

13th
PARLIAMENT



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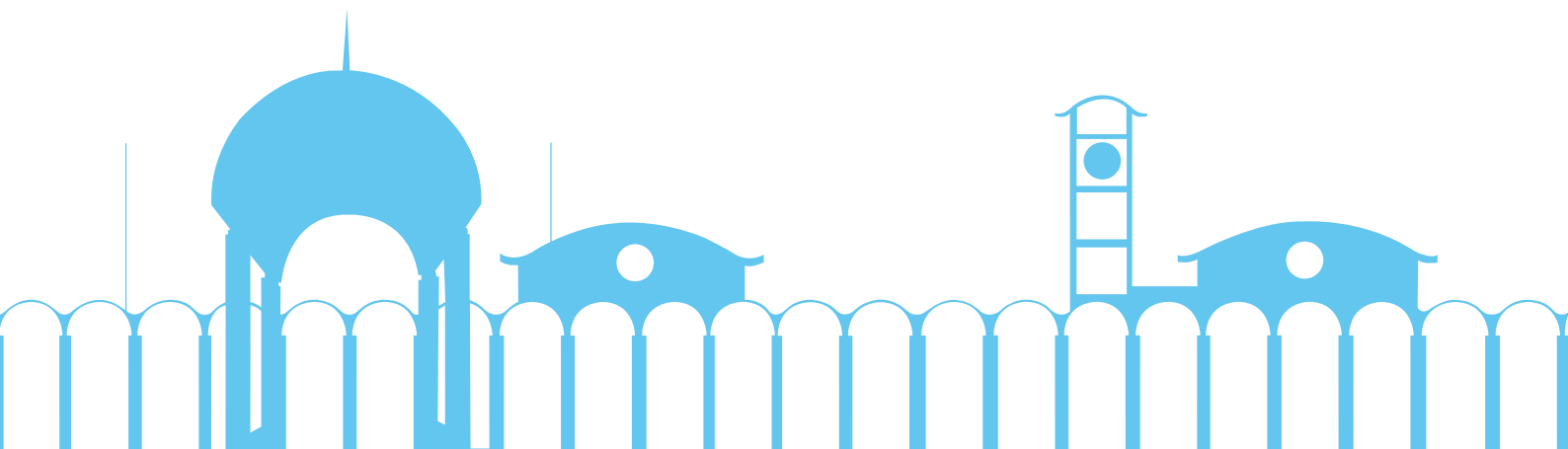
YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

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

WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 2026

MIXED VERSION

HANSARD NO: 220



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Hon. M. C. Mohwasa, MP.	- Minister for State President, Defence and Security
Hon. Dr P. Butale, MP.	- Minister for International Relations
Hon. N. Ramaotwana, MP.	- Minister of Justice and Correctional Services
Hon. K. Motshegwa, MP.	- Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs
Vacant	- Minister of Lands and Agriculture
Hon. D. Tshere, MP.	- Minister of Communications and Innovation
Hon. N. Kgafela-Mokoka, MP.	- Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education
Hon. P. Maele, MP.	- Minister of Higher Education
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Hon. Dr S. Modise, MP.	- Minister of Health
Hon. Maj. Gen. P. Mokgware, MP.	- Minister of Labour and Home Affairs
Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	- Minister of Water and Human Settlement
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP.	- Minister of Minerals and Energy
Hon. T. Ntsima, MP.	- Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship
Hon. L. Chombo, MP.	- Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs
Hon. J. Kelebeng, MP.	- Minister of Sport and Arts
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	- Minister of Transport and Infrastructure
Hon. M. B. Mophuting, MP.	- Assistant Minister, State President, Defence and Security
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. Ntshaile, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Communications and Innovation
Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Health
Hon. B. Mathoothe, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Trade and Entrepreneurship
Hon. J. Hunyepa, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Child Welfare and Basic Education
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Water and Human Settlement
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Transport and Infrastructure

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Hon. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP.	Francistown South
Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP.	Francistown West
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, MP.	Charles Hill
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Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	Ghanzi
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	Boteti East
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Hon. L. Barongwang, MP.	Mogoditshane East
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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.	Mmopane-Metsimotlhabe
Hon. Brig. D. Mokgwathi	Lethakeng
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Hon. G. Sedombo, MP.	Tonota
Hon. P. M. Segokgo, MP.	Tlokweng
Hon. J. T. I. Modise, MP.	Kgalagadi South

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(Botswana Congress Party)

Hon. D. Saleshando, MP. (Leader of the Opposition)	Maun North
Hon. C. K. 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. M. Moalosi, MP.	Nkange

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Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	Nata-Gweta

(Botswana Democratic Party)

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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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Wednesday 25th February, 2026

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

* * * *

SPEAKER'S REMARKS

MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE): Pray be seated. Order! Order! Honourable Members. Good afternoon Honourable Members. Today is a clear day, and I am sure you have been receiving presentations for Committee of Supply from Ministers. I am glad that majority of them are actually sending through their presentations in readiness for the Committee of Supply. Well done Ministers. Let us start the business of today with questions.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

RELOCATION OF COMMUNITIES

MR M. MOALOSI (NKANGE): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs if he is aware that communities were relocated from cattle posts to villages such as Maitengwe, Nkange, Marapong, Semitwe and Tutume with the objective to bring them closer to services; and if so:

- (i) is he aware that these communities were settled in the outskirts of the said villages and have not been provided with stand pipes, residential plots, ploughing fields, schools and clinics;
- (ii) to state plans to assist these people; and
- (iii) whether Government has any affirmative action policies specifically to address the challenges faced by these communities.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOTSHEGWA): Mma ke leboge mmotlana, Mopalamente wa Nkange, Motlotlegi Moalosi.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, mma ke simolole ka go leboga Motlotlegi Mopalamente ka tsiboso ya gagwe tebang le seemo sa batho bangwe mo dikgaolong tsa Maitengwe, Nkange, Marapong,

Semitwe le Tutume. Ke supe gore lephata le itse gore mo metseng e e setseng ke e boletse eo, go na le batho ba ba neng ba fudusiwa kwa merakeng gore ba tle go nna mo motseng. Lephata le itse gore batho ba ba ne ba nna mo tikologong ya metse e ke buileng ka yone, go raya gore lephata le na le temogo eo. E bile lephata le a itse gore ga ba na ditlamelo tse di tshwanang le dipompo tsa metsi, ditsha, masimo, dikole le dikokelwana. Mo nakong ya gompiano, baagi ba ba tsaya ditlamelo mo Dikgotleng tse di bapileng le bone. Seo ke ne ke tlhalosa go itse ga rona ga mathata ao.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go itebaganya le seemo se, yone Khansele ya Tutume e ne ya dira tshutiso kana *council resolution* ka di 26 tsa Hirikgong monongwaga, e e neng e laela komiti ya ditlhabololo ya kgaolo; District Development Committee (DDC) le ba Lephata la Kabo ya Ditsha, *Land Board* go rarabolola seemo se. Ke gone ka moo khansele e simolotseng thulaganyo ya ditshekatsheko; ke gore *assessment and profiling*, ka tsotlhe tse di tshwanetseng tsa lebelelwa. E tlaa re ba wetsa tiro e, ba buisane le ba maphata a mangwe a a amegang. Ka mantswe a mangwe, tshekatsheko e e batla go bona gore go ka dirwa jang gore batho ba felele ba beilwe ditsha le go bona ditlamelo tse dingwe, mme e le gone go tliša tharabololo ya mathata a ke reng a lemotshegile.

Kwa bofelelong Motsamaisa Dipuisano tsa Palamente, lephata le tswetse ka go thusa baagi ba ka mananeo a go ba imolola bokete jwa letlhoko morago ga go dira ditshekatsheko tse. Lephata le tswetse gape ka go bona gore le ka dira jang gore ditlamelo di goroge kwa baaging ba. Ke gore mathata a lemogilwe, tharabololo go iwa kwa go yone, mme go na le tse e leng gore ke tsa nakwana, re tshela mokgabo kwa tharabololong e tona. Ke a leboga.

MR MOALOSI: Supplementary. Ke go leboge nnake ka karabo eo. Ke re kana batho ba ke ba letso la Sesarwa, jaanong go na le nako e e neng batho ba letso la Sesarwa ba fudusiwa kwa Xade ba isiwa kwa New Xade, ba ne ba neelwa ditlamelo tsotlhe tse re buang ka tsone tse e leng gore ga di yo mo bathong ba, jaaka dikole, dipatela, ditsha, e bile ba agelwa sekonotere gompiano, le dikgomo ba ne ba di neetswe. Jaanong potso yame e e leng gore o ne o sa e araba, e ne e le go botsa gore, *do we not have what we call affirmative action* e e lebaganeng

le batho ba fela? Ke gore fa ba kgobokantsweng teng, ke gore jaaka ke re ga ba na ditsha jaana, ga ba na le tsone ditiro. Le yone Ipelegeng fa ba hirwa, ba neelwa dinomoro fela tse dinnyennyane jaaka batho botlhe fela ba ba mo motseng. Jaanong fa ba ntse jalo ba sena masimo, ba sena dipodi, dikgomo, ke gore ba tshela fela go tlhola ba ntse fela, ba babedi, ba bararo ba ba boneng tiro mo Ipelegeng, ke bone ba o ka reng go nna botoka, mme re itse gore Ipelegeng le yone *is not a regular income*.

Kgang ya dikole jaaka ke re ga ba na dikole jaana, bangwe ba bana ba bone, *are you aware* gore ba tsamaya bo 7 km, *like* ba kwa Thaela, kwa Senete, *they walk 7 km to Senete Primary School and back*. Fa o ka lebelela maduo a *Standard 7* a a neng a tswa, dikole tse di nang le bana bao, di feitse thata. Ke tsone tsa bo 50 per cent, bo 47 per cent. Mabaka a mangwe go dirwa ke gore ngwana fa a le le *zero* a tsamaya *distance* e e kalo, go dira gore a se ka a felelets a kgona go dira sentle kwa sekoleng.

Jaanong ke ne ke botsa gore...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Moalosi, Standing Order 40.3.

MR MOALOSI: O se ka wa nna o reetsa *mdala* yole *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: *Heela!* Honourable Moalosi, Standing Order 40.3 *ke se lebeleletse*, "A Member shall not address the Assembly on a question, and a question shall not be made a pretext for a debate."

MR MOALOSI: Ke a utlwa *Mr Speaker*. Go ne go na le potso, ke gore ke ne ka felela ke alela kwa bofelong, mme ke ne ke e boditse fela. Mma ke botse ya bofelo *Mr Speaker* fa o ntelelela.

Ke re a Tona ga a bone go tlhokafala gore bone *as the ministry, because I believe this problem* e teng mo dikgaolong tsotlhe tsa batho bone ba re buang ka bone, gore le dire *a detailed study* fela e e ka tlang ka *solution that covers* batho bone ba e leng gore ba na le mathata a go atumetswa ditlamelo mme ba bo ba bewa kgakala le tsone? Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

MR SPEAKER: *One other thing* Honourable Moalosi, kana *decorum* ya lona mo *House* ya re le bitsane bo *Honourable*. Jaanong bonnake le bo *mdala* o eme pele.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Gone le fa go na le *decorum*, nna le ene ga re na mathata a gore a amogele gore ke mogolowe.

Nte ke tsewelele ka gore o mo boammaaruring, ke tsaya ke re Mopalamente o ntsha dikgang fela tse di botlhokwa, bogolo jang tsa batho ba ba saletseng thata kwa morago ka ditlhabololo. Ke tsaya ke re e bile ke sone se go leng matshwanedi a bua ka *affirmative action*. Ke supe gore ke dumalana le ene, kana ke sone se karabo yame e neng e re, mathata ao a lemosegile gore ke one. Jaanong tharabololo, go setse go na le *resolution* ya khansela. Go feta *resolution*, jaanong go na le ditshekatsheko tse di tseneletseng gore mathata a a bophara bokae mme a tlaa batla tharabololo e e ntseng jang. Re bo re re, fa re santse re emetse seo, go na le sa nakwana se se dirwang sa go ba ema nokeng ka ditlhabololo. Go ya pele, e se bone ba kgaolo ele fela, ke kile ka tlhalosa mo Palamenteng gore fa re sena go tsamaya lefatshe le lotlhe rona ba *Local Government*, re ne ra itemogela gore dikgaolo tse di tshwanang le tsa North West, Kgalagadi, Ghanzi le Bobirwa, ba lebega ba saletse kwa morago thata ka ditlhabololo. Fa o batla go dira *equitable distribution of development*, ka tekatekano ya ditlhabololo, ga o ka ke wa dira gore ba bangwe ba nne ba tsamaele kwa pele, ba bangwe ba santse ba tlhela ka metsi, go neelwa ditsha, jalojalo.

