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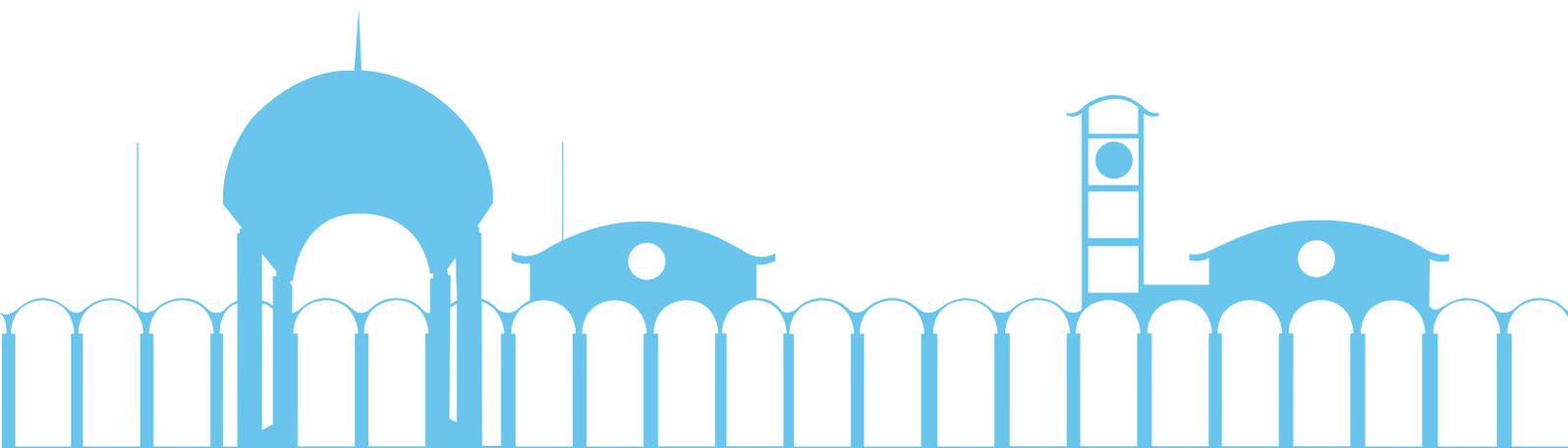
YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

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

MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2025

MIXED VERSION

HANSARD NO: 216



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

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

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Names	Constituency
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Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP.	Francistown West
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, MP.	Charles Hill
Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	Palapye
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Hon. P. Maele, MP.	Tswapong North
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Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	Ghanzi North
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Hon. L. Barongwang, MP.	Mogoditshane East
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Hon. Dr M. C. Chimbombi, MP.	Kgalagadi South
Hon. C. K. Jacobs, MP.	Lobatse
Hon. J. Hunyepa, MP.	Tati West
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Hon. A. K. Khan, MP.	Molepolole North
Hon. O. Kwapa, MP.	Jwaneng-Mabutsane
Hon. G. Lekau, MP.	Mogoditshane West
Hon. R. M. Lekutlane, MP.	Kgalagadi North
Hon. H. P. Manyeneng, MP.	Metsimotlhabe-Mmopane
Hon. Brig. D. Mokgwathi	Letlhakeng
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Hon. A. Nyatanga, MP.	Mahalapye East
Hon. N. Ramaotwana, MP.	Gaborone South
Hon. V. B. Phologolo, MP.	Kanye West
Hon. G. Sedombo, MP.	Tonota
Hon. P. M. Segokgo, MP.	Tlokweng

OPPOSITION

(Botswana Congress Party)

Hon. D. Saleshando, MP. (Leader of the Opposition)	Maun North
Hon. K. C. Hikuama, MP. (Opposition Whip)	Maun West
Hon. Dr U. Dow, MP.	Kgatlang West
Hon. Dr K. Gobotswang, MP.	Tswapong South
Hon. K. K. Kapinga, MP.	Okavango West
Hon. G. Kekgonegile, MP.	Maun East
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Hon. K. Nkawana, MP.	Selebi Phikwe East
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Hon. G. Disho, MP.	Okavango East
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Hon. B. Mathoothe, MP.	Serowe North
Hon. O. Kedikilwe, MP.	Serowe West
Hon. J. J. Frenzel, MP.	Shashe West
Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	Nata-Gweta

(Botswana Democratic Party)

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

(Independent Member of Parliament)

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

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

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Monday 24th February, 2025

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

* * * *

SPEAKER'S REMARKS

MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE): Pray be seated! Honourable Members, we are quorated. Good afternoon Honourable Members. *Nanabelelang kwa ditilong* Honourable Members *ba le kwa lebating*. Honourable Members, I hope you had a restful weekend. Those who attended the General Assembly, know the resolutions. There are no major announcements, except that today is my birthday.

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

MR SPEAKER: Today is my birthday, *jaanong Mma Keorapetse o beile cake fa tearoom ya lona. Go raya gore le tlaa nna le feta le ya go ketlola*. Honourable Members, having said that, let us start our business of today with questions.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

MAGOPE/DISANA WATER RETICULATION

MR B. B. MABEO (GAMALETE): asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement:

- (i) whether he is aware that Magope/Disana Ward in Ramotswa has been without water for the past 20 years; if so,
- (ii) what plans are in place to ensure that Magope/Disana water reticulation is done; and
- (iii) to update this Honourable House on the progress of such plans if any.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, mma ke dumedise. Tlaa ke tsene mo potsong e ya bobedi ka karabo *Mr Speaker*, ke supe gore ee go boammaaruri re a itse gore motse wa Magope/Disana o o mo kgaolong ya Ramotswa, o na le tlhalelo ya metsi. Fela gongwe se re ka se baakanyang ke gore fa gotwe 20 years, Mopalamente o ne a batla *to stress* gore go lebaka ba sokotse ka metsi, e seng go sena metsi gotlhelele. Go ne go na le dithulaganyo tse di dirwang go siela motse metsi *Mr Speaker*. Fa ke tsena mo karabong *Mr Speaker*,

(i) Re a itse gore ba na le tlhalelo ya metsi, e bile tlhalelo e e dirwa ke gore metsi a kwa tlase, le phatlalatso ya metsi e kwa tlase *Mr Speaker*. Go na le mabaka a a farologaneng, a re tlholang re a bua *Mr Speaker* a gore kana metse fa gongwe e a nna, e felele e feta mealo e e farologaneng, e e dirwang ke dilo tse di farologaneng.

(ii) *Mr Speaker*, kgaolwana e e sielwa metsi ka lenaneo la *standpipes*, tse pedi *Mr Speaker* di ne tsa dirwa mo ngwageng wa 2009, tse tharo tsa dirwa mo go 2012, e le tsa *public prepaid standpipe Mr Speaker*, gore ba kgone go bona metsi. Go ne ga nna le leano la gore ba Water Utilities ba felele le bone ba tsenya letsogo ka *team* ya bone ba itirela mo gotweng *in-house*, go bona gore batho bao ba tlaa sielwa metsi. Ba ne ba dira thulaganyo ya gore ba dire *design* le *to construct* tse di ka felelang di dira gore metsi a tsamaye ka thelelo.

(iii) *Mr Speaker*, ka lebaka la tsa madi, go ne ga se ka ga dirwa fela mo go feletseng fedifedi. Go ne ga dirwa *Phase I*, go tshwanetse gore go ye go dirwa *Phase II*, ke yone e e neng ya emisiwa ke lebaka la madi *Mr Speaker*. Ga ke na go tsena mo goreng go dirilwe se le se mo go tseneletseng, ke ka di araba fa go bodiwa *supplementaries. Mr Speaker, Phase II tender* ya teng e ne ya dirwa, mme fa e sena go dirwa *and was advertised* ka 2024. *Advertisement* e *Mr Speaker*, e ne e le yone ya gore go tle go simololwe go dirwe. Ka lebaka la gore madi ga a yo *Mr Speaker*, e ne ya tshwarwa pele gore madi a tle a bonale, e le gore madi a tlaa bonala jaana go sena go nna go dumalanwa National Development Plan (NDP) 12. Ke yone e e yang go supa gore seemo sa metsi se ya go tokafala leng kwa kgaolong eo *Mr Speaker*. Ke ema gone fa *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

MR MABEO: *Supplementary.* Tlaa ke go leboge *Mr Speaker*, ke bo ke leboge le *Minister* ka karabo eo. *Minister* ke kopa go thaloganya sengwe, o buile ka *standpipes* tse o reng di tlhano, go ntse jalo di tlhano. Mo nakong ya gompieno go bereka tse pedi fela, *are you aware* gore go bereka tse pedi fela? Mo go tsone *standpipes* tse o buang ka tsone, *are you aware* gore di a tlhalela tse tlhano tse le fa di bereka tsotlhe, ga di a anama? Batho ba feleletsela ba patelesega go tsamaya sekgala se se leele ka dikiriba, ba bangwe ba rwele mo tlhogong ba batla metsi.

Minister, ke kopa gore o ntlhalosetse gape gore go tsile jang gore le ntshe a *tender, advertise it*, e re fa



le tshwanetse gore le *award*, e bo e le gone le bonang gore madi ga a yo. Le *advertise* jang madi a seyo, *because* ga ke itse gore e tlaabo e le pereko e e ntseng jang eo ya gore *advert* e nne teng, mme madi a seyo? Ke kopa gore o papamale ka gore *advertising* e e tswa kwa Goromenteng yo mogologolo, a golo mo e ne e le *political campaign*, a o a e tsaya le wena o e ipaya mo magetleng? Ke utlwa o sa e tlhalose sentle gore wa re go tsamaile jang gore go nne le *advert*, mme madi a seyo. *I thank you.*

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, ke leboge mmotsi wa potso. O supa fa *standpipes* di le pedi fela tse di berekang, tse dingwe di sa bereke *Mr Speaker*. O mpoitise potso ya gore a ke a itse gore go bereka tse pedi fela *Mr Speaker*, tse dingwe ga di bereke. Ga ke itse *Mr Speaker*, ke e ke tlaa yang go e sala morago, ka gore go tlaabo go tlabisa ditlhong gore gongwe re re tsentse *standpipes* tse tlhano mo motseng, mme go bereka tse pedi, rona re itshwareletse fela ka gore di tlhano *Mr Speaker*. Re tlaa e sala morago. *Factors* tsa gore di bo di sa bereke, re tshwanetse gore re ye go bona gore ke ka goreng di sa bereke *Mr Speaker*, ra a fa karabo, ra ba ra dira tiro e e tlhapileng *Mr Speaker*.

O ne a supa gape gore, a mme ke a itse gore fa di ntse jalo le tsone tse tlhano tseo di a tlhela *Mr Speaker*? Karabo ya teng fela e ka nna ee *Mr Speaker*, *this is why* re bua ka Lenaneo la Ditogamaano tsa Ditlhabololo gore e tlaa re fa go ntse jaanong madi a sena go bonala, re okomele re bone gore re atolose mealo ya metsi, re bo re atolose le *pressure*, re bo re tsholetse fa e leng gore gongwe go ka tswa metsi a tlhela ka lebaka la gore gongwe ga go welelele sentle. Kana fa gongwe go tlhokafala gore ditanka tsa metsi di isiwe kwa godimo *Mr Speaker*, gore metsi a fologe le sentle kwa a ka nosang batho teng *Mr Speaker*.

E nngwe ya bofelo ke ya gore, kana lephata le ne la dira phatlalatso kana kanamiso (*advertise*) gore go na le *tender* ya gone go gokela kana go bereka dikgang tsa metsi, mme go tsamaile jang gore go dirwe kanamiso e e ntseng jalo, re itse gore madi ga a yo. *Mr Speaker*, ke ne ke mo kopa gore le nna a mphe mofago mo go yone. Ga ke batle go mo neela karabo e e sa tlang. Ke batla ke ye go mo neela karabo e e tletseng sentle ka botlalo. Ke a leboga.

DELAYED PAYMENTS FOR SECURITY AND CLEANING WORKERS

MR G. KEKGONEGILE (MAUN EAST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs if he is aware that

workers in private security and cleaning companies are not paid their wages and benefits on time; if so, to state:

- (i) what measures are in place to alleviate this challenge;
- (ii) how many cases of this nature have been reported to the Labour Office and how many have been resolved;
- (iii) what are the reasons behind pending cases and how is the ministry speeding up conclusion of the cases;
- (iv) who is at fault, whether it is Government not paying these companies on time or companies deliberately not paying workers; and
- (v) what is the ministry's long term solution to this situation of infringement on human rights.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE):

Tanki. *Good afternoon Mr Speaker. Good afternoon Motlotlegi Kekgonegile.* Potso e ya gago o e boditse *at the right time*, e bile ke gone ke tlaa tlhamalatsang, ke bolelela batho ke re, ke molato go tlhoka go duela babereki o ipata ka gore wena ga o ise o duelwe. Fa o bula *business* o hira batho, o dumalana le bone gore o tlaa ba duela. Bone ba a bo ba sa itse sepe ka ditumalano tsa gago le yo o go hirileng. Golo moo ke bona go tswetsetse. *Companies* tse ke bonang o bua ka tsone tsa *security* le tse di phepafatsang, ga ba duele batho ka nako. Jaaka re bua jaana, ba bangwe ke gone ba neng ba duelwa morago fa re sena go nna re tsaya dikgato re bitsa batho ba teng. Ba ba duela *salaries* tsa *December*. Ba ba raya ba re, "ga re ise re duelwe. Batho ba re ba disetsang dikago kana ba re ba phepafaletsang, ga ba ise ba re duele." Ke molato, ga go na ope yo o tshwanetseng go dira jalo.

Go tla go tsena gompiano, dikgetsi tsa *companies* tse di neng di ntse di begiwa kwa go rona gore ga re duele batho, di 980. Tsa *masecurity* fela di ne di dira *about* 738. Ke ka go tlhomamisetsa gore di le 698 di setse di duetse babereki ba tsone. Re bo re tsena mo *cleaning companies*; *there were* 130 mme di le 115 ba setse ba duetse babereki ba bone.

Jaaka o ne o botsa potso gore mabaka ke eng, gantsi mabaka a re a utlwang fa re ba biditse ba re raya ba re, ga ba ise ba duelwe. Bangwe e bile ba bua gore Goromente ga a ise a bo a re duele. Re gatelela re re, fa o dira kgwebo o bo o hira batho fa, ga o a tshwanela gore ke tlaa le duela ke sena go nna ke duelwa, ga go a nna



jalo. E bile gape ga re rotloetse le rona gore Goromente a bo a tsaya nako e telele a sa duele *suppliers* tsa gagwe. Eo re e gagamaditse, ke jaaka o bona *the rate of solving these disputes* kana ka fa re buang le bone ka teng, e bile ba duela ka teng, go nna botoka thata. Le bone re ba boleletse jalo gore ga ba a tshwanela go tswelala ba dira jalo. Ke tlaa tswelala ke gatelela le babereki ke ba raya ke re, gongwe le gongwe fela kwa ba teng, fa e le gore ga ba a duelwa, e bile ga ba a duelwa ka nako, ba tshwanetse ba re itsise. Re tle re bone gore re tsaya dikgang tse di maleba. Re bua le beng ba dikompone tse. Re ba gakolola gore ga ba a tshwanela go tsaya babereki ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Ke tseela gore mongwame, ke arabile potso ya gago fela ka bophara. Ke a leboga.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Supplementary.* Tanki *Mr Speaker*. Tona, motho o ka botsa gore gone mme dikompone tse, kwa ntle ga go ba bitsa le buisana ka gore ba bangwe ke ba e leng gore ga ba duele kgapetsakgapetsa, le a ba bitsa kgapetsakgapetsa, le dirile eng fela mo dikomponeng di le kae go supa gore mo ke molato? Gakere motho fa a dira molato o a lefisiwa. Le lefisiwa ba le kae ka *charge* e e ntseng jang?

Sa bobedi Tona, fa re bua ka *security*, go raya gore re tsenya le maphata a mangwe a ga Goromente mo teng a a tshwanang le sepodise. Mo nakong ya gompiano, *volunteers* tsa sepodise lefatshe ka bophara o le kwa kgaolong ya rona, ba tshwana fela le *temporary teachers*. Ba tsamaya mo dikgweding tsa boraro, tsa bone, ba sa duelwe. Tumelo ke gore, ba ikuetse kwa go lona. Le dirile go le kae mo kgannyeng e ka go lebega fa go na le dikgang tse? Le ganelela fela kwa *private companies* le bone ba le ba bitsang le ba re, le ba re, mme fa go tla mo maphateng a ga Goromente a a tshwanang le *health*, kwa *Home Based Care*, *malaria*, gone go lebega le se ke le dira sepe mo maphateng a ga Goromente ao. Ke eng le sa nke le dira jalo? A mathata ke molao, tsamaiso kana ke gore fela le Goromente yo mongwefela, go thata gore wena o le Tona Mokgware, o ka re o tseela Tona Mohwasa le Tona Modise dikgato? Tanki.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: *Thank you Mr Speaker.* Tanki motlotlegi. O botsa dipotso tse di maleba motlotlegi. Ke gakolotse *Ministers* tse di fa tsotlhe. Ka ba bolelela bo Rre Maele gore fa gotwe *Labour* e lebile mmereki mo Botswana, ga e reye ba *private sector* fela, e raya le bone ba ga Goromente. Dikgang tsa *Labour* jaaka o bua jaana, tsa *temporary*, tsa bo eng, ke ba boleletse ka tsone. Le bone ke a ba bolelela kgapetsakgapetsa. Fa ke amogela mogala gore batho ba lephata la gore ga ba ise ba amogele, ke bitsa ene yo o maleba. Bone ba sepodise

ba ba neng ba sa amogela maloba, Rre Mohwasa ke yo ke ne ka bua le ene. O ne a bona gore ba a duelwa. Ke di sala morago. Ga ke a lebelela *private sector* fela, le bone ba a itse botlhe. Ke kgang e re e salang morago, e re e buisanang le bone gore bagaetsho, ga ke lebelele *private sector* fela, le lona le le Goromente jaana, ke lebeletse gore a le tshwara babereki ba lona sentle.

Kgang e o botsang ya gore ba bangwe ba go nna re ntse re ba bitsa fela mme gone re dira eng; gompiano ke tsere tshwetso ya gore ke name ke ntse ke bua le bone ke ba lebisa molato. Fa a ntse a tswelala, kgantele *we strike them off* jaaka o e tle o bone nako e nngwe go a tle gotwe wena ka gore *due to bad labour practices*, ka fa o sa tshwereng babereki sentle ka teng, re go tseela *licence*. Ke nngwe ya tse di diragalang. Jaanong ga re batle go e dirisa re ise re gakolole batho. Ga re re ba gakolole go fitlhelela re bona gore ba tlhologanya gore fa ba ka tswelala ba ntse ba dira jaana, *licence* ya bone e a tsamaya. Ke a leboga.

MR SALESHANDO: *Supplementary.* E nngwefela *Mr Speaker*. Ke kopa go itse gore a lona le le Puso e e gatelelang ditshwanelo tsa batho; tshwanelo ya mmereki, a ga le a ipeela seelo *or a deadline* gore tsholofelo ya lona ke gore mo dikgweding tse *six* kana ngwaga e le nngwefela, le bo le ka tsaya tshwetso ya gore go tlaabo go se na lephata lepe la Puso le le duelang ope yo o berekileng morago ga nako?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: *Thank you very much, that is a very good question* Leader of the Opposition (LOO). O bolelela ruri rraetsho, re ipeetse gore re batla gore jaaka *financial year* e ya go felela jaana, go bo go duetswe batho botlhe. Botlhe bo *Minister* jaaka ba le fa jaana, ba a itse, ke taelo e e duleng. E bile ba tewa gotwe golo moo go se ka ga tlhola go boelela ka gore re a go fitlhela. Ke a leboga.

SHOSHONG MAIN KGOTLA OFFICES

MR M. BAGAISAMANG (SHOSHONG): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs:

- (i) if he is aware that Shoshong Main Kgotla offices are too congested to accommodate members of staff, if so,
- (ii) whether there are any plans to construct new offices to remedy the situation;
- (iii) to update this Honourable House on the number of Tribal Administration staff that has not been



promoted for the last 10 years, their cadres and his ministry's intention about this;

- (iv) if he is aware that Tribal Administrators are remunerated at salary scale D2, a lower grade to that of their counter-parts like Council Secretaries, District Commissioners and Land Board Secretaries, if so, when this anomaly will be rectified;
- (v) if he is aware that there is great gap between Tribal Administrators remunerated at D2 salary scale and their Deputy Tribal Secretaries at C1, if so, does he not consider the need to close the gap difference; and
- (vi) to state progress on the restructuring exercise that has been in the offing at Tribal Administration since 2014.

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

Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke go eletse malatsi a matsalo a a siameng. Re lebogele le taletso ya kuku. Re tlaa tla re e akola ka botswapelo.

Ke leboge Mopalamente yo o boditseng. Karabo ke gore, re a itse gore go na le mosuke kwa diofising tsa Kgotla tsa Shoshong ka lebaka la gore go na le babereki ba robabongwe mme e le gore mo go bone Dikgosi di tharo, bodirelapuso ba barataro mme diofisi tsone di le nne. Go nnile le mogopolo wa gore go tlaa agiwa diofisi tse dingwe mo Moalong wa Ditlhabololo wa Lesome le Bobedi; National Development Plan (NDP) 12. Se se tlaabo se akaretsa go atolosiwa ga Kgotla ya Shoshong go tswa kwa legatong la ntlha go ya kwa go la boraro (*Type 1 to Type 3 offices*).

Legato la boraro la potso ke gore, mo bodireding bo le 788 mo go 2 414, ke gore mo re ka reng 33 *per cent* ya bodiredi jwa *Tribal Administration*, ga ba a tsholediwa maemo mo dingwageng di ka nna lesome tse di fetileng. Se se akaretsa bodiredi ka bophara magareng ga bone bakgweetsi, baphepafatsi, *Court Bailiffs*, *Assistant Clerks of Court and Assistant Tribal Secretary* ba e leng gore mo dingwageng tsone tse potso e neng e botsa, ga ba a tsholediwa maemo.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, se se tsweletseng ke gore, go na le tshekatsheko, ga re ka ke ra ema fela fa go reng ga ba a tsholediwa maemo. Re dumela mo go reng gore bodirelapuso bo bereke sentle, ka bogone go tshwanetse gore babereki ba nne le diphatlha tsa kwa ba

tokafaletswang maemo a bone teng ka gore gone moo e bile go a ba kgothatsa mo tirong. Gape go thusa le gore Puso mo bodireding jone jo, a bo a na le dipalo tsa batho ba ba maleba go neela Batswana ditiro ka botswapelo, botswerere, bonatla le ka bofefo. Ke sone se e leng gore go tsweletse, go na le *review ya structure* e e tlaa tlisang kgolo ya kwa bodiredi bo ka tthatlosetswang maemo teng mo lephateng lone le.

Ke gatelele gape gore kana yone tthatloso maemo mo bodirelapusong e elwa tlhoko go lebilwe mabaka a a farologanyeng. Sa ntlha ke gore tsone diphatlha di a bo di le teng ka khiro kana tsa tthatlosetso maemo. Jaaka gompieno re ne ra itse gore mo tsamaisong ya Puso e e neng e hulara, go ne ga nna le tshwetso ya mo re reng *zero growth moratorium* gore go ne go santse go tserwe tshwetso ya gore ga go na koketsego ya diphatlha tsa khiro mo bodirelapusong.

Go feta foo, yone kgolo ya kgang e mo bodirelapusong, ga e a itebaganya fela le ba *Tribal Administration* kana se ke neng ke se tlhalosa. Ke gore ka bophara go na le kanamiso ya go bapatsa gore diphatlha tsa khiro e a bo e le dife gore ba ba nonofileng go tsaya ditiro tse ba tle ba dire jaaka re dumela gore khiro le tthatloso maemo mo bodirelapusong e tshwanetse e bo e itebagantse le bonatla.

Bone jwa potso e, karabo ke gore re na le itemogelo ya gore jaaka Mopalamente a bua, go na le pharologanyo fa gare ga dituelo tsa *Tribal Administrators*, *Council Secretaries* le *District Commissioners*. Ga ke ka ke ka araba go feta foo ka gore go na le *review of structure* e re solofelang gore nngwe ya ditlamorago tsa yone e tlaa nna go fapisa dikgwetlho tsa go nna le tlhoka tekatekanyo ya bodiredi le go tlhoka diphatlha tsa gore batho ba ka tthatlosetswa maemo kae.

Botlhano jwa potso ke gore, re na le temogo ya gore go na le dipharologanyo mo *structure* fa gare ga *Tribal Administrators* le *Deputy Tribal Secretaries*. Le yone ke bontlha bongwe jwa kgang ele ya tshekatsheko ya moalo wa pereko le dituelo mo *Tribal Administration*. Ka jalo, ke tlaa nama ke sa segela ngwana thari a ise a belegwe, re emele gore re tle re fetse tiro ele, ke yone e tlaa re kaelang gore jaanong mathata a tlaabo a arabesegile ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Sa bofelo mo potsong e ke gore, re a lemoga gore go nnile mogoga moleele go fetsa kgang e ya *Tribal Administration* fa re bua ka *restructuring* ya yone. Ke sone se mo bogompienong nngwe ya tse re di dirang



ke gore go na le tshekatsheko ya Bogosi Act, le ya Customary Act, re ya go nna le pitso ya ba *Tribal Administration*, go na le yone *restructuring*. Tse tsotlhe re di dira go tokafatsa yone tsamaiso ya Bogosi go oketsa boleng jwa bone gammogo le go tokafatsa *Tribal Administration*, re bua le ka mabaka a bone a pereko, jaaka go ntse go na le tlhalelo ya ditsompelo le didirisiwa mo diofising gore ba tshwanetse go bereka ba na le ditafole, ditilo le dibalamakgolo, mme fa ba berekelang teng le gone go ba fa seriti.

Kgang e ya *restructuring* e tswelotse ka go akaretsa banaleseabe go akaretsa babereki, baemedi ba makgotla a babereki. Ke tsamaiso e e leng gore legato la ntlha le setse le dirilwe, mme re solofela gore la bobedi le simolole ka kgwedi ya *April 2025* e bo e re ka di *30 June* re bo re feditse yone *exercise of restructuring*. Re solofela gore e tlaa araba mathata otlhe a a ntseng a tlhagoga, e bile baeteledipele le a itemogetse.

Gongwe ke eme gone fa ka tsholofetso ya gore se re se dirang se se tlaa nosetsa go tsholetsa serodumo sa Dikgosi, se tlaa nosetsa go tsholetsa tsamaiso ya *Tribal Administration*. Ke a leboga.

MR BAGAISAMANG: *Supplementary. Thank you Minister* ka dikarabo tse di amanang le tsa makgotlatshekelo a Setswana. Ke kopa tlhaloso fa, ke ne ka utlwa o bua mo go ya (iii) e o neng o supa gore kana Puso e e fetileng e ne e bua ka *zero growth*, mme o supa gore go na le 788 ya batho ba ba sa tlhatloswang maemo *in the last 10 years*. Ke re ke utlwe gore jaaka o ne o bua ka ya *zero growth, is this the position of the current Government with regard to Tribal* gore le gone re ya go nna re bona *this zero growth* e ntse e tswelela? Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga. Nnyaa, mo ke ne ke lekodisa fela gore molwetse re mo amogela a ntse jang, mme re mo fa kalafi. Kalafi ya rona ke gore ba *Ministry for State President* kana ke bone ba eteleletseng *DPSM*, ga go ame fela gore ke *Tribal Administration*. Ka bophara go na le *public sector reforms* tsa gore sa ntlha re diragatse gore re kaba *vacancies* tse di fitlhelwang mo *public service*. Sa bobedi re dire gore babereki ba neelwe kgothatso ka gore ba ka ntsha maduo fa ba na le *motivation*. Ba ka nna le kgothatso fa ba na le thotloetso yone eo gore ba kgone go ntsha maduo.

Ga go a felela foo, go na le *reforms* tse re tlang ka tsone mme di akaretsa badirelapuso jotlehe; khiro, tlhatloso maemo le tse di saletseng morago tse di

neng di dumalanwe le badirelapuso, kgangkgolo e le go tokafatsa ka fa mmereki a berekang ka teng. Gore mmereki e re a gopola go ya kwa tirona, a ye a itumetse, Motswana le ene fa a ya kwa ofising ya Puso, a ikutlwe fa a tsena a amogelesega, e bile a ikutlwe a thusegile fa a tswa ka *office* ka ntata ya gore bodiredi bo ka palo e le kana ba sa imelwe ke tiro le bone ba itumelela tiro ya bone. Ke a leboga.

MMAMASHIA WATER TREATMENT PLANT

MR M. M. PULE (KGATLENG EAST): asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement to confirm if he is aware that connecting Kgatleng East, particularly the river villages, to the Mmamashia Water Treatment Plant was prioritised by Government and:

- (i) given that the project has not yet commenced, can the Minister provide a clear update on the plans and timeline for this connection;
- (ii) what specific actions are being taken to ensure the timely implementation of this project; and
- (iii) how soon can the people of Kgatleng East expect to see this crucial development begin.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke tsene mo potsong mme le nna fela ke ne ka lebala go go raya ke re masego ke ao mo letsatsing la gago la matsalo. E tlaa re nako nngwe o kgabotse kwa Ghanzi South kwa Charles Hill o ye go nwa moro wa konyana, o o nwela gone kwa *Mr Speaker*.

