

**13<sup>th</sup>**  
PARLIAMENT



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

**PARLIAMENT OF BOTSWANA**  
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# **DAILY HANSARD**

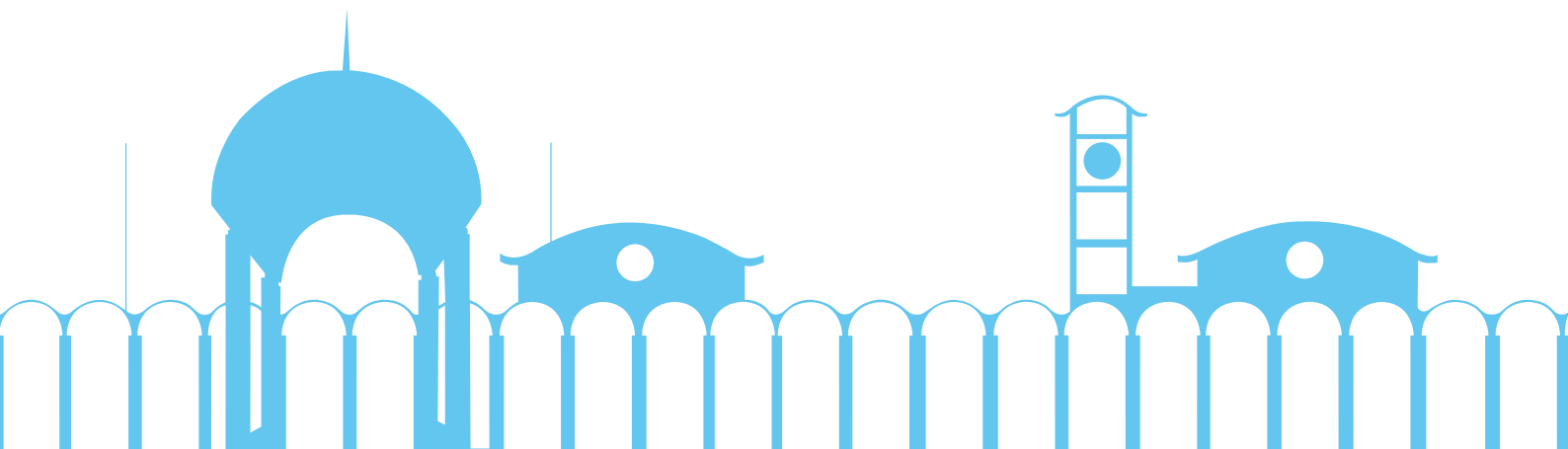
*YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT*

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

**FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY, 2026**

**MIXED VERSION**

**HANSARD NO: 220**



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**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**SPEAKER**  
**The Hon. Dithapelo L. Keorapetse, MP.**  
**DEPUTY SPEAKER**  
**Hon. H. P. Manyeneng, MP. (Mmopane-Metsimotlhabe)**

Clerk of the National Assembly	- Dr G. G. G. Malebang
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Ms K. H. Ketshajwang
Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Dr A. Masuku
Senior Assistant Clerk	- Mr C. S. Nfila
Assistant Clerk (E)	- Ms K. Nyanga

**CABINET**

The President Adv. D. G. Boko, MP.	- President
His Honour N. N. Gaolathe, MP.	- Vice President & Minister of Finance
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
Hon. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP.	- Minister of Environment and Tourism
Hon. Dr S. Modise, MP.	- Minister of Health
Hon. Maj. Gen. P. Mokgware, MP.	- Minister of Labour and Home Affairs
Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	- Minister of Water and Human Settlement
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP.	- Minister of Minerals and Energy
Hon. T. Ntsima, MP.	- Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship
Hon. L. Chombo, MP.	- Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs
Hon. J. Kelebeng, MP.	- Minister of Sport and Arts
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	- Minister of Transport and Infrastructure
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

