are in this mess because of BDP. We are in this mess because of bo Motaosane, Gare, and I am here standing ke itse gore Rre Mokgware e ne e le Chief of Finance kwa BDF. Whatever he did there resulted in that mess wa gore gratuities kana pensions tsa masole di ne di sa tlhakannwa sentle, whatever it is...*

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Motaosane, I have made a ruling *kana ka kgang eo*, it is a very clear ruling, *ga e complicated. Ke gore ke ne ke re fa o ne o le mmaboipelego kana rraboipelego, o le Mopalamente, ga ke batle gore le ye go bua ka professional conduct ya gago o ne o le mmaboipelego kana rraboipelego. Buang ka ya lona le le Mapalamente, le le Ministers. Tsweetswee Honourable Motaosane, a ko o tseye kgakololo eo fela sentle o e diragatse.*

MR MOTAOSANE: Tanki *Mr Speaker*, ke tsero kgakololo, mme fela le bone o ba kgalemele, ba se ka ba nna ba re *this mess* o re mo go one ke BDP and ba berekile koo. Kana go supa gore *it was clear* gore ba ne ba *sabotage Goromente as civil servants*, ba bo ba pota ka fa ba re *it was a mess*. Ke tsone dikgang tse ke sa utlwaneng le tsone tse gore fa batho ba dira ditiro di ntse jaana, ke gone mo ke reng *let them inherit everything*. Ba se ka ba *inherit* mo go sa nkgeng, ba *inherit* gotlhe mo go nkgang le mo go nkgang monate. Ke go utlwile *Mr Speaker, I will desist from doing that...*

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MR MATHOOTHE):

Correction. Ke a go leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke go leboge Honourable Motaosane, ke kile ka go buelela thata ka Kotolaname. Mma ke baakanye fa gore o ne o bua gore *the last 10 years* go agilwe dikole le kwa bo Serowe. Ke re nnyaa, kwa Serowe ga re ise re bone le fa e le sepe, e bile bana ba Serowe ba tsena sekole kwa bo Mmadinare. Ga go na dikole, di a tlhela. *Thank you, Mr Speaker*, ke gone fa ke neng ke re ke mmaakanyetse teng foo.

MR MOTAOSANE: *Thank you, correction accepted Mr Speaker; I have a list of them here, ke ka di neela batlotlegi, I will forward them dikole tshotlhe tse di agilweng. Di teng, ke raya gore Serowe might not be in there, I accept the correction my Honourable Minister; mme gone police o e bone gakere, e le maduo a ga Domkrag?*

Mr Speaker, fa ke tsena mo budget totatota, ke ba tlogela ka tse ba ntseng ba re buisa ka tsone, ba re bua ka fa re leng maswe ka teng, mme o bona ba le bantle, ba rutegile jaana, ke dikole tsone tse di makgasa tse. Rona go ne go sena gore re ka boela kwa morago ra feta re ya to maintain go santse go na le kwa go thaelang teng. We were still in the process of developing every other village gore e nne le sengwe...

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

MR MOTAOSANE: O a bo a simolola wa fa, wa Shoshong.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Standing Order 58.4, *le se ka la mo tlhodia tsweetswee.*

MR MOTAOSANE: Wa Shoshong o mo ntlogelele, nnana o ke tlaa mo ikadima.

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

MR MOTAOSANE: *Mr Speaker, mo budget, keletso ya me fa e ne e le nna, ke ka bo fela ke re when it comes to maintenance, because I have seen this in other countries, fa o tsaya mafatshe a mangwe a re bapileng le one, ba fitlhetse go na le dikago le ditsela tse di rileng kwa magabone ka nako e ba neng ba tsaya boipuso from the colonizers. Go le molemo, ke ka bua lefatshe la baagisanyi ka fa, go ne go le go ntle mo go maswe. Ya re kwa morago dikubetsano tsa dira gore kgantele go lebalwe ka one maintenance of infrastructures e e neng e setse e le teng.*

Le nna fa ke lebile jaanong mo seemong se re leng mo go sone, *some of our infrastructure is very old, some of it ke e e tswang kwa nakong ya the colonizers. For instance, if you take schools, o ya go fitlhela dikole tsa missions e le tsa bogologolo thata. Therefore, it would be correct gore Goromente a ntshe madi a ye to maintain these schools. Ke yone tumelo ya me, mme e bile fa go ne go kgonega, ke ka bo ke batlile a larger share of the*

budget e ya kwa *maintenance*, gona le *to construct new infrastructure*.

Mma ke fe sekai; gone jaana fa ke bua ka *budget*, ke batla gore go kgaolwe. Ke utlwile mongwe a bua gore *ministry* mongwe le mongwe o na le *budget* ya one, *yes*, go boammaaruri, *but the purse* ya ga Goramente, e nngwefela. *That is why I am moving* gone jaana gore madi a Lephata la *Justice*, a gotweng a ya go dira *Con Court*, *I move that this money be taken* a tlatse the P1.8 billion wa *maintenance*. *I move so Honourable Speaker*.

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

MR MOTAOSANE: *Con Court* ga e botlhokwa gone jaana. Ga se gore ga e botlhokwa, ke gore ga e ka ke ya diga leru lepe fa e ise e nne teng. Ra re, e tle e le *a product of the holistic Constitutional Review*. Fa e tla e ntse jalo, *we will budget for it* ka tsela e e tshwanetseng. E seng gore e bo e tlisiwa ka lebelo le e tlang ka lone. Ke gone fela fa re farologanang teng. *I want that money to be given to maintenance budget* ka fa go ntseng ka teng *Mr Speaker*.

Fa ke tsena mo go tsa botsogo...

MR SEGOKGO: *Procedure Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Golo fa jaaka ke ne ke tlhalosa, re a ithuta. Ke utlwa *Honourable Motaosane* a dirisa mafoko a gore o a sutisa gore go nne le diphetogo. Ga ke itse gore a ke tsamaiso? Ke raya gore fa go buiwa jaana, o kgona *to move amendment* ya *Bill* kana jang? Ke raya gore o sutisa jang? Ke bona a dirisa mafoko a *to move*. Ke itse gore fa go sutisiwa, re ka nama re ntse fa fatshe, ra utlwa gore a mme Palamente e ka ema pele, ra utlwa gore o sutisa jang?

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, go raya gore o a sutisa. Fa e le gore mo Tshutisong e a e buang, go mo goreng go fetolwe molao mongwe kana go baakannngwe fa kae, lona le ka ithulaganya ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Ga go molato gore a bo a bua jalo.

MR MOTAOSANE: *Thank you*. Ke nnake, ke ne ke mo pepetletsa kwa Tlokweng kwa gore e nne Modulasetilo, ke raya gore a rutege. Fa o tla ka fa go tsa botsogo *Mr Speaker*, ke a lemoga gore Tona o supile *budget* ya teng gore ke yone *the second or third largest*, *I am not sure*. Ke santse ke na le letshwenyego ka gore nako e ntsi re

a bua gone fa Matona gore dipilisi di teng kwa dipatela, *hey! Mr Speaker*, re mo mathateng. Dikgang tse di a tshwenya ka gore go lebege le mo *budget*, fa e le gore seemo se ka fa se ntseng ka teng, re ne re tshwanelwa ke go se *tackle* tota *at all costs*. Re leke go busetsa seemo sa botsogo kwa se tshwanetseng teng. Tona o kare ga a amogege gore ga go na melemo. *That is why budget* e ntse jaaka e ntse jaana. Golo mo, go tshwanetse re ye go go baakanya.

Ke utlwa botlhoko mo go maswe, e bile gape ke tshwenngwa ke *relationship* ya rona thata le United Arab Emirates (UAE) ka fa go tsa botsogo. Batho bao re a itse gore madi a bone, a bokete. O ne o na le moeng fa maloba wa *President* wa kwa India. *We know India is one of the countries* tse di dirang sentle mo botsogong, e bile ditlhwatlhwa tsa bone di botoka fela thata. *Why could we not go that route* gona le go ya kwa go turang teng, ka tsela e e ntseng jaana? Ke kope Tona gore a lebe kgang eo thata. *There is a lot of debts* tse di sa duelwang, tse di tswang fa moragonyana fale. *Those that supply equipment* e Goramente a e rekileng, o kare ba a lela. Ga ke itse gore a e tlaare re tsena kwa *ministerial debates*, re fitlhele madi a teng ba a kgaogantse ka fa go tshwanetseng ka teng gore ba duele bagwebi ba ba kolotiwang.

E nngwe e e ntshwentseng ke ya Ipelegeng. Kgang e ya Ipelegeng fa o e leba ka fa e buegang ka teng, tota ke na le letshwenyego le letshogo la gore e ya go felela e kgaotse batho ba ba seng kana ka sepe *if we go this route*. Ga ke itse legale, Tona o tlaa e tlhalosa. Ke kopa a e tlhalose gore a o ya go e tsaya ka *phases*? Fa ba ka e tsaya ka *the route* e ba buang ka yone, go ka se ke go siame. Go raya gore go ya go kgaolwa batho ba se kana ka sepe mo Ipelegeng ka gore maP2, 500.00 *will bloat the budget* ka tsela e e feteletseng. Ke dumela gore dipalo tse Ipelegeng gompieno e di hirang, di kwa godimo mo go maswe. *As much as* the Ikageng Programme e siame gore e ruta batho ditiro le eng fela jalo, fa e le gore e ya go hira dipalo tse re buang ka tsone, *then we are in for a high jump* mo *budget* ya rona. Go botlhokwa gore ba e lebelele.