Ke gone fa go tlhokang *affirmative action* ya gore ba tsisiwe fa ba bangwe ba leng teng. Go tlaabo go sa le bana gore e re motse o mongwe o tsenyediwa *streetlights*, mme batho ba tshwana le kwa kgaolong e e buiwang ke *Honourable* Moalosi, kana kwa North West, ba santse ba sena metsi, kana bana ba santse ba tsena dikole ba tswa kgakala. Re netefatse gore ba bangwe ba atumela ditlamelo jaaka ba bangwe. Ke dumalana le Mopalamente jalo.

Ya bofelo o ne a bua gore a ga se gore go dirwe *a detailed study* ya matshelo fela a batho a seemo seo; ke tsaya ke re, bontlha bongwe jwa teng bo dirwa ke komiti e e eteletsweng pele ke Tona Ramaotwana, e e lebaganeng le dikgwetlho tsa itsholelo le matshelo a Basarwa. Dingwe tsa tsone di dirwa ke komiti e e eteletsweng ke nna kwa *Local Government*, e ke buileng ka yone maloba ya *inclusive growth and sustainable development*. Dingwe tsa tsone ke tse di dirwang ke Tona Dikoloti, e go nang le tsamaiso ya gore go tsamaye

go bewa merafe e e keteng e ne e kgaphetswe kwa ntle. Ke dumalana le wena gore e ka atolosiwa, ga dirwa ditshekatsheko tse di bophara. Ke bona o ka nna bontlha bongwe jwa maloko a re ka nnang re ntse re buisanya ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. Ke a leboga.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Supplementary.* Tanki *Mr Speaker.* Tona, re a go utlwa, mme mo ditshekatshekong tsa gago, a ga o bone go tshwanelwa gore mananeo kana *policies* tse pedi; Remote Area Development Programme (RADP) le *Destitution Policy*, di leke go nyalana, di neelana thatathata fa go tsamaela mo mothong gore yo o kgonang *to benefit* mo RADP fa a dule kwa, a le mo motseng, *under the same circumstances*, jaanong o nna *means tested*? Ga e sa tlhole e le motho wa tennyanteng yo o tlileng go leka matshelo, mme a le thata mo go ene. A ga o bone gore dilo tse di neelane mo bathong ba ba lebaganeng le seemo se se kwa Nkange, lefatshe lotlhe ka bophara le Maun? Tanki.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga motlotlegi. E bile ke go akgole, letsatsi leno o kgabile thata, kana ke akgole Mma Kekgonegile.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(Laughter!)

MR MOTSHEGWA: Mma ke tseye sebaka se, gore ke dumalana le wena gore fa o lebelela RADP le *Destitute Policy*, tota fela ka bo tsone gape kwa ntle ga gore di nyalangwe, di siilwe ke nako. Ke tsa bogologolo *and* go nnile le diphetogo tsa matshelo a batho le ditlhabololo kana *socio-economic dynamics* tse e leng gore *they warrant revision* ya *policies* tseo. Ke sone se e leng gore gompiano lephata le simolotse tsamaiso ya *review* ya RADP le *Destitute Policy*. Mokgwa o re tlaa o dirisang wa *review*, ke gore re se ka ra tsamaela kgakala ka *review*; re bo re tla re le botsa kwa morago. Re batla fela fa di tloga, mathata a lona a le a itemogetseng le le Mapalamente, le le setšhaba, re bo re le tsaya tsia, le tsaya karolo mo teng. Re se ka ra dira *theory* re le mo Gaborone re sa ikamanye le ba ba tshelang le batho ba itse mathata a teng.

Ke wele ka gore ke dumalana le wena gore di tshwanetse tsa tla mo seemong sa gore di nyalangwe *policies* tse pedi tse. Go se ka ga fitlhelwa go na le kgwetlho ya gore fa gongwe motho yo o tshwanetseng go thusiwa, o felela a sa thusiwa, a bo a kgapelwa ntle, kana yo o setseng a tokafetse botshelo, a bo a tswelala a ntse a thusiwa.

Ke sone se e leng gore go feta foo, mo mananeong a *social benefits* jaaka re tlaa rola pego (*present*) kwa *the Committee of Supply*. Go tsamaela kwa pele ke gore, go nne le *the single registry* ya dikgang tsa *social protection*, e le go leka *to harmonise* go isa ditirelo kwa bathong ka tsela e e ntseng jalo. *The means test* e bo e dirisiwa ka tsela e go felelang go sa kgaphelwe ntle ba ba tshwanetseng go thusiwa. Ke a leboga ka megopolo e mentle eo.

WATER SHORTAGES

MR M. M. PULE (KGATLENG EAST): asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement if he is aware of the persistent water shortages affecting residents of Dikwididi, Mabalane, Sikwane, Mmathubudukwane, Ramonaka and Malolwane villages in Kgatleng East, including erratic supply and prolonged periods without running water; and if so, to further state:

- (i) whether his ministry has investigated reports of water colourisation when supply is restored through household taps;
- (ii) immediate and long-term measures that are being implemented to ensure reliable supply and safe water quality and when residents can expect improvements; and
- (iii) when the ministry plans to commence the connection of the river villages to the Mmamashia Water Treatment Plant.

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

Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke simolole ka go go dumedisa. Ke bo ke dumedise le Mapalamente le morafe wa kgaolo ya Charles Hill le Ghanzi. Ke leboge mong wa potso *Mr Speaker*. Ke potso fela e e tlhapileng, e e buang ka matshelo a batho.

Mr Speaker, ke supe fela gore lephata le nnile le itemogelo e e ntseng jalo. Le tswelletse ka go mekamekana le go ritibatsa seemo se Motlotlegi Mopalamente Mabuse wa ga Pule a ngongoregang ka sone. Go boammaaruri, go na le tlhaelo ya metsi. Tlhaelo e ya metsi fa gongwe e dirwa ke gore didirisiwa dingwe tsa lephata jaaka *plant*, di setse di fetilwe ke nako. Go tlhokega gore di ka baakannwa kana tsa emisediwa (*replace*), tsa agiwa sesha kana ga rekwa dingwe tse di sha tsa tsenngwa gone

foo. Gone mo gore didirisiwa di fetilwe ke nako, go dira gore go pompa metsi go bo go le go nnyennyane thata, go sa lekane motse. *Other factors* ke gore, metse le yone o fitlhela e gola. Fa metse e ntse e gola, fa gongwe batho ba segelwa mo dikhuting. Lefatshe le tsamaya le nna dikhuti fa le palamela. Metsi gore a aname ka bonako jo bo rileng, go tlhoka gore mabeelo a one a bo a le kwa godimodimo thata.

Ke lengwe la mabaka a re lebaganeng le one gompieno go ntlafatsa diemo tse gore di siamele batho. Go na le kgang e nngwe e go ka tweng le yone e na le seabe. E rile lephata le nna le itemogelo e e ntseng jaana ya motšhine o wa *plant* gore o setse o onetse, le fa tota re ntse re o dirisa, mme ga tsewa tshwetso ya gore go tsewe metsi mo sedibeng sa Sikwane gore a kgaramediwe gore a lekane batho. Mo ga go lekane ka gore ditsompelo tsa Sikwane di felela di senyega kgapetsakgapetsa le go baakangwa. Maikaelelo ke gore, batho ba se ka ba tlhaelwa ke metsi.

Ntlha e nngwe *Mr Speaker* ke gore, metsi a mangwe a a nowang ke dikgaolo tse motlotlegi a di akareditseng, ke bothata jwa gore re tsaya metsi a bone kwa South Africa mo tamong ya Molatedi. Kwa South Africa go na le dilo tse e nngang dikgoreletsi gore metsi nako e nngwe a se ka a tla kwa kgaolong ya Mopalamente sentle. Dingwe tsa dikgoreletsi tseo ke kgaogo ya motlakase kana ape mathata a a ba tlhagelang. A dire gore ka nako eo, metsi a se ka a tla ka nako e a solofetsweng ka yone. Ke dingwe tsa dilo tse di dirang gore batho ba tlhaelwe ke metsi *Mr Speaker*.

Ke feletse ke supa gore le mo metseng le fa e le mo Gaborone, Kanye, Mochudi, Molepolole, Maun ba lebagane le seemo se se tshwanang. Mealo ya metsi ka fa tlase ga mmu, mengwe ya teng e setse e siilwe ke dinako, e megologolo. Fa go na le *project* nngwe e e dirwang ya go leka go tokafatsa seemo sa metsi, go batla go tokafadiwa gotlhe le *pipes* di epololwa mo mmung ka gore *pressures* tse di tsenngwang tsa segompieno, di kwa godimo thata. E dira gore le fa o baakanya ka fa, e a rutlomologa go a senyega, metsi a tshologa kgapetsakgapetsa. Re na le tsholofelo ya gore *network* e ya metsi e tlaa siamela dikgaolo ka bontsi ka gore re ya re ntse re baakanya le go batla madi a go baakanya fale le fale *Mr Speaker*.

Ya *landscaping* ke buile ka yone *Mr Speaker*. Motlotlegi Mopalamente o buile ka go tladikega ga metsi a tla a na le mebala e mehibidu jalojalo. Lephata le lemogile seo *Mr Speaker*; gore metsi ga a tshwanela gore e re a nowa ke batho, a bo a tla a le mebalabala. Lephata le ne la tsibogela kgang eo mo go 2025 jaana, le fa go ise go lekane konono mme sengwe se dirilwe gore seemo se wele kwa tlase thata. Re mo seemong se re lehang ka bojotlhe gore go siame.

Mr Speaker, go na le potso ya bofelo e e welang e re mme jaanong a ga le bone fa go le matshwanedi gore le dirise metsi a moalo o o fetang mo Mmamashia gore le tseye metsi koo le nose batho, e le sone seemo sa sennelaruri? Karabo ke ee, re bona go le matshwanedi. Fa le bona go le matshwanedi, le dira eng? Karabo ke gore mo National Development Plan (NDP) 12 re tsentse maakanya gore madi fa a bonala *Mr Speaker*, e bo re mekamekana le seemo se, batho ba Kgaolo ele ya Kgatleng ba a nwa metsi ka phuthologo go ya go tsena fela le kwa bo Kgomodiatshaba. Ke a leboga.

MR PULE: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke leboge Tona ka maiteko a a dirileng a go araba potso le fa ke sa wela. Ke ne ke re ke gakolole Tona gore a o a gakologelwa gore o kile a tshwara phuthego kwa Mabalane, a solofetsa Bakgatla ba Noka gore o tlaa ba nosa metsi ka ponyo ya leitlho? Ya ba ya re fa a botswa dipotso a araba ka gore solofelang fela jaaka le ne la solofela gore Morena Jeso o tlaa tsoga. Ke re ke mmoitse gore a o a gakologelwa? A o a lemoga jaanong gore ke dumele mo go seo gore tota o ne a re baya bobi matlhong a re re solofele? E bile a supa gore go tlaa tsaya lebaka gore re solofele.

Le gore le Tona a tlhaloganye gore a seemo se jaaka a ntse a se tlhalosa, a o bona e le se se tshwanetseng Bakgatla ba kgaolo ele gore e bo ba a nwa metsi a a nang le mebala? Ke boditse potso ke botsa Tona gore a o na le *some research* e a e dirileng ya go bona gore metsi a a *coloured*, a takwa ke eng. Ke kopa Tona a arabe a tlhalose gore fa e le gore ba dirile tshakatsheko, a takwa ke eng? A mme metsi ao ke a a ka nowang ke batho ka gore Bakgatla jaanong ba ipolelela gore ka a na le mmala, le go nowa go raya gore ga ba ka ke ba a nwa? A leke go tlhatswetsa Bakgatla gore ba ka tswelela ba a nwa, a *safe*. Ke ne ke kopa Tona gore a dire jalo.