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

Names	Constituency
<b>RULING PARTY (Umbrella for Democratic Change)</b>	
The President Adv. D. G. Boko, MP.	President
His Honour N. N. Gaolathe, MP.	Vice President (Gaborone Bonnington South)
Hon. S. O. Digwa, MP. (Government Whip)	Boteti West
Hon. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP.	Francistown South
Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP.	Francistown West
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, MP.	Charles Hill
Hon. O. Ramogapi, MP.	Palapye
Hon. D. Tshere, MP.	Mahalapye West
Hon. Dr P. Butale, MP.	Gaborone Central
Hon. P. Maele, MP.	Tswapong North
Hon. S. Ntlhaile, MP.	Gaborone North
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	Ghanzi
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	Boteti East
Hon. M. Bagaisamang, MP.	Shoshong
Hon. L. Barongwang, MP.	Mogoditshane East
Hon. T. Bogatsu, MP.	Lentsweletau-Lephephe
Hon. C. K. Jacobs, MP.	Lobatse
Hon. J. Hunyepa, MP.	Tati West
Hon. J. Kelebeng, MP.	Takatokwane
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
Hon. S. D. Monageng, MP.	Molepolole South
Hon. M. B. Mophuting, MP.	Gaborone Bonnington North
Hon. M. M. Morolong, MP.	Kgatleng Central
Hon. P. M. Mosanana, MP.	Kanye East
Hon. K. Motshegwa, MP.	Mmadinare
Hon. T. Ntsima, MP.	Francistown East
Hon. A. Nyatanga, MP.	Mahalapye East
Hon. N. Ramaotwana, MP.	Gaborone South
Hon. V. B. Phologolo, MP.	Kanye West
Hon. G. Sedombo, MP.	Tonota
Hon. P. M. Segokgo, MP.	Tlokweng
Hon. J. T. I. Modise, MP.	Kgalagadi South

## **OPPOSITION**

### **(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.	Kgatleng West
Hon. Dr K. Gobotswang, MP	Tswapong South
Hon. K. K. Kapinga, MP	Okavango West
Hon. G. Kekgonegile, MP.	Maun East
Hon. T. B. Lucas, MP.	Bobirwa
Hon. K. Nkawana, MP.	Selebi Phikwe East
Hon. P. Aaron, MP.	Ngami
Hon. G. Disho, MP.	Okavango East
Hon. T. Furniture, MP.	Tati East
Hon. R. W. Kaizer, MP.	Selebi Phikwe West
Hon. B. B. Mabeo, MP.	Gamalete
Hon. S. O. Mapulanga, MP.	Chobe
Hon. M. Moalosi, MP.	Nkange

### **(Botswana Patriotic Front)**

Hon. L. Lesedi, MP.	Serowe South
Hon. B. Mathoothe, MP.	Serowe North
Hon. O. Kedikilwe, MP.	Serowe West
Hon. J. J. Frenzel, MP.	Shashe West
Hon. L. Ookeditse, MP.	Nata-Gweta

### **(Botswana Democratic Party)**

Hon. K. S. Gare, MP.	Moshupa-Manyana
Hon. K. T. Mmusi, MP.	Gabane-Mmankgodi
Hon. P. K. Motaosane, MP.	Thamaga-Kumakwane
Hon. M. M. Pule, MP.	Kgatleng 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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Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

THE ASSEMBLY met at 9:00 a.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

\* \* \* \*

SPEAKER'S REMARKS

**MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG):** Let us start the business of today with Minister's questions. Honourable Members, I think *le bona* the first agenda item, *ke* announcement. Remember Speaker talked about announcing issue *ya ga* Honourable Kaizer. *Ke kopa gore re emele ene, a tle a e tthalose* when we change. Honourable Letlhogonolo Barongwang.

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Kaizer, Member of Parliament (MP), Selebi Phikwe West. Let me clarify this, you are going to be given less than five minutes to explain the question, *o se ka wa ya lololo*.

MINISTERS' QUESTION TIME

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY

THEME: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON BCL CLOSURE

Asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to state:

- (i) the criteria used to select the commissioners;
- (ii) how the commission will ensure transparency and independence in its investigations;
- (iii) the terms of reference, and whether those terms were subjected to any stakeholder input or expert review;
- (iv) how Government will guarantee operational independence of the commission from political influence, particularly given that it will investigate actions of former leaders;

(v) the total budget allocated for the commission's operation; and

(vi) arrangements that have been made to ensure witness protection and prevent intimidation or interference during testimony.

**MR R. W. KAIZER (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke bona *Minister* a seyo, ke akanya gore go na le yo o mo e tseelang.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Wena botsa, ga re itse gore go laelanwe jang. Botsa, ga re ise re utlwe sepe.