Kgang e nngwe e e neng e ntshwenya, ke ne ke utlwa motlotlegi mongwe a bua ka *land boards*, ka *the 100 000 plots*, e bile o teng fa *Honourable Barongwang*. *Honourable Barongwang*, fa go buiwa ka Mogoditshane

Sub Land Board, go buiwa ka Gabane, Lesirane, Mmopane, Metsimotlhabe, Ledumadumane le tse di ka fa tse di le mo teng. *Therefore, you need to get your figures and facts correctly.* Ke bona gore *you are targeting the former Chairman wa land board.* Ke yone *target* ya gago, wena le bo mmata ba gago fano. Ga le dire sentle. A re lebeleleng ditsamaiso ka fa di ntseng ka teng re kgone gore re baakanye *genuinely.*

MR BARONGWANG: *Point of order Mr Speaker.* Motlotlegi o nkokometsa lekapi la motsotsojane fa a re, *my aim* ke go sala morago *the former Chair wa land board.* Golo moo, ga se maikaelelo le maikemisetso a me. Ke kopa motlotlegi a boele mafoko ao kwa morago. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Motaosane, a re, o a mo patika, tota ene ga a na maikaelelo ao.

MR MOTAOSANE: Mma ke boele ao kwa morago ke mo reye ke re, *get your facts correctly Honourable Member; so that* e re fa o bua jaana, o bo o tshotse *facts.* Ka gore go ya ka nna, ke bona o kare *you are in the line* ya go *attack* ene yole yo a baakanyang. O ne a baakanya. Golo kwa Mogoditshane batho ba jele lefatshe. Bangwe ba bone ba teng mo Ntlong e, o a utlwa? Batho ba jele lefatshe. Bangwe ba bone ba teng mo Ntlong e. *They own more than 10 to 15 plots,* o a utlwa? Dilo tse re a di itse. E nne e re le bua, le bua tse le di buang sentle, re itse gore go diragala eng. Ke a kopa gore dilo tse Tona, e re fa a tla go araba, a di kgome, segolobogolo jang tse di amanang le dipalo tsa Ipelegeng le Lemang Dijo. Batswana ba tlaa dika ba bolawa ke tlala gompiano. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker.*

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members, I am sure you can see that my deputy is not here, *o na le diphuthego kwa kgaolong.* Jaanong I will invoke Standing Order 26.2 for the convenience of the House, so that we go for a health break of 15 minutes.

**PROCEEDINGS SUSPENDED AT 4:45 P.M. FOR
APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES**

PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 5:05 P.M.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members, the floor is open. Quorum *e ntse jang? Le tlhaela ka two tsweetswee.*

MINISTER OF MINERALS AND ENERGY (MS KENEWENDO): Thank you Mr Speaker, good afternoon colleagues.

Mr Speaker, I also rise to join in the support of the recently presented 2026/2027 National Budget. A budget that has been clear, that it is strategic departure from dependency towards a capability-based development. It aligns with global best practices in economic transformation. It is clear Mr Speaker, that this budget's objectives resonate with the core principles of development economics, competitiveness theory and evidence-based policy. All of these guided by our True North, the BETP. This budget Mr Speaker, arrives at a very defining moment as we know Botswana stands at a structural crossroads, diamond dependent, growth is weakening, fiscal buffers have narrowed and unemployment particularly among young people remains persistently high.

The question before us therefore, is whether this budget nearly manages decline, or genuinely engineers transformation? Mr Speaker, these are the questions that we must address and assess if indeed we are headed in the right direction. Mr Speaker, we are aware that we have focused largely on diamonds, we were a mono-commodity economy. Where we are, we realise that prosperity is created, it is not inherited. It grows from a nation's capacity to mobilise talent, knowledge and innovation. What we currently have Mr Speaker, we have had structural economic shifts. GDP contracted by 2.8 in 2024 and by 0.4 in 2025, but we are expecting a rebound in 2026/2027 as global conditions recover.

This budget's diversification emphasis transforms our micro economic outlook from dependency to a capability building framework that is supported by careful fiscal planning and targeted investment. I want to take an opportunity Mr Speaker, to focus on what has been the mainstay of this economy, one of the reasons while we are talking about a real economic and fiscal shift because the diamond industry is challenged. While it is challenged due to external factors and market shifts, it continues to play a very significant role in this economy. Just this week, De Beers results were announced alongside those of Anglo American. From those results, we can tell from the performance of the diamond industry that we actively managed production in Botswana. We produced just over 15 million carats,

this is the 17 million that were produced in 2024. However, the sales tell you a different story; a story of how we also were very active in managing the stock piles that we found having built from 2023/2024 and we pushed them out in 2025. That is why the sales will be reflective, that we have sold way more than the production that we have reported on. This has been key; it is key for us to work on stock rebalancing, it is key for us to ensure that we manage maintenance in our mines, so that when the market rebounds, it finds us ready.

We have been strategising and working, doing the shadow work that is needed. This can also be seen and reflected in the earnings before interest, taxes depreciation and amortisation as declared under De Beers. There is a lot more that has happened beyond what the De Beers has reported because as you recall, Okavango Diamond Company (ODC) starting 2025 started to also sell 30 per cent of Botswana stock. We are able to point to the growth that has happened in that space and to the shifts that we have introduced. For the first time, ODC started contract management, doing contract sales under ODC instead of just the auctions that it had been doing since conception.

This is a big move, a development that is meant to bring stability into how we produce, how we sell, who we sell to and what value we attract. We were intentional, we were deliberate with managing the diamond industry and with ensuring that we retain as much value as possible in Botswana. I want to highlight that, it is in that respect that when we put out a tender and we did not get the value that we believed Botswana deserved and what we could justify to future generations, we withdrew that tender. We have since managed to shift out that stock from that tender. That stock is not sitting in our books, but instead we have managed to put it out into the market.

Like I said, a lot of shadow workers happened and we will speak about this further when we get to the Ministry of Minerals and Energy's budget. I wanted to highlight that for 10 years, there was no category marketing in diamonds. We started and we resuscitated marketing for diamonds last year. We injected \$100 million into marketing and consumer education, making sure we are clear about the differentiation between natural diamonds and the differentiation with synthetics. Making sure that

there are last mile 18 inches disclosures that are needed to inform the consumer of what they are buying. Telling the diamond story in different aspects, ensuring that we centre impact at the heart of the value of diamonds and we tell the Botswana story.

Provenance was important, we invested in traceability, and ensuring that those that sell the diamonds can tell the Botswana story. We worked with various countries and associations towards the defence mechanism and this meant that the word 'diamonds,' the name 'diamonds' is reserved for mined diamonds. It is reserved for our natural diamonds, and everybody else had to disclose and to use the name synthetics or laboratory (lab) grown diamonds. This was important because in the market, it had been shared thoroughly that these two stones are the same, when we know that they are not the same. We endeavored to tell that different story to ensure there is differentiation and defence. One took billions of years to be made while another is quickly manufactured in a factory. The changes that we have seen of the designation happening in the Indian market are quite significant. Following the President of India's visit here and the engagement with President Duma Gideon Boko, the Indian Government made that announcement that diamond designation would be reserved for a natural diamond.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MS KENEWENDO: In addition to that, we engaged the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), which is one of the largest graders in the world to ensure that the grading system of diamonds; the Cut, Colour, Clarity and Carat (4C's) as we know them are reserved for natural diamonds. They went and they changed that, and made a determination that from now on, the carat system as we know it, the 4C's will be reserved for natural diamonds while the synthetics will be working on standard and premium grading. Similarly, in the European Union (EU) in France, a determination stayed to ensure that just natural diamonds are called diamonds while lab grown are called synthetics. In Belgium, a similar determination was made that they should only be used grams for the synthetics while carats model is reserved for natural diamonds. All of this work is important. It is important to how the consumer sees and reflects, engages and values a diamond.

We worked hard to ensure that the world, Governments, institutions recognize and see our perspective. In addition to that, we are busy in the Middle East and the far East to ensure that we reignite the market. In order to do so, we are investing in marketing but we are not doing it alone. We started the Luanda Accord in Angola last year, in partnership with Angola. We are pleased to announce that last week; Namibia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), India joined us and South Africa will be joining. Several of the diamond producing countries will join to contribute towards the marketing of the natural diamond.

10 years after category marketing stalled, we are now rebounding, actively investing. This is the work that we hope will be reflected in the sales that are to come. We are not just hoping, as I said when you look year on year, the performance of sales reflects that we drew down on stock, it reflects that we were active in the market. The value might have not been the same because the prices were depressed, but we managed to push as hard as we could to reignite the industry. Markets are returning to the natural diamond industry, we are seeing this. The December holiday sales were positive, the jewelry industry is positive. Manufacturing hubs are asking for more diamonds, and we intend to respond adequately. Like we said, it is not only about Botswana, but about reigniting the whole industry in partnership with industry partners and countries. We are certain that a brighter, more sparklier day is ahead of us.