Mr Speaker, Mopalamente o ne a botsa gore a re itse sentle mabapi le tshwetso e e neng ya tsewa gore kana *treatment plant* e ya Mmamashia ya go phatlalatsa metsi, a re itse sentle gore go ne go tshwanetse gore metse e e mabapi le dinoka e ungwelwe ke go gokelwa gore batho bao ba kgone go bona metsi sentle mo metseng ya bone. Ke bo ke supa ke re lephata le a itse ka maakanya a a ntseng jalo mme ga le a dira sepe ka gore thulaganyo e e ne ya nna kang e e buiwang fela mme ya se ka ya tsenngwa mo *plan* e ya Transitional National Development Plan (TNDP). A bo go raya gore e buiwa fela jalo e sa tsene mo togamaanong e. E re le ntswa e builwe jalo, go dirilwe thulaganyo ya gore mo NDP 12, go tsenngwe e le nngwe ya *projects* tse Bakgatla *proposed* gore *be funded*, di bo di diragale.

Mopalamente o ne a botsa gore jaanong go ya go simololwa leng go ba gokelela go bona gore le bone

ba nwa metsi sentle *Mr Speaker*? Go ya go simololwa fa go sena go nna go amogelwa *proposals* tsa bone tse di mo NDP 12, tse nna le Mopalamente re santseng re mekamekana le diemo tsa teng.

Mr Speaker, o boa gape a botsa gore *project* fela mme fa motho a re botsa sentlesentle, re ka mo raya re re ke kgwedi efe? Ke boa fela gape ke re kgwedi e e tlaa bonalang ke fela fa Lenaneo la Ditogamaano la Ditlhabololo le emelela mo Kgaolong ya Kgatleng le bone ba tsentswe mo teng, *project* ya bone e amogetswe gore ke yone nako eo. Re na le one maikaelelo ao. Ke a leboga.

MR PULE: *Supplementary*. Tota ke ne ke sa ikaelela go dira *supplementary Mr Speaker*. Ke gakgamatswa ke Tona, ga ke itse gore a Tona a re Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) e ya go tshwara diphuthego tse pedi kwa motseng wa Mmathubudukwane. Ba bolelela *leadership* ya motse oo gore re lebeletse seemo sa metsi sa noka mo kgaolong ka fa se ntseng ka teng, se ke sa itseng gore a Tona o a se itse gore gompiano jaana re mo mathateng a metsi a a seyong. E bile fa gongwe fa a tla, a tla a le masetlha ka gore re santse re tshelwa metsi go tswa kwa Afrika Borwa kwa letamong la Molatedi. Jaanong a Tona a re ke dumalane le ene gore *project* e ke e e santseng e ka kannngwa gore e ya go tsenngwa mo *the extended TNDP*? Ke itse gore WUC e tsile kwa ba re bolelela gore *this is an emergency situation* e e batlang *immediate attention*. A wa re ke boele kwa Bakgatlang ke ye go ba raya ke re ba Water Utilities ba ne ba sa bue nnete? Ke ema fela ke le kalo.

MR MOTSAMAI: *Mr Speaker*, gongwe fa Tona a ka gakologelwa, nna le ene tota re tshwanetse ra atlaatla kgang e ka TNDP. Mapalamente ba ne ba le foo *plans* tse fa re ntse re lekodisiwa ka tsone. Le dikomiti tsa rona re dumalana sentlesentle. Kana ke rona ba gape fa o bona re lekodisiwa jaana, go a bo go tewa gore re beye morafe mo tseleng. Gore ke ka re a ye go raya morafe a re Water Utilities e ne e sa bue nnete, e tlaabo e nna e kete ke tsholola Water Utilities, le ene e kete ke a mo tsholola. Go raya gore ke tle ke bitse Mopalamente ka gore o ne a bile diwa *plan*, re ye go nna fa fatshe le ba Water Utilities ke botse gore mme jaanong fa go lebega o kare karabo Mopalamente ga a e itumelele mme le ne le le mmogo mo *meeting* wa *consultation*, go tsalwa ke eng, gore re kgone go siela Bakgatla metsi. Ke a lemoga tota e bile ke a tlhologanya ka gore e bile maloba ke ne ke le kwa kgaolong ya gagwe, o sego, ka ya go baya lenao teng ba bua ka kgang ya metsi, ba lela ka one. Le

fa metsi a ne a seyo, ke dule kwa Bakgatla ba itumetse gore sengwe se tlaa dirwa *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Arafat Kitso Khan is attending Pan African Parliament (PAP). *O e tseelwa ke mang?*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Ke tlaa mo e tseela *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Bagaisamang o tlaa mo e tseela.

LABOUR OFFICE

MR K. K. KAPINGA (OKAVANGO WEST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to confirm:

- (i) whether or not it is true that the labour office which was promised to be set up in Shakawe is now to be set up in Gumare merely because Gumare is the district headquarters;
- (ii) whether it is immutable policy that district or regional offices can only be located in the district headquarters; and
- (iii) whether consideration cannot be given to other factors such as concentration of businesses, population and accessibility of the office to the majority of the population to be served.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE): *Thank you Mr Speaker. Happy birthday and thank you for the cake. Motlotlegi Kapinga, this is a very good question sir. Ke batla go e araba jaana, e bile ke e arabela batlhophi ba kwa Shakawe; re ya go aga ofisi ya labour mo budget e e tlang ya 2025/2026. Gompiano ka 2024/2025 go dirwa ya kwa Gumare. Ga re a dira ka lepe letlhoo, go ne go dirwa fela go lebeletse dipalo le gore batho ba kae. Le nngwe jaaka e tshwana le population jaana, population ya Shakawe le Gumare they are almost the same ka gore Shakawe is about 10 000, Gumare is about 11 000, but go ne go lebeletse centre gore go tswa kwa Maun re ka tsamaya jang. Ke batla go go tlhomamisetsa gore Shakawe e ya go dirwa ka 2025/2026. Ke a leboga.*

MR KAPINGA: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Honourable Minister* ka tsholofetso ya gago ya 2025/2026, le fa e le gore jaanong e lebega e kare ke *postponement from what we were promised*. Ke a leboga gore o bo o e baya *on record*.

In the meantime, can you assure batho ba Shakawe gore you will make sure gore your District Labour Office e



etela babereki ba Kgaolo ya Shakawe, ya Okavango West kgapetsakgapetsa ka gore batho ditshwanelo tsa bone di a gatakiwa *Mr Speaker*? Bahiri ba itse gore ofisi ya *Labour* e kgakala e kwa Maun, jaanong go itirelwa go rata fela. Jaanong a o ka tlhomamisetsa batho ba Shakawe gore a badiri ba gago ba ba kwa Maun ba tlaa etela Kgaolo ya Okavango West kgapetsakgapetsa le gone ga kae mo ngwageng fa o lebile?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: *Thank you very much Mr Speaker.* Ke batla go go tlhomamisetsa rraetsho, go nne fela mo mokwalong gore ke ya go dira gore re tsamaele kwa Kgaolong e ya Shakawe kgapetsakgapetsa. Ke setse ke na le dingongorego tse di tsileng tsa batho ka fa ba sa tseweng sentle ke bangwe bahiri, bogolo jang jaaka e bile o itse gore kana lefelo le le kwa bontsi ke batho ba ba dirang le bojanala. Ke setse ke amogetse dingongorego di le dintsi thata tsa gore batho kwa ga ba tsewe sentle. Ba bangwe e bile ba tsile ba na le dintho, motho a lomilwe fela ke noga ba bo ba gana go mo duela. Ga ke batle gore ke go reye ke re ga kana mo ngwageng, mme ke ya go tsamaya thata kgapetsakgapetsa go fitlhelela seemo se nna botoka. Ke a leboga.

STATE OF ROADS IN THE NGAMI CONSTITUENCY

MR P. AARON (NGAMI): asked the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure:

- (i) to state the number of accidents that occurred on the A3 (Sehithwa-Shakawe) due to the bad state of the road in the past 20 years and to further state the number of fatalities and injured persons from those accidents;
- (ii) if he is aware of the state of the road from Nokaneng to Shakawe and the sub-standard work currently being carried out on it and also that its condition cannot be addressed through refurbishment;
- (iii) to give an update of the progress of the road and the expected dates of completion stating the reasons that led to the delay;
- (iv) if he has criteria for construction and rehabilitation of the roads infrastructure and if there are no criteria, does the ministry consider it necessary so that road infrastructure is prioritised; and
- (v) does the ministry has plans to grade and maintain major access roads and border roads in the Ngami Constituency that are not tarred, that is roads to

Habu, Tubu, Dhanega, Qangwa/Xaixai and Dhobe international border.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR ATAMELANG): *Mr Speaker, I think* ba mo iteile tsebe, re ne re dumalane *just now.*

MR AARON: *Through you Mr Speaker,* gone o bua nnete. Kana fa le ka ela tlhoko, potso e gongwe re tsaya gore e boelela bo gabedi, gararo, bo gane mme kgangkgolo ke gore *ministry* o kopile gore o ye go lebelela seemo sa tsela e. Ka jalo, re dumalane *to later date it,* mme e bile re tsamaya mmogo gakere?

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR AARON: Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Le tlaa e buisanya *Honourable Aaron.*

Later Date.

MAHLAKU CLINIC

MS H. P. MANYENENG (MMOPANE-METSIMOTLHABE): asked the Minister of Health if he is aware that Mahlaku Clinic donated by the Zion Christian Church (ZCC) is serving a large population from Mmopane, Metsimotlhabe including the catchment areas and surroundings and therefore needs the following:

- (i) maternity wing;
- (ii) eye and dental wings together with specialists;
- (iii) for the clinic to operate 24 hours;
- (iv) a fully equipped ambulance; and
- (v) staff houses.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MODISE): Thank you very much Mr Speaker, thank you Deputy Speaker for the question.

- (i) Mr Speaker, the ministry desires to establish a maternity wing in the eastern area of the Mogoditshane Constituency. However, we are currently facing funding challenges for construction and for the human resources needed to operate it. Patients requiring maternity services are presently referred to Lesirane Clinic within the catchment area.



- (ii) Mr Speaker, we currently lack resources to establish an eye or dental wing at the clinic. My ministry is exploring options for dental outreach services, which will depend on resources such as dental chair and a compressor. Regarding specialists, it is essential that clinics specialists provide primary healthcare. Currently, a family physician assigned to the Greater Mogoditshane area is stationed at Nkoyaphiri Clinic. The ministry will continue to optimise staffing to enhance access to specialist services when feasible.
- (iii) Mr Speaker, we acknowledge that the growing population around Mahlaku Clinic merits a 24-hour facility. Unfortunately, human resource limitations hinder this capability. Patients needing after-hour services are currently accommodated at Nkoyaphiri Clinic, which is nearby.
- (iv) Mr Speaker, we concur that an ambulance at the clinic is necessary. However, resources are insufficient for every clinic to have its own ambulance. The available ambulance is shared among clinics in the catchment areas, that being Mmopane and Metsimotlhabe. The clinic will be prioritised for an ambulance when further resources are obtained.
- (v) Mr Speaker, ensuring employee welfare, including accommodation is a priority for the ministry. Land is available behind the clinic for staff housing and construction is pending as we prepare the site. A part of the Transitional National Development Plan 2023-2025, the Ministry of Health is constructing six staff houses for Mahlaku-Lekganyane Clinic, despite the absence of maternity ward.

Mr Speaker, as you can see, there is a desire and a will to do better, to do more but a theme that arises in all our answers is that resources are limiting these advances. So, I urge Honourable Members to judge us by our attitudes once the economy improves if we will move in that direction. Thank you.

MS MANYENENG: *Supplementary.* Tanki Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke a utlwa *Honourable Minister*, but ga ke tseye gore selo se se tshwanang le botsogo, se tshwanetse gore se bo se bewa kwa morago. Ke gore fa o aga *staff houses* pele ga o oketsa madirelo a a tshwanang le *maternity*, ke bona o kare re fapaantse *priorities*. Kgaolo ele *Mr Minister*, I think gongwe ke tle ke go tseye re e etele o ye go bona

gore e kana ka eng. Batho ba dikgaolo tsele, go raya gore gotlhegotlhe fela gore ba bone thuso, ke fa ba ile kwa Nkoyaphiri, nako nngwe e bile *they end up* ba ya Block 9. Jaanong ga gona *the resources* kwa bathong ba ba nnang kwa masimo, golo kwa go na le *areas* tsa masimo tse e leng gore tota ga di a siamela go tsamaya ga gore motho a bo a le mo ditlhabing a bo a ya kgakala. Ke gore yone tsela ya teng ka bo yone fela, e ya go go tsenya mo ditlhabing, o belegela mo tseleng o ise o bo o goroge. So, tota fela ke ne ke kopa gore gongwe a re dumalane gore o ye go bona, o tle o bone gore bokete jwa dikokelo tse ke di buang go ntse jang tota. Gongwe e tlaa re fa ke kopa gore bogolo dirang *wing-nyana* fela ya fa go belegelwang teng, gongwe le ka tlhologanya. Ke kopa gore le *prioritise* gona le go aga matlo. Tanki.

DR MODISE: Ke a leboga motlotlegi, ke tlaa tla le wena, ga gona le fa e le mathata. *I am totally amenable to that. Thank you very much.*

TARRING OF ROADS IN KANYE EAST

MR P. M. MOSANANA (KANYE EAST): asked the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to update this Honourable House on the tarring of the following roads:

- (i) Tshweneyagae to Dipotsana;
- (ii) Dipotsana to Diabo; and
- (iii) Diabo to Gasegwagwa.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR ATAMELANG): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Tsela ya Tshweneyagae-Dipotsana, Dipotsana to Diabo le Diabo to Gasegwagwa, Puso ga e na maikaelelo a go di tshela sekontere gompieno. *However*, ka lenaneo la *access road*, tsela ya Kanye-Mmathethe ya B202 e na le tsela e e yang kwa Diabo. Tsela e ke yone e e leng gore *it has been planned for the next financial year*, mme e setse e le mo *design stage*. *Design* ya teng e tlaa dirwa fa madi a letla.

Ke batla go itsese Ntlo e gore *ministry* o tswelutse ka *to maintain* ditsela by *grading*. *The ministry continues to maintain the road by dry grading the road from Tshweneyagae to Gasegwagwa, e bile it was graded ka November 2024.* Ke a leboga *sir*:

MR MOSANANA: *Supplementary.* Ke a go utlwa *Minister*. Kana *grading* e o buang ka yone, a o raya yone e go a bong go gogiwa letlhaku kana go bofeletswe *some tyres* kwa morago mo terekereng e le gone fa gotwe go dirwa *grading*? *I thank you.*



MR SPEAKER: A o raya gone *Honourable* Atamelang?

MR ATAMELANG: ...*(Laughter!)*... *I do not know that kind of grading technique sir, ke tlaabo ke ikgolega fa ke re ke a itse.*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa, o boditse.* Honourable Members, I will go to Question 9 and invoke Standing Order 38.4 so that this answer is given to Honourable Kamal Jacobs. *Le a e bona gakere gore e telele jang?*

BOTSWANA'S BEEF QUOTA TO EU

MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE): asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state the reasons why Botswana has failed to meet its quota of beef exports to the European Union (EU) since inception; and to further state:

- (i) when Botswana started exporting to the EU market and what factors have contributed to a shortfall in meeting the EU beef export quota allocated to Botswana;
- (ii) what measures have been implemented to address this shortfall and challenges, particularly those challenges related to compliance with EU standards, production capacity and trade negotiations;
- (iii) how the Government is engaging with stakeholders, including farmers and exporters, to ensure maximisation of the benefits of Botswana's trade agreements with the EU;
- (iv) when the Government and/ or the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) plans to liberalise the beef export market and lift restrictions to allow for other players;
- (v) why the BMC remains a loss making entity and how much beef cartons remain inside holding stores unmarketed and unsold;
- (vi) if there are any plans to diversify export markets or invest in value-added beef value chain production to reduce reliance on a single market;
- (vii) which other markets have been identified and explored and whether the BMC has started exporting to any other markets and which are those;
- (viii) why cattle are being downgraded at BMC to undercut customers; and

(ix) why the main boiler chimney in Lobatse has been left cut and open at the top, how long this has been going on as well as the Occupational Health and Safety hazards concomitant with this.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, I should have alerted you to an addendum for the purpose of three items. I understand that the Minister for State President has a paper to table.

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT (MR MOHWASA): Mr Speaker, *fa re kopane* this morning *mo* General Assembly, *ke ne ka supa gore* we will table tomorrow, *ke bona e le gore e fa letsatsi jeno.*

MR SPEAKER: That is fine Honourable Member. I understand that the Minister of Environment and Tourism has a statement to make. Honourable Minister Mmolotsi.

STATEMENT

OPENING OF CHOBE NATIONAL PARK SEDUDU-NGOMA TRANSIT ROUTE 24 HOURS

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM (MR MMOLOTSI): Thank you very much Mr Speaker and happy birthday. Mr Speaker, thank you for according me an opportunity to address this Honourable House on the decision taken by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism after a Kgotla meeting we addressed in Kasane on the 7th of January, 2025. Mr Speaker, the Sedudu-Ngoma transit route traversing the Chobe National Park has been restrictive on the public movement between Chobe West and Chobe East. Entry into Chobe National Park is regulated by the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act of 1992 and its associated National Parks and Game Reserves Regulations of 2000 that provides for entry and exit times into National Parks and Game Reserves.

Mr Speaker, currently the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act and its Regulations states that from 1st April to 30th September, the park opens at 0600 hours and closes at 1830 hours. From 1st October to 31st March, the park opens at 0530 hours and closes at 1900 hours. Notwithstanding all these restrictions, Mr Speaker, isolated cases of emergency have always been allowed access around the clock to and from the Chobe Enclave villages.

Mr Speaker, the House should appreciate the security and human and wildlife safety considerations that have



influenced the current position of operating hours of the route. As you may be aware, Chobe National Park is in close proximity to three international boundaries making it prone and susceptible to cross boundary wildlife related crimes. The proximity of the park to international boundaries made law enforcement a considerable challenge that needed operational space, particularly at night when poachers were most active to avoid accidents.

Further, Chobe National Park is very rich in biodiversity hosting the highest concentration of elephants and a significant number of other species such as buffalo, zebra, sable and roan antelopes amongst others. This makes the possibility of the collision with wildlife high at night, which is exacerbated by the fact that the animals move across the road to and from the grazing grounds and the water source at Chobe River.

The above notwithstanding Mr Speaker, after careful consideration of the pleas of the communities of Chobe in a Kgotla meeting we addressed on the 21st January 2025 in Kgaphamadi Ward, in Kasane, after extensive consultation, the ministry has taken a decision to open the Sedudu Ngoma transit route 24 hours effective 1st April 2025. It is imperative that we allow people to enjoy their freedom of movement as enshrined in the Constitution of Botswana. Mr Speaker, this is testament that as the new Government in the new Botswana, we are a human rights centric Government and consider the voices and pleas of Batswana to ensure they live their lives freely. This will ensure that Batswana residing in Chobe West participate actively and freely in the economy of our beloved country.

Mr Speaker, I do acknowledge the challenges that unrestricted movement along this route may cause, including increased resource needs. However, Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism will put in place measures that will facilitate free movement of people while minimising risks associated with this initiative. Some of the activities geared towards facilitating the initiative is concerted engagement with relevant stakeholders; conduct sensitisation campaigns and programmes for transit users on animal behaviors, wildlife interactions and safety protocols; improved road signage and increased patrols (day and night patrols) along the route.

Mr Speaker, in conclusion I want to reiterate our commitment as the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) to a human based approach to governance in the new Botswana.

...Silence...

MR MMOLOTSI: Ka bokhutshwanyane fela, *to summarise Mr Speaker*, ka Setswana ke ne ke re, mo letsatsi la gompieno bagaetsho, re ne re batla go itsise batho ba Kgaolo ya Chobe morago ga phuthego ya Kgotla e re neng ra e buisa kwa Chobe ka di 7 tsa ga *January* mo ngwageng ono. Kwa ba neng ba ikuela gore ba na le dingwaga tse dintsi ba ntse ba kopa Goromente gore ba se ka ba tswalelwa park mo maitseboeng ka lebaka la gore ba a sokola fa ba batla go tlolela kwa Kasane kana go boela kwa magaeng a bone. E ne ya re morago ga re sena go nna re tsenelela phuthego ya Kgotla e, ra tla go rerisana re le lephata le boeteledipele, mme kwa bofelong jwa dipuisanyo le di tshekatshoko tsa rona, ra tsaya tshwetso ya gore gongwe re tseye boikarabelo jwa gore re bulele batho ba kwa Chobe tsela e e tsenang mo *park* gore ba ba tswang mo Kasane ba ya ka kwa *side* e e ka kwa le ba ba tswang kwa *side* e e ka kwa ya metse ya bo Kachikau, Chobe ba kgone gore jaanong ba ka tsamaya nako e nngwe le e nngwe e ba batlang go tsamaya ka yone.

Re rile go dira jalo bagaetsho, re tlaa go simolola mo kgwedding ya *April* e tlhola letsatsi le le lengwefela, mme re a itse gore tshwetso e, ka gore ke tshwetso e ntsha, e tlaa batla gore re tswelelele ka go ruta batho ba kgaolo eo, gore mo masigong jaaka ba tlaabo ba tsamaya *in the park*, ba tshwanelwa ke gore ba ikele tlhoko ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Re dumela re le Puso e ntsha ya UDC gore go bothokwa gore dilelo tsa batho jaaka ba ne ba lela, re di reetse, morago ga re sena go nna re lebelela gore di ka baka eng le eng kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi, tshwetso e re e rerisantse, mme tshwetso e ya go bulela batho ba Chobe gore ba tseye boipuso, ba bone boipuso jwa bone, re ne ra e tsaya ka bongwefela jwa pelo re le Goromente. Ka mafoko a a kalo *Mr Speaker*, ke a go leboga. Akola kuku ya letsatsi la gompieno.

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

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members in terms of Standing Order 41.3, no debate may arise on the statement that has just been given by the Minister, but I have the discretion to allow short questions to be put to the Minister, for the purpose of elucidating it. I am mindful that you are debating the Appropriation. So, each statement would be given 30 minutes... (Interruptions)... Each statement by the two Ministers, *gakere* we have two statements, each shall be given 30 minutes. *Le lebelele nako*, I will allow short questions for the purpose of elucidating the statement.



MR DISHO: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Minister*. *It is not a question as such*. Ke go leboga *Honourable* Mmolotsi gore a bo a reeditse Mopalamente wa Chobe, ka potso e re e boditseng gone fa, re boletsa batho ba Chobe. *I remember I was the one who asked the question for him*, *Honourable* Mapulanga ka a ne a seyo. Ke go go leboga fela Tona gore a bo o tsero tshwetso eo, *not only* gore o buisitse phuthego kwa Kgaphamadi, re go leboge jalo Tona gore le kwa pele o reeditse Mapalamente a kganetso o re thuse mo go tse tsotlhe tse re di kopang mo go wena. Ke a leboga.

MR KEKGONEGILE: Tanki *Mr Speaker*. Tona, gone mme fa o lebile kwa ntle ga go tsamaya fela ga batho, go tlolela *side* e nngwe go ya go felela kwa bo Kachikau, Satau, Parakarungu le go tswa kwa ba ya go felela kwa Kasane mo masigong mo go eng, *as much as* go lebogiwa, gone mme fa o bona ke eng go ntse go sa nna jalo? Ke eng lona le bone go le botlhokwa gore go nne jalo? *Can you attach any economic value to it?*

Mo gongwe gape, re leboga *Honourable* Mapulanga gore a bo a e kgoromeditse. Kana setšhaba se tshwenngwa ke diphologolo thata, fa go buiwa gotwe *Minister* o ntsha *statement*, ba solofela gore gongwe o bua ka ditlou, dituelo tse di botoka tsa tshenyo ya ditlou e bile o bua ka go tsenya lesedi mo *Minister* wa *Transport* gore tsela ya Shorobe-Kachikau le yone e nne teng mo *plans*. Gone mme tsa *compensation* le tshenyo ya diphologolo, setšhaba se solofele leng gore tsone o tlaabo o di feditse, o tsisa tharabololo fa pele ga bone? Tanki.

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke re gongwe bakaulengwe le se ka la leka go ntsha boitumelo jwa batho ba Chobe la bo tswakanyatswakanya ka dikgang tse o kareng di ka tloga tsa senya tshiamo e Goromente a e dirileng. Ke tlhalositse gore, e ne ya re ka 1st *January* 2024, ka ya kwa Chobe ka ya go buisa phuthego ka dikgang di sele. Mme ya re ke le koo, batsadi ba kwa Chobe ba nkopa, e bile ba mpolelela gore, kana o kare jaanong ga ba mo pusong ya batho ka batho ka gore ba kganelwa le mesepele. Ke ne ka re go reetsa dilelo tsa bone tse di kanakana, ka boela mo lephateng ka tla go kopana le bakaulengwe, ka rerisana le mongwe le mongwe, ka rerisa Tautona, ka rerisa Khuduthamaga ya ga Goromente, ra dumalana ka bongwefela jwa pelo re sena go nna re sekaseka sengwe gore, ka boammaaruri ka re Goromente yo o itebagantseng le ditshwanelo tsa batho, ga go a siamela batho gore *movement* wa bone o bo o ka emisiwa. Jaanong ra tsaya tshwetso ya gore re ba bulele. Jaanong ke kopa gore le itumele le batho ba Chobe, le se ka la tswakanya dikgang tse tse o kareng

di tlaa ba senyetsa boitumelo, le ntse le re, semangmang o ne a boditse a re, semangmang o boditse a re. *I am addressing concerns* tsa botsadi jwa Chobe ka fa ba neng ba nkopa ka teng.

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

MR MMOLOTSI: Kgang ya gore re reitse Mapalamente ba *opposition*; ke sone se ke tlholang ke se le kopa, gore a re buisaneng, re nne re gakololaneng. Bakaulengwe fa le re gakolola tse le re di gakololang, re tlaa reetsa, ga re ka ke ra gana dikgakololo tsa lona. Ke sone se e a reng fa le re galefelela, ke bo ke gakgamala, ka ke le solofeditse gore re ya go dirisana mmogo ka lebaka la gore re ntse re le ka koo mmogo, e bile re itse gore matshwenyego a batho a ntse jang. Re sokotse mmogo, ee, jaanong re tlaa nna re reetsana le lona jaaka le tlaabo le tla ka dikgang bakaulengwe, re buse mmogo.

Motlotlegi Kekgonegile o ne o mpotsa gore ke eng mo nakong e yotlhe go ne go ntse go sa diragale gore batho ba bulelwe gore ba tsamaye, ba nne le *free movement* 24 *hours*. Le nna ke ne ka gakgamala, fa re ntse re rerisana re ne ra ipotsa gore kante mme go ntse go le thata eng se se kalokalo se se neng se dira gore go nne bokete gore batho ba Chobe ba gololwe? Ke sone se o bonang go tsere lebaka le le khutshwanyane gore re ba golole, ka gore e rile fa re sekaseka, ga re a bona sepe se se neng se tshwanelwa ke gore batho ba tseelwe boipuso dingwaga tse di kanakana. Mme o ne o bua gore *I should attach economic value to this decision*, gongwe ke tlhalose fela gore, fa go na le *free movement*, *obviously* kana go raya gore batho fa ba tlolela ka kwa le ka kwa, sengwe le sengwe se ba eletsang go se dira *whether social or economic*, ba tlaa kgona go se dira ka nako nngwe le nngwe e ba eletsang go se dira.

Jaanong ke tsaya gore ya ga *Honourable* Kekgonegile ya bofelo e a neng a bua ka ditsela le bo *compensation*, eo e ne e le kgang e ntšha. E tota ke reng gongwe e tshwarwe, mo nakong ya gompiano itumelele gore Goromente o mosha o buletse batho ba Chobe National Park gore ba kgone go tsamaya bosigo le motshegare. Re se ka ra e tswakanya ka gore jaanong o tlaa tloga o ba senyeletsa boitumelo jo bo kanakana jo ba mo go jone. O bo o tla o tla ka potso jaanong ya *compensations*, le yone ke tlaa go e arabela ka manontlhotlho le botswerere ka gore go na le sengwe se re se dirang ka kgang e. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Supplementary.



MR SPEAKER: *E-e! re wetse ka statement se.* I understand that the Minister for State President, Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa has a statement to make.

STATEMENT

THE CURRENT FLOODING SITUATION IN BOTSWANA

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT (MR MOHWASA): Thank you Mr Speaker and good afternoon. Happy birthday!

Mr Speaker, we saw it befitting to brief this august House about the ongoing rainfall and related flood related impacts that have affected many Batswana in different constituencies.

I must hasten to point out that Government ministries and departments will continue to provide the nation with updates regarding all areas of concern.

Mr Speaker, as we are all aware, the country has received a considerably high amount of rainfall over the past couple of days which resulted in flooding in some areas. The most affected areas include Francistown, Ghanzi, Central, Kweneng, Kgatleng, the South-East districts, lately Kuke in Gantsi District and Martin's Drift.