**MR KAIZER:** Ke *Question two Madam Speaker*, gakere jaanong ke tshwanetse ke e alele.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Mmolotsi and Tshere, *o kae...*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure *Madam Speaker*.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Procedure. Ke a themed question, e e tshwanetseng go arabiwa ke motho yo a lebaneng le yone. Fa o utlwa gotwe Leader of the House's Question, it has been elevated to that level ka bokete jwa yone. Fa e le gore ga a yo gompiano jaaka re bona a seyo, mme go sa lebege go na le yo o tshwareletseng bo Leader of the House, yo o laetsweng semmuso. E le go leba fela ka seniority, a bo re re wena dira, ga se mo e ka kgonagalang go arabiwa. Go raya gore re ka fetela kwa go e nngwe ra tswela.*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, let us proceed to questions.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure *Madam Speaker*.

**MR KAIZER:** *Procedure. Ke a leboga Madam Speaker. Potso e, e fetisiwa gape la boraro; three weeks e ntse e tlhomagana. Ga ke itse gore e tlaa lala e arabilwe leng. Ga ke itse gore o ka dira eng Madam Speaker, gore potso ya me e kgone go arabiwa? Kgantele e ya go felelwa e latlhegelwa le ke tatso. Go botlhokwa gore potso e, e arabiwe Madam Speaker. Matona ba se ka ba tshaba go araba potso e, e motlhofo ka gore ke bone ba tswang go bega gore ba batla go dira Commission of Inquiry.*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Noted. Let me consult Honourable Kaizer.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

...Silence...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. The advice here, will be for Honourable Kaizer to later date for the record.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Procedure.* Ga ke ganane le *ruling* ya gago ya gore gongwe o ka e *later date*. *Through the assistance of the Parliamentary Counsel (PC)*, a ga ba na gore tlhalosetsa gore kapotso e, e fetisitswe malatsinyana, nako ya yone e goroga ba fetisa, a ga go kgonagale to *dedicate another day* e e seng ya *Members Business*? Le fa e le *on Monday* kana Laboraro, *specifically for this question because it has been postponed or later dated rather too long*. A mme ga go letlelesege gore o ka tsaya tshwetso ya gore ka *Monday* kana Labobedi, re tlaa tsaya nako ya *Government Business* ra e neela *Members Business*, ka gore go lebega Matona ba *avoid* go araba, ka to *avoid* go tla mo Palamenteng letsatsi la gompiano.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Members. *Emapele* Honourable Tshere. Issue ya Minister's Question is only on Fridays. I thought *le tlaa re gongwe* we should consult the Minister *fa re tlaa mmonang teng* to push *gore e tsene ka Friday*. *Re tshwanetse go itse gore fa a seyo, ga go na sepe se re ka se dirang* but later dating it, *e se ka ya feta Friday o o tlang*.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Emang pele. *For the records*, ke ne ke re tlhaloso e nne gore ke *later date*, a bo re kopa *Minister* gore e boile gantsi, e tsene *next week Friday*. *Minister* a *make sure* gore e a tsena ka *Friday* o o tlang, e se ka ya fetwa ke tse dingwe.

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE):** *Further procedure.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Sa ntlha, ke ne ke re gongwe go ka tsietsa setšhaba gore go bo gotwe ke *Leader of the House's Question* and therefore, e

tshwanetse e arabiwe fela ke *Leader of the House*, nnyaa, mo ke *Ministerial Question* e e ka arabiwang ke *Minister* mongwe le mongwe fa re ne re tshwere karabo ya teng. Ke ne ke emelela fela gore ke *apologise on behalf of of Honourable* Mohwasa ka gore o tshwere ka a mabedi gone jaana. Gakere go na le *event* ya masole ka fa, *so*, gongwe ke gone mo go dirileng. Re ka eletsa thata gore beke e e tlang, e arabiwe. Ke a leboga.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Further procedure.* Ke a utlwa *Madam Speaker*. *The Speakership* e na le dithata kana maatla jaaka e a tle e dire. Ba a tle ba dire *rulings* tsa gore ka gore golo mo ga go a kgonagala, re isa kwa letsatsing le le ntseng jang. *It is still possible* mo go lona ka maatla a le nang le one go sa emela *Friday*, go kopa gore a e arabiwe ka di kana.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *I think* le yone eo e ya go batla *consultation with the Minister*, gongwe ke ya gore e arabiwe ka di kana, ene a seyo. *So, let us wait for the Minister* fela. Ke kopa gore *Honourable Kaizer*, a *later date the question so that* re tsene mo go yone *later*.