With this Budget, it is not just about the contribution of diamonds. It is about what else we are doing and intentional...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification!

MS KENEWENDO: ...and intentional effort towards diversification.

DR GOBOTSWANG: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker.* Ke ne ke bona gore gongwe Tona o tloga a tswa mo go ya diteemane. Ke na le kgang ya gore kana nngwe ya mafatshe a ntshang diteemane thata mo lefatsheng ke Russia, mme ga ke utlwe e buiwa ka gore kgang e tona ke *sharing the burden or marketing natural diamonds.* Gore bone ba fa kae *in all this* dikgang tse o di buang? Ke a leboga.

MS KENEWENDO: The Russian diamonds are

under sanctions, and therefore, do not interact with Botswana diamonds. We are aware that they are active in marketing, particularly in the Chinese market, but they are working on category marketing.

Mr Speaker, as I inch towards further diversification, looking at the projected fiscal deficit, while alleviated by near standards reflected discipline, countercyclical policy that support structural transformation without necessarily undermining sustainability, this is what we are seeing. This Budget is strong, it allocates fiscal space towards strategic capital land investment, towards human capital enrichment and towards digital transformation and institutional strengthening. It has been important that we look at the ways that we have been investing. We are approaching investing in the future, while maintain credibility with investors and international partners. For the first time we are actively using the credit ratings to attract more capital to Botswana and to public infrastructure.

There has been a lot of mention Mr Speaker, that debt is increasing. We have said this before, that Botswana has not used its credit ratings, has not used its fiscal space to attract more capital towards delivering infrastructure development. This time around we are seeing targeted increase in debt for productive use. Debt is not bad, especially when is focused on delivering key productive economic sectors. We are having much more increase than targeted approach to specific sectors, particularly in the Energy Sector where we are borrowing for infrastructure development, transmission lines and ensuring that we are able to deliver electricity. All of these targeted debts are coordinated by the Ministry of Finance, and they will deliver in development. This Budget rightfully emphasizes strengthening domestic revenue mobilization and fiscal discipline, but we recognize that with all the coordination, it is important that there is careful sequenced consolidation as has been previously highlighted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). We have seen the outcomes of this careful sequential coordination, it has reduced impact wastage and leakages in Government. We do need to be a lot more efficient, and we need to deliver more with less.

At this juncture, I am happy to share the progress that is evident in the infrastructure and renewable energy pillars as have been noted by the Budget. The Mmadinare

Solar Power Station producing 100 Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy has been fully commissioned, it is currently on the grid.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MS KENEWENDO: The Palapye Solar, the Jwaneng Solar are advancing under independent power producer models for national grid support and by the second half of this year, we will gladly report that they are also in full commission. These renewable energy projects demonstrate alignment with global trends towards clean energy and climate resilient growth, but most importantly towards sustained energy production for both domestic use and for export.

Ke ne ke re ke dumedise le ba e leng gore ke la nitlha ba nna le motlakase, ba metse ya Khwee, Somelo le Tsodilo kwa re kgonneng gore re gogele motlakase teng mo ngwageng wa 2025.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MS KENEWENDO: *Re gogile, metse ga e mentsi, mme re setse re gogile motlakase, re etla kwa Tobera le Zutshwa ka off-grids re tsisa motlakase. Re etla ka household solar solutions, ka gore re a itse gore ditlhabololo di tla di eteletswe pele ke motlakase.* The goal here is to ensure that we are delivering more with less, and we will be happy to partner and to announce the partnerships that we will have with the private sector towards delivering electricity. I know that in Ghanzi there are about two villages that we would be happy to announce in partnership with the private sector.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification!

MS KENEWENDO: Mr Speaker, I am glad to share more that we are engaging our mining partners, in ensuring that they are the lead anchors in development and community investments. Last week we were launching the expansion of Khoemacau, and in that project, they announced the first in community investment of USD1 million in January, which we will continue to track that there is more coming as the project expands with a USD900 million budget. We seek more community investments from the private sector, supply chain development, value chain development and these things are coming. They are supported by the work

that is happening around procurement, transparency and governance because these will strengthen investor confidence.

The transformation potential hinges on credible execution on credibility and without the discipline fiscal consolidation, targeted revenue mobilization and catalytic private sector reforms that unlock productivity and job creation, the budget is at risk, but we know that the Minister of Finance and the Vice President and his team, have this at the helm and we are there to support them. This budget is rooted in incredible micro economic management, evidence based human capital investments, strategic diversification, energy and digital infrastructure and strengthened governance all led by private sector development. It is a clear path from dependency to capability, from volatility to resilience, from aspiration to delivery, and we are committed to supporting the Minister and the budget as stated.

I therefore Mr Speaker, commend the Honourable Minister and I fully support the 2026/2027 National Budget as a foundational instrument of Botswana, sustainable and inclusive transformation. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI): Mma ke leboge *Mr Speaker*, ke simolole pele ka go go dumedisa le go go eleletsa masego le matlhogonolo. Ke bo ke eleletsa gape le Mothusa Tautona le Tautona masego le matlhogonolo. Lefatshe le le neilwe batho ba ba nang le boikarabelo, ba ba ka nngang le diphoso jaaka mongwe le mongwe, mme e bile ba ba ka fosang jaaka mongwe le mongwe. Mme se se tona re tshwanetse ra bona matlho a rona a tsepama mo bolennyeng jwa bone, ra se ka ra itimetsa tse dintle tse ba di dirang, ra remelela fela mo go tse re reng ga ba di dire tse di maswe kana tse re reng di maswe tse ba di dirang *Mr Speaker*.

Mr Speaker, ke tshwanetse go supa gore ke lesego gore ke tsena fa go santse go tswa *Minister* wa diteemane, tse e leng gore bangwe ba rona ba ba ratang gore go nne le dikgang tse di bosula ba ntse ba tlhabeletsa, ba bua ka fa Goromente a palelwang ka teng. E bile ba itumela, ba batla gore o kare diteemane di ka se ke di bone mmakete ba tla ba tsena, ka gore ba batla go tsena. Ke dikgang

tse di mo dipelong tsa bone, le fa ba didimetse le fa ba bua, le ba robetse, le ba tsoga, ke dikgang tse e leng gore di mo go bone *Mr Speaker*. Ke tshwanetse go supa gore re a itumela Mme Kenewendo gore o bo o feta ka mafoko a a ntseng jalo go hantsha, go re hantshetsa se se tshwanetseng go diragala.

Mr Speaker, ke batla gore ke fete ka dikgang dingwe pele ga ke tsenela kwa teng. Go na le dikgang tse e reng di buega, e bo e nna e kete UDC e na le bo 60 *years* kana 58 *years*, mme e le gone re tsenang maabane, re bereka, re baakanya, re baakanya le ka diphoso tsa rona. Batho ba bo ba re kgobotla fela jaaka e kete re na le dingwagangwaga ba ntse ba re bolelela, re ganetsa kana re gana. Ba bangwe *Mr Speaker* mathata a bone e le gore, ba ne ba na le *tendency* ya gore fa e le gore go tsewa Puso, ba a ingaola ba ya go nna koo e le diingaudi, fa ba sena go ingaola jalo, ba itumelela gore ga re a tsaya Puso. Golo mo go ne ga aga mo tshikeng ya bone lebaka le le leele. Ya nna selo se e leng gore ngwaga le ngwaga wa ditlhopho, ba a se itumelela. Ba lekile jalo ka 2019, ba leka mme ra bo re le mmogo, ke mosupi wa gore bangwe ba bone e rile re tswa mo ditlhophong... ke ne ka gagamala *being recruited by* Mopalamente re le maUDC mmogo a nthaya a re, *I should join* ka kwa BCP, ke sa itse gore o raya jang *Mr Speaker*. 2024 ba bo ba boela kwa mokgweng ole wa bo 2014 ba ingaola. Boingaodi jo jwa bo bo ba thulanya le bati e nngwe e e senang bolekeletso. Ka fa *Mr Speaker* ba tshelala mo bating, ba nna mo bating, go tlaa nna fela jalo *Mr Speaker* ka bone.

MR LESEDI: *Point of procedure Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Mma ke go leboge *Sir*; tota ke ne ke re gongwe motlotlegi o e aletse, ke re gongwe go ntse, go lekane, jaanong a a tsene *on the debate* ya *budget*. Ke a leboga.