Rainfall of 50 millimeters (mm) to 200 mm and more such as in the Kgalagadi has been recorded in various parts of the country and is still expected for the next few days in some areas in Chobe and Ngami which might result in prolonged flooding. In other parts of the country, the rainfall is expected, though at lower rates until 28th February 2025.

We assure Honourable Members of Parliament (MPs) and Batswana at large that while naturally the nation will suffer loss of property due to such a natural disaster, priority for Government is to preserve lives of our people. To this end, we have set up a National Emergency Operations Centre spearheaded by the Commissioner of Police, Ms Dianah Marathe, deputised by the Commander of Botswana Defence Force, to ensure that we mobilise and coordinate the necessary manpower and other resources required to intervene in this situation.

Mr Speaker, below the National Emergency Operations Centre, is the National Technical Coordination Team, Other members are Permanent Secretaries with various

technical experts across the whole of Government and the Botswana Red Cross Society.

At regional level, there is the Regional Emergency Response teams led by the District Commissioners.

While conditions have improved significantly, we must stress that we are not yet out of the woods. Areas such as Mochudi, parts of the Kgatleng District and Tlokweng are still experiencing flooding, and it is crucial that we keep them under the radar until the situation improves.

Mr Speaker and Honourable MPs, dam water levels across the country are receding but flooding remains a concern. The Gaborone Dam continues to overflow into Notwane River. While there has been an overflow decline, which provided some form of relief to areas downstream of the dam, the situation remains critical.

Additionally, Molatedi Dam in South Africa which has been overflowing since Thursday, 20th February 2025, and reaching a peak level of 134 per cent has resulted in significant inflows into the Madikwe River, a tributary of the Limpopo River. The Notwane River converges with the Limpopo River just downstream of Ramotlabaki village, and recent assessments indicate that floodplains near the confluence are already affected.

The reduced flow of the Notwane River, caused by the backwater effects from the Limpopo River, coupled with excessive flows from its tributaries-such as Metsimothabe and Thagale rivers, has exacerbated flooding in areas along the Notwane River.

Mr Speaker, we are pleased to inform you that most roads throughout the country are now open. However, it is important to acknowledge that many of these roads are in a poor condition due to the heavy rains. I, therefore, urge Honourable Members to continue engaging and cautioning their respective constituents to exercise care at all times and where possible minimise traveling.

After a thorough assessment of the situation, we are happy to announce that schools will reopen tomorrow, February 25th 2025.

Another positive note is that our critical infrastructure remains stable, with both electricity and water supply restored. Our 24-hour clinics, primary hospitals and referral hospitals are operational and accessible to all, although there may be occasional interruptions in service provision.



Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, Government recognises the importance of providing psychosocial support to those affected, and arrangements have been made through the offices of the District Commissioners to ensure these services are available.

Mr Speaker, while the risk level has generally reduced, we regret to inform this House that we have lost one more person yesterday evening, bringing the total number of fatalities to date to 9. So far, the number of people evacuated has increased to 1806 from 1749 reported yesterday. From this number, 1192 have returned back home as of today and 618 are still at evacuation centres. Total number of those affected by the floods stands at 5451, and amongst them 885 are children. This is an increase from 705 reported yesterday.

Mr Speaker, the Government is fully committed to rehabilitating the damaged infrastructure, including hospitals, bridges and roads, to ensure swift restoration of services. Technical teams across various ministries are actively assessing the extent of the flood damage, and are quantifying the necessary resources to facilitate recovery in the short, medium, and long term.

Mr Speaker and Honourable Members of the House, I would like to on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Botswana take this moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to opposition parties, faith-based organisations, security forces, Government employees as well as individual citizens and residents for their invaluable support and solidarity during this challenging time. Their efforts have made a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need. Together we will prevail, together we will save this nation.

Mr Speaker, it will be a great omission if I do not thank the capable political leadership led by President, Advocate Duma Gideon Boko for the intervention, stewardship and support he continues to provide in this difficult time. This is what true leadership is all about. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, obviously there would be interest generated from the Minister's statement. As a result, I will allow short questions for the purpose of elucidating the statement.

DR DOW: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke botse Tona ka Bakgatla ba reeditse, gore fa o re dikole di a bulwa kamoso, a o raya le tsa Lentswe Junior le sa Isang

Primary ka tsone gongwe e bile di mo metsing fa re bua jaana go le diretse? A gape o raya le tsa Phaphane Primary le Seingwaeng Primary kwa batho ba sietseng teng? Kana go tlaa tla molaetsa o o *specific to* dikgaolo, ka gore ga di tshwane? Ke tlhatswe kgang e di simologa, e se ka ya re kamoso bana ba ya sekoleng ba fitlhela e le gore mme dikole ga di ise di bulwe. Ke a leboga Tona.

MR SPEAKER: Let me just find out from the Minister, would you like to take a few or *o batla go di araba jaaka di ntse di tsena ka bongwe?*

MR MOHWASA: Let me take a few Mr Speaker.

MR SALESHANDO: Ke a go leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke leboge le Tona ka *statement* se a se dirileng. Kgang e e ne e tshwentse mongwe le mongwe jaaka o bolela, mme re gomotse malwapa a ba ba latlhegetsweng ke matshele. Re tšhaba e nnyennyane, go swelwa ke batho ba robabongwe mo nakong e khutshwane, ga se selo se se ka amogelesegang motlhofo.

Ke na le dipotso dingwe Tona, mo Sekgoeng ba a tle ba re *behind every dark cloud there is a silver lining. The silver lining* ke tsaya gore e ka tswa e le gore a re ithutile sengwe. A go na le sengwe se re tlhokafalang gore re se fetole, ka go ipaakanyetsa dibetso tsa tlhologo? Ke lebile se gore re ne re fiwa dipego ke bo maitseanape gore go tla pula ya bokete jo bo fa godimo. Noka e tshwana le ya Segoditshane, re a itse gore le fa pula e se e e kalo, go nna le mathata, mme ga re a bona maiteko ape a go leka go dira dithulaganyo tsa go epa kana go ntsha mmu gore metsi a kgone go feta mo nakong e khutshwane.

Sa bobedi, ga se gantsi Gaborone Dam e penologa (*overflow*), *I think* ke gakologelwa *only two other incidents*. O fitlhela ke gagamadiwa ke gore, re tlaabo re bolelelwa gore *90 per cent full, 96 per cent full*, le boneng koo. A gona sepe se se ka dirwang gore pele ga tamo e tlala. go fokotswe bokete jwa metsi mo tamong, go laola bokete jwa metsi a a tlaabong a fetela kwa mafelong a tshwana le Tlokweneng? E le *to manage* metsi a pele a goroga kwa, e ka re re nna fela re bo re tla re gagamala fa go nna le mathata.

We also know gore fa go ntse jaana, go ya go nna le mathata a gotweng *water borne diseases*, jaaka Cholera. Re dira eng go ipaakanyetsa seemo seo, re se ka ra tla ra fitlhela re latlhegetsweng ke matshele, re bo re re kana ke gore re ne ra tshoganyediwa ke Cholera. Re a itse gore e ya go diragala, re ya go dira eng go ipaakanyetsa seemo seo?

Ya bofelo ke gore, kana fa go ntse petso e e ntseng jaana, malwapa a mangwe a amegile ka bokete go feta a mangwe. Ba bangwe ba latlhegetswe ke dithoto di se kana ka sepe, mme re a itse gore bontsi Batswana ga re ise re tlwaele thulaganyo ya *insurances*. *If you have insured, natural disaster* go le gantsi o fitlhela e sa tsena mo teng. A go na le sepe se re ka se akanyang e le gore go tle go sekasekwe ba ba amegileng bokete go feta ba bangwe go nne le thuso nngwe e ba ka e fiwang, gona le gore o itebaganye fela le gore rona re batla go baakanya *infrastructure* ya ga Goramente. *Some families* o ka nna wa fitlhela mo go ba tsentse mo mathateng a dikoloto tse di seng kana ka sepe tse ba sa di ipaakanyetsang. Ke a leboga.

MR SEGOKGO: Ke a leboga. *Happy birthday Mr Speaker*. Ke tlaa gola ke lekana le wena nako nngwe. Ke tlhalose jalo gore re utlwa mafoko Tona, re go leboge ka fa le ntseng le tsiboga ka teng. *Challenge* e ke nang le yone ke ya *information flow, between* ba o tlhalosang gore *they are coordinating nationally* ba eteletswe ke *Commissioner*, le rona ba *local leadership* kana *on the ground*, fa gongwe *information flow* o fitlhela e le gore ga e tsamaye sentle. Re sokotse thata, ke sale ke ntse ke lemogile fa ke romela *in our group* ya rona ya Mapalamente ka *Monday*, re ne re sale re ntse re boleletswe gore go ka nna le seemo kwa pele. *In terms of resources*, re ne re sokola thata ka gore *resources* di ne di kgona gore di gorogwe *late*, gore re thuso batho.

Sa bobedi, le gore re buisana ka tsela e e ntseng jang re le mo *local leadership*, ka gore re tlhalosise gore *bridge* jwa *Village is cracked, and* maabane fa re santse re buisana gore re ka dira ka tsela e e ntseng jang, e bo *command* e tswa gotwe *bridge* jwa Maratadiba *road*, jo bo tswang fa *Village* bo tsena mo Tlokweneng... Re tlile go felela bo dira mathata fa e le gore ga gona *bridge engineers* ba ba yang *to assess bridge* jole *before* re ka dumalana gore bo ka felela bo bulwa. Fa o lebelela mo thoko ga jone fale, metsi a santse a le mantsi.

Sa boraro *Mr Speaker* ke gore, *resources* tse re buang ka tsone, re nnile le seemo se setona, go raya gore batho ba a gobala mo go yone tlhakatlhakano fa re ntse re leka go ba *evacuate*. Re sale re ntse re buile ka seemo se se kwa Mafitlhakgosi *Clinic*, ke gore le *bandage* fela ya *bandage* e pala, gore re tle re kgone go thusa batho re tle re kgone gore re ba beye fa go siameng teng.

Sa bofelo Tona, *how do we relate with our neighbouring countries in terms of* ditumalano tsa rona tsa Southern African Development Community (SADC), ka gore go

sale go itshupa ka Laboraro gore ba Molatedi Dam kwa South Africa, re sale re ntse re bona mo maranyaneng gore ba batla go bula *gates* tsa letamo la bone. Kana ba tshwanetse gore ba buisane le rona gore fa ba kgwa metsi ka kwa, rona re bo re itse gore re ipaakanya go le kana kang ka kwano. Fa o lebelela dipolotiki tsa ka kwa botlhaba jwa Africa, kwa Somalia le Sudan, dintwa tse ditonatonona ke tsa Nile River. Fa re sa ikele tlhoko, ba ba ka kwa fa ba kgwa metsi, kana go raya gore ba kgamisa rona metsi ka kwano.

Dikgang tse re tle re di tlhalose sentle Tona gore re ka di buisana ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ba se ka ba felela e le gore ba kgwela metsi ka kwano, re bo re felela re nna mo seemong se re mo go sone.

Tona, kwa bo Rwanda fa go lowa go na le *genocide*, jaaka Leader of the Opposition (LOO) a ne a bua gore *maybe we can just exploit and find these opportunities* re le mo dikgwetlhong tse, ba feletse ba kopanngwa ke *genocide*. A le ka se leke *to exploit this opportunity*, re bone gore mme gone re ka kopanya Batswana ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore ba kopane *behind this*. Re bo re itse gore re tlaabo re tshwaragane go bona gore *infrastructure* ya rona e ya go nna botoka ka tsela e e ntseng jang go ya kwa pele. Re go leboge le Matona otlhe a a ntseng a gasame lefatshe lotlhe ka bophara. Ke tlile go nwanwaela, rona kwa Tlokweneng re santse re ntse re fudusa batho, re ntsha dikoloi. Batho ba bangwe ba ntse ba *stuck* gone kwa. Ke tlile go nwanwaela kgantele ka bo 4:00 *p.m.* *Mr Speaker*, ka gore seemo se santse se le maswe kwa Tlokweneng.

MR MOROLONG: Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke go eleeletse letsatsi le le ntle la matsalo.

Re a utlwa Motlotlegi Tona ka pegu e o e re bayang pele. Lephata la gago ke le leboge gore le bo le na le seabe mo go thuseng ka tsotlhe; *information* le ka dithuso. Tota le ntse le theogetse rra, go tsena fela kwa baneng ba gago kwa tlase kwa *districts* mabapi le seemo. Re a leboga, re a bona, re bone ka matlho.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke kope fa gore Motlotlegi Tona a tlhomamise gore dithuso tsotlhe tse di gorogang kwa dikhanseleng mabapi le tshenyoye e ya merwalela, di goroga kwa bathong ba ba matshwanedi. Re se ka ra tla fa ra tla go arabela dikgang tse di tshwanang le tsa COVID-19, tse e leng gore dithuso ga di a goroga kwa tota di neng di tshwanelwa ke gore di gorogwe teng. Golo foo go tlhokana le leitlho



le le ntšhotšho. Ke motlotlo gore kwa ke tswang teng, Molaodi o eme ka dinao thata go thiba diphatlha tsofhe tse di ka diragalelang diemo tse di tshwanang le tse. Ke bule *Minister* matlho fela gore kgang e, e se ka ya re kamoso re bo re tlhasetswe ke banna ba ba ka kwa. Le nna ga ke eletse gore re iphitlhele e le gore ga re a tlhola re bua ka dikgang tsa ditlhabololo, re bua ka dikgang tsa dithuso gore di tsene ka ga re itse. Golo foo go botlhokwa gore re go ele tlhoko thata Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

Jaaka re itse gore batho ba ntse ba tshabetse kwa masikeng le kwa dikoleng, kwa ga rona ba kwa dikoleng le gompieno. E bile ke a tshoga fa *Minister* a re dikole di a bulwa kamoso, mme a sa fe gore mo mafelong mangwe a a tshwanang le Mochudi, go tlaa nama go eme go sa bulwa dikole kana dikole dingwe tsa Mochudi, sengwenyana sa mofuta oo. Ke tlhologanya gore go santse go na le batho ba ba mo dikoleng gompieno kwa Mochudi. Ke mmotsa gore a go babalesegile le kwa malwapeng? A a babalesegile, o lebeletse bokete jwa ka fa morwalela o neng o ntse ka teng? O fitlhela e le gore matlo a mantsintsi a mo gare ga bodiba jwa metsi. A matlo a a babalesegile gore batho ba ka nna mo go one? Ke wele fela ka go rialo Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke a leboga.

MR MOHWASA: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke simolole ka go tlhalosa kgang e e neng Motlotlegi Dow a e botsa ya go bulwa ga dikole. Bagaetsho, se se teng ke gore, Puso e tsere tshwetso ya gore dikole di bulwe tsofhe ka kgakololo e e tswang mo bodireding le batho ba ba lebaganyeng le diemo. Bagaetsho, ga e ka ke ya re re fitlhela sekole se le mo seemong se se ka keng sa bulwa, se bo se ka bulwa. Ba ba mo dikgaolong ba tlaa lebelela seemo, ba bo ba ka bona gore a mme ke fa bana ba ka tsenelang teng. Ba bangwe ba ne ba bua gore *ceilings* di ole, ba bangwe ba bua gore go na le leswe le le kopaneng le metsi, le bo le tsena mo *classrooms*. Ga se diemo tse di ka letlelelwang gore bana ba ka tsena mo go tsone. Go nna thata gore e re seemo se boela mannong, re bo re tlogela bana ba sa ithute.

Motlotlegi Saleshando o ne a botsa gore a re ithutile sengwe. Rraetsho, sengwe se re se ithutileng, se se supafalang ke gore gongwe re ka bo re dirile botoka. Ga ke itse gore a go na le mongwe yo o kileng a bona letamo la Molatedi le tletse gone fa. Gaborone Dam e a tle e tlale; 30 *per cent* yo o fetileng 100 yo le mmonang, ke ene fa Molatedi re fitlhelang a ntse a tsamaya teng. Le le padileng ke la ga Lucas la Thune le le santseng le

gana go tlala *but* matamo otlhe a ne a tletse; bo Shashe, kae le kae, re a itse gore a a tlala. Thune e ne e le lantlha e tsamaya gone koo. Pula e re neng re e bone le fa gotwe e tla e le ntsi, re ne re sa solofele gore e ka tla ka bokete jo bo kanakana. Ka bokhutshwane, ke tsaya gore go re fa sebaka sa gore re ithulaganye. Fa re ntse re tsaya dikgang, re tshwanetse re tle re dire ditlhotlhomiso, re bone gore a mme re ka bo re sa ipaakanya botoka le gore re ya kwa pele fa diemo di ntse jaana, re ka dira jang. Jaaka o ne o bua ka seemo sa Segoditshane, ke tsaya gore ke tsone dilo tse re tlaa nnang re di lebelela tseo.

E nngwe ke kgang ya ba malwapa a a amegileng, o ne o botsa gore golo fale re tlaa ba thusa jang. Ke tsaya gore re na le madi a *disaster* a e leng gore le fa a le kwa tlase, le bone ba ba tlhokafaletsweng go tshwanetse go bonwe gore go ka thusiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

E nngwe e e neng e buiwa ke Motlotlegi Segokgo e ne e le ya go tlhoka *communication between* komiti e e *national* le ya *districts*. Ke gakolole bagaetsho gore le rona re le boeteledipele ka maiteko e re neng re a dira, fa gongwe re nne re leka gore ba re ba fileng maikarabelo a go dira, re ba fe phatlha ya go dira. Re tseye dikgakololo mo go bone *because when you have the experts* ba ba rutilweng tiro, le rona re le baeteledipele ba sepolotiki fa gongwe re ka felela e kete re kgopagopetsana le dithulaganyo tse ba ka tswang ba di dirile. Ke tsaya gore Rre Segokgo ke mongwe wa batho ba ba neng ba le *active* mo go lekeng go thusa batho ba dikgaolo tsa bone. Go ne go supafala ka gore kgaolo ya gagwe, ke nngwe ya tse di neng di amegile thata. Ke tsaya gore le Mapalamente ka go farologana, ga ke na pelaelo le *reports* tse di neng di supa gore ba a leka thata kwa ba neng ba le teng.

O bo o bua gape le ka ya *bridge*; pele ga *bridge* bongwe le bongwe bo bulwa, batho ba *infrastructure* ba ne ba lebelela ba bona gore a bo mo seemong. Nna le ba re leng fa re ka bona gore gongwe *bridge* bo siame gore bo ka bulwa, mme ba bangwe ba bo lemoga gore ga bo a siama, rona re re bo se ka jwa bulwa ba ba ithutetseng tiro ba bo ba supa gore bo ka dirwa.

E nngwe gape ke kgang e re neng re e bua ya mathata a a kwa *clinics*. Ke tsaya gore Motlotlegi Modise o tlhalositse seemo se ne se sa ka ke fa fetoga *overnight*. Re a itse gore *clinics* di ntse di na le mathata a a ntseng jang mme sengwe se a dirwa go baakanya le go alafa seemo seo. O bolelela ruri rraetsho batho ba ba lebelang kwa pele, ba re ba dumela gore dintwa tse di yang go lowa mo lefatsheng nako e e tlang, go tlaabo go lwelwa

metsi. Go tlaabo go sa tlhole go lwelwa *oil* le bo eng. Go tlaabo go lwelwa metsi ka gore a botlhokwa. Gompiano re bona metsi a le mantsi a ne a feta ka bokete jo bo kanakana.

E nngwe Rre Morolong o ne a re, re rurifatse gore dithuso tsothle tse di tlang, ga go na go nna le gore di se ka tsa goroga mo bathong ba di yang kwa go bone. Re dirile thulaganyo ya gore sengwe le sengwe se se tlang kwa *national, we are going to record*. Go na le batho ba ba neng ba tlisa fa *national* mme ba supa gore ba isitse gore kwa *district*. *District* nngwe le nngwe jaaka di le 31, Balaodi ba laetswe gore ba dire *record and* ba supe gore dilwana tse di tlileng di tsamaile ka tsela e e ntseng jang *at national level*. Go tle go supa gore ba re tsereng re tsere dilwana di le kana, e bile re ya go ntsha re baya le mo pampiring ya dikgang gore re amogetse se, le se, re bo re supa gape gore re ntshitse se jalojalo. Ke yone thulaganyo eo, e bile ke tsaya gore re tshwanetse re tle re tlise *report*. Ke tsaya gore go tlaabo go siame bagaetsho gore motho a tle fa, a tle a le bebele gore bagaetsho jaaka nako ele re ne re le lekodisa, re dirile jaana re dirile se, le se, batho ba neng ba re thusa re kgaogantse dilwana ka tsela e e ntseng jaana.

Ya bofelo e e neng e botswa ke Rre Morolong e a neng a re, a go sireletsegile go boela kwa dikoleng, ke tsaya gore e arabilwe ke kgang e ke neng ke e araba e e neng e botswa ke Motlotlegi Dow. Ke re, ba e leng gore ba kwa dikoleng, ga ke tseye gore go na le Mogokgo kana Balaodi ba ba ka reng nnyaa, go tilwe dikole di butswetse nang mo sekoleng. *The reason why* letsatsi leno le tlogetswe ke gore batho ba ye go sekaseka diemo tsa bone go sa bulwa letsatsi leno. Ba ba tshwanelwang ke go phepafatsa, go phepafatswe gore kamoso fa bana ba tsena kwa dikoleng, ba bo ba tsena mo seemong se se siameng.

Maabane re ne re ile kwa Francistown ra bo ra ya go boa le kwa Boteti, re fitlhetse e le gore dikgaolo tse di tshwanang le bo Francistown go ne go tserwe le dijo tsa bana tse di mo dikoleng. Di ne tsa thusa go fepa batho bone ba ba neng ba le mo mathateng a, go tshwanelwa ke gore jaanong dijo tseo di busetswe gore ba tsoge ba a ja. Letsatsi la gompiano ke tsaya gore le dikgaolo ka go farologana, go dirwa se se tlhamaletseng gore kamoso bana ba bo ba kgona go tsena mo sekoleng dijo di le teng, dikole di le mo seemong se go ka nnang le thuto ya bana. Thuto ya bana rotlhe re a amogela re le batsadi gore e botlhokwa fela thata. Re a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: Ga ke itse gore a o arabile e e neng

e botsa ka *vector borne and water borne diseases, the risk*; ya malwetse a a tlang le metsi.

MR MOHWASA: Ke tsaya gore go na le ba bongaka mo *teams* tseo, go na le ba boitseanape jo bo farologanyeng. Ga se ba marogo fela, *Permanent Secretary sits in that committee, the Minister is here*, ba dira *assessment and they advise* mongwe le mongwe ka boitseanape jwa gagwe. Bo mmaboipelego, ba *Local Government* le bone ba teng mo komiting eo, dikomiti ka go farologana ba nna gone foo. Ditshwetso tse fa di tsewa, ga di tsewe fela, di tsewa e le gore ba a bo ba kopane ba thulantshitse ditlhogo ka boitseanape jo ba nang le jone ba bo ba ka gakolola. Ba tlhalosa gape gore le fa go ntse jalo, re tlaabo re tlogetse gore ba ba eteletseng kwa dikgaolong le bo Molaodi, ba tlaa sekaseka, *and they will advise*. Fela *position* ya teng ke gore dikole a di bulwe kamoso bana ba ithute ba age bokamoso.

MR KEKGONEGILE: Tanki *Mr Speaker*. Tona, mma re leboele tekodiso. Motho o ka botsa gore gone mme *National Disaster Management Office*, re e fa ditsompelo go le kae? Re e godisa go le kae gore bokete jwa tiro e e kanakana e ba kgone gore ba ka e *manage*? Le gore tsone ditsompelo tse di gasama jang le lefatshe? Re lebile gore fa o ya kwa dikgaolong tse di kwa *north* gongwe bo Maun jaana, rona re sa le re kopana le kgang e ya dipula tse di ntsi ka *new year* le beke ya teng, mme ga go a nna le thuso e e kalokalo, ke moka motho a dirisa teme ya sesha, re ne ra *iphandlela*. Le gasa ditsompelo go le kae gore le rona kwa di ka kgona *to cover us*?

Sa bobedi gape, yone *National Disaster Management Office*, kana dibetso tsa tlhologo ga se kgang ya dipula fela, di teng go le gontsinyana. Le e *capacitate* go le kae gore gongwe ka tsamaiso e se ka ya lebagana fela le dipula, e lebagane le tse dingwe? Ke e fa sekai, rona kwa go na le Mme Kahiko o bapile le *sewerage* ya BHC, e tshlegetse mo jarateng ya gagwe mo e leng gore go *acidic* fela *the whole yard*. Ba simolotse gore ba a reng, ba a reng, *land board* ga e kgone go ka ba fudusa foo ka gore ga e na ditsompelo, e bile e dumela gore ga se kgang ya yone. BHC ya re le yone ga e na ditsompelo, ga se kgang ya yone, mo go rayang gore go lebiwa *National Disaster Management Office*, mme ga e nang, ga e nang. Le e *capacitate* go le kae go leka gore dikgang tse di ntseng jalo e kgone go di fenyaa?

Sa bofelo ke *issue* yone e ya dipula, gore *pressure* ya 100 000 *plot allocations* e dirile gore *land boards* fale le fale di fe batho mo megobeng le mo go eng, di ba abela dijarata gone koo. Mo go rayang gore fa pula e



na jaana, megobe eo *naturally flood, land board* ga e na madi a gore ka gore batho ba setse ba tlhabolotse, e ka ba fudusa ya ya *to develop* go lebilwe *National Disaster Management Office*. Ditsamaiso tse le di nyalanya jang gore batho ba kgone go thusega? Tanki.

MR BARONGWANG: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Le nna ke tseye sebaka se ke go reye ke re *happy birthday*, ke ipotsa gore a ke kuku fela ga e na sepepepe fela. Ke leboge le wena Tona mo dikgannyeng tse tsa merwalela e re e itemogelang gompiano. Ke leboge gore le bo le kgonne go tsiboga ka nako le gone *to share information* mo nakong e e tshwanetseng.

Go na le dilo dingwe tse re di itemogetseng Tona *especially* rona ba kwa Mogoditshane. Ditiragalo di tshwana le tse, di supa go le *clear* dipharologanyo magareng ga bahumi le bahumanegi. O ya go fitlhela e le gore seelo se dilo tse di re betsang ka gone, di farologana go lebilwe gore ba ba itsholetseng ba ntse jang le ba ba sa itsholelang ba ntse jang. Ba ba sa itsholelang bontsi jwa nako ke bone ba ba gatelelwang ke diemo tsone tse. O ya go fitlhela e le gore diemo tse di dirwa maswemaswe ke ditlhabololo tse di tlang kwa morago jaaka *developments* tsa mo motseng tse bontsi jwa nako di dirwang ke bone ba ba senang ba senang. O ya go fitlhela e le gore golo gongwe *development* e tshwana le dikago, ga go na *consideration* ya gore *at that time of development, storm water drainage system* e ntse jang. Jaanong go agiwa fela, mme diemo tse fa di diragala, di babalela bone ba ba senang. Ke ipotsa gore fa le tsiboga diemo di ntse jaana, a ga le kgone go dira *a special dispensation* ya go thusa, e seng fela ka diemo le dikobo, gongwe jaanong e le *to address* diemo tsa nako yone eo mo e leng gore re ka nna le madi a a rileng a itebaganyang le *drainages* tsa diemo tse di maswemaswe jaaka kwa Mogoditshane? O ya go fitlhela e le gore mafelo a tshwana le bo Smodern ka kwa Kgosing, *because* ga go na *drainage system*, seemo se se nna maswemaswe le go feta.

Ya bofelo e bo e nna gore, go na le mafelo mangwe kwa Mogoditshane, ke a itse gore lefatshe ka bophara le amegile, mme go na le mafelo mangwe a a *sociable to flooding every time* kwa Mogoditshane. *Very few points*, ke ipotsa gore a mme ga le kgone *to consider* gore mafelo one ao *can be relocated*? Ke bua gantsigantsi ka mafelo a a fa thoko ga noka ya Segoditshane. Go na le lelwapa lengwe ke eletsa go le ntsha ka leina ka gore le amega nako le nako; loora Tumagole. Ke ipotsa

gore batho bao le ba ba *along* noka eo, ga re kgone *to consider* gore re ba sutise fa re ka dumalana le bone? Ke a leboga.

MR MOHWASA: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Rre Kekgonegile o botsa ka komiti e e thusang, mme ke re Rre Kekgonegile, jaaka ke ne ke tlhalositse fa ke e fa pego, dikomiti tsa *disaster* tsa *districts* mo lefatsheng ka bophara di 31. Jaanong fa go na le sengwe se diragala koo, ba tshwanetse gore bone ba bebele e e *national*. *Normally* komiti eo *is triggered* fa go nna le seemo sa tshoganetso jaaka go ne go ntse go na le dibetso tse di neng di diragala. *Ordinarily they will report to the Permanent Secretary* kwa *State President* yo o okametseng le ba *disaster*; go tswa fa go bo go ka tsewa tshwetso.