Ke batla go go raya gape Tona ke re, kana o ntse o tlhalosa gore metsi a rona a mangwe a tswa kwa Afrika Borwa. A ga o bone e le gore sebaka se tsile sa gore kgang e ya gore e bo re tsaya metsi kwa Afrika Borwa a a nang le mathata a a tlang ka one, re e tsibogele? Kgang e ke kileng ka e bua le wena ka go raya ke re, go tshwanetse go batliwe madi ka bonako jo bo rileng gore re gokelwe kwa Mmamashia. A ga o bone e le sebaka sa gore re se ka ra bua ka gore *project* e e tsene mo NDP 12, e batlelwe madi ka bonako because *it is now an emergency issue*? A ga o bone go tlhokafala gore re dire jalo Tona? Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Pule, I am sure you are familiar with Order 38.1(d) and (i). A question shall not contain arguments, inferences, opinions, imputations or epithets or tendentious, ironical or offensive expressions. *O se ele tlhoko Standing Order seo. Ga ke itse gore a o tlaa kgona go go araba mo go ya ntlha ka gore fa ke e lebeletse, e kare e thulathulana le 38.1.*

MR MOTSAMAI: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Mma fela ke tsene mo karabong. Jaaka o bua *Mr Speaker*, tota ga ke ka ke ka araba sepe se se thulathulanang le 38.1, ke tlaabo ke thulathulana le yone le nna fa ke ka araba potso e e ntseng jalo.

Mopalamente o ne a supa gore a ke tseega sentle ke bona seemo sa kwa Kgatleng se ntse jaaka se ntse, batho ba a nwa metsi a a nang le mebala, ga a na boleng jo bo tsepameng? Jaaka o utlwa ke re ke ne ka ba ka supa gore lephata le ne la tsiboga, la ba la bona gore seemo seo se a ritibadiwa, se isiwa kwa tlase. Lephata *Mr Speaker*, le na le bomankge ba ba farologanyeng, metsi ga re a gelele fela mo patlelong a bo re neela batho. Ba a sekaseka gore metsi a fa a ka nowa ke batho, a a ba siametse kana nnyaa. Ke solofetsa jalo gore bana ba ba dirile tiro fela e e duleng diatla *Mr Speaker*. Ke sone se o bonang gongwe go ise go nne le nngwe *case* e e tswang ka kwa Kgatleng ya gore batho gongwe ga ba a tsewa sentle ke metsi. Re tlaa tswelala ka go tokafatsa go feta fa Mopalamente a ngongoregang teng *Mr Speaker*.

E nngwe o ne a bua gore a ke bona e le gore go tswelala re tsaya metsi kwa South Africa, a ga se seemo se se tlotsweng ke dinako? A ga se gore jaanong re batle madi ka bonako jo bo rileng, re tseye metsi mo moalong wa Mmamashia re nose batho? Re bona jaaka a bona *Mr*

Speaker, gore golo mo go a tlhokafala gore go dirwe jaana. Ke sone se re buileng ka NDP 12, re batlile metswedi e mengwe e e ka tsibogelang bothata joo ka bonako. Metswedi eo ya tlhokafala. *Mind you*, Tona wa tsa Madi o letse a le fa a re latolela madi ka go farologana re le maphata mme fale le fale re neelwa magopelonyana a re tshwanetseng go a dirisa. Magopelo a *Mr Speaker*, re tlaa tswelala re ntse re sekaseka gore mme le legopelo fa re ka direla jaana ba kgaolo e e ka kwa, a go tlaa lekana Batswana ba botlhe ka gotwe sejo sennye ga se fete molomo. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo *Mr Speaker*, dingongora tsa Mopalamente re di tsaya tsia fela thata. Ke a leboga.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Simasiku Oscar Mapulanga, Member for Chobe.

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

PROPOSED KWENENG NORTH SUB DISTRICT

MR T. BOGATSU (LENTSWELETAU-LEPHEPHE): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to explain to this Honourable House what happened to the sub district status that was granted to the Lentsweletau-Lephephe Constituency.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOTSHEGWA): Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke leboge Motlotlegi Mopalamente. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, re a dumalana gore Ofisi ya ga Tautona ka Presidential Directive-Cab 21(B)/2008, e ile ya tsaya tshwetso ya go oketsa dikgaolopotlana, Kweneng North Sub-District e le nngwe ya tsone. Kgaolo potlana e e neng e tshwanetse go thusa metsana ya Kopong, Mmatseta, Ditshukudung, Lentsweletau, Mahetlwe, Hatsalatladi, Lephephe, Boatlaname, Shadishadi, Sojwe, Kgope, Mogonono, Kweneng, Gakuto, Leologane, Dikgatlong, Medie le Monwane. Lentsweletau e le motsemogolo wa kgaolopotlana.

Kweneng North Sub-District ke nngwe ya tse di 25 tse di tseetsweng tshwetso, mme di le 14 ga di a ka tsa simolodisiwa ka lebaka la tlhaelo ya madi. Dikgaolopotlana tse ke dingwe tse di tlaa sekwasekwang

mo Lenaneong la Ditogamaano la bo 12. Go feta se ke se buile, ke ikemiseditse ka ke buile le Mopalamente, gore re tlaa ya kwa kgaolong go ya go anamisa dikgang tse gore batho ba di utlwe re tseye megopolo mo go bone. Go raya gore ke tlaabo ke reeditse fela ka Mopalamente, setlhako se malala-a-laotswe gore ke emelele.

MR BOGATSU: Nnyaa mme...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: You are smiling.

MR BOGATSU: Ga ke *smile*, ke a gakgamala. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Bogatsu, jaanong o iphesa fela...

MR BOGATSU: Ke ne ke itse gore o tlaa mpitsa... (*Laughter!*)...*Supplementary.* Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, tota mme fela gone ke dintlha dife tsa konokono tse di lebelelwang gore kgaolo e bo e ka fiwa seemo sa gore e nna *a district* kana *sub-district*? Tanki.

MR MOTSHEGWA: Ke a leboga. Ke belaela gore maloba, ke Mopalamente Lucas, o ne a e boditse. Le fa ke ka se ka ka di tlhalosa tsotlhe gompieno go tswa mo tlhogong, dingwe tsa tsone go lebelelwa gore sekgala sa dikgaolo ga se a tshwanela gore se bo se le se telele kana se le se tona mo se ka dirang gore batho ba ye go tsaya ditlamelo kgakala. E nngwe ke ya go lebelela popego ya batho gore batho ba ba foo, ba tshwanetse gore ya bo e le gore ga ba a tshwanela go fitlhelwa ba kgaogantswe. E nngwe ke ya go lebelelwa dipalo tsa kgaolo gore di goroga mo go ene 50,000 o o bolelwang. Tota kgangkgolo fela ke gore e bo e le mo seemong se e leng gore batho ga ba felele ba sokola go bona ditlamelo ka ntata ya gore kwa ba di tsayang teng go kgakala.

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): *Procedure.* Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ka kgatlhego ya gore dipotso tsa Mapalamente di arabiwe tsotlhe, ke leka go sutisa ka fa tlase ga tsamaiso ya Palamente 130.1 *to suspend* 40.7 gore re feleletse dipotso tse di mo Order Paper. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, I am sure you understand the import of the Motion by Honourable Tshere. When you look at your agenda today in the Order Paper, you have

questions and tabling of papers. So, there is the Motion, so I will just put the question.

Question put and **agreed to.**

MANDUNYANE-MATHANGWANE ROAD

MR J. J. FRENZEL (SHASHE WEST): asked the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to state:

- (i) the actual date of completion of the Mandunyane-Mathangwane road, since the revised date of June 2026 is not realistic;
- (ii) the causes of delay since completion dates have been revised and postponed up to three times thus far;
- (iii) if the 14 kilometre gravel road between Mathangwane and Makobo will be constructed under this project as it was included in the initial plan; and
- (iv) if there are any plans to re-seal the A30 road from Borolong to A3 junction as it has severely been damaged by adverse weather conditions.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR ATAMELANG): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke dumedisa *the Honourable House*. Ke bo ke bua gore *the apology has been accepted* Mma Dow...

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

MR ATAMELANG: *Mr Speaker*, ke kopa gore o ntshireletse.

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

MR SPEAKER: Ke go sireleditse ka dipurapura tse o ka reng tsa ga Saatane tse.

MR ATAMELANG: *Ditumediso tsa me di nna di... fa ke dumedisa fela ke molato.*

- (i) Mr Speaker, the anticipated completion date for Mmandunyane-Mathangwane road is February 2027 as per the contractors revised completion programme. It must be noted that the contractor has four claims of extension of time referred to Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB), a decision is expected on the 21st April 2026. After the DAB

decision has been released, relevant contract clause pertaining to extension of time or delayed completion will be effected accordingly.

(ii) Mr Speaker, since the beginning of the project, the contractor has encountered delays attributed to the following;

- shortage of construction water from September 2024 up to November 2024. The contractor drilled three boreholes without success.
- Rainfall was experienced again from December 2023 up to December 2025.
- delayed payments which hampered progress due to unpredictable cash flow.
- the contractor's poor planning and inadequate plant and equipment.

(iii) Mr Speaker, the Mathangwane-Makobo road was not part of the Mandunyane-Mathangwane project scope. The construction of Mathangwane-Makobo road came about in August 2024 and was anticipated to be implemented as a variation to the Mandunyane-Mathangwane project, however, due to fiscal challenges, implementation of this road was suspended.

(iv) Mr Speaker, as indicated by the Honourable Member, A30 road from Borolong to A3 junction, 40 kilometres (km), I use this road when I visit my constituency as well, has severely been damaged by adverse weather conditions. In that regard, the road has been included in the 2026/2027 maintenance plan. The project will entail 28 km resealing, reconstruction of bad sections which are recorded at 10 km and asphalt overlay of 2 km. I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR FRENZEL: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Honourable Speaker.* Ke a leboga ka dikarabo tse o neng o tla ka tsone. Ke kopa fela go itse gore...kana o supa gore jaanong *completion date* e ntšha e re nang le yone mo nakong ya gompieno e ya go nna *February 2027*, re ne re itse gore ke e nngwe gape, ke *postponement* e nngwe ka gore re ne re itse gore tsela e tshwanetse gore gongwe *this year* e bo e fela ka kgwedi ya *June*. Ka ke ne ke bua ka *postponements* tsa bone, a mme Tona

o solofetsa batho ba Shashe West gore gone mme ka *February 2027* tsela ya bone e tlaabo e fela?

Ke gore ke lebeletse *postponements* le madiadia a o neng o a bua, a gore bo metsi jang, jang. Jaanong ke batla go itse gore a mo diemong tse o neng o di bua tsa *payments*, didiba tse ba di epileng tse metsi a sa tswang le tsotlhe tse o neng o supa gore gongwe ke tsone tse di bakileng gore go bo go nnile le go tlhoka go fela, gore a mme dilo tse o nneng o di bua tse, di wetse? Re ka re jaanong tsela e tlaa tsamaya sentle go sena makgwere ape, e bo e ya go fela ka *February 2027*.

Ya bobedi ke gore, tsela e ke e supang e e tswang mo A3 mo *junction* ya Francistown-Maun, go ya go feta e tsena ka bo Borolong e fetela kwa pele. Fa re bua mo nakong ya gompieno ke tsela e e suleng, *potholes* tse di seng kana ka sepe. Re kopile bone bo rakonteraka gore ba tle ba re petšhetse *potholes*. Ke batla go itse gore, a mme jaaka o solofetsa gore *resealing* e tlaa nna teng, e bile o supile gore o tsamaya ka tsela eo, gore a batho ba Borolong le Jamataka ba ba dirisang tsela ele, le bone gapegape ke batla gore o ba solofetse gore tsela e etla, *resealing* e tlaa diragala jaaka o supa jaana. Sa gago ke go batla gore o natefise, gore batho ba nne ka tsholofelo. Ke a leboga *Honourable Speaker.*

MR ATAMELANG: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker.* Ya ntlha ya *February* a le di 27 ka 2027, ee rra ke a go tshephisa. Kana go na le selo gatwe *force majeure*, fa e le gore dibetsa tsa tlhologo di ka diragala, go ka nna ga nna le *delay*. Tsholofelo *according to our calculation, February of 2027* ke yone *completion date*. I need to state that re emetse *judgement* ya the Dispute Adjudication Board, ke yone e e tlaa reng fa ba sena go nna ba ntsha *judgement*, re bo re bona gore *will we be able to meet this deadline. According to our calculations, re tsentsa le the judgement, re dumela gore we will meet this deadline.*

E nngwe gape ya tsela e jaaka ke sa tswa go bua, e mo *maintenance budget*, le yone re solofela gore *all things perfect*, e tlaa dirwa *sir*. Ke a leboga.