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

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme o santse a ala, mme tsweetswee *Honourable* Motsamai, o ele tlhoko thata.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke ikobile *Mr Speaker*; Rre Lesedi o tlaa welwa ke majaratine. O ka ba a ne a iketlile pele ka gore re ntse re itewa, re ruthwa ka dipuo gone fa a didimetse, a tshabela mo legwafeng. *Mr Speaker* mma ke re, fa ke ka se ka ka feta ka gore setšhaba sa Gantsi, sa Charles Hill, *budget* e *Mr Speaker* re tshwanetse ra

lemotsha Mothusa Tautona gore, gongwe maiteko re a bona a a dirileng a matonatona, mme ga go ise go lekane fa re ise re tsene kwa go reng jaanong *meat regulator* e simolole e tseye *stage* dikgomo tsa morafe wa Charles Hill, Gantsi, di rekwe ka ditlhwatlhwa tse di utlwalang. Di ka thusa Mothusa Tautona, ka gore jaanong e tlaabo e le kgang e e leng gore *they support* itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana, jaaka re bona e le gore diteemane di ntse di sa rekwe sentle. Golo mo *can support* itsholelo ya selegae, *and cause* le gore go se ka ga nna le *migration* o montsi go tswa mo mafelong a sa tlhabologang go ya kwa go a go akanngwang gore a tlhabologile.

Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) re a e lebogela, mme maiteko a yone fa re a lebogela jaana, re ka bua fela gore fa e le gore e baakantse *proposal* ke gore, a ba batle mafelo a a gautshwane le *farmers*, go tsewe dikgomo koo. Di bewe kwa dikampeng tsa Artificial Insemination (AI), di bewe kwa bo Lokalane, gore Batswana ba rekelwe dikgomo foo go le gautshwane, e seng gore gongwe ba tseye dikgomo ka diteraka ba di ise *all the way* go tswa kwa bo Ncojane, Kalkfontein, go ya kwa bo Lobatse. Dikgomo tse ba di ise foo di ise di nne le ditlamorago tsa gore *farmer* o a latlhegelwa mo tseleng mo go fetang selekanyo *Mr Speaker*.

Mr Speaker, ke batla gore ke fete ka bonako ke lebile nako, ke bue fela gore Mothusa Tautona o buile namane e tona ya lefoko, fa o ntsha madi a a kana ka P1.85 *billion* o re madi ao e nne a *maintenance* wa dikole, ditsela, wa eng, ke sengwe, mme e bile o bo o notlela o re, a se ka a ba a dirisiwa sepe fela gape a lebagane le dintlha tseo. Jaanong ka nako e ga go na ope yo o tlaa reng Motlotlegi Motsamai ga a a bua ka *maintenance*, ka sepatela, *clinic*, le tsela ya kwa boketekete kana ka go wa ga dikole. Jaanong ba kganetso ba ntse ba re ... (*Inaudible*)... mo go reng, gompieno jaana bana ga ba na ditafole, ga ba na eng, heela! gatwe *they have been budgeted for*; madi a goroga, ba neelwa madi go a go rekwa ditafole le dibuka. Le tsone tse gongwe *Minister* a neng a re o tla ka tsone, e ne e tlaabo e le mooketsa.

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure Mr Speaker*. Nnyaa, Rre Motsamai a tlhoafale fela a bue gore go beilwe madi a *maintenance*, a tlogele gore diphathi tsa kganetso ke tsone tse di thubileng dikole tse di leng teng. *Maintenance* ga o buiwe ke diphathi tsa kganetso, o buiwa ke seemo

se se leng kwa dikoleng. Ga se diphathi tsa kganetso, le kwa Charles Hill kwa o leng Mopalamente, dikole di tlhoka *maintenance*. Ga se diphathi tsa kganetso tse di rialong, le kwa re ... (*Inaudible*)... teng dikole le ditsela di tlhoka *maintenance*, ga se diphathi tsa kganetso.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Hikuama, ke re wa re *procedure* e fa kae?

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure* ke gore, *maintenance* o *is being created by* batho ba kganetso, ga o tlhokafale mo lefatsheng la Botswana, ga a bue boammaaruri. Ga se diphathi tsa kganetso *that necessitate maintenance* wa dikole, *it is the situation on the ground*.

MR SPEAKER: Ga ke utlwe *procedure*, o ka bo gongwe o kopile *clarification*, o ne a ka tlhalosa botoka.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ba bolaisa tiro *Mr Speaker*, ba mmolaisa tiro ya *to defend*, jaanong o a ne a tla *to defend* fela a sa itse le gore tlhobole e e hulang modumo wa yone o tswa kae. A bo a tlele fela kwa marumo a tswang teng. Ga ke ise ke re diphathi tsa kganetso di thubile dikole, ga ke a rialo. Ka re, bangwe ba kganetso ba ne ba bua ka gore gompiano jaana dikole di ntse jaana le jaana, mme gape ba sa lebelele gore gatwe go ntshitswe P1.85 *billion* e le madi a go a go lebagangwang le dikgang tseo tsa tshenyego mo dikoleng. Ka rialo, ke gore mafoko ao a agela gore sengwe sone se teng, se a dirwa. Jaanong ba ne ba sadisa mogatlana o *Mr Speaker*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke tlaa tla ke go neela. Ke batla go fetela kwa pele *Mr Speaker*. Go na le kgang ya lehuma e e leng gore Mothusa Tautona o buile ka yone thata, mme le nna ke batla go bua ka yone. Ke bua ka lehuma le le bonwang kwa dikgaolong tsa bo Ngwaketse West, Kgalagadi, Ghanzi, Ngamiland, Okavango, Boteti, jalojalo. Ke rile a re tsweng mo kgannyeng ya go bua dinomoro tsa lehuma go tswa ka 1966 go tla go tsena gompiano, dikgaolo tseo di ntse di buiwa gore di saletse kwa morago ka ditsela, letlhoko la ditiro, e bile lehuma le ronoka mo go tsone. A re rarabolole lehuma le le mo dikgaolong tseo.

Re le rarabolola jang *Mr Speaker*? Ga go a lekana gore batho ba kgaolo ya Charles Hill, e re fa e le gore o neela Mopalamente wa Charles Hill madi a Constituency Community Project (CCP), o bo o mo neela P10 *million*,

mme e le gore o mo neela P10 *million* jaana, dilo tse di rekiwang di isiwa kwa Charles Hill di rekiwa mo Gaborone. Go bo go raya gore wa Gaborone le ene o neelwa P10 *million*. *Justification* mabapi le kgang ya *transport Mr Speaker*, e kgakalakgakala thata. A e re wa Gaborone a neelwa P10 *million*, wa Okavango a neelwe P20 *million*. *Mr Speaker*, le fa o bona a nkomanya jaana ke mmuelela. Legale gone ga go gaggamatse, phologolo e nngwe fa e tshwerwe ke selaga, fa o re o a e raolola, e loma wena. Ka tsela e *Mr Speaker*, re tshwanetse ra tlhamalala gore bagaetsho, lehuma le gateletse dikgaolo tsa rona. Fa re neela bana ba rona gore ba age matlo a *destitutes*, re ba neela *tenders* ka go farologana, a re lekeng gore dikale tse go neelwang batho ka tsone, go lekiwe gore ditlhwatlhwa tsa dilwana, go bonwe gore batho bao tota ba tshelela bokgakaleng, ba tsaya *material* kgakala, e bile ba duela madi a *transport* a a kwa godimo.

Fa o neela motlhoki wa kwa Charles Hill dijo tsa P600, o bo o neela wa Gaborone madi a a kana ka P600, gore ke madi a dijo tsa botlhoki, go na le dishopo tse di tona kwano, o ka itlhophela, o ka ya kwa Spar, Trans, Trade World, Choppies kana gongwe le gongwe. Kwa Charles Hill o a bo o otlhaile motho wa go nna jalo ka gore fa a re o ya go reka a dirisa karata ya botlhoki, madinyana ao a felela fela gone foo. Go bo go raya gore motho yoo o tshwanelwa ke gore a neelwe madi, bogolo a a tsamaelang P1000 *as opposed to* P600 yo o tshwanang le wa motho wa Gaborone.

Ngwana wa khutsana, lesiela, fela jalo *Mr Speaker*, a se se neelwang batho ba dikgaolo tse ke neng ke di bala tse di aparetsweng ke lehuma, go lebelelwe gore go baakanngwe sekale sa teng.

DR DOW: *Clarification. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to clarify.* Ke ne ke re ke a botsa. Kgantele o ne o bua gore madi a *maintenance* jaanong a tswaletswe, a *reinforced*, ga a tle go dirisiwa sepe fela. Ke ne ke batla go itse gore a a mangwe a tlaa dirisiwa fela go sa lebelelwe *budget* jaaka e ntse? Gape a golo mo go go sha, gore madi fa go tulwe ke a sennanne, a dirisiwa jang? Ke ne ke batla go itse gore a *maintenance* a, ke eng go le *special* ka gone? Ke a leboga.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ee mma. Fa gongwe ga ke re ke bua le wena wa re ke a ne ke go ntsha ka lesa legolo, mme tota ke bua se le neng le se dira o le mo phathing

ya Domkrag. Ga ke ise ke ko ke tsene mo go yone. Ga go go sha, mme e bile le wena o a itse gore ga go go sha. Go ne go dirwa jalo kwa Domkrag, go bo gotwe mme jaanong go latela *waiver*. Re tsaya madi ale re dira *virements*. Re tsaya madi ale re a isa kwa go ya go dirwa sennanne. Ke *slot* se e leng gore Rre Gaolathe o tsile ka sone gore madi ao ke one a lebagane le tiro ya *maintenance*. Ke tsaya gore mme ba re thusitse fela ba rotlhe.