Rre yo o tshwareletseng *Leader of the Opposition*, Rre Moalosi o a itse gore *last year* ka *holidays*, re ne re tlile kwa Tutume go na le petso e e neng ya tla foo. Re fitlhetse go na le metsi, ra bona seemo ka fa se neng se ntse ka teng, gore re ne re sa itlisa, go ne go tlisa ba komiti. Rre Sedombo o a itse gore re ne ra ya kwa Tonota, re fitlhetse seemo seo. Rre Bagaisamang o a itse gore re ne ra tsamaya re ya koo re fitlhela seemo se se neng se begwa ke dikomiti tsa dikgaolo. Re tshwanetse go tlhalosa bagaetsho gore le fa go ntse jalo, ba dikomiti tsa dikgaolo ba filwe tetla ya gore fa ba santse ba ikuela kwa pele, go na le se ba ka se dirang bogolo jang tse di motlhofo tse di tshwanang le tsa bo dijo. Fa le gakologelwa, go na le kgang kwa Kgaolong ya Motshegaletau ya ga Rre Lesedi. Go na le kgang kwa Kgaolong ya Hatsalatladi. *Study* se se neng se dirwa seo se e neng e le sa go bona seemo ke ba Botswana Geoscience Institute (BGI), madi a teng a ne a ntshitswe mo *disaster*. Go sekwasekwa seemo Rre Kekgonegile gore se ntse jang, go bo go ka ntshiwa madi go thusa mo diemong tse di farologaneng.

Ga se gore re nna re lebeletse pula fela, le mabaka a mangwe a a farologana. Gompiano jaana maabane kwa Francistown re fitlhetse go na le seemo se sengwe kwa ga Rre Ntsima kwa matlong a *railway*. Re fitlhetse go na le *pipe* ya metsi e e neng e sa bolo go thubega foo e sa baakannngwe, re bo re bua le ba metsi ba e baakanya. E bile seemo se senyegela pele fa pula e ntse e na. Jaanong diemo tse di ntseng jaana, tse dingwe e a bo e le gore fa gongwe ke go tlhoka go di tsibogela e le bodiredi jwa rona. Fa gongwe e le ka gore ditsompelo di a tlhela, ba bona gore gongwe ka ditsompelo tse ba nang le tsone, ba ye go dira ntlha e nngwe.

Kgang e nngwe e o neng o e bua, ke ya *allocation* ya ditsha. Re tshwanetse go dumalana gore go na le mafelo a mangwe a e leng gore go bua nnete ga a siamela gore go bo go ka bo go beilwe batho teng. Seo re tshwanetse go se amogela. Se se teng ke gore go tlike go nna jaanong re bereka go nna re fudusa batho. Batho ba bangwe jaaka kwa Kgaolong ya Mmanaka, maabane re fitlhetse e le gore metsi a ne a tsene, dikoko go sule, batho ba beile dibuka fa ntle. Ke gore batho ba sa tlhole ba nna mo malwapeng a bone, dikoloi di tsene metsi. Dilo tse ke ditshenyegelo tse re ka bong re di kganetse. E bile ba bua gore ga re a bolo go ikuela gore a ko re fudusiweg fa. Jaanong ke tsaya gore ke tshakatsheko e e tshwanetseng gore re e dire go bona gore batho ba ka bewa mo seemong se se ntseng jang.

Storm water drainage; batho ba rona fa gongwe fa ba tsaya mmu, fa motho a sena go feela ba tshela fa meseleng ya metsi a bo e le gore jaanong metsi a ga a kgone go feta sentle. Ke dingwe tse re tshwanetseng gore re di lebelele. Ke tsaya gore dilo tse tsotlhe fa re tla re sekaseka gore a re ka bo re ne re ipaakantse botoka, ga go tewe Puso fela, go tewa le rona gore a re ne re dirile se se neng se siame go ipaakanya, a Puso le yone e ne e dirile mo go neng go siame go ipaakanya. Ke tsaya gore tshakatsheko e e tlaa re thusa, e bo e tla ka dikarabo gore jaanong go ya kwa pele re ipaakanya jang.

Se se tshwanetseng gore re se amogele ke gore tota fela *drainage* ya rona ga e a nna sentle. Fa o ne o ka lebelela kwa go ya ga Rre Bagaisamang kwa Shoshong, o ne o ka se ka wa itse gore tsela e fa kae, eng se fa kae, go kopakopane ka gore metsi a ne a sa tsamaye sentle gore a kgone go tsamaya. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, ga ke itse gore ba ba santseng ba ka tlisa dithuso ba le bona kae, ba ya kwa kae?

MR MOHWASA: Dithuso di tla ka metlhala e mebedi *Mr Speaker*, tsa *national* di tla gone fa Office of the President (OP), re bo re di kgaoganya. Re dumalane gore fa di tsena ga di a tshwanela gore di tseye le fa e le 48 hours di bo di fetile, di bo di kgaoganngwa ka *requests* tse di tswang *from districts*. Yo o batlang go ntsha kwa *districts* o tlaa isa gone koo. Ke bone ba ba tlaabong ba di arabela. Kwano re arabela tse di tlileng kwano. Go na le thuso gape e Business Botswana ba ikopantseng ba phutha madi gore ba tle ba kgone go thusa mo diemong tse. Ba bangwe ba ntshitse le madi a go tshela *choppers* leokwane ka gore go ne go sena *budgets* tse di neng di lekane go ka kgona gore ba dire

tiro e e kanakana e ba e dirang gompieno e le ba sesole le ba sepodise. Re a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Minister. Thank you Honourable Ministers for those important statements. *Ke tsaya gore batlotlegi le Batswana ba utlwile*. We now go to the Appropriation.

APPROPRIATION (2025/2026) BILL, 2025 (NO. 2 OF 2025)

Second Reading

(Resumed Debate)

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, the debate on this Bill is resuming. When the House adjourned last week Friday 21st February 2025, Honourable Ambassador Kenny Kinitiro Kapinga was on the floor debating and he is left with 21 minutes 20 seconds. Before he resumes, Honourable Members, 46 of you have so far debated, Honourable Kapinga being the 46th. *Jaanong go raya gore le 22 ba le iseng le bue. Le kgothatse ba ba iseng ba bue gore ba nne teng ba kgone gore ba tswela bone*. I have the list from the Honourable Acting Government Whip Honourable Moneedi Bagaisamang and I have five names because General Mokgwathi is not here and I know why he is not here. You may have to increase the list. Having said that Honourable Members, I am giving the floor to Ambassador Kapinga to continue with his debate.

MR KAPINGA (OKAVANGO WEST): *Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Before I go into my presentation, may I also join those who have spoken before me in wishing you a happy birthday on behalf of the people of Okavango West and on my own behalf. May you grow in wisdom and stature.*

Mr Speaker, if it were not due to the call of duty, I would not be standing here because I have suffered a bereavement back home in Shakawe and that is where I should be. This time is very valuable, so I would ask Honourable Members to desist from clarifications and points of order because this time is very valuable. I was going to acknowledge the presence of the Vice President (VP) today but he seems to have been called elsewhere. Ke ne ke buile maloba gore ke eletsa gore e re re bua ka budget e, a bo a le fa a re reeditse gore ra reng.

Ke fete ka e *Mr Speaker*, gore re ba bone Mapalamente ba ba neng ba lwa gore ba batla go ya go ema le batlhophi



ba bone kwa dikgaolong. Re ba bone mo *television* bo *Honourable* Moswaane gore ba ne ba theogetse.

Mr Speaker, I spoke about the National Security Strategy and its importance. Ke ne ke batla go gatelela *point* e gore fa Goromente yo a batla go tsaya taolo mo lekgamung kgotsa mo Lephatheng la Itshireletso, go botlhokwa gore a itlhalose gore ene *policy* ya gagwe ke eng mabapi le *the National Security Sector*. Fa a sa dire jalo ga a ka ke a kgona *to do anything, even about the resourcing* gore maphata a a itshireletso a a farologaneng a neelwa bokae, *unless* a ka itlhalosa gore se a se batlang mo maphateng a gagwe a *security* ke sefe. Ke gone ka fa a ka kgonang ka teng gore jaanong a bo a ka tsaya tshwetso a sa oshaoshe gore ke fokotsa ka fa ke oketsa ka fa, kana ke oketsa ka fa kwa go ntseng go tsholetsegile ka teng. *In the absence of a high level policy* ya ga Goromente *especially* Goromente yo mosha, kana *challenge* ya lona bagaetsho ke gore le Goromente yo mosha. *In the past, the obligation has never arisen* ya gore selo se se lebiwe sesha ka gore e ne e le Goromente a le mongwefela a tsweledisa se ntseng a se beile mo tafoleng. Jaanong lona le basha, *you need to come out very clearly* gore *security sector* e ya Botswana le batla e bereka jang mme e bile le ya go e fa *resources* jang.

Ga re batle maphata a a bolaisiwang madi, a bo a felela a dirisitse madi go reka dipolase jaaka Lephata la Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) le rekile polase kwa Ghanzi le kwa Nata. Fa Goromente yo a neng a busa a bodiwa gore go tlile jang gore lephata le le bo le ka reka lefatshe, go sena tlhaloso e e tswang. Le lona *I challenge you* gore lesang go bipa Domkrag, re boleleleng gore theko ya polase ya Nata e tsile jang, e dirilwe ke mang, a e direlela eng, a tsere kae thata ya go dira jalo? Theko ya polase ya Nata e dirilwe ke mang, a e direlela eng, a letleletswe ke mang? Re batla gore le re bolelele dilo tseo ka gore ga gona sepe sa gore le ithwese morwalo e se wa lona. Le ithwesa merwalo! Ke buile ka kgang ya polao ya batho ba ba 10 ba Phase II. Ga se lona ba le neng le le mo Pusong. *There is no reason why you should cover up for the past Government. Come out openly* le re bolelele gore gatwe golo fale go diragetse eng, mme le le Puso e ntšha le ya go dira eng ka kgang eo?

Ke feta ka e gape *Mr Speaker*; ke re ke a gakgamala, re na le makgotla a a ipolelang e le a ditshwanelo tsa batho mo lefatshe le la Botswana a a tsosang modumo o o seng kana ka sepe ba re ba batla katlholelo leso e fedisiwa mo lefatshe la Botswana. Mme fa batho ba a swa, ba bolaiwa ke *our security agents, lawfully or*

unlawfully, ga ba na lentswe. Ke ipotsa gore go diragala jang gore ba nne le lentswe fela fa ba bua ka motho yo o atlholelsweng leso ke lekgotla go sena go sekiwa, bosupi bo beiwa fa pele ga lekgotla e bo e ya *all the way to the Court of Appeal, even to Presidential Committee on Clemency*, ba bo ba re nnyaa katlholelo leso a e phimolwe, mme ba sa kgone go bua ka kgang e e leng gore batho ba le lesome ba ganyaotswe *in one day* ke ba re sa itseng gore ke bomang ka gore Goromente o gana go bua gore ke bomang ba ba dirileng tiro e e bosetlhogo jo bo kalo.

Mr Speaker; ke batla go bua ka *affirmative action*. *Budget* e *Mr Speaker*, ke ne ke ka itumela thata fa e ka bo e supa *unlike the past Government*, gore Goromente o mošha o, o tlaa isa madi a ditlhabololo kwa dikgaolong tse e leng gore di ntse di beilwe ka fa mosing. Kgaolo e e tshwanang le ya Okavango West, Okavango East...

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

MR KAPINGA: Nnyaa, e seng Kgatleng *comrade*, tse e leng gore di ntse di beilwe ka fa mosing. Fa e le gore tota le Goromente o mošha o o batlang *to turn around things*, le tshwanetse le tlhome matlho a lona kwa dikgaolong tse di ntseng di beilwe ka fa mosing *and Okavango is number one in the list* ya dikgaolo tse di ntseng di beilwe ka fa mosing. *Mr Speaker*; kgaolo ya Okavango e tlhoka *a huge intervention, a radical intervention*.

Nna ke bona gore fa go na le sengwe se se ka fetolang kgaolo ya rona ya fetogela ruri, ke moepo o re saleng re o emela wa *iron ore* o e leng gore *the exploration has been done and it is in the last stages. Because of the bureaucracy* e e neng e dirwa ka bomo mo Mmusong o o fetileng gore sengwenyana se fapaane diatla, gore ba ba neng ba simolotse *project* eo gongwe ba lape pelo ba itlhuboge, e tsewe e neelwe ditsala tsa bone, e gogile dingwaga. *Minister* wa teng ga a yo le ene, mme kopo yame ke gore *project* e bagaetsho le e itlhoganelele. *The ease of doing business* e *Minister of Finance* a neng a e bua *in his speech* sa gagwe, a e bonale *in the sense of the projects being expedited*. Le wena o a e itse kgang eo *Honourable Minister* wa *Tourism*, ke kile ka e bua le wena.

Mr Speaker, gore kgaolo ya rona ya Okavango a bo e le nngwe ya dikgaolo tse di saletseng kwa morago mo ditlhabolong, gore e fetoge e bo e fetogela ruri ke gore ditsala tsa yone di dirwe di fele. Gompiano jaana kompone e mo tseleng gatwe e dira tsela, mme bonya

jwa yone bo a tshosa *Mr Speaker*. A mme re tlaa lala re gorogile teng kwa re solofetseng teng gore tsela e e bo e feditswe kana *term* e yame ya wela gape tsela e ise e fele? Keletso yame *Mr Speaker* ke gore e re *term* e e wela e, tsela e bo e wetse ke bo ke raya batho ba Okavango ke re, “ke le bereketse, tsela ke eo, jaanong le ka tsamaela kwa pele la bona gore le itlhabolola jang.”

E nngwe tsela e re bonang e le botlhokwa mo matshelong a rona ke ya Nxamasere-Tsodilo-Chukumuchu-Gani. Kwa Tsodilo *Mr Speaker*, *we have a world heritage site* e e bidiwang Tsodilo Hills. Tsela e yang teng ga e supe fa e ya *to a world heritage site*. Fa lona le ka tla ka *approach* e e farologaneng *Honourable Minister*, la lemoga gore *one of the prerequisites* gore a *tourist site* e tshwanetse gore e nne *accessible to* baeng, ke gore le re baakanyetse tsela e e tswang mo Nxamasere e ya kwa Tsodilo e bo e fetela kwa Chukumuchu.

Se sengwe se se ka dirang gore botshelo bo fetoge kwa Okavango ke gore temo ya rona e lebiwe ka leitlho le sele. *This approach* e gotweng *once size fits all* ya Temo Letlotlo gotwe e e tlaa berekang kwa Kgatlang le Lentsweletau le kwa Okavango e ka bereka, ga go bereke *because there are many obstacles* tse re lebaganeng le tsone kwa dikgaolong tsa rona tse di sa kgonsheng gore re kgone jaaka balemi ba ba ka kwano. Sengwe sa tsone ke ditlou le *low degree of mechanisation*. Kgang e e tshwanetse gore go itebaganngwe le yone, Goromente a ne a tla ka *packages* tse e leng gore *they are context specific*. Fa e le gore re batla go nyeletsa lehuma kwa Okavango, Goromente a tle ka *programme* e e leng gore e itebagantse le Okavango le dikgaolo tse di tshwanang le yone. Fa le ka dira jalo, re tlaabo re itse gore jaanong re ya golo gongwe.

Mr Speaker, ke batla go bua ka kgang ya batho ba e leng gore ba dirile ditiro tse di gagamatsang mo Pusong e e fetileng. *Mr Speaker*, re nnile le kgang e e bidiwang gotwe ya Butterfly, e go neng go itlhamelwa bosupi. Ngwana wa batho a isiwa kwa *court* ka *escort* e nngwe e o kare go katilwe Bin Laden. Go ne go itirelwa difilimi fela tse e seng tsa sepe go fitlhela *case* ya teng e felela mo phefong. Le Puso e ntšha, mme ke batla gore le re le bolelele gore ba ba neng ba dira jaana le ya go dira jang ka bone? Ba ba neng ba tshwara *Honourable* Mathoothe ba ya go mo latsa *in a cell* go sena lebaka lepe la gore a ka lala *in a cell* e le *an Honourable Member of Parliament*, le ya go dira jang ka bone go supa gore lona le Goromente yo o dumelang *in the rule of law*, *not in a rogue institution such as has been described by the Court of Appeal*? Re batla go itse gore *those who*

fabricated bosupi kगतलhanong le Dr Matsheka le ya go dira eng ka bone? Kana *this is* mo go bidiwang gotwe *subversion of justice*. Ke molato fela o o *serious*, le ya go dira eng ka bone?

Le ya go dira eng ka ka ba neng ba tswala ofisi ya ga Goromente ya Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) ba sena dithata dipe ka fa molaong? Ba ya go e tswala fela ka gore ba ne ba bona ba le mo matshosetsing a gore DCEC e a ba tlhlotlhomisa. *What are you going to do about those people?* Re batla go itse gore le ya go dira eng ka bone? Ke sone se ke neng ke se bua ke re *you have the duty and responsibility to clean up the public service*. E bo e le gore *I am misinterpreted* gore gatwe ka re batho ba kobiwe mo ditirong ba sa dira sepe. *I am a lawyer, I have led in the public service at very high level*, ke a itse gore ga gona motho yo o ka kobiwang go sena *process* ka fa molaong *that leads to his or her dismissal*. So, fa ke ne ke le raya ke re ntshang batho ba, ke ne ke raya gore ba ntsheng *in accordance with due process of law* *Mr Speaker*.

Mr Speaker, *budget* e gape se ke neng ke eletsa e ka itebaganya le sone, ke dikhansele tse di ntšha. Goromente o o fetileng ole, o o ntshitsweng sentle e bile ke itumela thata gore a bo a dule, go tsene Puso e ntšha e ke solofelang sengwe mo go yone, o ne a dira dilo *for political expediency*, a dira dikhansele tse dintshintsi mme fa go tla gore jaanong a di neelwe *budget* e e ka di kgonshang gore di dire tiro ya tsone go bo sena sepe se se tokafalang. Keletso yame ke gore jaanong lona le lebe *budget* ya lona *very carefully* *Honourable* Moswaane, ga kere ke wena wa *Local Government*? Le lebelele *budgets* tse le di neelang dikhansele, *especially* Khansele e e tshwanang le ya Okavango tse e leng gore *the chances of them generating their own revenue are very minimal*. E rwele bokete jwa batho ba e leng gore ba tlhoka thuso mo go Goromente *like destitutes, orphaned children and so on, and so forth*. Tlhomamisang gore le ba neela *budget* e e sa tshwaneng le *budget* e ba neng ba e neelwa ka fatlase ga Goromente o o neng a rata go tsietsa Batswana yole.

The same applies to financing for absorption of Special Constables, it is a good initiative but ga ke eletse gore re boelele mo seemong se re kileng ra feta ka sone, nako e neng Botswana Police e *absorb the* Botswana Local Police Force, go ne ga tswa *instruction* fela gore *absorb or merge*. *It was a merge with Local Police*. *There was no reflection on the side of the budget that has been provided* go dira gore *this merge should be successful*. To date Botswana Police e santse e suffer



from the consequences of a merge which is not funded. Jaanong ke a tshoga gore a mme a Special Constables a a tsenngwang a, a funding ya teng e teng e e tlaa provide gore ba kgone go bona matlo, like any other police officer, because mapodise are entitled to free accommodation. Matlo ba ya go a bona kae? Fa ba sa bone matlo, is the housing allowance budgeted for e e tlaa compensate gore ga ba a neelwa matlo Mr Speaker?

Se sengwe se ke batlang go bua ka sone ke gore *budget* ya lona bagaetsho ke eletsa gore e *address* seemo sa *destitute housing*, maloba re ne re na le dipula kwa Okavango, re ne re na le sebetso sa dipula kwa Etsha 13, batho ba welwa ke matlo, matlonyana a maitirelo one a *stick and mud*. O bona gore *this person*, le fa go ka twe a bereke Ipelegeng *two kana five years*, ga se yo o ka tlholang a kgona go ikagela a *decent house*, mme a na le bana ba le *four kana five*. *Destitute housing* ke gone fa e ka tsenang teng gone foo, ya supa gore *indeed, we have a new compassionate Government* wa UDC. Fa le sa dire jalo, le tlaa tshwana fela le bone bale ba ba neng ba tswa maloba ka gore bone e rile ba tsena, ba bo ba phimola *programme* e e neng e le teng. Lenaneo le le ne le le teng la go agela batlhoki matlo.

Ke tsena mo go ya *procurement*. *The Minister* e rile a bua, a re *we are coming up with new policies, procedures or regulations* tsa go laola *procurement* go ntsha *corruption* mo go yone. *There are two things I want to say, it was obvious Mr Speaker* gore in the *past*, go na le *companies* tse di neng di fiwa ditiro, go ntse go itsiwe gore ga ba kgone, *only* fela gore gatwe ke Batswana, re neela Batswana ditiro, tsamaiso eo e tshwanetse gore e eme. Batho ba neelwe ditiro go itsiwe gore *they will deliver as agreed contractually*, go itsiwe gore *they have the capability and experience* ya gore ba *deliver those projects*. Go itsiwe gore *they have a record of delivering projects of that size*. Tota fela fa o tsaya *project* ya P600 million o bo o e neela motho yo e leng gore *he has never in their life delivered a P10 million project*, o a bo o re a reng ka madi a a kalokalo, o a bo o re a reng ka *project* ya bokete jo bo kalo?

Mr Speaker, kwa kgaolong ya me, *our primary interest* ga se go humisa batho, jaaka Goromente yo o duleng a ne a bua a re re batla go dira *millionaires*. *Our primary interest* ke gore ditlhabololo di tshwanetse go goroga, batho ba *enjoy the benefits of those developments*. Gompiano jaana re na le *clinics* tse di saleng di simolola go agiwa kana ke ngwaga mang. *Pre-COVID*, le gompiano ga di ise di fele.

Gompiano re na le tsela e e leng gore go sale go saeniwa ka 2022 *January*, gotwe e ya go tsaya 18 *months*, le gompiano jaana, *it is far from getting completed*. *I would rather prefer this project being given to anybody. A Motswana or foreigner as long as they will finish the road and deliver it to us, so that le rona re kgone go kgweetsa mo ditseleng tse batho ba bangwe ba kgweetsang mo go tsone. It is not my primary interest* gore e neelwe Motswana a hume, *my primary interest* ke gore tsela e dirwe e fediwe, batho bagaetsho ba kgone go kgweetsa mo ditseleng tsa maemo a a amogelesegang.

Mr Speaker, ke batla go gakolola Goromente yo gore *solution* ga se go latlhela madi, go ntsha madi le a latlhela mo lephateng ga se *solution*. *You have to address the issues* tse di ntseng di nyeletsa madi mo go Goromente. *Corruption* le tshwanetse gore le e *address and* go itshupe gore le na le maikaelelo ao, ka gore fa go sa supagale, fa dikgato tsa lona di sa bonale gore borre le bomme ba eme kgatlhanong le tshenyetso-setšhaba, ga go na kwa re yang teng, re ya go dikologa golo go le gongwefela jaaka re ne re dira mo Goromenteng yo o o fetileng. Kopo ya me ke gore gagamatsang mo tshenyetsong-setšhaba. Jaaka le reile setšhaba le re *you are reviewing the Development Manager (DM) Model, do so without fear or favour* because rotlhe fela re a itse gore DM Model e ne e dirilwe ka maikaelelo a a ntseng jang. Go humisa bangwe, go phunya pata ya ga Goromente, jaanong itshupeng gore lona ga le mo motlhaleng o. Itholeng mokgweleo o e seng wa lona. Le Goromente o mosha, ga le a tshwanelwa gore melato e e neng e dirilwe ke Goromente yo o duleng, yo Batswana ba mo ntshitseng, ba ipolelela gore fa re ntsha Goromente yo wa Domkrag, re ikapola tshenyetso-setšhaba. Go bo go sa supafale gore jaanong ba ba tsereng ba tshwere moonoo wa setšhaba gore tshenyetso-setšhaba e tshwanetse gore e nyelediwe mo lefatsheng la Botswana, fa re sa dire jalo, ga go na gope kwa re go yang bo *comrade*, re ya go dikologa golo go le gongwe fela. Ka a le kalo *Mr Speaker*; ke a leboga.

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

MR SPEAKER: According to the list I have from the Acting Government Whip, next will be Honourable Lesego Chombo.

MINISTER OF YOUTH AND GENDER AFFAIRS (MS CHOMBO): May I approach the podium Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Yes, please approach. Honourable Minister Chombo, Baby of the House.



MS CHOMBO: Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me start off by greeting you Mr Speaker and allow me to wish you a very happy birthday. I am saddened by the fact that the Honourable Members and myself included did not get to sing but I hope that we would be able to after this.

Let me greet and compliment you as well in this new season as you continue to facilitate this Honourable House to make laws that would change the lives of Batswana for the better. I continue to wish you all the best. I greet all of my Honourable Members and I thank them for the meaningful contributions that they have made towards this shared budget. I thank God always for an opportunity to meaningfully contribute to the development of my country and today specifically, I thank God for the opportunity to contribute to resource allocation which is the foundation on which Botswana's future stands. Allow me to thank in absentia the Vice President (VP) and Minister of Finance, Honourable Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe and his team for laboring so hard and delivering this comprehensive speech under unfavorable circumstances. Their dedication to fostering unity and prosperity across Botswana is much appreciated.

Now allow me to dive into it Mr Speaker by starting with one of my favorite aspects of the Budget Speech and that is child welfare and basic education. I happily welcome the P300.00 monthly allowance that will be provided to newborns until they are one-year-old. This development Mr Speaker, when unlayered has ripple effect as it also advances gender equity by virtue of assisting mothers who find themselves living in poverty and moreover mothers who found themselves having to raise babies by themselves. Moreover, in its entirety, this development is this Government's concrete stance to upholding human rights, the most precious one being the right to live. This support being given to our babies will cushion them and give them an opportunity to live to see and experience the beauty of their Botswana.

Mr Speaker, I appreciate how this Budget showcases the unwavering commitment to the overall welfare of our little ones. Having proposed the second largest share of the ministerial Recurrent Budget to this ministry, I find that investing in children is the most proactive thing that a Government can do to secure a viable future for society, our economy, for the upkeep of the legacy which our forefathers fought for. Moreover, from the stance of the ministry responsible for youth development, I find that fostering an environment conducive to the holistic

development of children is not only a sensibly humane thing, it is a proactive way of curbing all social ills amongst youth and adults.

Mr Speaker, the youth of Botswana are burdened by childhood traumas, mental health issues, unstable mindsets and unsustainable mindsets that were instilled in them from birth, and are burdened by drug and substance abuse as a coping mechanism to overwhelming challenges. They are faced with qualifications on fields that are not fit for purpose in this economy, it goes on and on. By investing in this comprehensive education of children, an education that forces their cognitive, emotional, mental, social and physical wellbeing and development, that is fit for purpose, we are actively making strides towards creating a healthy and viable youthful life for our children. It is why I commend the Vice President for having made this a priority. Why I declare my unwavering confidence in and support to my dear colleague, the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education, as we build a Botswana where children are free to be children, where the same children are given the power to dream, believe and to take charge of their future.

Mr Speaker, I now speak to social justice in accordance with the Vision 2036 pillar of achieving prosperity for all. I am thrilled about the Bonno housing initiative which will address the housing needs of low and middle-income households. Thereby facilitating homeownership and improving the living standards for many Batswana. I have full confidence that we will indeed create a society where everyone regardless of their background or circumstances have access to basic necessities, including the very important necessity of shelter. We do so as we strive for a higher quality of life, holistically higher quality of life for the entire population.

Mr Speaker, still on social welfare, the increment of the old age pension from P830 to P1,400 per month, as I was preparing for this part of my response, Mr Speaker, I decided to call my grandmother and have a take on what she said, allow me to quote her briefly...

MR SPEAKER: Please do.

MS CHOMBO: *A re*, "Molaletsi! Molaletsi! *Modimo a segofatse Tautona Boko.*" Molaletsi is a family name that she often refers to every time she is in awe or in shock, and I quote this amongst the many things that she said, because this is my 91 year old grandmother who



validates and commends the effort of this Government, good efforts that will continue to grow.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

MS CHOMBO: Good efforts that as Mr Vice President always says, “will continue to grow until we have led our people to the promised land.” It gives me great joy to know that this increment will provide better financial security and dignity to our citizens, our senior citizens who often have to take care of our little ones in this economy.

Mr Speaker, offering of free sanitary pads, I love this one too, dearly love it. It will ease the life of our girls and improve the overall health and wellbeing of schools by supporting gender inclusivity and fostering a healthy learning environment. When our school girls are unable to access the health and sanitary necessities they need, it tends to create mental and emotional challenges ranging from feelings of anxiety and distress, but it also tends to create physical challenges like health and reproductive infections. This lack of access mostly affects low income societies and families in particular, thus making it challenging for them to menstruate hygienically and with dignity. This lack of access Mr Speaker, have left our girls resorting to unsanitary methods of managing their periods, such as prolonging use of pads or even using rags as pads and this is completely unacceptable. I am therefore pleased with this initiative, as it underscores our commitment to addressing gender disparities and social injustice, and especially because moving forward no girl will miss out on educational opportunities due to menstrual challenges.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MODISE): Elucidation. Thank you very much Minister Chombo, *ke rata thata ka fa o e tshwereng ka teng*, especially when you talk about the health of young ladies and also improving on their dignity. Thank you very much.

MS CHOMBO: *Ke a leboga Tona. Ke dumela gore re tlaa tswelela re ntse re bereka* towards improving the health of all Batswana as a whole and for biased reasons for young girls.

I now move on to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). We have reached a point in Botswana where education and unemployment often feel disconnected, with the high output of graduates and yet with rising numbers of unemployment and often times the necessity to import skills for available opportunities.