MR FRENZEL: *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Honourable Speaker.* Ke batla gore o rurifatse fa Tona ka the 14 km wa tsela e e tswang mo Mathangwane e ya go wela kwa Makobo. Tsholofelo ya rona e ne e le gore tsela e tlaa tla e dirwa, *more so that* dikompone

tse di dirang *the A3 project* le ya Mandunyane-Mathangwane... tsholofelo ya rona e ne e le gore go tlaa nna motlhofo *and cheaper* ba le gone foo, gore ba tle ba dire *project* eo. A ga o na dikakanyo dipe Tona tsa gore gongwe tsela ele o tle o e tsenye, e tle e kgone gore e dirwe, *since* bo rakonteraka ba le mo *site* mo nakong ya gompiano?

MR ATAMELANG: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Kana mme ke ne ke sa tswa go bua gore *it was considered as a variation* ya *project* ya Mandunyane-Mathangwane. Jaanong *because of availability of funds*, madi ke one mathata. Re a go utlwa gore wa re re ka leka go e sukunyetsa, mme fela fa madi a ka nna *available, definitely* re tshwanetse re bone gore re a e dira, ka gore *it was already considered* gore e nne *variation* ya *project*. Jaanong ke tsholofelo fela gore madi e tlaa re a nna teng fela, re bo re e dira *sir*. Ke a leboga.

BOTSWANA EMBASSIES ACROSS ALL CONTINENTS

MR T. FURNITURE (TATI EAST): asked the Minister for International Relations to state:

- (i) the number of Botswana Embassies in Europe, Asia, Africa and the United States of America respectively;
- (ii) the number of such embassies which have, over the past six (6) years successfully attracted foreign investors to set up business ventures even on partnership basis in Botswana, with the aim of stimulating economic development;
- (iii) the firms that were successfully created and the percentage of job opportunities provided for the people of Botswana;
- (iv) the number of businesses which are currently in operation, and the reasons for the closure;
- (v) the total contribution of these businesses to Botswana Gross Domestic Product (GDP);
- (vi) whether, considering return on investment, Botswana benefits from the establishment of various embassies abroad; and
- (vii) the Government's position regarding the reduction of operational expenses and ensuring that these embassies make positive return on investment.

MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (DR BUTALE): Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Let me thank the Honourable Member for the question and I wish to respond as follows;

- (i) the number of Botswana Embassies by Region, Botswana currently maintains 23 diplomatic missions in the following regions:
 - Africa - 9 Missions; (South Africa Pretoria; Johannesburg-Consulate; Ethiopia; Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, Nigeria)
 - Europe - 6 Missions; (United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland)
 - Asia- 4 Missions; (Australia, India, China, Japan)
 - Middle East- 1 Mission (Kuwait)
 - Americas- 3 Missions; United States of America (Washington; USA - New York) and Brazil.

These missions are strategically positioned to drive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into Botswana. In addition, Botswana maintains Permanent Missions to multilateral institutions as I have stated, in New York, Geneva, Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Brussels, which complement our bilateral embassies in advancing economic diplomacy and trade promotion.

- (ii) Mr Speaker, over the past six years, Botswana's missions have actively engaged in economic diplomacy investment promotion, and trade facilitation in collaboration with the relevant domestic agencies such as the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) and other sector ministries.

During this period, Botswana has successfully recorded 10 investments leads that resulted in foreign investors establishing or partnering in business ventures in Botswana from Europe based businesses/investors; four from Africa and the Middle East; and 14 from Asia. These engagements span sectors such as mining and mineral beneficiation; renewable energy; agriculture and agro-processing; financial services; tourism and hospitality; ICT and innovation.

It is important to note that investment attraction is a multi-agency process, and our missions play a catalytic and facilitative role rather than acting as the sole implementing authority.

- (iii) As a result of these facilitated engagements over the past six years, approximately 28 firms were successfully established or entered into joint ventures in Botswana. These initiatives highlight Botswana's stable political environment, sound economic governance, investor-friendly policies and strategic access to regional markets. These ventures collectively created an estimated 2800 direct jobs with Botswana accounting for over 85 per cent of the workforce in compliance with national employment and localisation policies.
- (iv) My ministry is not aware of any businesses that may have ceased operations as per the question by the Honourable Member of Parliament.
- (v) Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the house that the ministry does not have an exact quantified figure of the direct contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The mandate of the ministry is primarily policy driven and facilitative in nature.

Our core functions include advancing Botswana's foreign policy objectives, promoting economic diplomacy, attracting investment, safeguarding the interests of Botswana abroad and strengthening bilateral and multilateral partnerships.

The economic outcomes arising from these interventions are cross-cutting and materialise through other sectors of the economy. As such, they are not captured as a standalone GDP contribution attributable solely to the ministry.

Beyond direct GDP impact, these ventures have contributed to technology and skills transfer; export diversification; increased tax revenues; enhancement of Botswana's global competitiveness profile. The ministry continues to work closely with relevant ministries and agencies responsible for trade, investment promotion, and economic planning to ensure that our diplomatic engagements translate into tangible economic benefits aligned with the country's development priorities.

Mr Speaker, we must note that Diplomatic missions are not established solely for commercial return. They

serve strategic national interests, including political representation; consular protection of citizens; trade and investment promotion; multilateral engagement; security cooperation; market access negotiations.

However, measurable economic outcomes increasingly form part of our performance framework. Evidence demonstrates that investment and trade flows facilitated through missions, significantly outweigh operational costs over the medium to long term. Diplomacy is a strategic enabler of economic transformation.

Mr Speaker, Government remains committed to ensuring value for money in the operation of missions abroad. Measures implemented up to now include:

- Periodic rationalisation and review of missions based on strategic priorities;
- Shared services and cost-containment frameworks;
- Digitalisation of consular and administrative services;
- Performance-based targets linked to economic diplomacy outcomes;
- Stronger coordination between missions and domestic economic agencies;
- Exploration of property ownership models to reduce rental expenditure.

Mr Speaker, our foreign policy is increasingly focusing on economic diplomacy. Missions are being repositioned from traditional, political and social focused structures to performance-driven platforms aligned with national transformation priorities, including the National Development Plan and economic diversification agenda.

In conclusion, Mr Speaker, Botswana derives tangible and strategic value from its diplomatic footprint. Government will continue to strengthen accountability mechanisms to ensure missions deliver measurable national benefit. *Ke a leboga.*

MR FURNITURE: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Mr Speaker, mma ke go leboge Tona ka karabo. Ke re Tona ke na le keletso ya gore o ntlhalosetse sengwe fa, re kile ra kopana le pego nngwe kwa Public Accounts Committee (PAC) e e neng e supa gore go na le mmereki mongwe wa mophepafatsi yo o duelwang madi, *I think*

fa o tsentse kana le *allowances*, a goroga kwa go 90 000 e le *diplomatic allowance* kana dituelo tse a di bonang. Potso ke gore, a *skill* se, ga se se gongwe re ka se tsayang gone kwa mafatsheng ao go leka go fokotsa bokete jwa ditshenyegelo tsa go duela babereki ba gongwe ba a bong ba le kwa mafatsheng a sele? Ke batla go ema go le kalo.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, before you can respond, the question asked by Honourable Furniture is not in line with order 40.2. read with 38. 1(f). *Ga ke itse gore a le eletsa gore ke le di balele.*

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

MR SPEAKER: I should. Order! Honourable Members. Let me start with 38.1; Honourable Furniture has made reference to the PAC and in terms of 38.1 “a question shall conform to the following rules; 38.1 (f) – A question shall not refer to proceedings in a committee before that committee has made its report to the Assembly.” As far as I am concerned, the report is not yet here.

The second one 40.2 - “After the answer to a question has been given, supplementary questions may, at the discretion of the Speaker, be put for the purpose of elucidating the answer given orally, but the Speaker may refuse any such question or answer which in his or her opinion introduces matters not relative to the original question, or which infringes any of the provisions of Standing Order No. 38” and in this particular case, I have made reference to 38.1 (f) and may in that case direct that such questions or answers be not reported in the official report.

I am aware that this is your question Honourable Furniture, if you wish to ask any other supplementary question you can, but this one is disallowed.

MR KWAPA: Supplementary. *Mma ke go leboge Mr Speaker. Ke ne ke eletsa gore gongwe Tona should confirm the number of offices kana missions tse di nang le Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) offices gone kwa mafatsheng ao, le gore re tlaa nna leng le those offices mo mafatsheng a a setseng a rometse boemedi joo?* Can he also confirm whether our Government would emphasise economic returns for missions abroad in light of our economic situation or challenges?

The last one; given the cost of maintaining missions abroad, is it not time to review which ones are still relevant and which ones are not in terms of value addition? Thank you, Mr Speaker.

DR BUTALE: Ke a go leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke tshalose gore babereki ba rona kwa *embassies* tsa rona ba fiwa selo se gotweng *foreign service allowance*. Maikaelelo a yone ke go ba thusa go mekamekana le mo gotweng *cost of living* kwa ba tshelelang teng.

Kgang e ya BITC *offices* gore ke kae kwa di leng teng, le gone gore a re ka di atolosa; ke batla go tlhomamisetsa Ntlo e gore, *economic diplomacy is a priority area or focus area* ya rona mo Pusong ya gompieno, ka re lemogile gore e tsamaelana, e bile e ka thusa Puso fa re ntse re tswetsetse ka *private sector-led growth*, gore re tswe mo kgannyeng ya gore jaanong go ikaegiwe thatathata kana re nne le itsholelo e e ikaegileng thata ka *Government spending*.

Jalo, re tswetsetse ka go atolosa, e bile fa re *rationalise our embassies*, maikaelelo a rona ke gore *we should leverage thatathata on those competitive advantages of all the countries* kwa re berekelang teng. Ke sone se ke neng ke bua gape gore re ikaetsetse *to expand into the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and we will be soon opening embassies* tse dingwe kwa mafatsheng a mangwe a a leng *part of the Gulf*.

Ya gore totatota ke dife *missions* tse di nang le BITC, ka e ne e seyo mo potsong, ke tlaa batla *information* eo *for specific missions, but we do have such offices and we collaborate with the BITC quite extensively*.

Kgang e nngwe e o neng o re ke dife tse di *relevant*, ke dife tse di tshwanetseng gore di se ka tsa tlhola di nna teng, nnyaa *instead of reducing, we will be increasing our footprint. We believe strongly that multilateralism is the anchor to the growth that we so much envisage of our economy. We will be expanding into the Gulf, and to other parts of the world looking at the strategic interests of the country. I thank you.*

MR LUCAS: Ke a leboga Tona. Ke utlwa o supa gore re na le *diplomatic missions* mo Africa di le *nine*. Fa re lebile gore Africa e na le mafatshe a feta 50, mme re lebile gape kgang e re tshelang re bua ka yone ya *the importance of inter and intra-Africa trade*, o tsaya gore *embassies* tse *nine* mo mafatsheng a feta 50 mo

Africa di ka tswa di lekane? Fa e le gore ga di a lekana, maikaelelo ke *to prioritise* go bula kae le kae kwa go ka re sologelang molemo mo itsholelong ya rona le papadisanyo ya mafatshe a Africa? Ke a leboga rraetsho.