Mr Speaker, mma ke tsene gape mo kgannyeng ya *enrolment* ya bana...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ema pele Rre Lesedi, ke tlaa go thusa. Pele ga ke tsena koo, a *budget* e re e buega, re wele, re tsepame gore ra re batho ba *informal sector* re ya go ba thusa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Batho ba ba rekisang mo *bus rank*, ba re boneng bokgoni jwa bone, ba na le lebaka le le leele ba dira jalo, re ya go ba thusa ka tsela e e ntseng jang re le Puso ya UDC? Batho ba ba rekisang mo *malls* tse di farologanyeng, ba ba ka fa thoko ga ditsela, ba ba rekisang magapu le mmidi, ba besa dinamanyana foo, re tsepame gore ra re re ya go ba thusa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Re ba sekaseke, re ntshe lekoko le le tlaa sekasekang dithuso tse batho bao ba ka thusiwang ka tsone.

Mr Speaker, ke itumelele gore Puso ya UDC, bana ba ba neng go ntse go hutsiwa gore o kare ba ka se ke ba tsewe gore ba tle ba tsogologele Puso, ba *temporary teachers*, UDC e rile bana bao tlang kwano ba le lapileng, ba le nyorilweng, le tle go nwa metsi mo sedibeng sa lerato sa UDC. Kgotso e nne le lona. Ka tsela e *Mr Speaker*, re tshwanetse ra bona gore Goromente tota o a leka. A ko o bone le bana ba *ma-temporary* ba mapodise, UDC ya re bana bao a ba goroge ba tle go tsena. E ke gatelelang mo go yone ke ya gore bana ba ba nang le ngwaga ba dule mo *system* e ne e ntse e le *ma-temporary*, a re le beng kwa morago bagaetsho re le Goromente, re bone gore bana bale ba ka thusiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang, ka gore fa gongwe ba ya go tswalelwa kwa ntle, mme gone ba na le maiteko ka lebaka le le leele mo teng ga *system* *Mr Speaker*.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOSWAANE): *Elucidation*. Ke ne ke re kgang e

o buang ka yone o kare o ntlhatswitse pelo *Honourable Motsamai*. Kana o bua ka bana ba e leng gore e rile maloba fa *directive* e tswa e re bana ba jaanong go lekiwe ka bojotlhe gore ba thapiwe, mongwe a kwala lekwalo fela a re re ya go ema fela e bile ga re ba hire. Ya re morago fa re tlhalosa le lengwe, yo mongwe a tswela fela ka dikgoka, a hira ba basha a tlogela ba ba ntseng ba tshwere ba na le bo *five years*. Se o se tlhalosang ke gore bana ba ka gore ba na le dingwaga e ntse e le *ma-temporary*, *let us consider them* kwa pele ba tsenngwe mo tirong gore tsamaiso ya botshelo jwa bone e tswela pele. *Thank you*.

MR MOTSAMAI: *Mr Speaker*, ke sone se ke se buang rraetsho, ke go ratela sone seo, go itaya kgomo lenaka.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR MOTSAMAI: Mma ke tswela, ke tlaa go neela. Ke bo ke bua ka kgang e *Mr Speaker* gore ke tshwanetse gape ke kope Goromente wa UDC gore a re le balebe, re sekaseke re le ba dikgaolo tsa bo Kgalagadi, Ghanzi le Charles Hill, re babaletse, e kete bana bangwe ba otlhaiwa ka go isiwa kwa go rona, e seng botlhe. Go na le *system* e e leng gore motho fa a sa dire sentle, o isiwa kwa dikgaolong tse di kwa tennyanteng. Fa e le morutabana gongwe a kgalemetswe gantsinsi, a sa utlwe sentle, o kgalemelelwa kwa tennyanteng. Fa e le lepodise, le kgalemelelwa kwa tennyanteng. Ga ke tlhasele badirelapuso, ke na le dikgang tse di papametseng, batsadi ba ngongorega ka tsone gore batho ba dikgaolo tse di kwa tennyanteng, totatota batho ba kgalemelelwa teng. Ba otlhaelwa teng, gotwe motho ga a utlwe *Mr Speaker*, o ntshiwa mo ditoropong. Ke sone se e tshwanetseng gore Puso e se lebelele, e bone gore kgang e, ba bolaya boleng jwa maduo a sengwe le sengwe, a *civil service* e e kwa tennyanteng. Ka go rialo, batho ba kgaolo eo ba runtshiwa tshono ya go tlabologa *Mr Speaker*.

Mr Speaker, ke kopa gore Goromente wa UDC re tsepame, re tswe ka lenaneo le e leng gore *budget* e e re nako e e tlang, e akaretse gore re ya go nna le lekoko la ditlhotlhomiso, gore kilano e e kanakana mo lefatsheng la Botswana, e tsalwa ke eng. Tlhoano e e kanakana mo lefatsheng la Botswana e tsalwa ke eng e re e bonang mo maranyaneng? Polaano le tshakgalo e e kanakana e e mo lefatsheng la Botswana e tsalwa ke eng? *Budget*

ya lefatshe la Botswana e tshwanetse *to budget for* dilo tse, ra tlhotlhomisa ra bona gore batho fa ba bolaana ka dipalo tse di kanakana tse, gatwe gare go tsene eng re le Botswana re rata kagiso go ntse jaana *Mr Speaker*.

E bile gape masole le mapodise, ba ba berekang mo ditirong tse go ka bong gotwe ke tsa *force*, kgapetsakgapetsa ba leke gore ba sidilwe maikutlo *Mr Speaker*, ka gore re bona bontsi jwa *cases* o kare bo remelela thata mo go bone. Bana ba gongwe ba tsena mo pitlaganong le ya ditirelo. Kwa ditirong tse dingwe *Mr Speaker*, ga se sephiri, bana ba bangwe ba isiwa ditiriping fa gongwe ke bagolwane ba bone e le go leka *to punish them*, fa gongwe go bo go sala go nna tlhakatlhakano ya mo lwapeng kana kae *Mr Speaker*. Ngwana yo fa gongwe a bo a imelwa ke ka fa a tsewang ka teng mo tirong le fa a tsena kwa lwapeng gotwe ga ke sa tlhola ke go batla, a goroga a tswa kwa tiriping. Go bo go nna le tlhakatlhakano. A dilo tse di sekasekwe, *and be budgeted for* gore go ye go itebagannwa le tsone. *Mr Speaker*, a *budget* e tswa re tlhotlhomise gore *drugs* fa di tsena ka bokete jo bo kanakana, *drug lords* tsa Botswana kwano le tse e seng tsa Botswana ke bomang. Dilo tse *should be budgeted for Mr Speaker*, go bonwe gore go dirwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang mo lefatsheng le.

Mr Speaker, Rre Motaosane a re ga go na le fa e le lenaneo le le sha le e leng gore UDC e tlile ka lone. Ke yo ke bua a le teng. Ka nako ya phathi ya Domkrag go ne go sena P300 wa batsetsi, mme e bile P300 ga a reye gore re emisitse tsabana le dijo tse go thusiwang bana kana batsetsi. *Bargaining Council*, *enrolment* ya barutabana, bana ba e leng gore ba ne ba bereka fale le fale e le *temporary*, baphepafatsi, *security*, gotlhe, re a tsaya re a tsenya. Ke dingwe tse e leng gore UDC e tlile ka tsone *Mr Speaker*.

Mapalamente ba ba BCP ba nna mo matlong a a tsentsweng *furniture* ya madi a a kanang ka P15 million, manobonobo a mangwe a a fetang selekanyo, mme fela fa ba tswa, ba tlile go nyefola UDC ba bo ba bua le ka *corruption*. Ntshetsang malao a a kwa matlong a lona kwa ntle le tsenye a lona, dikopi, dipitsa le sengwe le sengwe re tle re bone gore ...*(Interruptions)*... le nna mo manobonobong, mme le ganetsana le seo.

MR FURNITURE: *On a point of order*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke tsaya ke re kgang e ya *furniture*, le fa o

bona ke bidiwa Furniture jaana, *you have ruled* ka yone kgantele. Jaanong *the Honourable Member* o dule mo tseleng, gongwe re tshwanetse re papametse kgang e gore kana *furniture* e e tsentsweng mo matlong ale ga se ya rona, ke ya Puso. Maloba General o ne a bua gore re tlile ka dikobo, jaanong go tlhola o kgokgontsha, o tlhorontsha Mapalamente ka gore o Tona, ga ke dumele gore ke selo se se mo tsamaisong.

MR SPEAKER: Nako ya gago e fedile *Honourable Motsamai*.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke se ka ka e araba *Mr Speaker*?

MR SPEAKER: O se ka wa e araba, o kare e kile ya buiwa kgantele.

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke go utlwile *Mr Speaker*, tlaa ke nne fa fatshe.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: *Furniture* ya teng ke ya boleng jo bo kwa tlase.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Aaron*, se dire jalo tsweetswee.