**MR KAIZER:** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*, *later date*.

Later Date.

#### MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

#### THEME: LATEST BOTSWANA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (BDC) SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT DEAL OR DEALS IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS

Asked the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship to state the number of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) deals that have already been completed and those that are still outstanding with a clear deal status of each deal in the past 12 months; whether there have been economic benefits already realised and those expected to mature in the next 12 months from January 2026, stating the following:

- (i) the various projects and the sectors involved;
- (ii) the total amount invested in each project;
- (iii) the level of citizen participation (citizen inclusion) in the various projects; and

(iv) number of jobs/employments created or likely to be created.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Lekau for Honourable Barongwang.

**MR LEKAU:** *Minister o kopile gore re e beye later date madam. Thank you.*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, thank you.

**Later Date.**

## QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

### LIMPOPO BUFFER ZONE

**DR K. GOBOTSWANG (TSWAPONG SOUTH):** asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to apprise this Honourable House on the Government assurance to create a buffer zone to ensure free access to Limpopo River for border patrols by members of the security forces as well as economic activities such as small-scale irrigation schemes, fishing and tourism.

**ACTING MINISTER OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE (DR DIKOLOTI):** *Ke a go leboga* Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, let me assure the Honourable MP for Tswapong South and this Honourable House, that Botswana Government remains committed to securing Botswana's borders, while having free access to Limpopo River and any other boundary with neighbouring countries. I confirm that within our laws and any other such international instruments and conventions, Botswana will continue to aid any other socio-economic activities, as are justified and needed by society.

Madam Speaker, having confirmed as I just did, I would not have completely done my duty if I did not inform this Honourable House that the current financial challenges are an adverse factor in Government putting everything in place.

I can, however, update to the effect that work is ongoing, although has had to be halted. Honourable Dr Gobotswang, let me confirm to you that consultations regarding the Limpopo buffer zone have started. A meeting was held in Palapye on the 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. This was followed by a site familiarisation tour from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. The engagements revealed that

the whole border-securing initiative exercise needed a budget to be implemented.

The exercise revealed that there are some infrastructural developments along the river, which will require some form of monetary compensation. Additionally, the acquisition of the land they are sitting on is likely to affect the tourism offering in the area. It is on these practical considerations as well as the prevailing economic situation that the exercise has been put on hold.

Madam Speaker, in terms of going forward, I wish to indicate that, in the National Development Plan (NDP) 12 that has been passed by this Honourable House, my ministry has indicated that it recognises that land located along the international boundary holds strategic significance for bio-security, and needs to be managed in an appropriate manner.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude by stating that Botswana Government has not dropped the consideration to acquire land abutting international boundaries. That land is necessary to create buffers which will address a number of matters, including economic activities that are related to access to the river. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *Ke a leboga Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, ka 2022 kgang e ne e le gore go simololwa negotiations le ba ba amegang, farmers tse di amegang. Ke batla go itse gore a negotiation e simologile? Gone sentlentle fa o re, work is ongoing, a o ka re bolelela gore fa o re le tswetsetse ka tse le di dirang mabapi le kgang e ya go bula buffer kwa Limpopo, o raya gore go diragala eng? A ko o re bolelele fela gore go diragala eng? Go tshwanetse go diragale eng in the short-term, medium-term to long-term? A mme le a tlhaloganya le le Puso gore golo fa, we are talking about sovereignty and integrity ya borders tsa rona? A le a tlhaloganya gore dipolase tsele ba sutisitse mekono ya tsone go ya go itsheega ka noka? A le a itse gore border ele is not patrolled? A boipuso jwa lefatshe le bo sireletsegile? What about gompieno jaaka re le mo Foot and Mouth? Ga le laole border, re tlaa laola jang batho ba tsena ka tsela e e leng gore ga e amogelesege mme ba dirisa dipolase tse di duleng mo makonong? Ke a leboga Madam Speaker.*

**DR DIKOLOTI:** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke tsaya gore Motlotlegi Dr Gobotswang, o botsa tsotlhe tse ke di arabileng. O supile gore thulaganyo e, re e tsaya tsia thata *Madam Speaker*. Tota kgwetlho ya rona e tona gompiano ke ledi. Ke supile thata, e bile o ntladitse gore re sale re simolola ka 2022 go ntse go buiwa. Ke ne ke e fa dikai tsa 2024; *the consultations* tse e leng gore di dirilwe.