DR BUTALE: Ke a go leboga Mopalamente, ke a utlwa gore o a tšhoma o bua bo *inter; intra*. Nnyaa, *nine* ga a lekana gotlhelele o lebeletse gore rona re dumela thata mo go reng re tshwanetse go dirisana mo go tseneletseng le mafatshe a Africa. E bile gape o lebeletse tse di ka re ungwelang fa re ka dirisa dilo di tshwana le bo Africa Free Trade Area, ditumalano tseo re dumela gore re ka di kgona e bile re ka di dirisa botoka fa re na le kemedi e e oketsegileng mo mafatsheng a Africa. Dilo tse tsothle di ikaegile mo ditsompelong tse re nang le tsone go ka bula *embassies* tse. Se re ntseng re se dira mo mafatsheng a mangwe ke gore re bue le bone, jaaka o itse bo Kuwait, e ne ya re fa re bua, ra bo re buisantse le bone, ba bo ba re thusa ka ditshenyegelo dingwe tsa go bula *embassies* tseo. Mo mafatsheng a mangwe a re tlaabong re ya go bula kwa go one, ke yone thulaganyo eo, re buisantse le bone gore ba re thusa ka ditshenyegelo. Fa gongwe ba bangwe ba re re ka le neela a *chancery*, gongwe re ka le thusa ka *residence ya the Ambassador or the High Commissioner*, jalojalo. Ke sone se re se tshwereng.

Mo Africa tota maikaelelo a rona ke gore mo bogautshwaneng fa ditsompelo di bonetse, seemo se letlile, re lebelele mafatshe a tshwana le Angola, Ghana, ka gore go botlhokwa gore re nne teng mo mafatsheng ao. Re lebeletse tirisano ya rona le bone, re lebeletse itsholelo tsa rona le tsa bone le ka fa re dumelang gore go ka re sologela mosola ka teng. Ke a leboga.

BUSINESS AND SPORT PARTNERSHIP

MR A. K. KHAN (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): asked the Minister of Sport and Arts whether there are any existing or planned policies that compel or incentivise businesses to partner in sport, for example, through tax rebates or other tax incentives; and if so, when such will be implemented to stimulate greater private sector participation in the development of sport in the country.

MINISTER OF SPORT AND ARTS (MR KELEBENG): Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, currently what is existing as a Government mechanism to encourage investment in sport by private businesses is the Ministry of Finance, and Botswana Unified

Revenue Service (BURS) Guidance note on deductions from chargeable income for donations made to Educational Institutions and Sports Bodies, Section 51 (2) of the Income Tax Act 1995 which stipulates that: “The Government has also decided that donations to approved sport and educational institutions will be tax deductible.”

Mr Speaker, the Educational Institutions and Sports Bodies, Section 51 (2) of the Income Tax Act 1995 was introduced to encourage the private sector to participate fully in the development of sports. For an entity to qualify for tax deduction, they are required to fill and submit an application, Form ITA 62, with the endorsement of the Ministry of Sport and Arts, and the Botswana National Sports Commission. Once the Ministry of Finance and BURS have approved the application, a tax reduction not exceeding 20 per cent of the company’s aggregate chargeable income tax would be made.

Mr Speaker, I would like to inform this Honorable House that, different companies have established their own Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policies, which enable them to share returns gained from the sales/profits into community activities of their choice, inclusive sport. Gratitude goes to all those private companies for the positive contribution towards the promotion of sport development and recreation.

Mr Speaker, the ministry through the Botswana National Sport Commission (BNSC) has in recent weeks submitted an application to BURS to be recognised as a qualifying public benefit institution, with income applied towards sport development exempt from income tax. Furthermore, Mr Speaker, our ministry will in the near future develop a policy to promote tax incentives to companies offering sponsorship to both sport and the creatives (arts). The envisaged policy will target private companies operating in the country to invest back through sponsorship to sports and the creative sectors. I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR SALESHANDO: *Supplementary.* Ke a go leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo. Ke ne ke re ke botse Tona gore, ka gore wa re *for* kompone *to benefit*, wena o le *Minister* go tshwanetse go feta le ka wena o beye monwana gore o a dumalana *from those tax rebates*, o sale o nna Tona, *have you ever had to approve for any company to get that rebate? If not you, a le kwa Sports Council* o itse ba

kile ba *approve* ope? *If the answer is no*, a ga o bone gore go raya gore *these rebate provisions* mo molaong *are ineffective*, ga di reye sepe? *Why then did Government refuse* go letlelela gore go nne le *compulsory provisions* tse di pateletsang dikompone *to contribute through a Motion* o e leng gore le mmotsi wa potso o ganne *Motion* wa teng mme o tlisitse potso e e reng go dirwe sone se a se ganneng ka *Motion*? Ke a leboga.

MR KELEBENG: Ke a leboga *Honourable Saleshando*. Se ke ka se tlhalosang ke gore, re kile ra saena *even through* BNSC, di ka nna mmalwanyana. Gone jaana ga ke ka ke ka supa gore di kae. Se ke ka se tlhomamisang ke *process* e e ntseng e le teng. Tota selelo se se tona e ntse e le gore *process* ya teng fela e bonya, ka fa e tsamayang ka teng. Fa gongwe e itsapisa le dikompone gore ba tseye karolo. Ke sone se ke neng ke tlhalosa gore re ikopetse *exemption* gore ba BNSC, ba bo ba kgona gore fa motho a ikopela, a bo a isa kwa BNSC. Fa BNSC e *approve*, ga a tlhoke gore le ene a simolole a ye kwa BURS, a ye kae. BNSC e tlaabo e filwe *exemption certificate* sa gore go fefose ka fa e leng gore *the tax incentive* e ka dirwa ka teng gore dikompone di thusege.

Ke tsaya ke re, re setse re buile ka kgang ya *compulsory* maloba le *disadvantages* tsa yone gore e ntse jang. Fa gongwe e tlaabo e dira gore dikompone di simolole di nne maoto a tshupa, gore di ka dira maiteko a go dira jalo. Mo ke gone mo re setseng re tlhalositse gore *tax incentives* fa di ntse di dirwa re di tokafatsa, jaaka re tlhalosa gore re batla go tsenya le *arts*. Re bo re supa gore re tlaabo re dira gore *Arts Council* le bone ba *National Sports Commission*, ba fiwe *those exemption certificates* go fefosa *process* eo. Re dumela gore go ka re berekela. *Appetite* e teng, fa gongwe ke *processes* tsa rona gore di bonya. Ga ke itse gore a ke e arabile yotlhe kana go na le fa go setseng, *Honourable* Leader of the Opposition (LOO).

MR KAIZER: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Tona ke ne ke utlwa a bua ka kgang ya gore *process* e, o kare e bonya. Go na le mafatshe a mangwe a re bapileng le one a a mo Southern African Development Community (SADC), a a nang le *these incentives*. Ke mmothe gore, re le lefatshe la Botswana, *did we ever make any benchmarking* kwa mafatsheng a a bapileng le rona gore re bone gore ba kgona jang?

Ya bofelo e bo e nna gore, *given the high rate of youth unemployment besides* kgang ya *these tax rebates and incentives*, re bona banana ba le bantsi mo dikgannyeng tsa metshameko. A go na le sengwe se se pharologanyo mo *tax incentives* tse e leng gore *ministry* wa gago o di lebile gore le tsone o kgone go di diragatsa gore re tle re direle banana ditiro ka dipalo tse di kwa godimo? Ke a leboga.

MR KELEBENG: *Thank you Honourable* Kaizer. Ke setse ke tlhalositse gore se re le kang go se dira gompiano, re tsweletse ka go lebelela *tax incentives* le gore re ka di tokafatsa jang. Ke tlhalositse maloba gore re leka go lebelela le *funds*. Re lebeletse *Alcohol Levy* gore go *clear* gore madi a isiwa kwa *Health*, a ya go lebelela dikgang tse di buang ka *drug abuse and substance abuse*. Go na le dilo tse di diragalang koo tse e leng gore madi a teng a isiwa kwa *Health*. Le kwa *Sport and Arts*, ke tsone dilo tse re di lebileng. Re setse e bile re simolotse *discussion* ya rona le ba ba tshwanetseng kwa *Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship* gore re simolole go buisana go bona gore re ka dira jang ka tse di amanang le tsa *Gambling Authority* le *other levies*. Tse di tsamaelanang le se e leng gore re ka re se tsaya madi kwa *Creatives* kana *Sport*, re kgone go bona sengwe kwa go tsone, re tle re dire ditiro. Tota fa re kgona *to fund Sport* kana *Creatives*, go raya gore re ya go itirela ditiro tse e leng gore jaaka o tlhalosa, di di ntsi thata.

LOBATSE ECONOMIC STATUS

MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE): asked the Minister of Finance whether it is not time to consider putting up the Government integrated offices to revive the economic status of Lobatse as was promised during the late Honourable Sebege's tenure.

...Silence...

MR JACOBS: *Ke a leboga* Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, *ke kopa thuso ya gago*. *Ga ke itse gore a ke tlaabo ke dira sentle fa ke go raya ke re ke kopa gore o* invoke Standing Order 40.1 as per Standing Order 30, (Daily Routine and Business in Parliament). Mr Speaker, my questions appear in the Order Paper. The Speaker delivers or asks the questions as they appears in the Order Paper. Then the Minister or Assistant Minister or any assigned Minister must respond. Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Ema pele *Honourable Jacobs*. Ga ke utlwe gore wa reng. Ke batla o bitse potso gakere, *question nine*.

MR JACOBS: Ga ke ka ke ka re, *question nine because gatwe later date; every time later date*. Ke tlaabo ke leletswa ke *ministries Mr Speaker* ka 2:00 p.m., ba mpotsa gore e isiwa kae potso ya me. Ke raya gore *really, this cannot be happening. We have got 10 sessions Mr Speaker left*. Ke raya gore dipotso tsa me re setse re le mo bekeng ya boraro mme ga di arabiwe. *That is why ke re a ke kgona to invoke Standing 40.1 as per Standing Order 30*.

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa, ga o kgone go dira jalo. Nna fa fatshe Honourable Jacobs*. Take your seat. *Nnyaa, Honourable Jacobs, o wele dibete Honourable Member. O ele tlhoko thata, question nine e e buang ka the Government integrated offices*. I think the quagmire that the Ministry of Finance finds itself in is the clarity of the question, with a possibility of redirection to Infrastructure. Now, until that clarity is resolved or is cleared, then we would know when this question will come. But I can assure you Honourable Jacobs *gore potso ya gago e tlaa tla*.

MR JACOBS: *But ga se yone potso fela*.

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa, iketle pele, ke santse ke eme ka dinao Honourable Jacobs*. Ke rile o wele dibete. *Honourable Jacobs, se ke se tlhomamisang ke gore, ga go na ope yo o ka go tsayang ka letsogo la molema fa go tla mo go tsa dipotso. Our processes are very clear, le bone Matona ga ke dumele gore ba ka tlhopha gore ba se ka ba araba dipotso tsa gago. Tsweetswee Honourable Jacobs, ba inele diatla metsing ka kgang e ya later date le a possible redirection. Something is not clear there. There is the economic aspect of the question, economic status of Lobatse but integrated offices are talking to Infrastructure. That has to be clarified in terms of who really answers this question*.

MR JACOBS: Do you mean that I cannot invoke the Standing Order, Mr Speaker? Can I not invoke the Standing Order Mr Speaker?

MR SPEAKER: *O ne o re, Standing Order mang? Which Standing Order?*

MR JACOBS: 40.1, Standing Order 30.

MR SPEAKER: 40.1 *goreng Honourable Member because ga ke bone se ka go thusa?*

MR JACOBS: As per Standing Order 30, which says, Mr Speaker, as questions appear in the Order Paper, then the Speaker delivers or asks the questions as they appear then the Minister or Assistant Minister or any assigned Minister must respond.

MR SPEAKER: *Nnyaa*, that one outlines the process that we have been following over time.

MR JACOBS: Why are we not implementing it Mr Speaker? Like I am explaining to you, this session has got 10 weeks, I have already been disadvantaged for three weeks Mr Speaker, on the same question. *Batho ba Lobatse ba batla dikarabo*.