DR DOW (KGATLENG WEST): Thank you *Mr Speaker* for giving me the opportunity to lend my voice to the ongoing debates in response to the Budget Speech delivered by the Vice President on the 9th of February 2026.

Let me start *Mr Speaker*, by saying *lantlha ke kope maitshwarelo mo go* the young *Honourable Atamelang*, *ke mo kgesitse maloba, go ne go sa tlhokafale*, and for that, I withdraw *go kgesa ga gagwe mo Palamenteng*.

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

MR SPEAKER: Go a tualo, go kopa maitshwarelo ke selo se se molemo.

DR DOW: *Mr Speaker*, let me start and state it for the record that I associate myself with the views expressed in the speech delivered by *Honourable Dumelang Saleshando* in his response to the debate or to the statement by His Honour the Vice President.

My debate *Mr Speaker*, will not focus on the text of the speech, but rather on the environment, political, social and economic in which the budget is realised. I say *Mr Speaker*, that it is not enough to look at the numbers,

the projects, the words, it is more important to look at the soil from which the budget will sprout; what is that environment? Let us not forget that this is the second budget by this Government, and that much that was promised in the 2025/2026 Budget was not realised. So, it is not enough to put a pile of words and a pile of numbers on a book, you have to go beyond that and absolutely deliver on what you are promising.

I have identified at least 10 issues that I think if I have time, I will deal with. Even before I go there Mr Speaker, let me just touch on an issue that I think it is important and also is of relevance to this particular speech. *Ke kopa go bua Setswana fela* in two minutes.

MR SPEKAER: Please do.

DR DOW: E tlaa re ka di 26 tsa ga *February* ka 2:00 p.m. go bo go na le phuthego kwa Bokaa. Ke re Bakaa yang phuthegong, mme gape Bakgatla le banni botlhe ba Kgatleng West, itseng gore phuthego e e botlhokwa, ga se ya Bakaa fela ka gore *Honourable Minister* o tlaabo a tlile go le bolelela gore ke eng a tlile *to spend P275 million* go le botsa potso a sena go nna a fetisa *Con Court* mo Palamenteng.

Gape le ene ke mmolelele gore e tlaa re fa o tsena kwa *Honourable Ramaotwana*, o tlaa fitlhela Bakaa ba le mo tenteng ka gore leobo la bona le sale le e sha ngwagatlola. Mo *budget* e e fetileng o ne o ba solofeditse madi a CCP, ba ne ba rile ba tlile go aga leobo ka one mme madi ao ga a ka a goroga. Moo go supa gone gore *budget* ga se madi, ke tsholofetso. O tle o ba tlhalosetse gore jaanong wa re o tlaa tsaya *P275 million* o ya go dira *Con Court* pele ga ba nna le leobo. Ke dilo tse ba tlaa di buang le wena. Bone ba tlaa bua gore tota ba ne ba eleditse gore madi a ye kwa Ipelegeng le kwa ditseleng. Le tlaa tla le buisana ka kgang e gore tota fa CCP e padile ngogola, mme o re o ya go tsaya madi a mangwe o ya go dira *Con Court*, a mme le tlaa dumalana. Ke re gongwe o itse gore kgang eo ba tlaa feta ka yone.

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

DR DOW: Now going to the main speech Mr Speaker, one of the things that is alarming and it is really unfortunate about the debate in this House, is blame shifting, and it often comes couched in the following words “the opposition is not offering solutions.” That

Mr Speaker, is a very narcissistic stunt, and it must be rejected with the contempt it deserves. What solutions is the Government demanding from the opposition? To solve unemployment problems, the Government of UDC says there is no problem with unemployment, they will create 500 000 jobs in five years. The expectation is that, so that they have actually created 200 000, so *mathata a fa kae?*

To solve the healthcare problem; according to them, there is no healthcare problem. To solve the housing problem, there is Bonno, so there is no problem. What solution are they are looking for? To solve food shortage in schools, there is English breakfast, *bana ba phaketse ba jele*. To solve the problem of underperforming State-Owned Enterprises (SOE), what problems? BMC, Air Botswana and Botswana Railways are profitable, *ga go na mathata*. So, what problems are you asking us to help you solve, to solve limited spaces in Ipelegeng? No, the problem has been solved, now it is called Ikageng, and name changing is a solution. To solve the problem *ya gore* 60-year olds would not get their pension, no, that is not even solved. UDC is delivering that, there is no problem.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR NTLHAILE):

Clarification. Ke a leboga *Honourable Member*. Ke tlhaloganye motlotlegi sentle fa a bua ka Ikageng a re, *name changing*, ke tsaya gore o ka bo a tlhalosetsa Batswana gore Ikageng re fetotse, re bua ka gore *they are going to be trained*.

DR DOW: Thank you very much. I understand you. Rebranding costs money, okay, period, to start with. Secondly, what you are doing, you are shrinking the programme, *le baya batho bobi mo matlhong*. You are shrinking the programme in terms of numbers and then claiming that suddenly, you are going to be training people. *Re tlaabo re le fa ngwaga o o tlang, o tlaa tla o mpolelela dinako tsa teng*, so, there is no problem.

Basically, blame shifting sir, is not a solution, it is avoidance. The other thing is that Mr Speaker, this Government is solving problems that people do not have. People in this country do not have a problem called Bonno, they have a problem called homelessness. They just want plots where they can build their houses, that is what they want. People in this country do not

have a problem called Con Court at all, you are solving problems that you have identified and now are forcing down on the population.

I can tell you Mr Speaker, that the residents of Bokaa do not have a burning desire for Constitutional Court. They have a burning desire for water, jobs and internal roads, that is what they want. I can tell you that the people of this country have problems and we heard the Minister of Health saying *gore* for P8 million, they can rehabilitate a hospital. Take the P275 million that he wants to ask a question about, and divide that among all the hospitals in this country, it would have solved the problem. The citizens of this country do not have a glamourized problem called Bonno, they need plots to build homes according to their means. 40-year olds in the country Mr Speaker, are homeless, literally. The fact that they are living with their parents does not mean that they have homes. Those who trade with Government and are old, want to know how this centralisation of GPO will affect them. That problem needs to be solved. We had a lot of clapping, a lot of applause, *gore* now GPOs are centralised and we will actually be able to limit the payments that are going out. *Re lebala gore re kolota batho. Fa o re batho ba ne ba le 10 ke ba kolota, ke bothale mo e leng gore ke rile le se ka la ya go ba duela, tlišang madi kwano ke duele ba le five fela, ga go reye gore* you solved the problem because they are still owed.

One problem the citizens of this country want solved is the restoration of trust in the intelligence services. That is a problem that they want solved and Government is instead entrenching the untrustworthy system, they own it, *ke ya bone*. Batswana are unsafe due to high cases of serious crime, car accidents, injuries and fatalities. That comes from actually page 162 of NDP 12, it is identifying that problem, that is the problem that people want solved. Batswana are losing confidence on the ability of oversight institutions to hold all members of society accountable. Batswana become bystanders in the country's democratic system and increasingly become cynical about political processes. If you want to spend money, spend money on democracy and one way of doing that Mr Speaker, is *madi ngogola go ne go tulwe e tlile go nna* a political funding, that is funding democracy, and diverse voices. *Ga a tswa mme go ne go na le budget. A re se ka ra re*, because *go na le budget*,

madi a tlile go tswa. Ga re itse gore a tlile go tswa ka gore ngogola e ne e le teng, mme madi ga a tswa. Before we say the budget says we are going to do this, let us make sure *gore tota fela mme a go tlile go nna jalo.*

I have come to the conclusion Mr Speaker, but *gakere go na le molato o gotweng* driving under the influence of something, I think this Government is actually governing under the influence of arrogance...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR NTLHAILE): *Procedure.* Motlotlegi, tota boammaaruri go lebega gongwe o sena dikgang tse o ka di buang. *The reason why I am saying that ke gore, you are a part of the team e e neng e dira problems, now o di busetsa kwa go rona. Ke ne ke re gone foo, o se ka wa re manega dilo tse di simolotsweng ke wena.*

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme ga go na *procedure*, tswelela *Mother of the House*.

DR DOW: Thank you very much. Mr Speaker, *tota UDC ga e dire sentle ka gore gompieno jaana e ntlhasetse. E tlhasetse* Honourable Kenewendo, Honourable Maele le Honourable Dikoloti *ka melato ya yone ya gompieno. Fa ba palehwa ba re, ke* Kenewendo, Dikoloti, Maele, Unity Dow, *gakere la re BDP? Kante ga se maBDP batho ba? E bile lona le ba gapile, le na le bone.*

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

DR DOW: So, *tlogelang go tshwenya* Dikoloti *bathong*. Let me also address the issue of why I say you are governing under the influence of arrogance...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MR HUNYEP): *Point of order.* Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Honourable Dow is *out of order* ka gore dilo tse a di buang, ga di tsamaelane le tse di leng teng. Ke raya gore o simolola a balolola bo Dikoloti ba ba tlang ka ditharabololo, a re ke bone ba nang le mathata. Rre Dikoloti o tlile ka ditharabololo. O buile ka Lemang Dijo *and all other programmes. Even other Members* bo Rre Maele, ba tla ka...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme ga se *point of order* Honourable Hunyepa.