It is in this time that Vocational and Technical Education and Training stands as a critical bridge, a bridge that will prepare our youth with the practical skills and knowledge that they need to succeed. Technical and Vocational Training and Education is not merely a stepping stone to a specific career, it is an investment in lifelong learning and personal growth. The skills and knowledge acquired through TVET are often diverse and transferable across industries. This Mr Speaker will enable our young people to adapt to evolving job market demands and to pursue new opportunities throughout their career, thus curbing the unemployment ill that we are faced with. The unique approach that TVET offers directly aligns with industry needs and thus foster the greater job readiness and economic mobility.

The emphasis on practical skill development and hands-on training will prepare our youth for immediate entry into the workforce as they will have specialised skills and knowledge for the practical demands of the workplace. This has clearly been a gap which currently exists, and we are happy about the TVET initiative and advancement that will bridge this gap. I therefore commend and reaffirm the Vice President’s remarks of building an economy with TVET at its heart. I reaffirm the need to do it right, not only to build an economy with TVET at its heart but an economy that is doing it right, so that the gaps that exist may be filled. Mr Speaker, doing it right will require us to implement industry specific training, to design programmes in collaboration with industry experts, ensuring that the curriculum aligns with the current workforce demands and technological advancements. This close industry connection is exactly what will make our graduates highly employable with the relevant skills to excel in this economy. I further reaffirm the need to change our people’s perception of TVET institution.

Mr Speaker, there is an example that I often give with regards to entrepreneurship, and is that as a child this country did not teach us to be entrepreneurs. I would like to give that example with regards to TVET as well, we were taught to go to primary school, junior secondary school and senior secondary school, *o bo o ya kwa mmadikole o ye go nna agente, ngaka*, an engineer, psychologist, teacher, nurse and thereafter to get a job in that related field. Rarely could you ever hear a child encouraged to consider Technical and Vocational Education and Training, unless they did not meet the requirements of universities. TVET was reduced to training for students who did not perform well, and

thus has been given that stigma as well. This is such a misfortune Mr Speaker, it is a misfortune because when done right, TVET is the exact bridging gap that Botswana needs. I therefore agree Mr Speaker, with the narrowing of allowances between TVET institutions and those of other tertiary institutions, as well as resourcing TVET institutions with infrastructure. The necessary adequate effective infrastructure as well as qualified lecturers.

DR DOW: *Clarification. Thank you very much for allowing me to make this clarification. O bua ka the narrowing, a ga o bone gore ba tle ba tshwane. E se ka ya nna narrowing, ba tshwane tota, ka gore ba nna mo Gaborone, Francistown le Mochudi mmogo e bile ba reka in the same shops, gore a allowance e tshwane. Ke a leboga motho wetsho.*

MS CHOMBO: *Ke a leboga Mother of the House, ke dumalana fela thata. When we speak of equity and equality, these are the things that we speak of. When we speak of inclusion, these are the things that we speak of. So I firmly agree with you that, tota e tlhoka gore e tshwane. Given the limited financial means we are faced with, it is a starting step gore re simolole ka narrowing, but the ideal model is that di tshwanetse go tshwana. So I thank you for that.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)

MS CHOMBO: Mr Speaker, I now move to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). I rise in full support of the Government initiative to leverage PPPs as they are a key mechanism for accelerating national development. This is a fore thinking in pragmatic approach that acknowledges both our financial constraints and the immense potential of strategic private sector collaboration. Mr Speaker, the upcoming Public Private Partnership Bill set to be finalised and presented in the 2025/2026 financial year, is the critical step in ensuring that these partnerships are well structured, they are transparent and they are being aligned with national priority. With a robust legal framework in place, we will attract high quality investment, enhance service delivery and drive sustainable economic growth.

PPPs will not only ease the fiscal burden on Government, but will also unlock new opportunities for infrastructure development, which all of our Honourable Members have been reiterating that we so desperately need in our country. It will unlock new opportunities for job creation and for skills transfer. So, by engaging both domestic and international investors, we can harness

innovation, efficiency and expertise that will propel Botswana towards its goal of becoming a comparative and resilient economy.

Mr Speaker, I must emphasise that for PPPs to be truly transformative, they must actively include and empower young people and women. Too often, development models are structured in ways that leave out those who need economic opportunities the most, and we must ensure these partnerships priorities in employment, entrepreneurship and skills development by encouraging firstly; the private sector partners to invest in youthful cast projects, creating training programmes, creating mentorship opportunities and employment pipelines for our young people. Secondly Mr Speaker; by ensuring that women owned businesses have access to these partnership opportunities, so that they can contribute and benefit from national development. Thirdly Mr Speaker; by mandating gender sensitive infrastructure and development. Ensuring that projects address the needs of women such as access to healthcare, safety and equal participation in economic activities.

Mr Speaker, our youth are brimming with potential, our women are the backbone of our communities, and if we design these partnerships with inclusivity in mind, we will not only build infrastructure, but we will build a future of shared prosperity, a future of equality and sustainable growth. This initiative is indeed a game-changer for Botswana, and I fully endorse this Government's commitment to institutionalising PPPs as a pillar of our development agenda. With the right policies, oversight, execution and inclusion, this model will position our nation for sustained prosperity. In the same breath Mr Speaker, the sentiments that I have just shared about PPPs apply to the anticipated mega projects. While these projects will indeed go a long way in creating employment for Batswana at large, we must, I repeat; we must ensure that they benefit the vast majority of unemployed youth and that room is made to fill in unemployment gender gaps.

I now speak to a very important one Mr Speaker, which the previous Honourable Member was stressing on and that is waste management. Mr Speaker, I agree with the Vice President (VP) when he says that corruption has become an impediment to the achievement of our people's aspirations. It goes without saying that inter alia, the review of our current procurement model and revision and approval of the Draft National Anti-Corruption Policy are much needed, as corruption has been a key barrier to effective service delivery and



has been a key barrier to our economic development. *Ke kgang e e leng gore rotlhe re le batlotlegi e bile re le Batswana, re dumalana le yone.* What is saddening about it Mr Speaker is that it is not only undermining the rule of law which we so dearly cherish, but it also disproportionately affects the most vulnerable people and society, increasing inequality and deepening their disadvantage. This Mr Speaker, is definitely not the Botswana that we ought or aspire to leave for our children, so as we fight against this injustice Mr Speaker, it is critical that we set the tone from the top.

Allow me Mr Speaker, to urge everyone in this Honourable House, and all those in leadership positions to apply the thought, effort and commitment that is required for our corruption prevention strategies to succeed. I further urge Mr Speaker, senior Executives to use the authority positively by ensuring that corruption prevention controls operate effectively and efficiently with due compliance. Beyond anti-corruption measures, I believe that we need to robustly and generally manage waste. This will require us all to critically shift from the mindset of entitlement, and adopt a mindset which is preservative.

Ke a tle ke botse gore, fa nne madi a a ga Goromente e le a gago o a bereketse ka thata, a o ne o ya go a dirisa jaaka o dirisa a ga Goromente? We all ought to reflect on this, that are we spending Government's money, the way we would spend our very own. Would we fail to manage our own hard-earned resources, and let them go through back holes? I highly doubt Mr Speaker, and so it starts today with a shift of mindset, and it also starts with being alive to the reality that all our small actions combined, have a much larger impact.

I spoke about how this needs to have the tone set from the top, but before we think that waste management can only be controlled from the top, let me highlight the imperative role that we can all play at individual level. It starts with day-to-day actions Mr Speaker, like switching off the lights in our offices. It starts with managing our use of paper, the bottles that are put in front of the Honourable Members and that are always put at Government's engagements. It starts with ensuring that you finish that bottle before you take up another one. Simple day-to-day actions, which when applied collectively and sustainably by all civil servants and all of Botswana, will save us Pulas that can and will be put into good use. Just to point it out of the side note Mr Speaker, the good use that I speak of, is to create employment and develop my very own constituents.

I now speak to youth and gender affairs. Mr Speaker, this budget is in the right direction in terms of youth and gender mainstreaming. You will realise that throughout my delivery, I have without specifically noting the initiative or budget in the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs, highlighted the initiatives that foster gender equity, as well as youth development and employment; initiatives that are to be implemented by other ministries. That Mr Speaker, is the mainstreaming that we speak of. We desire a Government and a country which fully realises the Vision 2036 Pillar of Human Social Development by promoting social inclusion and gender equality, a society and an administration where gender issues ranging from education, violence, health, funding are realised and likewise, youth issues ranging from job creation, training, skills development, reproductive health and many other are provided for. We are building a nation where all the comprehensive youth and gender issues are fully integrated into the core mandate of every ministry and every institution.

Mr Speaker, we have begun with strategic conversation with various ministries and institutions to induct and train on both portfolios as well as to map the gap that these ministries and institutions ought to fill. We Mr Speaker, are expecting all of these ministries to intentionally be gender sensitive and youth conscious. To this end, we will hold everyone accountable to the interventions they ought to implement as we build a Botswana led by peace and security for all.

Allow me Mr Speaker, to now specifically commend this budget for recognising the attention that the gender portfolio requires as well as affirming that Gender Based Violence (GBV) is a phenomenon against which we must all commit. This is the political will that Botswana needs. Allow me to share with this Honourable House that in response to this political will, the Inter-Ministerial Committee on GBV set on the 21st of January, 2025 and this committee consists of the Minister for Child Welfare and Basic Education, Health, Justice and Correctional Services, Higher Education, Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Finance and it is chaired by myself from the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs.

Mr Speaker, anchored by the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs, the Inter-Ministerial Committee will implement this multi-sectoral approach that is required to fully tackle this evil and I think all of the Honourable Members in this House who have shown true commitment to fight GBV in their very own corners, *ba supa gone gore re tlhoka go tshwaraganela kgetsi e ya tsie gore re kgone go e fenya.*



I further commend Mr Speaker, the separation of the former MYSC Ministry into that of Youth and Gender Affairs and that of Sport and Arts. The first Ministry of Youth will amongst others provide for the full and holistic development of young people into the ideal citizens we want them to be. Previously Mr Speaker, MYSC was so overwhelmed. It prioritised sports development and arts or creative sectors and we find that we have young people who do not model the ideal young Motswana that we want to see. We do not have young people who have had access to developmental opportunities as Botswana should actually offer those developmental opportunities. Therefore, Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Youth will provide that holistic development while that of Sports and Arts will get these young people to fully focus on cultivating their talent.

Mr Speaker, in this budget, I also support the specific coverage of sectors that directly affect youth starting with sport development, where there is an increase dedication to foster talent and promote healthy lifestyles. Sport development has proven to be one of the best ways to engage young people to build their character, to instil discipline, to keep them away from social ills such as crime, violence as well as substance abuse. Sport has also proven to be a great career which can lead our young people to financial security. I am very glad that as we speak on this, we have our very own superstar Letsile Tebogo who validates everything good about sport, reaffirming the need to invest in it more that we have before from the ground up and not only after realising our sportsmen and sportswomen achievements. I support the attention given to the creative industry to optimise the entire eco-system and to explore enacting legislation that enables creators to monetise the digital space. I can confirm Mr Speaker, that this will be well received by us the young people, and will change many lives despite their socio-economic background as the digital space has transformed to uphold diversity in its purest form. Indeed, the time has come to export our culture through various creative means, and I Mr Speaker, am a testament of the weight this initiative carry having represented my beautiful country at the Prestigious Miss World Competition 11 months ago and having witnessed the value that it has added to my life, to my community, to my country. It is with this same experience Mr Speaker, that I note how we are lagging behind in terms of the infrastructure necessary to support creatives and I hereby offer my full commitment to play an integral role in developing the said infrastructure effectively.

Mr Speaker, I was in Maun this past weekend and the main reason for my trip was to go to Shorobe for the community work that I do. It would therefore be remiss of me if I did not mention the need to fix the road from Maun to Shorobe leading up to many other places which are tourism destinations. This is the A3 road that leads to Moremi Game Reserve; it is a key road Chobe National Park. It is the main access road for many villages including Sexaxa, Sankoyo, Khwai, Mababe *tse e leng gore* mobile safari and self-drive tourists use and they use it further up in the delta.

Mr Speaker, it is very imperative that as we speak of this inclusion in all of our advancements and developments, we ensure that we cater for those communities as an attempt to promote social equity.

In conclusion Mr Speaker, I believe that the national budget as presented by the Vice President (VP) and Minister of Finance, Honourable Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe serves as a crucial instrument for steering our country's financial planning, ensuring efficient resource allocation and setting a strategic course for restoring Botswana's economic stability and growth. Given the current state of our financial affairs, fiscal discipline and accountability are more critical than ever. Transparency and public finance is essential more than ever so that we can build trust in Government institutions and ensure that every Pula is accounted for.

The budget Mr Speaker, act as a fundamental tool to uphold this financial integrity to reduce inefficiencies and to prevent financial misconduct which this Government very much stands against. This budget notably prioritizes key sectors that are essential including social development, education, infrastructure, security, job creation, governance and oversight. Investment in these areas are not only vital for economic or our immediate economic recovery but also for fostering long-term economic growth and resilience. I therefore, urge all of us to recognise the importance in our very our corners of prudent financial management through efficient revenue collection and responsible expenditure management in order to achieve this country's broader economic goal. I believe that with proper implementation oversight Mr Speaker, this budget will be instrumental in driving our nation towards sustainable growth and the financial stability that our beautiful Botswana so deserves. I thank you Mr Speaker.

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



MR LESEDI: *On a point of procedure.* Mma ke go dumedise rraetsho. Ke e jele kuku rraetsho, re a go lebogisa. Golo fa o kare go mogote thata *Mr Speaker*; ga re a nna sentle. *They must set* jaaka re itse.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Members*, golo fa o kare gatwe go na le mathata a motlakase. Fa le ka ela tlhoko, o kare le *phones* tsa lona ga di *charge*. E bile fa e le rona ba dipurapura, re mo mathateng a mogote, re a thukuthela. Ba tlaa baakanya batlotlegi. Mathata ke gore Ntlo e ya lona e ga e na difensetere tse di bulwang. Jaanong fa difetlhaphofo di ka se ke di bereke, go raya gore mathata a rona a tlhatlagane thata.

MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA): *Thank you Honourable Speaker.* Mma ke dumedise Ntlo e e tlotlegang e, ke go eiletse masego *on your birthday*. *May the God Lord endow you not only with wisdom but with the spirit of excellence in everything that you do in Jesus name, Amen!*

Pele ke ka simolola go bua ka *budget*, go na le dilo tse dingwe tse ke ka sekeng ke di tlhokomologe mo Ntlong e e tlotlegang e. Kgang ya gore ke bo ke kile ka tswa motswasetlhabelo mo nakong e e fetileng, ke kgakgautlhiwa *personally* mo Palamenteng, ga se kgang e e kileng ya intumedisa. E le kgang e e supang gore e kare fa re le bomme, re kgona go buisiwa ka tsela nngwe fela e e sa lolamang. E bo e re re le fa re tlile go phegisanya ka mogopolo, gona le gore re phegisanye jalo re itebagantse le go ganetsana re le diphathi tse di farologanyeng, re le Goromente, re le mo *opposition*, re bo re tla go goroga mo *stage* se go tlhaselwang bangwe ka bongwe ka bongwe. Ke selo se se neng sa se ka sa njesa monate gotlhelele mo ke neng ke bile mo letsatsing leo go lebetse gore ke *Honourable* Kebuang Nono Kgafela-Mokoka, ke bitswa bo Mma Kgafela mo Ntlong e. Ke ka kopa ka boikobo gore ba ba nkitseng kwa dipepereng, ke motho yo o bogale thata. Ka gore ke mo Palamenteng mo Ntlong e e tlotlegang, ke ka gakolola gore fa ke Ntlo e e tlotlegang, ga re kwa dipepereng, mme jalo, le *language* e re e dirisang fa, le ka fa re buisang ba bangwe ka teng. gongwe re e *restrict to that*. Ke ka leboga jalo.

Mo nakong ya gompiano go ka nna thona gore ke se ka ka begela Ntlo e e tlotlegang e gore e re ke ne ke tswetse dikole le ba lephata la me mo bekeng e e fetileng go tloga ka Labone go fitlhelela gompiano, ke sa tswa go ya kwa *television* mo nakong e e fetileng ka *half past three* (3:30p.m.) go ntsha taelo ya gore dikole tsotlhe

di bulwe kwa ntleng ga tse di mo Kgatleng. Kgatleng e yotlhe e santse e fariferwe ke mathata a metsi a a tlhagogileng ka nako ya morwalela. Le gore dikole tse di ntsi di ne di santse di tshedidise ba ba neng ba siisiwa kwa mafelong a a neng a tletse metsi a mantsi. Ke bo ke tseye le yone nako e bagaetsho ke re, a mewa ya bana ba botlhe le Batswana botlhe ba ba neng ba tlhoka lesego, ba latlhegelwa ke matshelo a bone mo nakong e e thata e, e robale ka kagiso.

Mr Speaker, mma ke boele kwa *budget* e, ke leboge Tona wa Madi *and the Vice President of this Republic*, *Honourable* Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe *for the proposed budget for the 2025/26 financial year*. *Mr Speaker*, *this budget explicitly presents the financial state of the country as it is. Honestly and devoid of denial; denial* ke maswabi ka gore bo Rre Lucas ga ba yo fa, Batlotlegi ba ba ithutetseng tsone dikgang tse. Ke selo se se sa nngang sentle thata ka gore fa o ipelaetsa kana o sa kgone go dumela gore o mo seemong se se ntseng jang, go tle go nne le ditlamorago tse di sa nngang sentle. Fa *budget* e e ne e ka se ka ya bua seemo sa itsholelo jaaka se ntse, re ne re tlaabo re le Puso ya letsatsi re ithala ka thipa mpeng. Re ne re tloga re iphitlhela re bipile ka mpa dikgang tse di thata tsa madi tse e leng gore ga se rona re tlisiseng seemo sa teng. Ke a itse gore go le gantsi go etle gotwe ke pina e re e opelang, naare re tlaa fetsa go lela leng, go lebalwe gore gatwe ngwana yo o sa lelang o swela tharing. Ke tlhomamise gore re santse re tlile go lela, re santse re tlile go opela pina ya gore e re fela jaaka re tsena mo Pusong, re fitlhela e le gore sepatšhe sele madi a teng a nolwe ke kgaupe. Re santse re shebasheba mo re tla ka methale ya go sekaseka gore ga tla jang gore e re re tsena mo Pusong e bo e le gore sepatšhe se re siela ruri, re sala fela re le mo dipharagobeng. Kgang e Batswana ba tshwanetse go e itse, ba e tlhaloganye, ba e amogele, gore e re fa go botswa dipotso tsa gore ba rile *in 100 days* e le UDC fa ba tsaya Puso ba tlaabo ba dirile se le se, Batswana ba nne mo seemong sa go tlhalosetsa Batswana ba bangwe gore ee, UDC e na le maitlamo le maikaelelo le mo nakong ya gompiano go tswelala e diragatsa ditsholofetso tsa yone. Kana madi a araba mathata a otlhe, ga go na kwa re ka tsamayang ra utswa teng fa re fitlhela madi a tsamaile.

Mo nakong ya gompiano, ga re nke re nankola sepe le fa e le ope...

MR MOALOSI: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga Tona. Ke re gongwe ke go botse gore kana fa go dirwa *budget* jaaka e dirilwe jaana, go dirisiwa *projected income*, madi a a

tlaa tlang, e seng a a mo sepatsheng. Jaanong le dira jang le le Goromente gore le dire gore madi a a tlaa tlang a nne mantsi gore le kgone go dira ditsholofetso tsa lona? Madi a gotweng a jelwe *would not have been projected for on this budget* ka gore le dirisa madi a a tlaa tlang a diteemane, a SACU, jalo, jalo. Tanki.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Ke a leboga *Honourable* Moalosi, ke potso e e maleba gore ke *projections*, mme kana re se ka ra lebala gore letlhaku le le sha le agelwa mo go le le gologolo. Ga go na motho yo o a tlang a *run business* a sena madi a *stock*, jaanong fa o fitlhela go sena le one a *stock* tota, kana go raya gore le fa o dira *projection, probability* ke gore o ya go tswelera o bereka ka *deficit*. Re tlaa leka rra jaaka o ntse o utlwa re tloga re saena ditumalano tse di nonneng le bo De Beers jaana. Re ntse re tswela kwa ntle *like you mentioned* bo SACU tota, re tlaa batla kwa madi a leng teng mongwame. Fela tota go botlhokwa gore re tlhologanye manokonoko a go simolola sengwe le sengwe mo legoeleleng, eo re tshwanetse re e gatise. Fa o sena madi a *stock*, ga o na madi a *stock*, ke gone gore o bo o tsamaya o ya go adima, fa *market* o wa, o jelwe gale. Ke tsone dikgwetlho tse e leng gore re le Puso e ntsha, re iphitlhela re le mo go tsone.

Ke rile ke *budget* e e senang *denial*, ke santse ke tsamaya foo mme ke a sutelela *Mr Speaker*. Ke *budget* e e amang botshelo jwa Motswana mongwe le mongwe. Motswana mongwe le mongwe fa a leng teng a reeditse *budget* ya ga *Honourable* Ndaba Gaolathe, o kgona gore le ene a re mme *budget* e e nkama jaana. Ke sone se *budget* e tshwanetseng go se dira, ke tlaa goroga kwa go reng e ama Batswana jang ka go farologana.

Mo godimo ga moo, e re ntswa re na le dikgwedi fela di le tharo, go feta boraronyana fela, *Honourable* Ndaba Gaolathe a bo a emelela fela a tla ka *budget* e e nonofileng jaaka yone e, e e kgonang go supa tebelopele ya gore go tlhokafala gore go dirisiwe bokae mo go eng. Selo se se supa gore re Goromente yo o nang le maikaelelo, yo o itsetsepetseng. Le fa diemo tse di re farafareng e se tse di monate, mme re Goromente yo o nang le maikaelelo gore go le pula le go se pula, re tsile go fenya. *That is the UDC Government for you.*

Mr Speaker, o nne o ntetlelela ke tshoma gannyane mo dikgannyeng tse ke sa kgoneng go di bua ka Setswana. *I would like to say at this point in time that as the financial storm rages all around us, we still bear a torch of hope knowing that the storm shall eventually subside. Mr Speaker, allow me to quote from the holy book to help*

elucidate on the condition that we find ourselves in as the UDC Government. Let me quote from 2nd Corinthians 4:8 NIV. "We are hard pressed on every side but not crushed, perplexed but not in despair, persecuted but not abandoned, struck down but not destroyed." E le yone itsetsepelo ya gore le fa re dikadikilwe ke dipuo, merwalela, letlhoko la madi ga re ise re bo re felele. Re santse re le teng, re tshela. Re santse re itsetsepitse e bile re tshwere maikano a gore re santse re tlile go goga tshaba e ka boammaaruri, bonokopila gore re gogele lefatshe la rona kwa itsholelong e e nonneng, e e tlileng go akolwa ke Batswana ba botlhe. Seo re tlile go se dira. *Give us three years.*

Mr Speaker, Rre Ndaba o buile mo *budget* ya gagwe a re, *"like the phoenix we shall rise again."* Batswana ba tlhokana le gore ba kgothadiwe mo nakong e, ba tlhologanye gore Goromente wa bone o tshwere ka thata ka gore o santse a tlile go emelela, go mekamekana le diemo tse re mo go tsone go ba isa kwa lefatsheng la Kanana.

Ke tsene mo go yone *Budget Speech*, e itebagantse le *dilapidated infrastructure across all sectors of the economy*. Ke bue gore mo bojaanong tota ke rata Modimo ka gore e re go kwadilwe dilo *on budget*, go na le bangwe ba ba ipelaetsang gore ammaaruri go na le ditsela, ba boleletse setshaba mo 58 *years* gore go na le dikole. Fa re le kwa *opposition* re na le bo *Honourable* Hikuama; *firebrands*, fa re botsa Domkrag ka dinako tse tsotlhe gore la re le tlhabolola motho leng? *That should be a question* ya Motswana mongwe le mongwe yo o mo ikgaratlhelong. Le le Goromente wa Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) la re le tlhabolola Motswana leng? Fa ba tshwanetse gore ba re arabe ba ne ba re raya ba re, "re agile dikole di le kana, re agile tsela kwa bokete, re agile *clinics* kwa bokete." Modimo ene yo, yo o nang le boammaaruri, yo o itseng go tsaya tse di fitlhegileng a di baya mo godimo ga tafole, maabane fa merwalela e goroga ka dipula tse di matsorotsoro, boammaaruri jwa iponatsa sentle gore ka nnete re ntse re beilwe bobi mo matlhong. Ke bua jaana e le gore dikole tse go neng gotwe di agilwe di tletse motlhaba, diretse le metsi mo nakong ya gompiano. Ke tsaya gore bo *honourable* go tswa kwa Okavango ba a nyenya ba tlhologanya seemo se ba mpoleletseng ka sone maloba. Ke a leboga.

Fa re lebelela ditsela gompiano, hey batho! Le kile la bona tsela e kgophelwa kwa ntle ga tsela? Ke tse di diragetseng. Sekontere se tlhatswetswa kwa ntle ga tsela. Domkrag e ne e tle e re fa e bua e re e na le



motlhala, mme ke netefaletse Batswana gompiano gore ammaaruri ba ne ba bua nnete ba na le motlhala wa go tlhoka go dira kana go dirisa madi a setšhaba sa Botswana go tlhabolola lefatshe le. Go ne go tsewa fela e le *cut and paste*. E kile ya re dinako tse dingwe ke le kwa dipepereng batho bangwe ba tsere sekonterenyana sengwe ba sa epa lefatshe ba se tshetse kwa lefelong lengwe, ka emelela ka re e tlaa re fa o tlaa itse gore go na le tsela e e dirwang go tlhoafetswe, o lebelele tsela nngwe e e epilweng, e e katetsweng, e e tantapetsweng dikgwedi di feta *six* kana dingwaga tse pedi, o itse gore eo ke tsela. E le gore Phathi ya Domkrag e eme ka dinao e tshela sekondere gongwe le gongwe mo godimo ga mmu le lerole, e tsamaya e penta matlo a batho *without being plastered*. Ke one matlhotlhapelo a re iphitlhelang e le gore Batswana *for 58 years* ba tsene mo go one, re leka ka bojotlhe go ba kaela gore lefatshe le wela ka motlhobodika mme go sena ope yo o dumelang. Ke tsaya gore morago ga merwalela e le *political education* ga re e tlhoke ka gore mongwe le mongwe o iponetse; rotlhe fela jaaka re ntse jaana re le mo Pusong le mo kganetsong tota.

Re tshwanetse gore fa go nna jaana re ipotse gore tota fela *Mr Speaker*, fa re iphitlhela re le mo mathateng a a kanakana, matsapa di a tsaya kae? Ke araba fela ke tlhamaletse gore sebe sa phiri mo mathateng a otlhe a ke Domkrag. Ke gore ke bua jaana gore Domkrag e se ka ya ba ya re kamoso ya emelela ya raya Batswana ya re re santse re ka dira se ka gore manokonoko a re mo go one a ke Domkrag, ka motlhala o o papametseng wa go tlhoka go dirisa madi a setšhaba sentle. Kana fa o utlwa ke papamatsa gone go tlhoka go dirisa madi a setšhaba sentle, ke ikalela moalo wa gore gotsweng fa ke bo ke itse gore kana Rre Ndaba ene a re madi a o batla a tlhokomelwa jang.

Mr Speaker, go kile ga nna le dikgang maloba gone fa tsa gore fa e le gore re itemogetse gore ga gona madi, ke goreng re sa rekise dikoloi? Re rekisa dikoloi dife tse di onetseng tse re tsamayang ka tsone, tse e leng gore di ka tlisa bokae? Ke gore ke dikgang tse e leng gore fa gongwe fa o di lebelela, o tle o ipotse gore tota gatweng.

Ke tsena mo ntlheng e e bothokwa e e mo *budget*, e e buisang kgang ya *corruption*. Ka nako ya BDP bargaetsho, *corruption had become a culture; a way of life*. Leroborobo le gompiano re santseng re eme ka dinao re batla go tla ka metlhale ya gore tota re ka alafa jang. Ke tsone tse UDC gompiano e dirang melawana, le tlaa utlwa re ntse re tla Palamenteng gore le fetise melao mengwe e e gagamatsang ka fa *corruption* tota

e ka nyelediwang ka teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Kana go leka go fedisa *corruption* go ya ka fa *budget* e beilweng ka teng, re lebelele ka fa dithoto di rekwang ka teng. Madi a mantsi a setšhaba a senyegile ka one motlhala o.

Ke ne ke bua le *Legal Advisor* kwa *Ministry* wa *Child Welfare and Basic Education*, a mpolelela gore fa go na le mongwe wa melao e e gagametseng, e e *strong* tota ke wa *procurement*. Ka ipotsa gore fa molao o o le teng o gagametseng jalo, ga tla jang gore sepatšhe se nne se dutle fela. Go raya gore golo gongwe go na le ba ba neng ba nna le boitseme jwa go diragatsa melao e. Re itse sentle gore re le ba UDC diphatlha tse re tlile go di thiba. Molao o tlile go salwa morago gore sengwe le sengwe se kgone go dirwa se bo se tswa ka fa tshwanelong. *We are going to enhance transparency*. Dilo di tshwanetse di direlwe mo pontsheng, *gone are the days* mo o tlaa fitlhelang dilo di direlwa mo sephiring, mme Puso e le ya Botswana. Kgantele o bo o fitlhela e fetotswe ya batho ba ba tsenang mo seatleng.