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

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Jacobs*, kana ke one a ke a buang ke re lebelela *question Number 255* eo ya gago, ga e tle laboraro gone fa, ke lantlha e tla. Tsweetswee *Honourable Jacobs*, ke rile ba inele diatla metsing ka potso e *in terms of redirection, gore ministry* o o lebaneng go e araba ke ofe ka gore ba dikago ke *Honourable Salakae le Honourable Atamelang*. Ene o ne a ka araba tsa itsholelo, jaanong ke sone se ke reng o ba inele diatla metsing. Ga go na ope yo o ka go tsayang ka letsogo la molema fa go tla mo dikgannyeng tsa dipotso. *Be rest assured Honourable Jacobs, ga ke batle dialogue*.

MR JACOBS: *You stand to be corrected Mr Speaker, it is not the first time this question comes, this is the second time*. Ke labobedi potso e e tla Palamenteng. *Last week e ne e le teng kwa Entrepreneurship, gompieno e bo e isiwa kwa Finance*. Ke ne ke batla go itse gore dipotso di isiwa kwa kae?

MR SPEAKER: *Ke go utlwile Honourable Jacobs*. My records are that this question is coming here for the first time. At least my records, until they can be rectified.

Honourable Omphemetse Kwapa, Member for Jwaneng-Mabutsane.

REPOSSESSING OF PRIME PLOTS

MR O. KWAPA (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture whether he is aware that Ngwaketse Land Board, Maokane Sub-Land

Board and Mabutsane Sub-Land Board are selective in repossessing prime plots as those belonging to certain individuals are never repossessed.

ACTING MINISTER OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE (DR DIKOLOTI): *Tanki* Mr Speaker.

Mr Speaker, in terms of the provisions of the Tribal Land Act particularly Section 31, a land board is entitled to repossess land when it is in the public interest to do so, and for the purpose of ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of land among the citizens of Botswana. In doing so Mr Speaker, the land board is guided by the Village Development Plans (VDPs) which indicate designated growth areas, hence the repossession is not selective. Mr Speaker, what I am aware of is that village expansions are implemented in phases as provided for in the relevant development plans.

These phases are not usually implemented simultaneously. For example; in Sese village, *kwa kgaolong ya ga motlotlegi* which is under the Maokane Sub-Land Board. The land board in consultation with the community decided in 2025 to commence repossessions in the village expansion phase located to the south west of the village, as opposed to the eastern side which has also being earmarked for future expansion. Additionally, Mr Speaker, repossessions may be pursued in line with Section 5 (1) of the Act through the cancellation of a grant of rights to use land by the grantee. Such cancellation may arise as a result of a breach of conditions attached to the grant.

The land board as a body corporate, may also implement court orders which may result in repossessions and cancellations of land rights. For example; the Ngwaketse Land Board is in the process of implementing a court order for a matter within the jurisdiction of the Maokane Sub-Land Board which may result in the cancellations of land rights of already allocated ploughing fields in the area, and where possible, relocations to alternative areas. Mr Speaker, Mabutsane Sub-Land Board has not undertaken any repossessions or cancellations of land rights since 2017. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: Supplementary Honourable Kwapa.

MR KWAPA: *Supplementary.* Ke utlwa karabo ya gago Tona, mme a ga se nako ya gore gongwe lephata la gago, *to also consider* gore mo sebakeng sa gompiano *looking at the economic hardships*, go lebelela gore a go ka se ke ga nna le *land amnesty*? Fa re lebile batho ba dikgaolo lefatshe lotlhe ka bophara, go ne go ka diriwa sengwe go ba thusa gore ba se ka ba amogwa ditsha. Ke lebeletse kgang ya gore kana *to apply for* setsha, go tsaya dingwaga le lebaka. Mabaka otlhe a bo a le mantsi a lebelelwa gore motho a ikopele setsha, go tsaya dingwaga gore a bewe. Ke sone se ke neng ke re a lephata la ga Tona le ne le sa lebe la bona gore go ka nna maleba gore fa go ne go ka nna le *amnesty*, e ka ba thusa mo ditsheng tse gongwe di tlhokanang le go duelwa?

Ke boa ke leba le kgang ya gore bontsi jwa batho ba ba nnang kwa Kgaolong ya Jwaneng-Mabutsane, bangwe ba gasame lefatshe le lotlhe ka bophara ba bereka ka lebaka la gore ditiro ga di yo kwa. Gongwe go lebelelwe mabaka Tona gore a go ne go ka se ka ga sekasekiwa? Ke utlwa kgang ya gore molao o teng o a lebelelwa jaaka o ne o nopola jalo, mme a ko go nne le mabaka mangwe le sekaseke Tona. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Minister.

DR DIKOLOTI: Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, ke leboge Mopalamente. Ke tsaya gore ke mogopolo, e bile ke belaela o tswa kwa batlhophing. Re tlaa nna re ntse re tswelela re e sekaseka *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

MR LEKAU: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Tona. Ke re ke botse gore ka kwa Mabutsane go na le *applications* tse dintinyana tsa *special dispensation*, o solofela gore dikarabo tsa tsone di arabiwe leng ka banana ba koo ba supile gore le bone ba eletsa gore ba neelwe ka tsone? Ke a leboga.

DR DIKOLOTI: Ke leboga *neighbour* ya ga Mopalamente wa kwa Mabutsane. *Mr Speaker*, ke tsaya gore Labotlhano o o fetileng ke toutile dikgang tse ka bolelele tota. Ke tlhalosa gore Puso ya Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) e ipeile eng pele ka thulaganyo ya go bona gore re dira jang gore re abe lefatshe. Ke dumela gore Tona wa Banana o ne a fetola le ene maabane a supa gore banana ke tshwanelo ya bone gore re ba neele lefatshe ba tle ba kgone go dira tsotlhe tse di tshwanetseng *Mr Speaker*. Megopolo e yotlhe re a e amogela *Mr Speaker*, e tlaa nna e ntse e re nonotsha go bopa mo re berekang mo go gone.

UNSERVICEABLE GOODS AT TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

MR J. T. I. MODISE (KGALAGADI SOUTH): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs why unserviceable goods at Tribal Administration offices take a long time in open storages waiting for auction sale in Kgalagadi South and some take years which lead to losing value as a result of harsh weather conditions.

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

Mma ke leke go tse na ka maikaelelo a go nna matsetseleko mo go yone. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go boammaaruri thoothoo gore go tse sebak se se leele go rekisa ka palabalo dithoto tsa Puso tse di sa tloheng di le mo tirisong mo Kgaolong ya Kgalagadi Borwa. Se se bakilwe ke go tlhoka bodiredi jo bo tshwanetseng go dira tiro ya sebopego se mme sa dira gore go nne le tiego ya dithoto (*disposal of obsolete goods*) tse di duleng mo tirisong. Le fa go ntse jalo, lephata le dirile lenaneo la go rekisa e le tharabololo ya dithoto tse di sa tloheng di le mo tirisong Motsheganong a supa monongwaga. Ke tsaya ke re ke ne ka lebagana le magosogoso a potso eo. Ke a leboga.

VACANCY RATE OF NURSES

MR G. KEKGONEGILE (MAUN EAST): asked the Minister of Health to brief this Honourable House on the countrywide vacancy rate of nurses in hospitals, clinics and health posts and mitigating factors being undertaken to fill the vacant posts; with emphasis on:

- (i) defining the ratio of nurses per patient as per our population and if any district has attained the ratio; which categories within the nursing profession have the most vacancies and the least vacancies respectively;
- (ii) which district has the most vacancies across the units, which one is better staffed and at what rate the two districts are staffed; and
- (iii) whether wards and units across the country are manned by personnel with the right qualifications and not on acting basis.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (MR OOKEDITSE): Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker,

the vacancy for nurses at Ministry of Health (MOH) and Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs (MLGTA) is as follows:

	MOH Facilities	MLGTA Facilities
D1 Scale	1	0
D2 Scale	0	2
D3 Scale	6	32
D4 Scale	5	14
C1/2/3/4 Scale	25	117
Total	37	165

For context, *se se tlaabong se dirwa ke gore ke gone go ntse go duwa* from a process of promoting some people into some of those positions.

Ke bo ke note jalo Mr Speaker, *gore* we are aware of these vacant positions in our health facilities countrywide. These being as it may, the Ministry of Health is working with the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs as well as the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) on filling these vacant positions through nurses' promotions, recruiting new graduates and even those who just dropped in their applications.

In summary, mitigating factors to address these vacancy rates are as follows:

- We are training more nurse specialists to close the skills gap that ...(Inaudible)... some of the vacancies.
 - We are improving also our own efficiencies in terms of recruitments as such that we can recruit and fill in these positions on time.
 - We are also working on approving a nursing and midwifery deployment structure *se se tlaa thusang gore e bo e le gore* the structure itself *ke se se ntseng sentle*.
- (i) *Jaanong* Mr Speaker, the nurse per population ratio in Botswana as at 2023 stands at 31 nurses per 10,000 people. This is against a World Health Organisation (WHO) target of 45 nurses per 10,000 people. It is further worth noting that nurse-to-patient-ratios vary widely depending...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order honourable.



MR SPEAKER: *A ko le reetseng* Minister. Standing Order 58.4.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order! Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable* Aaron, o letleletswe ke mang go tsaya dinepe *in the House*?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: A a tseelwe *phone*, o tlaa e tsaya ka *September*.

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

MR SPEAKER: Se dire jalo tsweetswee, fa o tsera dinepe tseo, *please delete them*.

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

MR OOKEDITSE: Thank you Mr Speaker. So, it is further worth noting that nurse-to-patient-ratios vary widely depending on the severity of patient illness (patient acuity levels), the specific type of nursing care unit/ward or clinic. The Ministry of Health has a Botswana Economic Transformation Plan (BETP) priority project of health care workforce deployment and development. This project aims to conclude the Workload Indicators and Staffing Norms (WISN), the National Health Labor Market Analysis (HLMA)-2023 and the Human Resource for Health strategy, all of which will provide solutions and disaggregated health workforce data such as numbers needed per district, their densities and priority categories.

- (i) In Botswana the vacancy rate is not high for nurses and midwives. However, the country continues to experience shortages of highly skilled professional nurses in categories of midwives, nurse anesthetists, ophthalmic nurses, theatre, nephrology, oncology etcetera.

The critical shortage of nurse specialists and midwives partly due to high international migration, resignations to join both private sectors and to some extent Government structure that keeps telling you that you do not quite have positions to fill, so it will also take a significant relook at the establishment that the Ministry of Health is actually allocated.

- (ii) Equity is the driving principle in staffing the districts and nursing units. However, research

has shown that staff prefer to work in urban areas to tap on opportunities such as schools for their children, personal developments and access to specialised medical care in some instances. *Fa gongwe fa re romela batho* to some areas, they do not really want to work there for obvious reasons of unequal development that we have seen over the years.

It is therefore, realistically true that nursing vacancies in Botswana are heavily concentrated in rural, remote and outlying districts such as Okavango, Chobe, Ngami, Kgalagadi and perhaps the district from which I come from.

- (iii) Most of the wards and units across health facilities are manned by nurses and midwives who lead at D4 or D3 salary scale with the requisite qualifications. However, some of these facilities are not taken care of by the right personnel due to shortage of nurse specialists. There are few instances where some nurses are acting for these leadership positions pending the filling in of the vacancies. The process of filling vacant positions, promotions and creation of new leadership positions is ongoing so that we can ultimately ensure that we do not have as many vacancies as we have. So, the vacancy rate is outlined, we do not think it is extreme but we do not think it should exist but it exists. Thank you.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Supplementary*. O kare ga a araba tse dingwenyana tsa bo *which district is the worst*, o di gobokile. Tona fa o bua ka *Back 5* ya gore ke yone *district wise* e e saletseng kwa morago ka o di gobokile. Le dira go le kae le le *ministry* go netefatsa kgang ya gore batho ga ba batle go berekela kwa? *It has been long* kgang e e buiwang lebaka la bo *20 years* go feta. Le ikaelela eng le le *ministry* go fedisa kgang e? Nngwe ya dilo tse ke *retention and attraction incentives* kwa dikgaolong tseo gore fa e le gore *nurse* yo o *general* mo Gaborone o amogela bokana, mme *the same nurse* fa a le kwa Okavango, Ngami, Kgalagadi, Ghanzi le Chobe a bo a amogela mo go fa godimo *so that it can attract people* go ya go berekela kwa *because* ga go na *incentive* ya gore ke eng ba tshwanelwa ke go tswa fa ba ya kwa *for the same* sengwe le sengwe, fa, ba na le ditshono tse di rileng.