MR HUNYEP: Ene tota re kopa a tle ka ditharabololo, *so she is out of order* ka gore ga a bue nnete.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Members*, ke le gakolotse go le gantsinyana gore fa le sa dumalane, le na le tshono ya gore le ka tla la *debate* la farologana. Le ka kopa *clarification, correction*, mme *clearly* ke gore ga le rate se a se buang. Fa o sa rate se yo mongwe a se buang, ga o re *point of order* kana *procedure*.

DR DOW: Thank you very much. Let me tell you examples when I say that arrogance suggest that when you do not listen to the other person, you think of all the solutions. Right now, le *ntse le bua ka mathata* a economy *e, fa re bua ka one la re re molato*, but you have examples of total and utter arrogance *fa ke le raya ke re*, arrogance. That as well as you are toned deaf, it means that you do not even hear what the people are saying. It is total toned deafness for the President of this country to be elected on the 2nd of November, and then decides to actually go next door to go and celebrate Christmas with another country. And then do it again the following year. That is arrogance. If the President of France were to spend Christmas in Spain, I can tell you, the following year there will absolutely be so much chaos *gore le mo setilong a ka tswa*.

It is arrogance for anybody to say *gore*, “I co-create with God.”

MR NTLHAILE: Procedure. Mr Speaker, *a ko le bueng le Honourable Dow*. *Kana* she is imputing improper motives, *o dule mo tseleng gotlhelele*. She cannot be using such words on other Honourable Members *gore batho ba arrogant*.

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

MR SPEAKER: *Order! Honourable Members*, tsweetswee a go nne le kagiso mo Ntlong. *Honourable Ntlhaile, certainly that is not a point of procedure, and it is a point of order*. Mmang a tswelile le *debate* ya gagwe tsweetswee.

DR DOW: I am about to conclude Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, other examples that we leaders have only one voice, *bothale bo golo go le gongwefela, legale joo bo builwe* in this particular House *gore*, “I wish there were Advocates,” clearly suggesting *gore* nobody in the House was smart enough to actually debate that particular Bill.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOSWAANE): *Procedure*. Go bua motho yo ke mo tlotlang thata e bile a itse gore ke mo rata go feta sengwe le sengwe. Ke ne ke re gongwe fa re dirisa *the word “arrogance” against the Head of State*, ga ke itse gore a tlwaelo ya rona e a tsamaya...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ema ka yone.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: O eme ka *procedure*.

MR SPEAKER: O eme ka *procedure*? Mma re mo utlwe *honourable*...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ema pele *Honourable* Lesedi. Mma ke mo utlwe, a re *procedure*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: No, he is out of order.

MR MOSWAANE: Ee, o tlaa ntsaya ka fa o batlang ka teng.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa *Honourable* Moswaane, *address* nna kwano. Standing 51, leba nna kwano.

MR MOSWAANE: Go raya gore ke mo emele a fetse ka gore o nkgoreletsa thata.

Ke ne ke re re tlwaetse, maloba e rile fa ke bua mo Ntlong eno ke bo ke re bangwe ba na le *depression*. *I was warned* gore o kare ke tlaa tsosa ntwana, mme fa motho a re *the President* o na le *arrogance* ka go ya go jela *Christmas somewhere*, ke tsaya gore o kare lefoko le le tsentswe le sena tlotlo mo boeteledipeleng. Gongwe re ne re ka batla tsela e nngwe ya go kaya seemo sa teng, re sa reye bana ba lefatshe la Botswana re re *the President is arrogant* ka go ikutlwa gore letsatsi leno ke batla go ya go jela *Christmas* ya boitapoloso jwa me kwa kae. *Thank you*.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme e ne e le kgakololo *Mother of the House*. E tseye kgakololo eo.

DR DOW: Thank you very much. I understand Mr Speaker, I know you are allowing me to make the adult

decision to decide whether or not continue using this particular word. The problem is that His Excellency the President is also a Member of this House. When he comes here to debate, he uses words that ordinarily you would object to but he goes on for two hours, nobody says anything. *Gompieno fa re bua ka ene*, I am addressing him as a Member of this House and I really think that before we decide to protect him too much, we must also decide *gore* how far can we go to criticise him. Otherwise, he is not God. I know that he said that he co-creates with God. Have you seen that particular clip? *A re*, “I co-create with God.” That is blasphemy by the way, only God creates. Nobody co-creates with God. *Ka Setswana gatwe o a bo o tlhola*. Only one person can *tlhola*. *Modimo ke ene a tlhodileng legodimo le lefatshe*. That is why *ka Setswana gotwe o a bopa, o a aga, o a betla* but *ga o ka ke wa tlhola*. You cannot say *nna ke tlhola le Modimo ka gore ke nna kwa legodimong*. What do you call that sir, when somebody says, “I co-create with God?” What do you mean by that? How else can you explain that? If somebody is a co-God, you cannot challenge God. That is why I am saying that this one voice wisdom is not good for this country.

MR LEKAU: *Procedure*. Gongwe o re tlhalosetse fa *Mr Speaker*, *gore kana go na le kgang ya gore leina kana lereo la ga Tautona, ga le a tshwanela go sa dirisiwa sentle*. Lefoko “*arrogant*,” mongwe le mongwe o ka le tlhalosa a le *very subjective* a se *objective*; *subjective in the sense* ya *gore motho yo o kwa ntle fa a reeditse*...

MR LESEDI: *Point of order*. *Mr Speaker*, mathata a me ke *gore you have made a ruling* mo kgannyeng e ya *arrogance*. Ga ke dumele *gore e kare o tsere tshwetso Mr Speaker*, lefoko le la nna la boelela ka *gore jaanong le re itsa go tswelala le proceedings* tsa Palamente. *I thank you Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: Ee, ke ne ke santse ke re ke tlaa utlwa *gore o wela a reng*. *Honourable Lekau, o wela o reng*.

MR LEKAU: *Interpretation* gongwe re tloga re tsaya go le motlhofo mme kana *radio* e e a bo e reeditswa le ke bana kwa ntle, le batho ba ba kwa ntle ga lefatshe. Go tsaya Tautona ka boene o bo o mmuisa jalo, ke tsaya *gore re ka tlhaloganya mo business*, le fa Tautona a lwala o bo o re, “*motho yoo o a lwala*,” ka bogone go kgona *to affect economy*. Fa e le *gore lefoko le la arrogance* le

a dirisiwa, kana le raya *confidence* le ya *investors to the person* yo kamoso a tsogang a ile go emela lefatshe leo.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Members, I have made a ruling on this issue*. Ke buile le *Mother of the House* *gore go na le kgakololo e e duleng ka Honourable Moswaane* *gore o e utlwile*. *Honourable Members*, kana le a itse *gore golo fa you are in the political colosseum, theatre of combat of ideas*, jaanong gantsinyana le a itse *gore ga le rate* *gore e bo e nna o kare re mo tempeleng*. *Honourable Members*, kgakololo fela ke *gore le buisane sentle*, le se ka la sotlana thata, le babalelane. Tswelala *Mother of the House*.

DR DOW: Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you for that guidance. My last comment related to the refusal to be accountable. Accountability Mr Speaker, is about informing the public, at least at the very least through their elected representatives. For example; we have heard about the city in the desert. It has never come to the House, it is not in the budget. Is it going to be debated at some place, we do not know? We have heard about US\$12 billion Qatar money, we read about it in the press, it did not come to this House. We do not see it in the NDP 12. We do not see it in the budget. We are seeing just talk. We have heard about the Sovereign Welfare Fund, SOE, it has not come to this House. We know what the law says about finances. We know that you cannot take out money from the national purse, *o bo o ya go a isa kwa* that fund. Where is it? We know about Tautona Lodge. The only SOE in this country where there is only one Director, go and check Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA). We have heard about US\$600 million that the President is going to collect. Where is it?

Accountability demands that governance be strengthened and that procurement processes be transparent. We are constantly told by His Excellency that he prefers direct appointments of contracts. Somebody in the shop actually a month ago was asking me, “*jaanong rona ka gore ga re mo itse, a re tlile go bona ditiro?*” *Ke bo ke re ga ke itse* *gore a ke tsoithe tse di fiwang jalo, ba tlaa tla ba re bolelela*. *Ke boditse potso kwa Palamenteng, gongwe ba tlaa tla ba araba* *gore wena yo o sa itseng kwa Matona a leng teng, kante yo o sa itseng kwa diofisi di leng teng, lona le tlaa ya go di bona kae?*

Lastly, ignoring the toxicity in the political environment that is created by pseudo accounts. Museveni deep-sixed BDP *a e epela, le a utlwa?* Happy Omang *fa le sa mo tshware nako e le teng, o ya go le epela.*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Modise.