*Madam Speaker*, thulaganyo e, re e tshwaraganetse le maphata a mangwe. *Madam Speaker*, tota kgwetlho e tona ke lone ledi. Ke dumalana le ene thata gore go bothokwatlhokwa tota re le lefatshe, gore re itse mekono ya rona gore e tsamaya jang. O tlaa gakologelwa Motlotlegi Dr Gobotswang gore mo dintlheng tse dingwe tsa lefatshe, re ne re setse re simolotse thulaganyo eo re e tshwaraganetse le ba maphata a mangwe. Jaaka ke bua, madi ke one kgwetlho fela e e tonatona. Ke dumela thata le wena gore fa go tla go tsena mo dikgannyeng tsa Tlhako le Molomo *where we share over 2,000 kilometres (km)*, fa gongwe le mafatshe a mangwe a e leng gore ba *in the red, it is very-very important for us to have control of what happens along* molelwane. So, ke thulaganyo e re e dumalanang. *We are very hopeful* jaaka o bona re e tsentse le mo NDP 12 gore fa ledi le bonala, *it will be one of those that will be prioritised. We just pray that* ledi le nne teng. Re ya ka kwa Aferika Borwa, *we do trips, consult, engage with them, there is also a lot of local travel that is involved in this. There is compensation that must come with it*, jaaka ke ne ke tlhalosa gore dikgwetlho tsotlhe tsa teng, di ntse jang. Dilo tse tsotlhe tse, re ntse re tswelsetse re a di phutha mme re tla re kgorelediwa segolobogolo ke letlhoko la madi. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. *Honourable Minister*, a o a itse gore golo fa go ne ga dirwa ditlhotlhomiso, ga bo ga fitlhelwa e le gore boradipolase kana bommadipolase bale ba sutisitse mekono ya bone? Go raya gore ba ipeile. Fa e le gore ba ipeile, *compensation* e tsena fa kae *Honourable Minister*?

Gompiano jaana, fa e ne e le molemi fela wa golo gongwe, kana kwa Ngwapa kana Mokobeng a dirile tiro e, a sutisitse mekono, le ka bo le setse le tlile ka *court order* gore a boele mo makonong. Batho ba ikokeleditse. Ba ipeile, *compensation* e tsena fa kae *Honourable Minister*? Ke a leboga.

**DR DIKOLOTI:** Ke a go leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke tsaya gore Motlotlegi Gobotswang yo ke mo tlotlang thata, kgang e, o e tlhaloganya go feta. Fa e le gore go na le mongwe yo o itseng a ipeile, go na le molao wa gore fa o le maipaafela, re dira jang. Se tseye kgang ya yo o mo itseng a le mongwefela, o bo o e tshwantshanya le dikgang tse tsotlhe. *Obviously, I detailed* gore *there would be compensation because* bontsi jwa ba bangwe, ba fa tlase ga molelwane. Mo e leng gore go ya go pateletsa gore mo go tseyeng lefatshe la teng, re bo re bona gore re ba *compensate* jang. So, se tseye kgang e e nosi, o bo o batla go dira gore jaanong go nne le ...

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *Procedure. Madam Speaker, I am not talking about speculation.* Ga ke bue ka dikgang tse ke di selang mo tseleng. Ka re, Puso e ntshitse *taskforce* ya go dira dipatlisiso, ya ntsha *report* e e supang gore 81 *out of 85*, ba sutisitse makono a bone, ba ipeile. *Madam Speaker*, ga ke reeditse ka fa *honourable* a arabang ka teng. Ga ke dumele gore o nnile le *access to information* e e setseng re e itse, le mo Palamenteng e begilwe. Ga ke itse gore o rakane le karabo e kae. *It is not based on evidence* e e leng teng kwa lephateng la gago.