Le train specialist nurses le ganeletse kae thata le gone ka bokete jo bo kae, mo *professions and units* dife? Fa motho a ka tsaya sekai ka *midwives* gore o re re *train* go le go ntsi, le *train* bo kae ngwaga o, kana le ikaelela to *train* bo kae ngwaga o compared to ngwaga o o fetileng? Bokete jo bo ganeletse fa kae, ka dipalo tse di kae?

Fa o lebeletse diphatlha tse, dipalo tsa teng di dintsi thata mo go bone ba ba tshwarang tiro, C scale, D4, D3 but ga go na diphatlha kwa godimo kwa. Ba ba tshwarang tiro fa tlase fa ba teng on the ground ba ba sa theogelang, ke eng go ntse jalo Tona? A o ka a fa setšhaba specific date ya gore diphatlha tse di 200 le sengwe tsa *nurses* ba ba tshwarang le tlaabo di le filled leng, ka gore ga o ka ke wa re ga go na diphatlha, wa re diphatlha di teng. *We are not going to be asking for more posts from DPSM*, le di filwe mme batho ba teng mo mebileng, mme setšhaba se a sokola ga go na *nurses*, le di tlatsa leng Tona? Tanki.

MR OOKEDITSE: Thank you Mr Speaker. I think it is a very interesting question. The very first one *ke go supa gore*, when you asked about the most affected district or area, I thought it would be wise to actually give you not just one, but the most affected, it is not too different. *Ke sone ke go file di le four jalo.*

Potso e e ntle thata ke ya incentives, gore what are we doing? To answer this, I think the first thing is we must have an understanding and appreciation *ya gore babereki ba e leng nurses*, they also work *e le babereki ba ga Goromente* controlled by the same Conditions of Service *tsa ga Goromente*. So in terms of the incentives *tse ba nang le tsone* at this stage, *ke incentives tse di fiwang babereki botlhe ba re itseng gore ba direla kwa dikgaolong tse gotweng di kgakala le ditlamelo. Tse e leng gore fa o di lebelela o kgona go bona gore ga di a lekana*, because of the peculiar challenges they face. So this would take maybe a more Government wide intervention, *ya go baakanya conditions tsa badirelapuso.*

Ke dumela gore now that the Bargaining Council *e tswelotse ka fa e leng gore e tshwanetse e tswelele ka teng*, a lot of these would be looked into at that point in time. If you interact with civil servants in our areas especially, you will know *gore* their issues will not even be solved *fela ka* more pay and that. What will work is for this Government to have the commitment to actually spread developments to other parts of the country.

Felafela ka fa go ntseng ka teng, even if you give someone money *a le kwa* Tsokatshaa, the truth *ke gore fa o lebelela* structures *tse di leng teng* in the first place, *ga go na* structure *se sentlesentle a ka kgonang gore a ka se hirisa*. So the problem is bigger than just big package that we can give you, it is an issue of how we as a Government will go forward and spread development out. *Ke dumela gore* we have spoken about equity and sustainability in distributing developments.

Then you asked me about specialities, *tota fela* where we are, I am not going to say to you that we do not have specialities in this area or we training more in that area. The truth is for the longest time, a lot of the training that we did *e ne e le* for general nursing, because most developing countries start there, *e tlaabo e le gore* most of what we have *ke batho ba e ...*(Laughter!)

MR SPEAKER: *Tsweetswee* Honourable Members, do not disturb him.

MR OOKEDITSE: Thank you Mr Speaker, *ba letsa* phones. So for the longest time we have been doing a lot of training *ya general nurses*, because of the resources *tse di neng di ntse go na le challenge mo go tsone*. We have then also realised that we have a lot of challenges in nurses who then have to support advanced levels of care. *Tse dingwe e ne e le* an issue *ya gore* for some strange reason, *go lebege e le gore re ne ra fokotsa* to train in those, midwifery *ke e neela e le sekai. Ke nngwe ya tse e leng gore* I do not know why, but there was less training of these midwives to an extent where when we came in, we had a point *e e leng gore* we were recalling *ba e leng gore* some of them retired but *ba santse ba na le bokgoni* to come in and do it. Part of the reason we are told *ke gore*, younger nurses were not quite interested *mo midwifery, mo go rayang gore* we need to look into further packages in terms of that. *Tse dingwe* you look into say ... (Inaudible)... nurses *tse e leng gore le tsone fela* we basically were not promoting much training in that area, because a nurse for the longest time *e ne e kete re mmona e le* a general practitioner. So I think we should just have a side talk, so that I can have a proper chat with you about some of these things so that you see what we work with.

O ne o botsa ka palo ya gore how many will we do this year, my answer will not be too direct, but I will say to you last year we had a crisis *e e leng gore* I think it

reached the floor of Parliament, *ya training. E le gore* we were not quite able to afford to pay for a lot of our personnel *ba e leng gore ba kwa* Kenya, Zambia and other areas *kwa ba ileng* to train, a good number of them *e le* speciality nurses.

What led to this *ke gore* just after COVID-19, *go ne ga nna le* a huge number *e e neng ya isiwa* for training. There was a disproportionate amount *ya madi a a neng a le teng*, so on the basis of that money *a ba a isiwa e le gore* is for training, but then we ended up *e le gore* the budget then goes back to pre-COVID-19 levels, yet we already have people out there who are in training. *Go raya gore* we are not going to have a big number being sent out for training as we used to, because already there is a lot of people out in training, who we are not able to fully support. So we are going to try to push that number in the main, so that at least *re boele* to a more normal level *gore re ka kgona gore re ka tswaledisa* while training.

Vacancies *o supa jalo gore* in the main *ke tsa kwa go ba e leng gore ke bone ba tshwarang tiro, e seng fa godimonyana*. If you look at the vacancy rates, and I have said it should not exist, granted, but out of thousands, if your vacancy rate is a 137, you do not want to exist but it says we are not doing that bad. There are always different factors *tse di dirang gore go nne le* vacancies, it could be maternity, training, yes our inefficiency in filling a vacancy, *motho a bone mafulo a matalana* somewhere else, *jalojalo*. So we could do better in terms of filling these, but I do not think they are at extreme levels. Specific date *ya gore* we would have filled all these vacancies *leng*, it is not going to be possible right now for me to say to you *ka di* 20th April there will be zero vacancies. Like I have said, circumstances will come differing, and chances are that the organisation will always have a certain vacancy rate. So maybe on the side, we can have a discussion *ya gore* what do you think is an acceptable vacancy rate so that *le rona* we can go and work to do better. *Ke a leboga*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Ke batla o mmotsa *supplementary*, e seng *procedure*.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Supplementary*. Ee, mme kgang ya teng ga se *supplementary per se*, ke gore ka

fa a arabileng e nngwe ka teng, gongwe go nnile le tlhakatlhakano *ya semantics*. Fa a re *vacancy rate*, a ba a ya go tsenya ba ba leng mo *study leave, maternity leave*, ga ke itse gore a ke *vacancy*? Fa e se *vacancy*, go raya gore gongwe dipalo tse a re di fang di ka tswa e se tsone. Ke ne ke re a e *clarify* eo.

MR SPEAKER: O tlaa tlhalosa ka *that void*, gore jaanong dipalo tsa gagwe di ntse jang.

MS MANYENENG: *Further supplementary*. Tanki Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke ne ke re a *Minister* o *aware* gore kana tsone C and D bands di tlhokomologilwe thata, *because* o tlaa fitlhela e le batho ba e leng gore ga ba na *any speciality*. Ke gore o kare *concentration is more on midwives*. Fa o se *midwife because* o kgona go isiwa kae kana kae, o kare motho yo wa C band o tlogelwa fela a le mo *position* eo *for the longest time ever*. Gompiano ke sale ke tlogela tiro ka 2011, batho ba ke neng ke tswa *Degree* le bone *up to now* ba ntse ba foo, ga ba *move*. Ke gore ke ipotsa gone foo, a go dirwa ke gore motho o a bo a setse a le kwa kgaolong *like Honourable Kekgonegile* a bua, e bo e nna gore o a le balesega, e bo e nna gore le tlhokomela ba ba gaufi, ba ba mo ditoropong?

The other thing ke gore, *the overtime allowance* ke yone e e dirang bana ba bangwe ba gore ba se ka ba eletsa go dira *midwife, because you are treating it* fela o kare ke *general nursing*. Ga le e *treat as speciality* sa gore o tshwanetse gore a tsenyediwe sengwenyana, go itsiwe gore o dira sengwe se se botlhokwa. *Thank you*.

MR OOKEDITSE: *Thank you Mr Speaker. I think Honourable Kekgonegile* o supile jalo gore *the numbers may be distorted. No, they are not distorted, the numbers that I gave you* ke vacancies tse e leng gore...ke posts tse go senang batho mo go tsone. Jaanong fa o tla o bua, o ne o supa jalo gore ga go na batho mo dipateleng. Jaanong gongwe go dirilwe ke gore o kgona go fitlhela e le gore ka nako e e leng gore *it is a given*, a re re kwa Mosetse Clinic, motho o kgona go ya teng a bo a fitlhela go sena nnese kwa *facility* ka nako eo, *absence* eo e a bo e dirilwe ke mangwe a mabaka a. Fela se se leng teng ke gore, *we have these vacancies and I do not think they are that bad*. Gongwe se se maswe e ka nna *the ratio* fa e le gore *you look into it, gore in the first place, where are we, jaaka* ke ne ke supa re mo go 31 *for every 10 000 people and the WHO standards*, ke gore re

tshwanetse re bo re le mo go 45 for every 10 000 people. So, fa gongwe the shortage e tlaa dirwa ke gone moo. Mo gongwe ke deployment strategy, jaaka ke supile, dikgaolo dingwe, especially tse e leng gore gatwe di kgakajana, o fitlhela e kete ga di na batho sentle, but ke supile jalo gore the solution will have to be Government wide.

I think the same thing goes to Madam Speaker gore, you speak about gore fa gongwe is like re ba ikgatholositse, they are not promoted sentle jaaka ba bangwe, but if you look into it, it is the problem ya the civil service in the country. Ke gore it is not peculiar to the nurses. Barutabana, mapodise, all civil servants in this country ba ba direlang kwa kgakalanyana o fitlhela e le gore o kare they have not been getting promotions ka level e e tshwanang le tsa ba bangwe. So, I should think to some extent we will need to look into it as a Government, but kwa lephateng la rona, we will look into it, re bone gore re ka dira jang gore promotions di nne botoka. The one thing that we must all acknowledge ke gore, every structure in an organisation e nna e na le a bit of a pyramid shape and as you go up, it becomes thinner, go bo go raya gore positions at the top are fewer than those at the bottom. So, there was a proposal at some point ya gore go nne le a structure se e leng gore people can actually be paid well enough even if motho wa teng e le gore their position gongwe ga a ka a neelwa a higher position, mme e bo e le gore ga a dira (perform) sentle, they can still get to earn more. That may be the solution. As it is at the moment, you have a lot of hard workers ba le bantsi at the bottom, but in order for them to get positions at the top, someone has to move or exit, gore ba tle ba kgone go bona that opportunity. We will look into it further, so that we can do better. Ke dumela gore ga go a tshwanela gore jaaka o supa, o emelele ka 2011, yo mongwe e bo e le gore they have never gotten to have a promotion. Like I have said, ke ne ke le kwa kgaolong ka Monday, I have teachers who say for the past five years, no teacher has been promoted in the school. Yo mongwe says, I have been here for 10/15 years, I have not gotten a promotion, so it is a Government wide problem. So, we need to look into fixing that.

Midwifery; yes, gongwe go ka nna le an impression ya gore go nne e kete re tlhwaafaleitse yone thata in terms of training at the expense of other specialities, but jaaka ke ne ke supile, e ne e le a response to dire shortages.