Mr Speaker, kana re ka ipotsa gore tota fela thoothoo ra re re batla go alafa tshenyego ya madi ka eng? *Honourable* Gaolathe mo *budget* o bua ka go emisa go dutlisa madi a setšhaba, *wastage*. Re a itse gore Rre Matsheka o kile a bua mme le rona re ntse re a bua gompiano. Go bua fela ga go ka ke ga re thusa sepe, re tshwanetse gore re tle ka metlhale ya gore re thibe dipatšhe tse le dikgetsi tse di dutlang.

Go tsweng fa *Mr Speaker*, re bua ka State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs). Re na le SOEs tse di ntsi. Re a di itse, kwa lephateng lame di di ntsi, bo Botswana Examinations Council (BEC), Botswana Teaching Professionals Council (BOTPECO) jalojalo. Ke maitlamo a ga Goromente gore ga re na go tlhola *in the name of subvention*, re nnetse go ntsha madi a rona fela mme re sa itse kwa thebe nngwe le nngwe e yang teng. Go raya gore re eme ka dinao re le Goromente re thibe diphatlha. *They must account for every* thebe e ba e neetsweng. Fa re ka dira jalo, re ka tswela ra solofela ra bo ra sireletsa itsholelo ya lefatshe le.

Mr Speaker, e e nkgathileng thata *is a human rights approach, the right to shelter*. Jaaka bakaulengwe ba setse ba buile, go direlwa go tsholetsa seriti sa Motswana ka go netefatsa gore o na le bonno jo bo faphegileng. Re tlaa fetola leina kana re kopa gore go fetolwe leina go tswa kwa go bo Self-Help Housing Agency (SHHA) e e leng gore *it is associated* le sengwe fela, re dire bonno. Fa re re bonno jalo, re tla ka *designs* tsa sekwalejwale, re

tlabo re tsholetsa seriti sa Motswana mme re netefatsa gore re aga matlo a a fetang 100, 000. Re netefatse gore Batswana ba bantsi ba kgona go nna le bodulo.

Mr Speaker, let me in three minutes, turn to my ministry, Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education. Ke batla go tlhalosa gore *ministry* o ke eng ka gore go le gantsi fa re bua ka *ministry* o le mo Ntlong yone e, ke utlwa e le gore bodiwa ka dilo tsa thuto fela. Nnyaa betsho, go na le tlamelwa ya bana mo lephateng le, *which is the core foundation of the ministry.* Ke *ministry* o e leng gore o tlamela ngwana go tswa kwa go *zero years to 18 or 19 years.* Ka fa tlase ga *ministry* o, re bua ka bomme ba ba itsholofetseng, bana ba ba sa tswang go tsholwa, ba ba kwa *nursery schools, kwa pre-schools, ba ba kwa primary schools, baithuti ba ba kwa junior secondary schools le ba senior secondary schools.* Bomme ba ba itsholofetseng ba, re tshwanetse gore re netefatse gore ba na le dijo tse di nang le dikotla. Bana le bone fa ba tsholwa, ba na le mephuthelwana e e tlaa ba thusang kana e thusa batsadi ba bone go ba tlamela.

Mr Speaker, at this juncture, ke lebogele P300 o o neelwang bana. Gongwe ke tlhalose gore bagaetsho ke papametse, P300 o ga se wa bo mmabana. Nnyaa, P300 o ke wa bana. Bo mmabana ba *entrusted* gore ba dirise madi a ba a dirisetse bana. Re tlile go tla ka metlhale re le lephata go netefatsa gore madi a ga a tsewe a bo a ya go dirisediwa se sele. A tlile go tsewa a dirisediwa bana jaaka ba ntse. Jaaka *Honourable Chombo* a sa tswa go bua, fa ngwana a tlamelwa a le monnyennyane, a rutiwa a le monnyennyane, ke gone go aga tšhaba e e nonofileng e e nang le boikarabelo.

Re le ba lephata, re mo dipuisanyong le *partners* tse di bidiwang Think Equal, ba ba tlang ka mothale wa gore *curriculum* ya rona e tsenye *value-based education.* Mo bana ba tlaa rutiwang go tlhomphana, go ratana, ke raya ba neelana ka lerato, e seng ka tsela e *Honourable Hikuama* ke bonang a e tshaga. A re tlhomphaneng, re rataneng, re neelaneng gore re tle re fokotse...

“EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERSHIP”

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: Nnyaa, ke tlaa go neela kwa bofelong *comrade.* Gore re tle re fokotse GBV. *Socialisation process is very important.* Gore o ruta eng ngwana kwa tshimologong, ke sone se se tlaa supang gore kwa phelelong o nna eng.

Madam Speaker, kana re lephata le e leng gore re tlhokana le *infrastructure.* Re tlhokana le *infrastructure*

jaaka dipula di sa tswa go senya, mme ke leboge gore rona re filwe *budget* e tona. Le fa e sa lekana, ke tsaya gore re tlaa sutelela go leka go baakanya dikole tse di kgautlhaneng tse gore go nne le *child-friendly schools.* Ga re felele foo ka gore re tlamela bana, ba boipelego, ga ke batle gore bo mmaboipelego, ba boipelego ba tlaa emelela ba tsena mo malwapeng. Re setse re ntshitse *template* ya mofuta oo gompiano, ba sekaseka gore bana ba tshela jang kwa malwapeng gore re tle re kgone go ba tlhokomela *holistically.*

Ke bue jaana gore re santse re tlile go kgona go duela barutabana le bangwe ba *temporary teachers* kwa re ba tlhokang teng. Ka yone *budget* e, re santse re tlaa kgona go duela bo *social workers, nutritionists* le *psychologists.* E bile re batla go tla ka mogopolo wa gore mo motseng mongwe le mongwe, go nne le *centre* nngwe e e leng gore e itebagantse le go phutha bo maitseanape ba ke ntseng ke ba balolola gore ba kgone kwa dikoleng tse di mo motseng oo, ba kgone go fitlhelwa ke bana mo nakong e khutshwane. Le ka bo le ntse le opa diatla ka gore tota ke *initiative* e ntšhantšha ya mofuta oo.

A re bue ka *school feeding* e e tsewang motlhofo. E rile fa ke le kwa Japan ga gatelelwa *homegrown school feeding programmes.* Re emeletse gore re netefatse fa e ne e se dipula tse di bodisitseng dijwalo tse, gore ba ba mo gae, ba ba bapileng le dikole e nne bone ba ba lemanang, go tsenya itsholelo *or* matsana mo dipateng tsa bone le gore bana ba kgone go nna le dijo tse di *fresh.*

Ke ka ya kwa kgaolong mo motsotsong o le mongwefela pele ga ke tsaya *clarifications.* Go na le kgaolo ya Kgatleng East e ke batlileng go tlhophiwa teng ka tlhabela mme ka 30 fela. Ke kwa go nang le matlhotlhapelo a ke eletsang gore ka gore re rile *budget* e tota e tsewedisa *projects* tse di ntseng di le teng, mo nakong e e tlang gongwe go lebelelwe ditsela ka gore dikgaolo tse di tswelang kwa ntle kwa bo Oliphant’s Drift ka bana ba ba yang kwa bo Leshibitse jalo, ga gona le fa e le tsela e le nngwefela. Ke tsaya gore e tlaa re mo nakong e e tlang, re thusiwe ka gore *infrastructure* fa e le teng e tlaa isa ditlhabololo koo le ditiro. Le yone *primary hospital* e e saleng gotwe e a agiwa kwa Mabalane o kare e ka tlhomiwa ka pela. Gape mo dikoleng re fitlhela e le gore bommamanthwane ba tlhasetse dikole, *classrooms* di a nkga, mme ke tsaya gore ba lephata le le lebaganeng ba tlaa ikatumetsa go alafa bolwetse jo. Le mo *hostels* lefatshe ka bophara, di *overcrowded.* Ke tsaya gore re tlaa thusiwa gore re di atolose gore bana ba kgone go nna sentle.



Ke tsaya gore mo nakong yone e, ke ka supa gore ke *support budget* e bagaetsho. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*, ke ka sutela *clarifications*.

MR MOROLONG: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Tona. Ke ne ke re ke botse motlotlegi gore mo kgannyeng ya bana ba ba tsholwang ba le bannye ba bo ba fiwa lemmonyana *for 12 months*, gakere motlotlegi kana mo ga go reye gore bo rrabana ba itlhokomolose maikarabelo a bone a go tlhokomela bana, le bone bo mmabana ga go reye gore jaanong ba bo ba ka lebala katolosanyo tsholo?

MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA: *Honourable* Morolong o bua kgang e tona, bomme le borre ba tshwanetse gore ba se ka ba ithola boikarabelo jwa go tlhokomela bana. Ke a leboga.

MR SEGOKGO: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga. O e tshwere sentle *Honourable Minister*, ke raya jaaka *ceiling* ya kwa Sekoleng sa Matlala e wele, re ne re beile batho teng, mo *evacuation centres*. Ka o tlamela bana, ke utlwile o bua bontle ka dikole tsone tse. A o raya gore ke tshephe ka fa o buang ka teng gore le ba Matlala ba tlaa bona sengwenyana mo *budget* gore *ceiling* ya bone e e kwa *kitchen*, e e mo *classrooms*...

MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG): E tshaile *Honourable* Segokgo.

MR KAIZER (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST): *Thank you Madam Speaker.* Ke leboegele motsotso o o nnetseng gore le nna ke tle ke tshwaele mo pegong ya ga Tona wa madi. Ke simolole ka go dumedisisa Batswana kwa lwapeng le batlotlegi mo Ntlong e.

Madam Speaker, tsaya puo ya me e le lentswe la banana ba ba iphitlhelang ba sa bereke ba gobeya mo mekgwatlheng. Tsaya puo ya me *Madam Speaker*, e le lentswe la babereki ba *filling stations*, ba ba berekang *in the firms*, ba ba iphitlhelang ba tshelela mo diemong tse di makgwakgwa, ba neelwa dikonteraka tsa pereko tsa kgwedi go ya kwa go ya boraro.

Tsaya sebaka se gape *Madam Speaker* o amogele puo ya me e le lentswe la babereki ba pele ba BCL ba ba iphitlhelang e le gore ga ba na matlo a bonno. Ba iphitlhela gape ba le kwa dikgolegolong ka mabaka a tshwetso e e neng ya tsewa ke Goromente yo o fetileng. *Madam Speaker*, tsaya puo e gape e le lentswe la barutabana ba nakwana le babereki botlhe ba nakwana ba e leng gore ga ba ise ba neelwe kana ga ba ise ba hirwe ka mo gotweng *permanent and pensionable*.

Tsaya puo ya me gape *Madam Speaker* e le lentswe la banalebogole ba ba iphitlhelang ba le mo diemong tse di sa nnang sentle.

Fa re lebelela *budget* ya gompiano, e didimetse e sa bue sepe ka banalebogole gore ba tlamelwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Batlhokomedi ba banalebogole ba mo mathateng ka tsela e e ntseng jaana, go na le lemmonyana lengwe le le thusang banalebogole. Lemmonyana lone le, fa le ka fitlhela e le gore nna ke le motlamedi wa monalebogole o kare gongwe ke na le letsenonyana le go akanngwang gore le botoka, o kare thulaganyo yone e jaanong e tsaya monalebogole e mmeela fale e mo aroganya le motlamedi wa gagwe. Kgang yone e *Madam Speaker*, re tshwanetse ra e lebelela re tsentse leitlho.

DR DOW: *Elucidation.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke ne ke re o e tshwere sentle mokaulengwe. Ke ne ke re ke *elucidate* kgang e, ka gore tota fela ba fiwa P300.00 ka kgwedi, ga a tle ka nako, o duelwa *every three months*, golo mo go ka fa mosing, mo e leng gore ke ipotsa gore P300.00 wa batsetsi a o tsile go kgonagala, o tsile go tswa jang. *To deliver* P300.00 go a tura, *so we have to have a system* ya gore o mo *deliver* jang. Tota bone nako le nako fa ba go bona o feta, kana o kwa phitlhong kana lenyalong, mongwe o tsile go go tseela fa thoko, a re “Mma Dow a ko le bueng ka kgang e, madi a rona a tla *late*, re sale re fiwa dikarata ke tse gotwe a tlaa tsena mo teng, ga a tsene mo teng.” Ke dumalana le wena mokaulengwe.

MR KAIZER: *Thank you Honourable* Unity Dow. Go ntse fela jalo jaaka o bua *honourable*, ke one mathata a re lebaganeng le one.

Fa ke tsewedisa mo puong ya me *Madam Speaker*, la bofelo o tseye kgatiso e, ya puo ya me e le lentswe la bo rradikgwebo ba ba iphitlhelang ba gweba mo lefatsheng la Botswana, segolobogolo jang ba gweba le Goromente. Goromente o ba beile ka fa mosing. Goromente ga a duele bagwebi ka nako, golo gone mo *Madam Speaker*, go iphitlhela e le gore go tsenya dikompone tsa Batswana mo mathateng a a seng kana ka sepe *because of late payments even to non-payments*. Go na le *an African proverb* e e reng, ‘*a cat that dreams of becoming a lion must first lose its appetite for rats.*’ Katse e e eletsang gore e ipone e le tau, e le sebatana se se nang le maatla jaaka se bua, se tshwanetse gore se se ka sa tlhola se nna le dikakanyonyana tse di kwa tlase tsa go alolana le dipeba. *You need to aim high*, mme sone se, re se bone e kare se tsamaisana le Goromente wa gompiano wa UDC. Goromente yo, o re beile maitlamo

pele a gore ba ya go direla eng Batswana, *they were dreaming big*, ba ne ba batla go ipona ba tshwana le tau. *Madam Speaker*, Goromente yo ka fa a neng a lora ka teng a ya kwa Batswaneng, Batswana ba ne ba bona gore mo ke te mane, fa re ka tlhophisa Goromente yo, ammaruri re le Batswana re tlaabo re itiretse sentle. O foo, ke fano re kopana fa, *Madam Speaker*, Goromente wa UDC, o mekamekane le dipeba tsa Domkrag. Goromente wa UDC ga a dire maikaelelo a a neng a a beile Batswana pele. O kae P4000.00? O kae P2500.00 wa bana ba dikole? O kae P2500.00 wa Ipelegeng? Ke yone kgang e ke e buang ke re ba tabogile le dipeba, ba tabogile le mananeo a Domkrag.

Budget e ba e dirileng e, *Madam Speaker*, ba e dirile fa godimo ga Transitional National Development Plan (TNDP) ya phathi ya Domkrag. Ke tshwere pampiri ke e fa, o re ga ke bue boammaaruri...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification comrade.

MR KAIZER: ...e bile le kopa gore *this* TNDP le e oketse ka *seven months*, fa e le gore le ne le dira *budget*, le ne le e dira mo go eng?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Ke kopa tlhaloso.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: *Point of order Madam Speaker.*

MR KAIZER: *Madam Speaker*, go na le puo e nngwe ke ye ka Sekgoa, ke ba neela *solution*.

MR LEKAU: *Point of order. Good afternoon Madam Speaker.* Ke ne ke re ke tlhalose gore motlotlegi o dule mo tsamaisong, ka gore a bo a re *Budget* e dirilwe fa godimo ga dipeba tsa Domkrag. Ke re ke tlhalose gore *the issue* ya *Budget is constitutional, it is on Section 117 up to 119, if he can read that* e tlaa mmolelela gore *Budget* e e dirilwe e tswa fa kae.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: E seng mo dipebeng.

MR LEKAU: Is neither...

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

MR LEKAU: The order that I am trying to establish here is *Budget ga e a dirwa ka Transitional Plan*, e bile ga e tsamaelane le yone. *E bile ga go dirisiwe plan go dira Budget*, it is on the Constitution and *re e dirile* according to the Constitution. So he will be misleading

batho fa a ba raya a re re e dirile ka Transitional Plan. Thank you very much.

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable* Kaizer, gatwe *Budget* ga e a dirwa jaaka o bua, tlhalosa.

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure Madam Speaker. Madam*, fa re ka tsamaya jaana Ntlo e e tlaa tswa mo tseleng. Jaanong re ise re ye kae, re ise re nyoboke, se se neng se buiwa ke *Honourable* Lekau ga se *order, it is an argument against what this honourable is presenting.* Ke gore *order* ke gore motho a bo a dule mo tsamaisong ya Palamente. Jaanong *you have to rule first. You have to rule* gore a o dumalana le ene gore ke *order, which I doubt you will agree with him* gore *he was not raising a point of order, he was just presenting his alternative views* ka fa a bonang rre yo a dira ka teng.

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable* Hikuama, *I think point of order* ka fa ke neng ke mo utlwa ka teng, o ne a leka go tlhalosa gore ga go a direlwa *Budget* mo godimo ga ya Domkrag, jaaka a ne a bua. Go ne go lebilwe...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Ee, ke gore ke sone se ke le kang go se tlhalosa gore, nna ke ne ke utlwa a leka gore o dule mo tseleng ka gore a re go diretswa *Budget* mo godimo ga TNDP.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further procedure Mr Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: O mpitsa *Mr Speaker* wena Mma Dow.

DR DOW: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, ke ne ke re ...

MADAM SPEAKER: O ntse o tsweletse wa re ke *Mr Speaker*?

DR DOW: Madam Speaker Sir.

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

DR DOW: My apologies, my apologies. ...*(Laughter!)*... *Ke ne ke re boammaaruri ke gore*, further point of procedure *ke e*, not only is he wrong in saying *gore, se a se buang ke* point of procedure, *gape ga a bue boammaaruri, ka gore Budget e Transitional Plan e mo teng, gakere.* So there are two things; first of all he is arguing with the person on the floor and secondly he is presenting his argument as a point of order, it is not Madam Speaker. *Ke re gongwe rule fela gore the*



gentleman on the floor must continue with his debate. Gape...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Dow, ke utlwile, thank you. Can you continue Honourable Kaizer. Honourable Members, ke kopa gore le fokotse bo *point of order* ba ba ntsi. Ke ntse ke le mo Palamenteng ga le ise le ko le dire jaaka le dira jaana, ke tswa to *change Speaker*, le a simolola.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

MR KAIZER: Thank you Madam Speaker. *Fa o buile jalo o a bo o reile gore motlotlegi o re tshamekeseditse nako. Jaanong tlaa ke tswelole.* Madam Speaker, go na le puo e nngwe gape ya Sekgoa ya re, “when a wolf realises that it is losing against another and understands that there is no chance of winning, it offers its jugular to the opponent that is winning, thereby sparing the life of the other, both wolves would walk away and the circle of life continues.” Tlaa ke tthalose se Madam Speaker ka ke bona o kare Minister wa Health o tsiediwa ke Sekgoa.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

MR KAIZER: Se ke se buang ke se Madam Speaker, gore phologolo e e bidiwang *wolf* fa di lwa, e e bonang gore *it is losing* gantsinyana e tsaya molala wa yone e o neela e e lwang le yone. *This is a sign to say, you have defeated me. Now I am trying to relate this to this Government* gore, *it is leadership to...*

MR KWAPA: Procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, *motlotlegi fale fa a tthalosa* responding to the national Budget, *ke utlwa a tthasela Motlotlegi Tona Dr Modise*, but he has not said anything. So he is imposing or saying an improper motive against the Honourable Minister. So he should withdraw those words and apologise accordingly. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR KAIZER: Madam Speaker, batho ba ba batla go ntshenyetsa *debate*...

MADAM SPEAKER: Continue Honourable Kaizer.

MR KAIZER: Ee, o ba kgalemele ba tlogele go ntshenyetsa *debate*. Ke ne ke santse ke tthalosa Madam Speaker gore, *it is leadership to accept that you are losing in terms of implementing your manifesto. You need to accept that*, ka gore go a lebege le *on this Budget* ga go na sepe sa ditsholofetso tse phathi e e busang ba ikaeletseng go di dira.

Madam Speaker, jaanong tlaa ke boele kwa toropong ya me ya Selebi Phikwe bo *honourable* ba tle ba heme phefo. Tla ke tseye sebaka se ke leboge barutabana ba toropo ya Selebi Phikwe, gore mo maduong a dikole a a sa tswang go ntshiwa, dikole tsa Selebi Phikwe di dirile go tlaa ka diatla.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI): *Point of order.* Ke ne ke re Madam Speaker o beye motlotlegi mo tseleng, dipuo tse a di buang di tlaa mo tsenya mo mathateng, di diphatsa thata dikgang tse a di buang. Kana a re mo ditsholofetsong tsa rona tsotlhe tse re neng re di solofeditse batho, ga go na sepe gotlhelele se re se dirileng se re se solofeditseng morafe, *though* tse dingwe re di dirile. Tse dingwe *we explained* gore ke ka go reng di sa diragala. Jaanong fa a bua jalo ke *statement* se go ka tweng se *blanket*. O latlha setšhaba labofelofelo, ke sone se ke reng, dikgang tseo di tlaa go tsenya mo diphatseng tsa gore re se ka ra go neela wa tswelole o bua o ntsha Ntlo e mo tseleng. Re tlaa nna re ntse re go kgoreletsa go go baya mo tseleng, mme ga se maikaelelo a rona.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Kaizer, gatwe wa re ga go na sepe se se diragetseng sa ditsholofetso, o ka ikarabela.

MR HIKUAMA: *On further point of procedure* Madam Speaker. O batla go e tshwara, mme o e tla o ntse o gatoga *pedal*. Rre Motsamai ga a na *point order* e a e ntshitseng, *and you have to rule*. Ke gore *for you to control* Mapalamente, *to control us you have to rule...*

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

MR HIKUAMA: I am an Opposition Whip, I have to assist the Speakership *gore e tsamaisa Palamente e sentle*. You have to rule, and *bo Rre* Motsamai are debating. *Ke gore* that thing you should pick it, they are just submitting against what the Honourable Member has presented. That is presentation, it is not a point of order.

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

MR HIKUAMA: Those are different views.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Hikuama, *let me clarify something from you, if somebody is saying* ga go a dirwa sepesepe mo thulaganyong ya *manifesto* e bo ba ngongorega gore ga a bua nnete, a mme o bua nnete ene? Ke raya gore nna ke ne ke re a ikarabele kana.

MR HIKUAMA: That is an argument, *ga a tswa mo tseleng*. It is an argument.

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

MR HIKUAMA: *It is argument, they can correct. Go na le mo gotweng to correct and being out of order. That is an argument, se a se buang ba se tlhologanya jang. It depends on how a Parliamentary debate, e supa gore wena fa o re ga a dira sepe, o bua ka eng. Motho ga a ka ke a tlhopho line e nngwefela, a bo a re ka re dirile mo.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Hikuama, but fa motho a bua jalo a sa bue nnete, a ga ke ka ke ka mo raya ka re tsena mo tseleng o bue nnete? Honourable Kaizer, clarify kgang ele.*

MR KAIZER: *Thank you Madam Speaker. Fa o ne o reeditse puo ya me, ke buile ka P4000 wa living wage. Ke boditse gore o kae, ga ba a mo diragatsa. Fa e le gore ba mo diragaditse ba ka tlhalosa gone fa. Ka buile ka P2500 wa Ipelegeng, fa e le gore ba mo diragaditse, ba ka tlhalosa gore ba mo diragaditse. Ke buile ka P2500.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Tota ke ne ke batla clarity on what you said, o re ga ba a dira sepesepe. Ke ne ke batla moo fela gore a ba a ipelaetsa sentle, o buile jalo ne?*

MR KAIZER: *Ke goroga gone koo Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Okay.*

MR KAIZER: *Ke tsone tse ke di tlhalositseng tse. Fa ke fetsa go di tlhalosa ke bo ke bua gore, ga ba a di diragatsa, ga ba a dira sepe, ke sena go nna ke di nankola. Ke tsone tse ke buang ka tsone. Fa e le gore go na le dingwe tse ba akanyang gore ba di dirile, tseo ga ke ise ke di bue Madam Speaker.*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: *Procedure Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Kekgonegile, I hope ga o tle to continue with these because ke batla Honourable Kaizer a tswelela, nako e tsamaile.*

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Procedure. Madam Speaker, ke gore fa o batla Honourable Kaizer a tswelela, you need to rule on that, so that Honourable Kaizer can continue with the flow ya debate ya gagwe. Fa Honourable Kaizer ene a bona se se dirilweng e se sepe, it is his view. Fa bone ba bona se se dirilweng e le sone, it is their view. So ga go wrong gore two sides of the House can have a difference of opinion, but it is not out of order for that to*

happen. It is just political intervention of what is going to...

MADAM SPEAKER: *Thank you Honourable Kekgonegile, kana o tsene fa gare, ke ne ke santse ke reeditse se rre yo a neng a se tlhalosa, gore ke bo ke boela ka fa, o ntseneletse fa gare.*

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Issue ya teng e fa Madam Speaker, ga go tlhokafale gore e bo e le gore Honourable Kaizer o tlhalosa sepe, from the...*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Ke a leboga Honourable Kekgonegile, ke utlwile.*

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Madam Speaker, o bona fa o ka e tsaya jalo, Palamente e tlaa tsenyega dingalo.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Ke utlwile. Ke kopa gore o nne fa fatshe, ke utlwile. Honourable Disho! ke kopa gore o ntebe fa ke go bitsa. Ke kopa gore o fokotse gore fa batho ba bangwe ba bua, le wena o bue. Ga ke utlwe go tswa fa, o a tlhodia.*

Honourable Members, ga ke gane gore ke santse ke ka gakololwa, but ke kopa gore fa gongwe le itse gore nako e a tsamaya. Le ne le bolelelwa this morning mo General Assembly gore nako e tsamaile ya dipotso, e tshaile, but you continue doing the same things tse le nnang le di dira, le ya go feletsa le tshaisa ka eight bosigo, le bo le boa le ngongorega gape. Continue Honourable Kaizer.

MR KAIZER: *Thank you Madam Speaker, kana ke buile gore batho ba ba ntshamekisetsa nako Madam Speaker. Ke ne ke santse ke bua ka dikgang tsa Phikwe Madam Speaker, ke re ke lebogela gore dikole tsa Phikwe di bo di ntshitse maduo a mantle mo ditlhatlhobong tse di sa tswang go feta. Out of dikole tse 14 tsa primary, the lowest that we attained is 83 per cent.*

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

MR KAIZER: *Re bo re nna le dikole Madam Speaker, that attained 100 per cent. We have three schools, e le Mount Pleasant, Morula Primary le Kopano Primary School. They attained 100 per cent.*

Kwa go tsa Junior Certificate (JC) Madam Speaker, sekole fela se go ka tweng ga se a dira sentle, se dirile 52.3 per cent, mme se se kwa godimo sone se dirile 74.9 per cent. Jaanong maduo a Madam Speaker, ke maduo a re tswang le one kgakala re le toropo ya Selebi Phikwe. Jaanong gangwe le gape re nna re bua kgang ya gore, Selebi Phikwe o tshwanetse gore re mo reward. Kgang



ke gore gongwe re mo *reward* ka tsela e e ntseng jang, re ka tsaya tshwetso *Madam Speaker* re le Ntlo e gore gongwe *Ministry wa Education* o bule diofisi tsa one tse dikgolo kwa Selebi Phikwe. Golo mo go ka *motivate* bodiredi ba thuto kwa Selebi Phikwe *Madam Speaker*.

Fa ke fetela kwa go tsa *economy Madam Speaker*, *economy* ya lefatshe la Botswana e bonelwa thata mo diatleng tsa batswakwa. Ba ipitlhela e le gore *they own residential and commercial properties* mo lefatsheng la Botswana. *Also, our economy remains undiversified*. Re tshela fela ka matsananyana a rona a a tswang kwa Southern African Customs Union (SACU) le a diteemane. Jaanong Goromente wa lefatshe la Botswana, o tshwanetse gore a itebaganye le gore o *diversify economy* e ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

Madam Speaker, Selebi Phikwe *presents a potential* ya gore re ka *diversify economy* ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Jaaka re setse re bone *in quarter two if I am not mistaken, Copper performed even better than diamonds. All the way from quarter two*. Jaanong mo go re raya gore, *mine* wa Kopore o o kwa Selebi Phikwe o, re tshwanetse ra bona gore re o nonotsha ka tsela e e ntseng jang gore *economy* ya rona e se ka ya ipaya fela mo thekisong ya diteemane le bojanala.

Se sengwe gape ke gore, Botswana o lebagane thata le *unemployment and underemployment* tse di kwa godimo. Fa o re o lebelela *budget* e ya rona e *Madam Speaker*, e e *more than 96 billion, in terms of* gore e ya go re tlisetša ditiro tse di kae, *the budget is silent*. Ga gona sepe se e se buang gore monni wa kwa Sesame South, Kopano le Leseding kwa Selebi Phikwe, a o tlaa bona tiro ka *budget* e.