DR DOW: *Nnyaa*, I do not know *gore ke mang*. So, Museveni deep-sixed BDP, Mr Speaker, they have the resources to find out who Happy Omang is, to stop the toxicity created by that particular account. It is going to grow and grow, very soon it is going to be another Museveni. So, please I really say *gore tota fela...* Where are the DIS reforms, what exactly happened that led to the revised view of the DIS? Why are they angels now? What are they offering or giving that now suddenly they are angels. I do not know, what about the Constitutional Review process, you promised that, now where is it? I do not know what to call it but refusal to actually listen to people, right now...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: The arrogance.

DR DOW: Yes. I do not know what it is, we are calling it arrogance, we can call it something else, I do not have an English word to describe it, *le tlaa e batla* in the dictionary. I will give example of how you are totally tone deaf, Mr Speaker through you, right now, the Government is running around the country trying to convince people that the Constitutional Court is a good thing. It is information, is not consultation, because you have already done three things that show that you have no interest in actually listening to the people. First of all, you have already actually gazetted a Bill called the Constitutional Court Bill. So...(Inaudible)... actually a law that assumes you are going to pass; that is something, I do not know what it is sir. You have already for example decided *gore* Ntlo Ya Dikgosi's views are irrelevant. You have already decided that there is going to be supplementary registration, which shows that you already anticipate you are going to pass and pass. For me I am saying, we do not expect any changes, because you have already...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

DR DOW: ...and you did not even debate it, you are sure of...(Inaudible)...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

DR DOW: You are so sure of your position that you do not even debate the Bill that is... I do not know what it is, but you will find a word for that. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MR SPEAKER: The floor is open.

MR KAIZER: *Point of procedure.* Ke a leboga. *Mr Speaker*, ke ne ke re ka gore *Honourable* Moswaane ke yo ke gone a tlang mo nakong ya gompieno, ka Labone ke kile ka ema fa ka *point of procedure* ke latedisa kgang ya gore o ne a buile mafoko mangwe a a sa nnang sentle. Jaanong ke kopile gore a ntshiwe mo Hansard kana a tlise bosupi jwa mafoko a a neng a a bua. Jaanong ke ne ke re ka gore gongwe ke gone a tlang, fa e le gore o tshwere *ruling* ya teng, o ka e ntsha. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

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

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa Honourable Members*, mma ke le boleleleng, ga ke ise ke tsene mo kgannyeng ya ga *Honourable* Kaizer le *Honourable* Moswaane. *Do not interfere* le *record* ya Palamente, fa le tobetsa *microphone* le sa supiwa, *you are interfering with the record*. Jaanong fa le tsoberana jaaka le tsoberana, le se ka la ba la tshuba *microphones* gotlhelele, tsweetswee, ka gore *it interferes* le *record* ka kwa. *Let me confer with the Parliamentary Council (PC) and the Clerk.*

...Silence...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Kaizer, *kana* you will recall that I was not presiding when that happened. *Jaanong ke ne ke rile ke tlelwe* Hansard, but just for the record, *o ne o re* what is the issue?

MR KAIZER: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. *Assistant Minister* Moswaane o ne a tlisa *allegations* tsa gore a re ke na le *cash loans*, e bile ke tsietsa batho kwa Phikwe. Jaanong ke re, fa a ka tlisa bosupi jone jo fa e le gore ke boammaaruri, re itse gore ke boammaaruri. Mme fa e le gore ga se boammaaruri, a boele mafoko ao morago, ka gore go mo Hansard gore ke tsietsa batho. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: Fa e le gore o rile o tsietsa batho, o

tlaabo a dirile mathata. Jaanong mma ke ye go bona Hansard, ke raya gore ke ne ke batla go utlwa gore *what is the issue*.

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

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, *Honourable* Moswaane ga ke batle o ikarabela Mongwato.

MR MOSWAANE: ...(Inaudible)...ke go baakanyetse...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ema pele...

MR MOSWAANE: Ke na le *procedure*.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, ema pele *Honourable* Moswaane ke eme ka dinao, tima *microphone*. Ke ne ke re ke batla go ya go bona Hansard gore o buile a reng. Ke one a ke a batlang, *then I will come and make a ruling*.

MR MOSWAANE: *Point of procedure. Mr Speaker*, ke re ga ke ganane le sepe fela se mokaulengwe a se kopang, *but there was never a ruling by the then Speaker to retract statement* sengwe, go ntshiwe bosupi. *There was none*, ke ene e rileng a tsoga kwa a neng a tsoga teng kwa Phikwe a bo a ikakanyetsa fela...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR MOSWAANE: Jaanong ke ne ke re o ele tlhoko gore...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, se rumolane...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Ema pele *Honourable* Kaizer.

MR MOSWAANE: E se ka ya re fa e le gore o utlwile botlhoko, a pateletsa *Speaker* gore *she ruled* mo kgannyeng ya gore ke tshwanetse gore ke...

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, *Honourable* Moswaane...

MR MOSWAANE: Ke ne ke re a se ka a bua jalo, gakere o bua batho ba reeditse ka leina la me, le nna ke batla gore go nne *very clear* gore, nnyaa nna le ene re betsane ka fa re betsaneng ka teng, mme e bile ke mo kgotsofaditse.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Moswaane, *ke eme ka dinao. Nnyaa*, *Honourable* Moswaane, *mma ke go baakanyetse* Phuti. You are correct in that the presiding officer at the time who was Deputy Speaker never made a ruling...

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

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa*, *Honourable* Aaron *se dire jalo*. *Honourable* Moswaane, Madam Speaker had not made a ruling, but when I came to preside and I had not been watching Parliament at the time, I do not know what transpired, which is why *ke ne ke kopile* Hansard. *Jaanong* *Honourable* Kaizer *o ne a ikuela*, when I presided he raised a point of order *ya gore kana ga o a mmuisa sentle. Jaanong se ke se kopileng*, I had directed the Clerk, I do not know where that Hansard is, *ke rile* that Hansard should be retrieved, *ke tle ke bone gore* *Honourable* Moswaane *o rumolane o reng. Ke yone e ke e emetseng. Jaanong ke tlaa tla ke dira ruling ke sena go nna ke bona gore* Hansard *ya reng*.

MR MOSWAANE: *Further procedure. Thank you. Mr Speaker*, ke batla gore o tle o ntlhalosetse gore *in the procedure of this House*, go raya gore fa ke seyo beke, fa ke tla *I can challenge statement* sengwe e bo e bile ke baakanyediwa sone? Rre yo ga a ka a tsaya ditshwanelo tsa gago *by then* fa re bua. Ke ne ke re golo mo go sekasekiwe.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, *Honourable* Moswaane ga ke batle go...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Ema pele *Honourable* Kaizer. *Honourable* Moswaane, ga ke batle *dialogue between* wena le *Honourable* Kaizer. Go ka fa ditsamaisong tsa rona *Honourable* Moswaane gore fa sengwe se sa tsamaya sentle, se baakanngwe. Ga se ka ke sa tlogelwa fela ka gore gatwe se ne se le maabane kana se ne se le *last week*. Fa e le gore o rumolane, *you are going to withdraw*. Ke ya go bona Hansard gore ya reng.

MR PULE: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Kana *it is on record* mongwame gore phakela ke kile ka ema ka *point of procedure* ke bua ka kgang ya ga Rre Moswaane ya gore a bo a ne a dirile *statement right in front of us* gore ka 2023/2024 go na le

melemo e e neng ya tsena mo lefatsheng la Botswana, mme ya ganyaola bana, bagolo le balwetse...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Pule, you do not have to repeat it.

MR PULE: ...o bo o nthaya o re ga a yo. Jaanong ke yo.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR SPEAKER: *Order! Honourable Members. Order! Honourable Pule, kana ke tlhalositse earlier on fa o eme ka point of procedure, ke dumela gore e ne e le wena. Ke ne ke go raya ke re Honourable Moswaane ga a ise a tlise bosupi kwa ofising ya me, mme ga ke ise ke mo tlhoboge ka gore motho o tlhobogiwa fela a didimetse a sa tlhole a le mo botshelong, jaanong ga ke ise ke mo tlhoboge. Honourable Moswaane, ke santse ke emetse bosupi kwa ofising. Jaanong e re fa o bone nako mo bogautshwaneng tsweetswee, tla ka bosupi joo ke tle ke bo sekaseke gore a ke jo bo ka support kgang e o e buileng. Wena tlisa bosupi kwa ofising, ga ke batle o ema o bua sepe, ke batla bosupi kwa ofising.*

MR MOSWAANE: Ke tlaabo ke seyo kamoso *sir*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa! Tlogelang *procedure Honourable Members. Honourable Members, kana kamoso tsweetswee, re dumalane gore le tsena ka 9:00 a.m. le bo le le fa gore re leke go feleletsa debate ya Budget. Ba le iseng le debate, le iketleetse kamoso ka gore debate e gaufi thata le gore e tswalwe. As it is now 6:30 p.m, I shall now call upon the Leader of the House...*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure, *o ise o tswale* Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: ...to move a Motion of adjournment...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR SPEAKER: ...the time is half past.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MOHWASA): Ke a

leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke tseye sebaka se ke kope gore dipuisanyo tsa gompieno di ye kwa bokhutlong ka nako e setse e re eme ka fa mosing. Ke a leboga.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 6:30 p.m. until Tuesday 24th February, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

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