Mo go re rayang gore we must ensure that as we are now trying to do better, re dire gore re se ka ra tlogela any other speciality kwa morago, di bo di tloga di tla di nna emergencies, jaaka re ne re le mo emergency ya midwives. So, we will do better in some of these areas and I will appreciate that Honourable Members do have conversations with me on the outside fa ba na le megopolo mengwe. Ke a leboga.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Disho for Honourable Mapulanga.

BOTSWANA POST MEDICAL COURIERS

MR S. O. MAPULANGA (CHOBE): asked the Minister of Health to update this Honourable House on:

- (i) the amount spent on Botswana Post for medical couriers from the year 2023 to October 2025; and
- (ii) whether there is an agreement or it was a once off contract; and if so, when the contract will end.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (MR OOKEDITSE): Thank you Mr Speaker. *Ke arabe potso ya ga Honourable Mapulanga. Mme if you can just give me a second since I was slightly disoriented by having to answer to the supplementaries.*

Ke a leboga Mr Speaker for the indulgence and ke supe jalo gore a happy belated birthday to you for being such a perfect gentleman and a kind-hearted human being.

Jaanong ba Botswana Postal Services jaaka go ne go botswa, their scope of work includes receiving of goods procured by Central Medical Stores (CMS) warehousing services, management of inventory, transportation and secure delivery of these medical supplies to designated delivery points across the country. These include time and temperature sensitive products such as vaccines, reagents that require maintenance and monitoring of cold chain within recommended temperatures.

In addition to this, they provide *mo gotweng ke* facility maintenance services through a sub-contract *e e leng gore ka yone* they have to keep the infrastructure at the required standard. The value of service paid thus far is as follows;

- *Ka ngwaga wa 2023 to 2024, ba duetswe madi a a kana ka P67 762 402.26.*

- *Ka ngwaga wa 2024 to 2025, ba duetswe jalo* P62 184 525.30.
- *Ka ngwaga wa 2025 to 2026, and this is excluding the month of August 2025. January ba ne ba duelwa* P67 265 001.24

Ka jalo, the total e e leng gore they have been paid ka this period, ke P197 211 928.80. The services were acquired through long term contracts with a validity period of five years. Ka jalo, re e fitlhetse e ntse e tswelitse. The contract ended in January 2025 and their services are continued through short-term direct appointments, while the ministry is exploring a cheaper alternative to do business with someone else. Thank you.

MR LEKAU: *Supplementary. Thank you very much Minister. Jaaka re nnile le period e ntsi e ba neng ba dira ka yone, a ga le a lebelela gore gongwe in the next contract, fa e le gore go neelwa dikompone tse di tona tse di tshwanang le yone, gore bana ba ba fatlhogang kwa tlase ba ba nang le couriers tse di sokolang because ba hupeditse ke tse, gongwe le dire gore at least 10 per cent of their contract ba di neele dikompone tsa banana kana tsa bana ba ba simololang this business? Thank you very much.*

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Barongwang, o ele tlhoko Standing Order 58.7, se ka go thusa thata.*

MR OOKEDITSE: *Thank you Mr Speaker, and thank you for always guiding Honourable Barongwang.*

To the supplementary question ya ga Rre Lekau, it is a noble gesture to suggest that, but one of the key lessons that we have learnt mo ngwageng one o ke gore gongwe re iketlele go dira empowerment ka dilo tse di critical tsa botsogo. I am not saying we will not give to youth owned companies, I am just saying the key thing that we will do is we look for competency over anything else. Makalana a mangwe a e leng gore gongwe ga ba dire ka life and death like we do, should possibly consider a lot of empowerment work, but rona we will go for excellence at the right price because that is what we need to keep our people alive. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: *Standing Order 58.7 ga se bue ka ditedu jaaka ba bangwe ba bua fa. Mma ke se le balele "no Member shall stand or sit with his or her back towards the Speaker or Chair." Go tewa gotwe le se ka la mphuralela Honourable Members.*

UPGRADING OF MMOKOLODI KGOTLA

MR K. T. MMUSI (GABANE-MMANKGODI): asked the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to state:

- when he will consider upgrading Mmokolodi Kgotla to be led by a Headman of Record, instead of a Headman of Arbitration, as the current arrangement disadvantages the Mmokolodi community in accessing Government resources and services;
- if he is aware that due to the absence of a Headman of Record, residents of Mmokolodi are required to travel long distances and incur unnecessary costs in order to access tribal services from other Dikgotla; and if so,
- when this matter will be addressed and for the Minister to provide a clear timeline for its resolution.

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

Ke lebogela potso mogwagwadi wame kwa Gabane-Mmankgodi.

- Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, lephata le tla tlhatlosa maemo a Kgotla ya Mmokolodi mo ngwageng wa madi o o latelang; 2026/2027.
- Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go boammaaruri, lephata le itse manokonoko a morafe wa Mmokolodi o kopanang le one ka go tlhoka go nna le Kgosi wa maemo a a sekisang wa *Headman of Records*.
- Ka jalo, go araba seo, go tlhatlosiwa maemo ga boetedipele jwa motse wa Mmokolodi go tswa mo go Kgosana wa Tetlanyo go ya kwa go Kgosana yo o sekisang, e tlaa re fa seemo sa itsholelo se tokafala, go dirwe mo ngwageng wa madi wa 2026/2027.

Ka bokhutshwane fela ke gore tsotlhe ka bobedi, ke tse re tlaa di dirang fa ngwaga wa madi o simologa mo dikgweding tse pedi. Ke tsaya gore o a utlwa gore re tswerefetse tota kwa *Local Government* ka go direla motse wa lona, mme ke tiro e re tlaa e dirang lefatshe lotlhe ka bophara.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

PLACEMENT OF LEARNERS

MR C. K. HIKUAMA (MAUN WEST): asked the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education:

- (i) to provide a definitive timeline for the placement of thousands of learners who did not meet the cut-off point for admission to senior secondary schools following the 2025 Junior Certificate results;
- (ii) to state the steps and processes to be followed for one to access the Project Bula Buka;
- (iii) to confirm if all satellite centres and partner institutions are fully equipped with the necessary Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) resources and trained personnel to accommodate this influx, given that the first phase is set to begin in March 2026; and
- (iv) what immediate measures her ministry is taking to communicate with the “discarded” learners and their guardians to alleviate the current climate of uncertainty and prevent further social exclusion.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MR HUNYEPA): Mr Speaker, *re kopile* later date. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Heela! *Honourable Minister*, o raya le e kopa kae?

MR HUNYEPA: Mo go *Honourable Hikuama Mr Speaker*. Re ne re setse re buisane golo gongwe, mme re a e kopa *officially*. *Honourable Hikuama*, re kopa maitshwarelo ka gore re ne re sa lemoga gore go na le sengwe se e leng gore ga se a wela sentle mo go yone. Re tlaa tla re araba morwaarre.

Later Date.

MR MOALOSI: *On a point of procedure*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke botsa ka dipotso tse di a bong di le mo Order Paper di bo di tla di nyelela fela re sa itse gore di ile kae. Ke na le dipotso tse di neng e le *Number 84, 4, 21 le 99* tse e leng gore dingwe tsa tsone go ne gatwe *later date last year*; di bo di nyelela. Tse dingwe gongwe *Minister* o ne a seyo e bo e sa arabiwe, fa e tswa foo, e bo e sa *appear* gotlhelele. Fa o bona e le *Number 4*, kana go raya gore ke *one of the first questions* mme e sa arabiwa.

Kana o kare go lebega go sena *a transparent system* fela ya gore dipotso di tsamaya jang e e leng gore le rona re ka tlhaloganya gore ke eng dipotso tsa rona gongwe di sa *appear* kana jang. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*:

MR SPEAKER: *Honourable Moalosi*, re tlaa tsamaya re ntse re tokafatsa ditsamaiso tsa rona. Se ke se itseng ke gore, kana fa dipotso di le *later dated*, di tlaa nna di ntse di tsena fa malatsi a ntse a ya kwa pele. Fa e le gore *there are time constraints, they automatically go to the Order Paper* ya letsatsi le le latelang. Maiteko a re a dirang gompiano ke gone gore re tle ka *a transparent process*. *I have expressed that desire* gore e re fa o tsenya potso, o bo o kgona *to track it* o bone gore mme yame mo bekeng e tlaabo e tsene.

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

MR SPEAKER: Tsweetswee o thuse ka *system* eo *Honourable Moalosi*. *It is important Honourable Members* gore re tokafatse ditsamaiso tseo.

Jaanong mme go thusa gape, ke gore e re fa o bona e le gore gongwe o kare potso ya gago e a diega, *you may want to flag it with the Clerk to say* kana go ne go na le potso e e ne e le mo *Order Paper, it was later dated, now it has disappeared, it has been this long*. Gongwe le ene o ka go thusa gore e tsamaya fa kae. *As I say, the most desirable state of affairs, is when we can have a transparent process* e mongwe le mongwe a ka kgonang *to track* dipotso gore di tsamaya fa kae.

Honourable Members, dipotso di wetse, *let us go to the Tabling of Papers*.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

BOTSWANA FIBRE NETWORKS (BoFiNet) ANNUAL REPORT, 2024

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

BOTSWANA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT, 2024

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

BOTSWANA TRADE COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT, 2024/2025

(Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship)

MR SPEAKER: *Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, ke tlaa nna ke ntse ke kopa mo go lona Matona gore le a bona gore ka kwano mo Palamenteng re gatetse pele mabapi le dipampiri. Jaanong tsweetswee, le bue le ba maphata a lona gore mostly, we will prefer digital copies for Honourable Members to reduce the carbon footprint.*

Batlotlegi, tiro ya letsatsi e le neng le e tletse e wetse gone fa. Fa go ntse jalo, mma ke bitse *Honourable Tshere* a sutise gore re phatlalale. Pele ga foo, ke le reye ke re, tsweetswee batlotlegi, go raya gore kamoso *Committee of Supply* e simolola phakela. Go ya ka tumalano ya lona, 9 o *'clock you are here*, re simolola *Committee of Supply*. Gakere le ne le dumalane ka *Tuesday and Thursday*.

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE): *Procedure. Ke gore kgang e ya Tuesday and Thursday, o kare e a confuse. Ba bangwe ba re, go ne go tulwe this past Tuesday and then tomorrow Thursday go tlaabo go wetse. Ba bangwe ba re, e tlile go nna Tuesday and Thursday go fitlhelela re boa re goroga kwa re yang teng. Boammaaruri jwa yone ke eng Mr Speaker? O kare e a re confuse, so that ga re palelwe ke go tla mo Palamenteng re sa itse gore which is which. Ga re kgone to plan sentle because of that confusion. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker.*

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme yone ga e a tshwanela go tsietsa ka fa re e buileng ka teng mo General Assembly.

Boammaaruri jwa yone ke gore, e se ka ya le khidia, ke beke yone e fela. Go raya gore e tlaabo e le kamoso fela. *From then henceforth, le tlaabo le revert to the normal base in hours, what remains is the half past 6 until you conclude the budget.*

MR NKAWANA: *Procedure. Ka tsela e e tshwanang le eo Mr Speaker, maloba fa re ntse re tsenya Tuesday, Thursday, mafoko a o neng o a dirisa ke gore e tlaare ka di 24, re bo re weditse. I am aware gore re rile 10 weeks, jaanong kwa ntle fa o re re tlaabo re weditse ka di 24, ba na le tumelo ya gore ka di 24 Palamente e a khutla. Ke ne ke re o e tlhatswe ka e bile ba re reeditse, ba se ka ba re tshwenya thata ka di 24.*

MR SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme le ba tlhalosetse gore tiro ya lona e ntsi. *Budget* ke yone e e felang ka di 24. Fa e fela go raya gore le tlaabo le na le metselsetse ya Melao-kakanyetso, *policies*, Ditshutiso, dipotso le tse dingwe fela tse e tlaabong e le tiro ya lona ya dikomiti le tse dingwe tse di tlaabong di ntse di tswelsetse. Ga go reye gore ka di 24 le tlaabo le tswala.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ka gore re setse re feditse tiro ya letsatsi, ke kopa gore Ntlo e e phatlalale, re tlaa kopana kamoso. Ke a leboga.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 4:05 p.m. until Thursday 26th February, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

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