Madam Speaker, sengwe se se dirang gore lefatshe la Botswana le bo le humanegile ka tsela e le humanegileng ka yone ke gore, Botswana *do not own means of production*. Se ke se itemogetseng ke gore *for you to be independent, you need to own the means of production*. Maloba re ne re le fa re bua ka *import ban ya vegetables. I was here listening to the Honourable Minister* a bua gore se re neng re se bua ka kwano *it was bad economics, and I was sitting here looking at him* gore; *really? Does he even know that for a country to be independent, you need to own the means of production? I want to say this to him; it was bad judgement on his side*. Botswana *need to own means of production*. Go simolola fela kwa masimong, ga re a tshwanela gore re bo re simolola re tsaya *vegetables* go tswa kwa mafatsheng a sele. Jaanong *budget* e ga e supe gore

mme e ya go nonotsha Botswana ka tsela e e ntseng jang *for Botswana to own the means of production*.

Fa ke tsaya se *Madam Speaker*, ke se bonang kwa toropong ya rona ya Selebi Phikwe. Go na le *about three to four companies* tse e leng gore *amongst them*, di hirile Botswana ba le *plus or minus 500*, mme seemo se se diragalang kwa *industries* tseo, ke se se ngomolang pelo ka gore *these industries are owned by foreigners*. Botswana ba bereka ditiro tsa bokgoba kwa dikomponeng tseo *because they do not own the means of production*.

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): *On a point of procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker*. Fa gongwe re ntsha Ntlo mo tseleng fela. Fa Mopalamente a bua a re, batho ba tseetswe *means of production* ka go ntsha *vegetable ban, he is deliberately misleading Parliament because means of production is the land*. Jaanong *nobody said, nobody should plough the lands, the land is still there*, go ntshitswe *restriction on importation* fela. O a bona gore go timetsa gotlhelele. Botswana ba tshwanetse ba tswelele ba leme fela, ga go na le fa e le mathata a e leng gore Goromente o a dirile ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. *Thank you*.

MR KAIZER: *Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker*, ke santse ke le mo tseleng, gongwe motlotlegi ga a ...

MR HIKUAMA: On a point of elucidation. *O bua boammaaruri jo bo sa jelweng pheko*. How can you have a land that you are not producing anything not supported by *Puso, o bo o ka re o ka bitsa* that thing a means of production? What you were saying, you were talking about an idling asset. You were talking about means of production and empowerment.

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

MR HIKUAMA: *Ba a tlhodia* Madam Speaker. You were talking about owning means of production and empowerment of your citizens. You cannot empower your citizens *fa e le gore ga o na sepe le* what they produce. You have to provide a market for them, that is when you can empower your citizens and it is cycle, that is your view of argument. *Le maFront tota ba ne ba gakgametse go buiwa ka dilo tse...*

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Hikuama.

MR HIKUAMA: No, *ke batla* point of elucidation.



MADAM SPEAKER: Jaanong o mo tseela nako. Mma a tsene.

MR KAIZER: *Thank you Madam Speaker. Kgang e e tlhamaletse Madam Speaker, ga re bue fela ka the land. The land also forms part of the means of production. Ga re a itebaganya fela le kwa... ke mo tseleng.*

Fa ke tswelela *Madam Speaker*, go na le mo go re go bitsang re re, *Citizen Economic Empowerment*. E re ntse ke dumalana gore molao o o neng wa fetisiwa mo Palamenteng o ne o le botlhokwa thata gore o itebaganye le Batswana gore ba nne *empowered* jaaka ke ntse ke bua ka *means of production*, ke gone kwa re tswang teng gone koo. Ke dumela gore molao o, o a tilhaela *Madam Speaker. Citizen empowerment* fa gongwe re ka e tseela fela mo go reng re neetse *Honourable Barongwang tiro* mme ga go eme foo. Go ya le kwa babereking ba e leng gore ene yo re mo neetseng tiro, o tlaabo a ba hirile. Molao o, o a tilhaela ka gore ga o fetelele kwa babereking. Ke dumela gore nako e gorogile ya *to introduce* mo gotweng *Employee Share Schemes* gore jaaka re neetse kompone nngwe tiro, babereki ba yone ba ungwelwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Go se ka ga ema fela mo go reng re neetse *Motswana tiro*, a re bone gore go gologela jang kwa babereking *by introducing Employee Share Schemes*.

Tsaya *mine* wa BCL; gompiano re mo mathateng. *We are destitutes* mme fa o o re o lebelela gore bommaarona ba ne ba bereka thata ka tsela e e ntseng jang mo *mine* wa BCL, *contributing to the economy of this country*. Fa o re o ba lebelela gompiano, re palelwa le ke go ithekela matlo a BCL. Tumelo ke gore fa re ne re netefatsa gore madi a felela a gorogile kwa dipateng tsa babereki, gompiano re ka bo re se mo lehumeng le re leng mo go lone kwa toropong ya rona mme re berekile *mine* o o tshwanang le wa BCL *Madam Speaker*.

Fa o re o lebelela mafaratlhatlha a ditsela tse di neng di dirwa mo lefatsheng la rona, batho ba ba neng ba di dira, go ngomola pelo. Ba ba neetsweng tiro, *they smiled all the way to the bank* e le bone *the main beneficiaries* ba ditiro tse ba neng ba di neetswe.

Fa ke tabogela go khutlisa puo ya me *Madam Speaker, tax collection...*

MR SALESHANDO: *On a point of elucidation. Ka bokhutshwane, a mme o a itse gore one molao wa Citizen Economic Empowerment ga o mo tirisong? O sale o fetisitswe, o bo o nna o se mo tirisong. Ga o*

na regulations, ga go na definition ya gore fa gotwe a targeted citizen go tewa eng. Goromente yo o tseneng, yo o neng pele a re o tlhwaafaleitse Citizen Economic Empowerment, ga a ise a dire sepe, le ene o lebeletse fela?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

MR LEKAU: *My point of order ke gore, honourable yo o neng a bua mo clarification, ga a bue nnete, though he is not holding the floor.*

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Lekau, ga go na gore o ka fetolana le motho yo o neng a elucidate. You are supposed to be talking to Honourable Kaizer.*

MR KAIZER: Ke yone kgang e ke ntseng ke e bua *Madam Speaker* gore batho ba ba re diela nako ba.

Madam Speaker, re tshwanetse ra netefatsa gore Goromente wa rona o babalela dikgang tse tsa makgetho. Ke sebetse se molangwana ka bangwe ba batswakwa ba ba gwebang mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ba e leng gore fa gongwe fa o ya kwa madirelong a bone, go duelwa ka cash fela. Ga o ka ke wa fitlhela speed point. Ba tsaya madi ba a baya kwa tlase ga mesamo. Fa kgwedi e fela, ba a pega mo difofaneng a tswela kwa ntle ga lefatshela Botswana. Goromente a se na chance ya gore o ka kgethisa batho ba ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Re tshwanetse ra tlisa molao wa gore mo mabentleleng go nne le point of sale le swiping machine gore Goromente a kgone go kgethisa these transactions. Re kgone go phutha makgetho sentle Madam Speaker. Jaanong madi a, a bo a setse a dule ka meletswane ya lefatshela Botswana, Goromente o tlamega gore a ye to print madi a mangwe, a bo a senyegelwa. A re fokotseng ditshenyegelo tse ka go tsenya leitlho le le ntshotsho mo dikgannyeng tse Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, fa re lebile dikgang tsa SPEDU, after the closure of the BCL mine, our only hope has always been SPEDU. Re lebile SPEDU gore e tlise itsholelo e e rileng mo toropong ya Selebi Phikwe. Jaanong SPEDU e na le incentives Madam Speaker, tse e leng gore they only exist on paper, ga di diragadiwe. O ka bua ka the 30 per cent offtake, e santse e sa diragadiwe, mme re lebile mo Pusong e e ntsha gore re ye go netefatsa gore this incentive e a diragadiwa, gore dikompane di tswa kwano di ye go reka kwa region ya rona wa SPEDU Madam Speaker.



Fa ke fetela kwa go e nngwe ya banana, fa o lebelela lefatshe la Botswana, *it is densely populated* ka banana. Mo nakong e re tshelang mo go yone *Madam Speaker*, Goromente wa lefatshe la Botswana o tshwanetse go itebaganya thata le *this youth demography*, gore *how do we take advantage of the youth population in Botswana? We had expected this budget to be very precise when it comes to addressing the issues of the youth in the country. Budget e o kare e lolea fela, e tsaya dikgang tsa banana as a by the way. You must know* gore mo ditlhophong tsa gompiano banana ba lefatshe la Botswana ba ne ba eme ka dinao ba ntsha Goromente yo o neng a sa sekegele dikeletso tsa bone, mme e rile a le leba jaana, o ne a bonala o kare gongwe le botoka. Fela mo nakong e e sa fediseng pelo, Goromente wa UDC o setse a itshupile gore *they have total disregard for* banana.

Madam Speaker, Goromente o tshwanetse a itebaganya le gore o direla jang banana ditiro. O neela jang banana the P2, 500, re mo emetse, kana le nna ke *youth* fa o mpona ke le fa jaana. Re mo emetse P2, 500 yoo, fa le ka se ke le mo re neele, le re botse ba jeke e khubidu. Fa e le gore lona le akantse go penta jeke e e khubidu ka bo *blue*, le itse gore le lona le mo mathateng.

Madam Speaker, fa ke wetsa puo ya me, fa re lebile NDP ya bo 10 le ya bo 11, re ne re solofeditse sepatela se sesha kwa Selebi Phikwe, mme ga re ise re se bone. Mo TNDP ba tlile ba se fetotse jaanong e se gore re agelwa sepatela se sesha, jaanong e ne e le gore sepatela sa rona ke se se shafaditsweng. Re na le tsholofelo ka gore katse ya kgantele ke bua ka yone e e batlang go nna tau, jaanong gompiano e itebagantse le dipeba, ke yone e re lebaganeng le yone gompiano gore jaanong ra re re batla sepatela se sesha. E seng sepatela se se baakantsweng ka gore sepatela sele *Madam Speaker*, go ne go *park* dikatakata, e ne e le *garage* ya BCL pele. Jaanong ga re batle gore go ye go baakannwa *garage* ele, ra re re ye go agewa sepatela se sesha jaaka re ne re solofeditse mo NDP 10 le 11.

E nngwe *Madam Speaker* fa ke digela puo ya me ke gore, re solofetse mo Goromenteng yo *to reward the education sector* ya Selebi Phikwe ka go isa *one of the ministries or department* ya education kwa Selebi Phikwe. *I thank you Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Madam Speaker, may I get your attention please? Madam Speaker, in terms of

the lineup, I was supposed to come after Honourable Minister Chombo.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Phologolo, I have a list here, *ke setse yone morago* sir.

MR PHOLOGOLO (KANYE WEST): Thank you Honourable Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, Leader of the House, Honourable Ministers here present, Leader of Opposition...

MR HIKUAMA: *Procedure. Procedure* e ke neng ke re ke ema ka yone ke e, fa o biditse Rre Ntlhaile *for the record and procedure*, ga ba neelane ka bobone gore mme ke a nna ke a go neela. Ke wena yo o mmayang fa fatshe o bo o bitsa o sele gore le mo *record* go supafale gore go neetswe yo, ga se yo.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you Whip. Honourable Phologolo.

MR PHOLOGOLO: *Thank you Madam Speaker.* Mma ke go dumedise, ke ba dumedise. *Madam Speaker, may I take this moment to recognise and appreciate* lotlhe ba le fano, batlhophi ba me, Makhanselara ba ke nang le bone, *team* e ke berekang le yone, *my dear wife, kids and family, for standing by and with me throughout my political journey. I am indeed humbled by the trust you have bestowed upon me, utmost thanks to the Almighty God.*

Madam Speaker, may I take this opportunity to congratulate Kgosikgolo Malope, mong wa mmu o ke o gatang, Mokwena, go bo a filwe boikarabelo jwa go etelela Ntlo ya Dikgosi. *Madam Speaker, mma gape ke congratulate* Kgosi Gaokgakala Monnathebe yo o emetseng *region* ya Kanye mo Ntlong ya Dikgosi, ke lemoge e bile ke kgothatse thata Kgosi Makwa yo o emetseng Moshupa Region, le Kgosi Khumanego yo o emetseng Jwaneng-Mabutsane Region. Ke re beng ba me, ke matlho le ditsebe tsa lona, ke santse ke ka tsapoga, le ka ntshepha, le nthome mo go tsotlhe tse di tlabololang matshelo a batho ba lona. *Madam Speaker, madume, malebogo, masego le matlhogonolo a ngwaga o mosha mo batlhophing go tswa fela kwa Lorolwane, Gasita, Selokolela, Kanye le Gasegwagwa, ke re pula eo betsho a e re nele.*

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

MR PHOLOGOLO: I am grateful Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to contribute to the draft budget presented before this House by the Vice President and

Minister of Finance, His Honour Rre Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe. Madam Speaker, Government has three types of budgets, there is a balanced budget, a deficit budget and a surplus budget. Madam Speaker, ours is a deficit budget. This is a budget *e ka yone* the revenue *ya ga Goromente e leng kwa tlase ga* the total expenditure *ya Pusō*. I am more than certain Madam Speaker, that this Government will execute its intended mandate. *E tlaa simolola fa kae? E tlaa simolola gore* the shortfall *re simolole* to improve the collections *jaaka go supagetse gore madi a mangwe a ga Goromente a tshageditswe ke batho bangwe*. My constituents *ba re go dirisiwe* Point of Sale (POS) devices so that *makgetho a bone mo go ba dikgwebo dingwe a tsewe ka boammaaruri a tle a ba ungwela*. *Go supafala fa e le gore* they are already a step ahead because *bone ba* more advancement towards a cashless society, in that *ba lemoga gore go ka emisa* leakages *tse di* highlighted *mo* Budget Speech as presented before us. I am certain that under the UDC Government, we are going to optimise use of Government...

DR DOW: *Point of order*. Ke a leboga Madam Speaker. Ke a leboga mokaulengwe. Ga ke go tsuolole, e bile ga se ka lepe. Fa o tlhopha *language* ka fa ditsamaiso tsa Ntlo di ntseng ka teng, o tshwanetse gore o e tlhophe o bo o tsepama mo go yone. O kgona go tsaya *paragraph* di le dintsintsi mme fa o di tlhakatlhakanya, tota o sokodisa ba ba gatisang bale ba Hansard. Ka gore re bua Sekgoa le Setswana, rotlhe fela gantsi re a di tlhakatlhakanya mme fa gongwe o sa lemoge. Ke re *he must be advised Madam Speaker*, gore a tsepame mo *language* e le nngwe kante e le nngwe lebakanyana, e nngwe kgantelenyana. Ke a leboga.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you Mother of the House. Honourable Phologolo, I think *o a tlhaloganya gakere gore o raya jang?*

MR PHOLOGOLO: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am certain that under the UDC Government we are going to optimise use of Government's assets. We are going to share resources. Let us ensure collaboration among Government's departments.

My constituents Madam Speaker, are saying we must strengthen oversight entities, give them independence and let them report directly to Parliament, let Parliament be the appointing authority. This will surely help to minimise if not eliminate leakages and nip corruption in the bud. We cannot afford to lose a dime under the current situation Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, the financial situation we inherited is appalling. We are in dire straits. This budget Madam Speaker, is intended to take us out of the quagmire. It will improve and expand the level of economic activity with the hope that level of income and employment will improve.

Madam Speaker, we are a human rights, people centred Government and this budget seeks to improve the quality of life and afford all Batswana an opportunity to actively participate in the economy. A good and healthy economy, corruption free will ensure a higher standard of living for Batswana, better health care, better education opportunity, better infrastructure, employment creation and investor confidence just to mention a few.

Madam Speaker, the United Nations General Assembly and Human Rights Council in 2010 recognised access to clean water as a fundamental human right. Madam Speaker, under the BDP led Government, this right was grossly violated across the breath of this country. I have no doubt, our Government is going to correct and bring an end to this violation.

Madam Speaker, the budget presents an establishment of commercial courts. This surely will ensure that projects are done within time, within budget and improve the quality of life. This will propel the much needed economic activity. There is where the Minister is talking of catalyst task team. *Kwa kgaolong* they are saying, they need an overseer of the overseer to ensure that there is completion timeously and within budget of Government's projects.

The budget Madam Speaker, addresses and assures the nation that the Government purse is in the right hands. Despite the obvious looting by some in the past regime, this Government will build the financial buffers that were recklessly, irresponsibly, in pursuit of power depleted under the BDP Government.

Madam Speaker, Kanye village has a dire shortage of portable water. The clinics are no longer a place of hope because there are no medications there. There are no equipment Minister and there are no ambulances.

Madam Speaker, Batswana *ba re* they want to watch Botswana Television (BTV) and they are saying this arrangement whereby Digital Satellite Television (DSTV) *fa o sa* subscriber, they cut you off *ba re* it can go ahead and do that and leave their BTV playing; if anything *bogolo* as part of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).



...Silence...

MR PHOLOGOLO: *Madam Speaker, back to* kgang ya metsi. Motse wa Kanye *needs about 15 million litres of water. Currently* motse *generates 7 million litres of water. Go raya* gore *we have a shortfall of 8 million litres. This shortfall* e tshwanelwa ke gore e neelwe ke metsi a a tswang kwa Masama. Go na le *project* e a wela, go supafala gore e tlaa re re tlaa bona metsi ka nako a re lekane, ke gore go bo go tsenwa mo *Phase 2* e e tlaabong e oketsa *pipe* e e tsayang metsi kwa *reservoir* kwa Kgwakgwe gore a kgone go phatlalala le motse.

Madam Speaker, economic diversification. Re dumela gore kgaolo ya rona e na le tshiamelo e ntsi ya go nna kgaolo nngwe e re ka ikaegang ka yone mo *tourism*. Kanye o na le ditebego tse dintle fela thata. Le dikgaolo tse dingwe tse di bapileng le Kanye di na le ditswammung kana *areas* tse di kgatlhisang, mo go rayang gore *tourism* e ka gola mo kgaolong eo.

Sengwe sa dilo tse gape se fitlhelwang mo kgaolong ke gore re badiri ba dijo, *we are food producers* mme sebe sa phiri fela ke gore gongwe go goroga koo re nna le go itemogela ditsela tse di sa siamang. Ba re *policy* ya Domkrag ya *Access Road Policy* e e buang ka 10 kilometres (km) ga e berekele Batswana, Puso ya rona ya UDC e e sutlhe. *Point in case* ke Kgaolo ya Gasegwagwa, motse o o sa le o nna dingwagangwaga mme gatwe *it is just 12 km from* tsela ya Kanye-Mmathethe. Jaanong e palelwa ke go tshelwa sekondere ka ntateng ya *policy* e e leng gore ga e batle go tlhabolola batho bao; ka 2 km fela. Ba re diemo tse re di baakanye mo *budget* e. Ba re tsela eo e tshelwe re se ka ra ba diegela.

Re ntse re le mo kgaolong, kgaolo ya rona e bulegile, re *ready* gore *some of the mega industries* tse re di solofetsang re le UDC, dingwe tsa tsone re ka kgona go di fa ditsha ba kgona go bereka. *Through you Madam Speaker,* re ne re ipela kwa Kanye mo nakong e e fetileng, kompone e fa e ne e santse e le teng, ke dumela gore lefatshe la Botswana le ka bo le le kgakala, ke bua ka kompone ya Rural Industries Innovation Centre (RIIC). Mokaulengwe o buile ka yone maloba gore e boe. Sengwe le sengwe se teng se se tlhokafalang gore kompone e e tseye Botswana e mo ise fa pelenyana. Fa e ne e sa tsewa kana ya bolawa ke motho ope fela yo o dirileng jalo, ke tlhomamisa gore re ka bo re ipela ka dilo dingwe tse di dirisiwang mo mafatsheng di simolotse mo Botswana.

Gape ke supe gore e ne e se lantlha kompone e tsewa mo Kanye. Gompieno re bona e nngwe le yone e tshentsha

leina e bo e tsewa e bidiwa National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI) mme go agilwe *full structures* tse e leng gore ka tsone fa go ne go tlhokafala gore go fetolwe leina le, le ka bo le fetolwa mme botlhe ba ya go berekela kwa Kanye. *By so doing Madam Speaker,* o netefatsa gore *rent* e e setseng e duelwa mo Gaborone, o e kgaotse ka gore ba setse ba na le diofisi tse di ba lekanang tse e leng gore re ipotsa gore fa ba di tlogela di sala le bomang.

Madam Speaker, this morning ke ne ke le mo phuthegong, ke bo ke sa bue kgang ya sepatela, ke re nnyaa mma ke e itlhokomolose fela. Batlhophi ba nkopa gore feta ka kgang e, mme ka supa gore le fa le sa e bona mo *budget*, nnete ke gore ke nngwe ya *projects* tse ka tsone go tilweng go ya go lebelelwa mothale wa tsamaiso ya *Development Model*. Ke solofela gore 40 *days* ga a kgakala le gore a wele mme fa a wetse, re solofela gore peke e tlaabo e lelela boatleng.

Madam Speaker, ba re gape go tlhodumelwe ka gore ba kgathalela madi a Puso a e leng gore ga a dirisiwe sentle. Ba re madi a gotweng a ya go aga sekole sa *primary* kwa Kgwakgwe, o kare a feta thata madi a a agileng kana a a agang se sengwe se se tshwanang le sone. Ba re re le Puso, re ye go tlhodumela dilo tse, re se ka ra tsewedisa tshenyoo e re fitlhetseng ka fa tlase ga ga Domkrag.

Madam Speaker, re a lela re le kgaolo ya Kanye. Re lela ka ditsela tse e leng gore ga di a re siamela, ga di a siamela ope fela go tsamaya mo go tsone. Le tsone *internal roads* tse di fa gare ga motse, nnyaa tlhe, dipula di nele jaana, foo jaanong ke matlhotlhapelo a bofelo. Re tshwanetswe ke gore *budget* e e itlhaganelele gore dikgang tse, e se ka ya nna dikgang tse re tswelelang ka tsone, *having inherited them from the BDP Government*. Dikole di makgasa, mme ba itumeletse kgang e e supafalang gore re ya go dirisa bana ba *brigades* gore ke bone ba baakanye diemo tse. Se ke papamatse gore se ya go *promote* dithuto tsa diatla. Dithuto tse, go na le ba ba sa bolong go dumela mo go tsone. Lekgotla la Botswana National Front (BNF) le tswa kgakala le bua ka thuto e, e ka yone e reng o e dira, o bo o iphirile go le gale. E bo kamoso e le gore jaanong ba ba tseneng kwa dikoleng tse dingwe tse, ke wena o ba hirang. Ba re diemo tse, re di baakanye mme re setse re simolotse. Re supa gore re ya di baakanya ka go tlotlomatsa *vocational training*, ka go simolola fela ba baakanya, ba dira ditiro tsone tse, ba boloka thebe e e seyong.

Mongwame, ba lela ka *clinics, the Minister is here*. Ba a lela rra ba re fa nne bogolo tsela e le teng, e e

tswang kwa Lorolwane, ba ne ba se ke ba lele thata ka go tlhoka *clinic* fa ba belegelang teng. Fa tsela e ise e dirwe, a re tlhamele gore bogolo re ba baakanyetse fa go ka belegelwang teng kana re ba neele *ambulance* e e tshelang. Le yone *still*, bomadimabe ke gore e ya go tsamaya mo tseleng e e leng gore makgwakgwa a yone a ka nna a tlisa ngwana pele ga nako ya gagwe. Ke re diemo tse fa re ka di baakanya... go tshwana le diemo tsa maroko. Go a supagala Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, gore *budget* e, e supa ka fa re yang go aga matlo ka teng, ga e a didimala. Yo o sa utlwang ke bomadimabe go bo a sa lemoga seo. Ya re matlo a a ntseng a agiwa ke maphata ka go farologana, mme jaanong sone se ke gore re kopanye, e kgone go laolwa go tswa golo go le gongwe fela. Babereki ba ba berekang kwa bo Selokolela, Gasita le mo Kanye tota, ba kgone gore ba agelwe matlo ba bereke ba sireletsegile.

Kgang e nngwe kgantele ke ne ke e bolelelwa ke Kgosi Boakgomo, a re ga a utlwe lentswe la Puso le supa e bile le kgala kana le kgalema bogodu jwa dikgomo. A re Puso e tshwanelwa ke gore e supe gore golo mo le gone ke mmaba fela o e leng gore o humanegisa Batswana. Ke na le tsholofelo e ntsi gore jaaka go hirilwe mapodise ba sennelaruri, ke dingwe tsa ditselana tse di ka tokafatsang tshenyoy ya dikgomo kana bogodu jwa dikgomo. Dilo tse di mo *budget*. *Budget* e ikaelela go tlhabolola le go sireletsa motho gore motho mongwe le mongwe a tseye karolo mo go tsa itsholelo ya lefatshe la Botswana.

Go na le kang e nngwe e ke neng ke e fiwa mofago, babereki ba pele ba Afrika Borwa ba re re ba thuse re le Puso gore *pensions* tsa bone tse e leng gore ga ba itse gore di ka salwa morago ka tsela e e ntseng jang, re eme ka dinao, re tshwaraganele kang e.

Kgang e nngwe e e buegang e papametse ke ya gore mo go yone *budget* e, go na le bangwe batho ba e leng gore go le gantsi mo Pusong e e fetileng, e ne o kare ga se batsayakarolo. Ba dingwaga tsa *between 40 and 65* gore a re ye go dira tsotlhe gore re ba tlele mananeo a e leng gore ka one ba ka kgona go itlhabolola, ba ka kgona go tlogela pereko ba santse ba na le tokololo mme ba ya go gwetlha meberekho ka go itshetsa.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR MOTSAMAI): *Point of clarification.* Ka bonako fela *Madam Speaker* ke gore a jaaka a bua, babereki ba a buang ka bone totatota ba mekoti ba kwa South Africa, a kang e a e buang o a raya gore Goromente a tsepame a ba tsome gore ba kwa dikgaolong dife go dirwe lenaneo fela la

go bona gore batho ba, bogolo ba ye go tlhokafala ba bone meputso ya bone ka gore tota ba golafafetse kwa? Jaanong Tuberculosis (TB) di ba thasetse ka kwano, ba bangwe e bile ba setse ba tlhokafetse mme go tlhoka thuso *Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

MR PHOLOGOLO: Se se botlhoko ke gore bangwe ba ba matlhalenyana ba ba amoga thebenyana o tlaabong ba mo tsherwe, e le gone go gwetlha ditshwanelo tsa bone tse. Ba re ke tsise molaetsa mo Pusong gore ga ba na go ipona tsapa, ba a tshepha e bile ba a itse gore ra re Puso e ke yone e tsamaelanang le go sireletsa ditshwanelo tsa bone.

Jaanong Goromente o tshwanelwa ke gore a emelele, a batlisisse go bona gore kwa bo Western Deep Level, go na le eng se se tshwanetseng bakaulengwe ba.

MR MONAGENG: *Elucidation.* O e tshwere sentle *honourable* le fa nako e setse e go tshatsetse. Gakere o a lemoga gore The Employment Bureau of Africa (TEBA) e setse e ntshitse P18 *million* ka fa go begiwa go teng mo dikgannyeng gore go neelwe ba nneng ba kile ba amega ka bolwetse, dihuba jalojalo, mo go rayang gore se o se buang ke tsaya gore ba TEBA ba ka se dira, a go tswelele jaaka o bua Goromente a leke thata.

MR PHOLOGOLO: *Thank you.* A mahatlha go lebege one e kare ga a thata go bonala. Tota a ba batlang go a sala morago bobethata, ke a *pensions* a ba neng ba *contribute* le mohiri a *contribute*.

The same budget Madam Speaker, e bua ka pulo ya Moepo wa Kgwakgwe gore *has been licensed*, le go supa gore o ya go hira bana ba kgaolo ya rona. O ya go hira 300, e re fa o setse jaanong o bereka, re bo re nna le babereki ba le 200.

Madam Speaker, mo go Tona wa tsa *Minerals*, ke ne ke utlwile ba kompone ya kwa Kgwakgwe gore ba na le *demo plant* e ka yone ba e thuthuntshang gore jaanong ba tle *to operate*. Ke tshwentswe ke gore gatwe e kwa Aferika Borwa, mme go tlaabo go epiwa mo Botswana, ke kopa gore *demo plant* eo e tle mo Botswana. Fa e le gore re ya go dira *the real plant*, re ka palelwa ke gore *demo* e bo e le fa thoko ga rona, mme e seng mo Botswana fela, e tle kwa kgaolong ya botlhophi e tona ya Kanye West. Fa go ka diragala jalo, re tlaabo re simolola go tlhabolola kgaolo ya rona le motse wa Kanye.

Kgang e nngwe e nneng ke e fiwa ke mokaulengwe mongwe ke yone ya gore re atumalane thata Tona wa *Tourism*, ka gore maiteko a kile a nna teng le *Minister*



wa Domkrag bogologolo ba mo fa *proposals* tsa gore ba ka tokofatsa jang bojanala mo motseng wa Kanye. Ke tlaa tla kwa ofising mongwame re tle go tlhola *records* tseo gore go ne ga tsamaya ga ema fa kae, gore re tle re tsewedise fa nneng go engwe teng.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo, a e re go emisa kana go fetsa pego kana phetolo ya me, ke gopole pina nngwe, *it has inspired me*. Pina eo ya setlhopho sengwe se bitswa gotwe Aerosmith ya re, “*It is amazing, how with the blink of an eye you finally see the light.*” Ke bo ke e fetola ke re, *it is amazing how with a blink of an eye the nation of Botswana, the Botswana Congress Party (BCP), the out of power Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) finally see the light. Madam Speaker, they have every right to cry out loud for they know, the UDC is going to rule this country and turn it into a marvel. They should cry out, we are listening because through us, they will see the Botswana they have never seen before.* Ka a le kalo, mme ke fe mongwe o ne a batla *point of order*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Ke a leboga...

MADAM SPEAKER: A-e! Iketle pele, o feditse *statement* rra?

MR PHOLOGOLO: *No, ke ne ke re ke fa mongwe elucidation...*

MADAM SPEAKER: O neela mang?

MR PHOLOGOLO: Mme ke tswale ke riana Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo, *this budget is a budget like non-other before, they must sit, watch and enjoy the ... (Inaudible) ... into a new Botswana. I repeat, it is amazing how with a blink of an eye the nation of Botswana finally sees the light, BCP e le mo teng le Domkrag, a ba lelele kwa godimo, re ba reetse, re ba reeletsa go dira tse di monate tse di ba tlhabololang ba isa Botswana kwa pele. Madam Speaker, I rest. Thank you very much.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Mother of the House, I think we still have one from this side. Honourable Modise.

...Silence...

MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MODISE): Madam Speaker, thank you very much for the opportunity. It is quite unfortunate Honourable Member Kaizer has taken leave, I had a little something for him. He had mentioned that I have very poor command of the queen’s language as if that was a put down. I wanted to advise him kindly and gently to say not only that *ke Motswana, ke bua*

Setswana ke tswa mo lefatsheng le e leng gore diteme di a farologana, re na le Sekgalagari, Seyei, Seherero, Sembukushu, mme epe teme eo ga e reye gore o botoka mo go yo mongwe, ke mo gakolole gore a-e, e bile sone seo ga se seBCP. Gongwe o moshwa kwa BCP, ke mo gakolole ka gore BCP is an offshoot ya BNF, jaanong ke a itse gore ga se sone seBCP. Ba le leng teng fa le tlaa mo gakolola ka gore le a dumela le lona gore Kopano ke Maatla; Unity is Power.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)

DR MODISE: *O ne a bua ka the farmers, a lela thata a re UDC Government has caused the farmers a lot ka the ban. Ntla e e leng gore he probably missed was that when the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education was speaking, she said all the schools will be fed from the local produce from those local farmers. If this is not empowerment, I do not know what it is. So, we are not going to be feeding students with produce from South Africa. No, local communities would be taking to the farms to plough and would be buying from those local farmers, le mo gakolole in absentia.*

Madam Speaker, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to the 2025/2026 Budget Speech as presented by His Honour the Vice President (VP) and Minister of Finance Honourable Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe. I would like to also wish Mr Speaker a happy birthday in absentia, I hope there is still some cake left for some of us. I have been seeing Honourable Saleshando going out a couple of times, maybe it is gone.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

DR MODISE: Mr Speaker, this Budget Speech is historical in the sense that it is the first Budget Speech under the new dispensation set in motion by the coming into power of the UDC in 2024. It is a Budget Speech that lays the foundation of a new Botswana that the UDC has promised Batswana, a Botswana that works for all those who live in it, including the BCP and the BDP.

Madam Speaker, my response will be structured as follows; one, I will respond to some of the points raised by Honourable Members from across the aisle. I say across the aisle noting that we do have some of our comrades across the aisle, and in this case, the BCP and the BDP...

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



DR MODISE: No, I am referring to them. Madam Speaker, I want to share, even though he is away, I think his comrades will relay it to him, a quote here that better describes what the UDC Government did with this Budget Speech. I heard comrade Honourable Kaizer try desperately and dismally failed to come up with quotations, he ended up speaking about cats, rats and foxes.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

DR MODISE: I want to share with him one that works eloquently well for the UDC, and it goes something like this, “if you are going to try shoot for the moon, if you miss you land among the stars,” we have landed among the stars. We are the stars.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, I will give the points raised by His Honour the Vice President of the Republic of Botswana, who is also the Minister of Finance, *ke re re lesego jang* to have a man with so much depth, a man with such solid grasp of economic issues. Maybe before I enter into that realm, let me just hasten to add that recently I just returned from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. *Ke ne ke sa tsamaya ke le nosi Madam Speaker, I was accompanying the President of the Republic of Botswana, Duma Gideon Boko, where he was bestowed the chairmanship of African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA). I think it is very important that I make this point. The goal of ALMA is to achieve a malaria free Africa in our lifetime. What this chairmanship effectively means is Botswana will start receiving resources and expert technical assistance towards the elimination of malaria in our country. This will be done at little or no cost to the Government of Botswana. Mr Speaker, this development will not have been possible had we not had a President who is agile and responsive to the needs of his people. I therefore, would like to implore Honourable Dumelang Saleshando, Honourable Hikuama, Honourable Kapinga, Honourable Mapulanga, to pass a message to your constituents to say their dear son, the Minister of Health, has a message for them and the message is that a malaria free Botswana is within reach. Ke ka bo ke opa diatla fa ke ne ke le lona.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, I mention all these because some Members of the opposition have been trying to diminish the travels by the President, wanting

to reduce them to travels without any true benefit to the nation, such assertions are false, baseless, misguided, misleading and should be rejected with contempt Honourable Furniture. Madam Speaker, *mesepele e ya ga Tautona e bothokwa, ga se mesepele e e tshwanang le e batlotlegi ba neng ba e tlwaetse e e neng e re fa Tautona a goroga batho ba bo ba biletswa kwa lebaleng-legolo la difofane gotwe ba ye go opelela dipodi pina ya setšhaba.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

DR MODISE: Nnyaa, ya rona mesepele ga se ya go nna jalo.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Applause!)

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, I listened with shock as Members of the Opposition one after the other made attempts to discredit the Budget while giving absolutely no alternatives, absolutely none! The Leader of the Opposition (LOO) instead of offering an alternative Budget decided to go on a dizzying merry go around of finger pointing and political grandstanding. Madam Speaker, this is not what Botswana were expecting, they were expecting to hear what our detractors will have done faced with the same precarious economic conditions that obtain today, they waited and they waited in vain. Bob Marley said, “I don’t wanna wait in vain.”

Madam Speaker, Honourable Members from the now... I feel terrible to say this because I only see one Honourable Member from this party, the BDP, trying to save face by saying, all the past Presidents upon ascension to power found challenges and difficulties. Honourable Motaosane went on to enumerate every single President and the challenges they faced, but what he missed that was very critical, was that in their situation, they had some reserves to fall back on. In our situation *ke gore ba jele gotlhe, ba bo ba ja reserves, nothing! We are starting from a negative, ba bangwe* at least they could tap into the reserves, which is not the case with us. So that was very misguided, inappropriate comparison.

Madam Speaker, the truth is clear and open for all to observe, the BDP not only mismanaged the economy, they left behind a trail of poor infrastructure, a collapsed education system, a health care system literally on its knees, and an unhappy disgruntled civil service. *Maduo a tlaa tswa jang batho ba bereka ba sa itumela? Maduo a tlaa tswa jang batho ba amogela dituelo tsa bokgoba,*



maduo a tlaa tswa jang Honourable Gare? Ours is a different Government Madam Speaker, we are a Government that believes in merit and not *bolope*. We believe it is the best man and woman who should get the job, not the one who sings the loudest, “*re a tsamaya Masisi, o a re bitsa.*” There is another song that they used to sing, I am sorry I am not familiar with the lyrics, to the effect of, “*Masisi o ba buletse,*” I am not sure, something like that.

Madam Speaker, allow me to respond now to the Budget Speech as presented by the Honourable Minister of Finance. First of all, it is important to get our bearings. The Minister told us how the Budget was prepared, and he told us it was prepared after thorough consultation with all stakeholders. This indicates that the Budget is not just a creature of the UDC, but a creature born out of inputs from various sectors, and that it was their collective wisdom that informed the contents of this Budget. Unfortunately, I cannot say the same by what has been provided by the opposition. The Minister was clear that we inherited a Government machinery plagued by deeply entrenched systemic inefficiencies, that have crippled progress and development of the nation. Please mark the word, “deeply.” Madam Speaker, these systemic inefficiencies have led to a regression on many fronts; health, education, infrastructure, food security, social securities, household incomes, the economy, to mention but a few.

The Minister on page three of his speech describes corruption as being so endemic that it has corroded any lofty ambitions that this great nation once had. By saying all these, the Minister of Finance, His Honour the Vice President was giving us a snapshot picture of where we are currently, so that we appreciate moving forward the point from which we departed. *Ke gore re se ka ra bua fela, re itse gore re bua re tswa fa kae. Re se ka ra bua fela o kare ga re itse gore re simolola go sena madi. Ke gore re se ka ra bua fela, se re se buang* must be informed and guided by fact.

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

DR MODISE: *Kgantele* Honourable Member.

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

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, the speech did not only paint a gloomy picture and stopped there, no it did not. The Minister offered hope and described resuscitative interventions that will stimulate and build the economy

moving forward. Like him, I share the sentiments that Botswana will rise, like a phoenix from the ashes, Botswana will rise!

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

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, in order to rebuild this economy, we described four interlink strategic phases. Please allow me Madam Speaker to quote from page four of the Budget Speech.

MADAM SPEAKER: Continue.

DR MODISE: “In order to rebuild this economy, we will implement the required changes through four interlinked strategic phases.

These are:

- (a) Halting the financial haemorrhaging in Government;
- (b) Stabilization and preparation for take-off;
- (c) Initial tangible steps of change; and
- (d) Building a New Botswana”

Madam Speaker, let me focus on the first point the Minister raised. You see Honourable Members, free medical advice, when you have a haemorrhage or a haemorrhage is described, what you want to do at that point is to arrest the bleed and stabilise the patient. You are not concerned about any other thing, any frivolities, any by the side, no. The most important thing when you hear that you have a haemorrhage and the patient is bleeding, you are worried that the patient may die. You are worried that the economy may bleed, and it may die. So the first intervention that we make is to stabilise this economy, and make sure that we do not die, it can bounce back and we can move forward.

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

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, our immediate focus is to attending to this haemorrhage. So by so saying, we are attending to this haemorrhage, what it effectively means is, we have not abandoned our promises, that is not what it means. We still remember what our promises are, and we have every intention to deliver. I do not think it is proper then for some Members of this House to keep taking jabs at us, reminding us of a song, *gatwe ke pina ya kwa lenyalong*, I have never heard it, *gatwe “se lebale maikano.”*

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



DR MODISE: ... (Laughter!) ... You are right sir, maybe I will hear it at my wedding day. *Ga re a lebala maikano* Honourable Saleshando, we have not. Our memory is just fine, and quite intact. What we are doing is we are arresting the bleed, remember what is said, you need to stabilise the patient, so the patient does not die.

Madam Speaker, amid all these challenges, the UDC Government has shown commitment to fulfilling its promises. This is demonstrated by the increase of Old Age Pension also known as *Tandabala* to P1400. Yes, indeed we had promised P1800 and we still maintain that we will fulfil this promise. The increase we made is a strong indication that Government is committed to increasing the pension as promised. While Members of the Opposition took turns at the podium, to berate us for not giving the entire amount, Batswana out there received the news with elation. *Bommogolo, borremogolo*, out there tell us how happy they are about the increase, and the change it will make to their lives. Recently I was at a funeral in Tati Siding Honourable Furniture, *Mme* Boikhutso Tamocha says to me, with a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye, I quote; “*ngwanaka, kana go raya gore jaanong re tlaabo re na le P2800 mo lwapeng...* I am guessing *o raya le Rre* Tamocha, *re tlaa kgona go reka molora le mathare go bo go sala tshentshi. Le go lema, re tlaa kgona go lema.*” Madam Speaker, this was just demonstrating that while Members of the Opposition were here projecting and undermining our efforts, Batswana out there have welcomed this development. They understand the true state of the current economy, and they sympathise with us.

Madam Speaker, we did not just end at the Old Age Pension, for the first time in the history of this republic, *o kae* Honourable Kaizer, new born babies will receive a P300 voucher for up to a year. This however small, is a demonstration that this is a Government concerned about the welfare of its citizens from cradle to the grave.

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

DR MODISE: I can repeat it Honourable Kaizer. We demonstrated that even faced with great difficulties, our people will always take centre stage. It will always be about the people, it will always be about Batswana, no matter how hard things get.

Madam Speaker, the Vice President (VP) spoke about strengthening oversight institutions, so that they are fully able to execute their mandate. One such example

was the optimisation of the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), so that procurement practices are transparent and equal opportunities are extended to all citizens. This is a stark contrast to what has been happening, where companies belonging to certain individuals created monopolies and benefited to the exclusion of others.

Madam Speaker, the UDC Government has set out bold targets of attracting and facilitating foreign investment to start mega projects in Botswana, creating employment and advancing our country into a new dimension of economic development. This move also removes all the bureaucratic red tape that is not investor friendly. What more do you want us to say?

Madam Speaker, to secure Botswana’s future, we agree that we must diversify the economy by expanding tourism sector, manufacturing, technology and healthcare to mention a few. Part of the reason why our economy is so vulnerable or has been vulnerable for a very long time, is that the previous regime failed to diversify the economy. Leading to a huge reliance on diamonds and minimally on the tourism sector. This left our economy susceptible to the market shocks with no fallback plan. This is a mistake Honourable Members, but a mistake we do not intend to repeat.

Madam Speaker, let me spend some of my remaining time on healthcare, and how we intend to stabilise and turnaround this sector. Madam Speaker, Batswana have said to us many times that they want a healthcare system that delivers quality healthcare services to all people, regardless of where they live or they are stationed in life. They have told us that they want the healthcare system that addresses their health concerns. As is now common knowledge, the health challenges facing this country are many and multi-faceted. *Ke gore mathata a Lephata la Botsogo a kana ka tlou e kotame.*

Madam Speaker, the Ministry of Health has been allocated P8.9 billion for the recurrent expenditure. Whereas this is by no means enough for the kind of health system that we UDC want to build, I appreciate that the VP has found it fit to give us something to start with, at least to get started. Yes, I am saying to get started because I know that this amount will not be enough to address all the challenges in the public health system. It would also not be enough to support all the changes that we want to make, we have bold, big and aggressive changes we want to make to the Ministry of Health. Watch the space!



Madam Speaker, the UDC Government aspires to build a healthcare system anchored on primary healthcare approach, where all our people will be on disease prevention mode. For this to happen, we need a robust public education, health promotion campaigns that will see all our people adopting disease preventative measures in their lives. In this way, our people will invest more time, energy even money on activities and initiatives that keeps them safe from both communicable and non-communicable disease. So I want these strategies embedded into education, right from primary school. We should aspire to have a Motswana student *yo e reng fa a fetsa* Standard 7 for example, *a bo a itse* what a balanced diet looks like, *a bo a itse* what First Aid looks like, why not even Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). At the moment, nearly half of all deaths taking place in our facilities are due to non-communicable diseases like hypertension, heart disease, cancers diabetes and mental related diseases. We really need to do a lot in educating people about changing their lifestyle. We all need to adapt lifesaving lifestyles like exercising, stop smoking, substance abuse, avoiding excessive intake of alcohol and adopting healthy diet.

I want to appreciate a lot of social clubs in our communities who are doing exactly this, some of them are running, some of them are playing soccer, some of them are doing all manner of activities to keep fit and they keep inviting others. I want to say to them, they have the full support of the Ministry of Health.

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

DR MODISE: Madam Speaker, on the curative front, I am fully aware that our people take too long to be seen by the appropriate health personnel, especially medical specialists. Some have been going up to as far as a year or even more and I cringe every time I say this because I know this falls short of any acceptable health standards. I do not know how the BDP was doing it, but we intend to do better and we will.

Together with all stakeholders including those in the private health space, we intend to deal with all backlogs for those waiting to see specialists or waiting to get certain surgeries during this financial year. Honourable Members, I always say, 'judge me not by what I say, judge me by what I do.' Just in the recent past, we were able to get 70 per cent of the orthopaedic cases that had a backlog, we were able to clear them from 200 to over 180.

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

DR MODISE: More still coming and we are hell-bent and intent on solving these backlog. So, 'judge me not by what I say, judge me by what I do.'

Madam Speaker, the UDC Government has made it clear in its manifesto that it will build a healthcare system that will work for all people. We have promised to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for all our people including Honourable Kaizer. This is our ultimate goal.

As I have already mentioned, this year, the budget allocation for health will not make us achieve this lofty goal, it will only afford us an opportunity to lay the first bricks of the grand vision espoused by the President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko and our great party. The budget allocated will certainly get us going.

Madam Speaker, the UDC Government is human rights based Government and considers healthcare to be a right. It is our belief that all our people should access health care services any time, any day, anywhere, they did it including in Selebi Phikwe West.

Throughout this budget, we will layout this foundation of healthcare system that caters for all its people. In pursuance of this great grand objective, the Ministry of Health has already started talks with stakeholders in setting up the National Health Insurance (NHI) Scheme. The NHI will be such that every citizen of country will have Government funded medical aid which they will use in healthcare facilities anywhere across the country. Through this scheme, access to quality health care services will no longer be the privilege of the rich while the poor are left to die. This was a mistake and it should have been left to happen in this country. All our people; whether rich or poor, tall or short will be able to use this scheme and access public private facilities at the Government expense. We will keep the nation informed on this major development including you Honourable Furniture. I know that all Batswana are waiting for the day that we will say, we are ready to roll out the NHI and I promise that day will come for I say 'judge me not by what I say, judge me by what I do.'

Madam Speaker, as part of our effort to expand access to healthcare to our people in line with our UHC objectives, Government has taken the decision to have our quaternary hospital. Let me pause and explain quaternary hospital. Quaternary hospital is supposed to be doing transplant surgeries. Let us say for example you need a new kidney, God forbid Honourable

Furniture, you should be able to get it at Sir Ketumile Masire facility hospital at no cost to yourself and your family, *ga o ope diatla*.

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

DR MODISE: Let us say you need a heart transplant, Sir Ketumile Masire was built to be able to offer that heart transplant. We understand that currently that is not the case and it is our aspiration to achieve this. This will also help us in achieving our goal of building or setting Botswana as a medical tourism hub. You folks will not be needing to run to South Africa when you do not feel well, you will know that Botswana has the capacity and quality of the healthcare to treat you. We will start to receive people from other countries coming to Botswana seeking healthcare. We can do it Honourable Members.

Madam Speaker, immediately after being appointed Minister of Health, I went around our health facilities to meet with staff and assess the infrastructural state of public health facilities. I therefore, know what I am talking about Honourable Furniture. I know what I am talking about when I say that the public health system needs much more than the country's fiscus was able to give this year. But like I said, it will get us going. The staff shortages are dire, in all cadres, without exception. Let me emphasise this Madam Speaker, we need all cadres for our healthcare system to work efficiently. There is none more important than the other, the cadres are complementary. They work together for the common good of the system. I want to de-mystify this myth, it does not come from me, I do not support it. All cadres are important, *mongwe le mongwe*; a driver, cleaner, *mmaseapei*, nurse, pharmacy technicians, they work together for the common good of sector.

Madam Speaker, I have stated before, that I want all our 24 hour facilities to have dispensaries that operate for 24 hours. The Ministry of Health is working around the clock to hire the many pharmacy technicians and pharmacists needed to achieve this. So, contrary to popular street belief, I am not trying to burden nurses with this role no. We will be hiring pharmacy technicians and pharmacists 24 hour facilities. When that happens, I will let you know Honourable Furniture, I will start in Tati Siding.

Since November 2024, we have only been able to absorb a little more than 300 new employees, most of them being nurses. This was just a dot in the ocean. I appreciate this but it pays credence to what I have

been saying, 'judge me not by what I say, judge me by what I do.' You should borrow that as well. Some of the equipment in these facilities is obsolete, and I have been working hard with our international partners in healthcare to get these machines replaced with newer, modern ones, with advanced capabilities. Imagine a Botswana where our hospital has Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machines, Computed Tomography (CT) scans, X-ray machines advanced and this is the X-ray machine that works. Imagine a Botswana where you do not need to travel long distances to get healthcare, imagine that Botswana. It is coming Honourable Hikuama, tell the good folks over in Ngamiland, that is it coming.

Madam Speaker, we also have an ambitious digitalisation plan of the healthcare system. This will allow us to serve our patients efficiently and also increase our medical diagnostic precision, it will also in Letsholathebe, Honourable Hikuama. This will not only help healthcare workers to have access to all patient information, but will also allow for digital linkages between our health professionals for support and guidance...

MADAM SPEAKER: E go tshwere *Honourable Member*, e tšhaile.

DR DOW (KGATLENG WEST): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Mo motsotsong o, mma ke simolole fela ke re, e tlaare kamoso le nna ke tswe la me, ke bue ka *budget* e. E e leng gore mongwe le mongwe o dumela gore *it is a deficit budget*. Batswana gongwe ba lale ka lefoko le, fa gotwe *budget* e *deficit*, go tshwana fela o tshotse P100 mo pateng o bo o tsena mo Choppies kana Spar, o bo o tlaa o laisa dilo tsa P150 mme o ise o supe gore P50 yo, o ya go mo duela jang. O re gongwe e tlaare ke ntse ke lebile fa *trolley* fale, e tlaare *between here and teller*, P50 ke tlaa mmona golo gongwe. Fa gotwe *deficit* go tewa gore o a tlhalelwa, mme ga o itse gore o ya go a bona kae. Potso ke gore, tota gone fa go ntse gotwe re fetile ngwedi ra tsena kwa dinaleding jaaka sebui se se tswang fa, o tsena jang kwa dinaleding a tlhalelwa?

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

MADAM SPEAKER: E go tshwere Mother of the House. Order! Order! Honourable Members, it is now 7 o'clock, I shall call upon the Leader of the House to move a Motion of adjournment.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT



LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MOHWASA): *Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.* I would like to move that this House do now adjourn.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 7:00 p.m. until Tuesday 25th February, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION NO. 9

Mr Speaker, firstly and answering the Honourable Member's question let me for clarity state that there is no quota imposed on Botswana Beef in Europe, save for one (1) country. In its current existence the SADC /EU Economic Free Trade Association (EFfA) provides for a Quota-Free and Duty-Free trade agreement between the European Union (EU) and selected SADC Countries - therefore Botswana being one of these countries, has unrestricted (unlimited) access into exporting beef into Europe.

Secondly, through the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) - Norway Economic Free Trade Association (EFfA) Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Botswana is allowed to export 1,538 metric tons per annum of beef into Norway. This is because Norway, has exited from the Union (EU). Norway has separate and special trade arrangements with countries or regional trade blocs.

(i) Mr Speaker, Botswana, through the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) has been exporting to Europe since the early 1970s', noting that BMC was formalized into a state-owned entity in 1965 by an Act of Parliament.

The factors that have contributed to the shortfall in meeting demands of the market (either EU customer orders and/ or Norway quota) are as follows;

(a) A progressive decline in production parameters over the years especially at primary production. The factors include a reduction in calving rate, increased mortalities, herd-size contraction from 3 million in the 1970s to the current 1.9 million. This decline is attributable to many factors, which include urbanization, poor rangeland management/practices; farmers who operate their holdings remotely; the prolonged drought-spells (1978, 1981/87, 1994/95, 1998/99, 2002/06, 2011/13, 2018/19, 2022/24). These have, primarily, resulted in low offtakes and reduced BMC production.

(b) Market/license suspensions attributable to outbreaks of foot and mouth disease (FMD) which resulted in the

obligatory suspension of exports to the EU and other markets. The suspensions most notably affected areas such as Ngamiland (Zone 2), Selebi-Phikwe/Bobirwa (Zone 7), North-East and Boteti (Zone 3 and 6). In addition, Buffalo incursions into FMD free zones have also, at material times, resulted in the exclusion or suspension of some zones from supplying their cattle to BMC for EU slaughter. This has resulted in huge financial losses for the BMC.

Another factor is the Non-compliance with stringent EU market requirements especially in communal areas. This has impacted negatively on the ability to export and/or utilize lucrative export-trade agreements. Common non-compliances which excluded 80 per cent of cattle from immediate access to the EU market include low tagging rates and poor record keeping.

(c) Protracted cash-flow limitations at farm/holding level. These prevent farmers from selling or further investing in their farming. This situation is exacerbated or worsened by payment delays by local entities, including the BMC-as well as erosion of equitable price discovery for base producers.

(ii) Mr Speaker; to address the above cited factors, my ministry is:

(a) Implementing the Meat Industry Regulatory Authority (MIRA) Act, to ensure that the local beef market benefits from a formalized competitive system through the introduction of liberalized beef exports. The Act will see to the establishment of an Authority, under my ministry. The Authority is to ensure that it addresses anti-competitive behaviors, while promoting sustainability, wider citizen inclusion and equitable trading within the sector.

Mr Speaker: we believe this will bring equity to livestock farming as well as protect farmers from unwanted sector exploitation, as seems to be the case now.

(b) In addressing primary production challenges, especially at communal areas - my ministry has introduced youth run cafes in major villages across Botswana. These are intended to assist farmers perform transactions, update the animal information and provide advisory on record keeping. The government also provides targeted subsidies of feed and supplements to sustain livestock during drought years.

(c) Mr Speaker: To address cash-flow constraints at the BMC, which would inspire attractive trading and supply



by farmers - my ministry has facilitated the BMC to acquire;

- the renewal of a government guarantee of P300 million issued to FNB in December 2022. P227 million of these is for payment to farmers. It is working capital.

- Ceiling Agreement with commercial banks to assist farmers with funding for cattle which are sold to BMC.

- BMC sponsored inspections through private veterinarians to verify compliance with EU supply requirements

- BMC maintains in-house microbiology laboratory to ensure compliance with food safety requirements including the very strict Norwegian requirements.

BMC is co-developing farm assurance scheme with the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS): to enhance farmer compliance with niche market requirements such as the EU. This will further enhance Botswana beefs unique selling proposition.

(iii) Mr Speaker: the ministry through our varied departments and service centers, including the BMC - actively encourages the adoption of good agricultural practices which promote the establishment of organized farmers' groupings, associations, cooperatives and clusters. This is meant to efficiently and effectively allow Government (while appreciating area peculiarities) to dispense services and programmes at a cost-effective pace, for optimal uptake.

Government is, actively, engaging other SACU partners, especially on the Norway trade to robustly mitigate against risks of cross-selling/trans-shipments, capture by a select-distributors and unilateral encroachment into Botswana's allocation of the quota. This has happened in recent times, and is being corrected at bi-lateral level. We are, presently, engaged with our Namibian counterparts on the matter.

(iv) Mr Speaker: The Meat Industry Regulatory Authority (MIRA) Act (2024) came in the backdrop of an outcry by farmers and the linked industries about the underperformance of the beef sector. The associated reforms were based on the outdated and non-facilitating policy and legal framework, especially monopoly on exports. The ongoing implementation of the Act is

intended to liberalize the local beef sector.

(v) Mr Speaker: my ministry, is also concerned about the sub-optimal performance of the BMC. We have, therefore, deployed high-impact initiatives that cumulatively would address both the financial and operational constraints at the BMC.

(a) Our efforts are intended to build on the already existing (hidden) potential/value that is within the BMC. This includes the value of attained market licenses, accreditations and intellectual propriety (IP), knowledge on global supply-chain, promotion of public-interest principle, and the spread of its processing assets across the country. These ought to be able to provide equitable access and citizen inclusion.

(b) In the short-medium term, the focus is to achieve immediate stability, while simultaneously addressing all BMC balance sheet inadequacies.

(c) As way of building-back BMC's value (in order to attract better investment partners), the ministry (Government) will prioritize on value-preserving initiatives such as:

- stop the financial-bleeding;
- invest on critical non-performing core assets - which hold a lot of hidden value i.e. BMC Value Addition Plant, BMC Tannery;
- decisively address corporate governance and management/ administration lapses
- robust engagement with varied stakeholder groupings
- restructure BMC business model and fully integrate the business downstream to optimize attainable margins;
- strengthen monitoring and evaluation, to ensure accountability and assured performance.

(d) Additionally, at a macro-level, there is a broader policy and legislative framework review to ensure cogent & harmonious implementation of the MIRA, BMC Transition Act; as well as Citizen Economic Inclusion Act, 2021.

(e) Due to a reduced slaughter rate towards end of 2024, the BMC (Lobatse) was not able to produce adequate loads to meet market demand. The BMC



opened production very late in 2025, due to scheduled maintenance work which was only completed mid-January 2025. As such there is not adequate product to load for the market currently.

(vi) Mr Speaker; the aspect of market-access is facilitated through a pact between my ministry (MOLA), the Ministries of Trade & Entrepreneurship and International Relations and other pre-facilitatory agencies including the BMC. As such, the opening of markets is not dependent on one entity or authority.

(vii) While we must report the recent successes in opening access into the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in 2023, efforts are currently underway to similarly expand into the Middle East market through access into Qatar, as well as launch Botswana beef and related value-added products into Asia through China.

(viii) Mr Speaker: the grading of cattle is carried out by the Department of veterinary Services (DVS), which uses a well-established scientific criterion. The process is completely independent from BMC. The process is transparent, and farmers are welcome to witness the grading of their cattle at all BMC abattoirs.

(ix) Mr Speaker: the main boiler chimney is operated in accordance with the stack requirements and chimney approved dimensions.

In 2023, a mini shutdown was instituted to remove two (2) worn out stacks that were hazardous to personnel safety. Although the structure has not been fully restored to a statutory height of about 36 meters, on account of financial constraints, it is not hazardous to staff or the environment.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

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