Ga ke itse gore fa go ntse jaana *Madam Speaker*, go dirwa jang? Ra re, *taskforce was set up*, ya dira dipatlisiso mo dipolaseng tsotlhe, e se tsa Tuli Block fela. Ga fitlhelwa e le gore a *report* e teng kwa *ministry* wa gago, e e supang gore 81 *out of 85 farms*, ba dule mo makonelong a bone a ntlha. Ba sutisitse makonelo, ba tswa go itsheega ka noka. Ba ipeile *Honourable Minister*. Fa o sa itse, e re ga ke itse bogolo, a ye go re batlela Karabo. E re nako e e tlang, *Monday* kana *Tuesday*, a tle go araba fela tota mo go tseneletseng, e bile mo go supang gore o na le *information* e yotlhe. *Some of it is in the public domain*, ka gore ke boditse dipotso, ya arabiwa mo Palamenteng, dikarabo di teng, o ka bo bogolo o di etetse, wa bona gore go engwe fa kae, wena o simolola fa kae. So, ke a kopa, nthusa foo *Madam Speaker*.

**DR DIKOLOTI:** *Madam Speaker, ntetlelela ke tlotle Ntlo e, ke bo ke tlotle* Dr Gobotswang. He is trying to dramatise this thing. He asked a question to update, I have updated *Madam Speaker*.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *Procedure Madam Speaker.*

**DR DIKOLOTI:** I have updated *sentle fela* *Madam Speaker*.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** Procedure.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, a re mo reetse pele *because I have to rule on it.*

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *To dramatize jaanong go tsena fa kae Madam Speaker?*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mma ke riane, fa ke leba *question* e, eo ga e yo fa. *Minister* o ka ya go batla e ene a e buang ya go ntsha makono. Fa ke bala e a neng a e botsa, ga e yo mo teng. Ke tsaya gore gongwe le wena, ga o a tla ka karabo ya gagwe ya gompieno ya go ntsha makono. Re dumalane gore o ye go batla ya go ntsha makono.

**DR DIKOLOTI:** *Madam Speaker, fa o ntetlelela, ya go ntsha makono e a e buang, he is sharing information. Ee, fa o e utlwa, ga a botse, he is sharing information. Ke bua gore as part of this whole project, there are compensations that have to be there. Ene now fa o utlwa ke bua gore o tsaya kgang e jaanong o e ntsha mo karabong e nna ke e arabang ka teng, o bua gore 81 out of 86. Eo Madam Speaker, ke information sharing that he is doing. O ne a mpotsa gore ke appraise Ntlo e gore re tsamaya fa kae. I have done exactly that which he asked me to do.*

Fa o utlwa ke re, ga ke batle *to dramatize*, ke tlotla Ntlo e *Madam Speaker*. Ke e tlotla tota gore fa o botsa, o bo o nneela potso ke bo ke go araba, o bo o dira *supplementary questions* ke bo ke go di neela, ga ke batle gore ke tswe mo tseleng ya Ntlo e ka fa e ntseng ka teng *Madam Speaker*.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** Procedure.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ke batla *to rule*.

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** Ee, ke a kopa *Madam Speaker* ka gore ke bona gore *Minister* o batla gore a re ke ene yo o tlhwaafetseng. Potso e ke neng ke ka e mmotsa, ke tlaa leka go botsa ke iketile ka gore o kare o iteega tsebe fa ke buela kwa godimo. Potso e ke e botsang *Madam Speaker* ke gore, ka *farmers* tsele di ipeile, *compensation* e tsena fa kae? *Compensation* e tsena mo goreng, go tshwanetse go fudusiwe bangwe, gore *buffer* e bulwe, re tsene kwa Limpopo. *Compensation* e tsena mo goreng e ya *to affect* dipolase tse dingwe, di tshwanetse di fudusiwe kana go tsewe bontlha bongwe

jwa tsone. *Compensation* e tsena gone foo. Ke botsa gore ka *farmers* tse di ipeileng, di sutile fa di neng di beilwe teng lantlha, a mme o bona go tshwanetse gore ba duelwe? Ke e botse fela jalo.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Order! Honourable Minister.* Ke kopa re lebe Standing Order 40.2. Potso e re e tletseng gompieno, e boditswe, a e araba, *supplementary* ya tsena, ke akanya gore *supplementary* ya gompieno e, ga e mo karabong e a e tshotseng. Ke kopa re *move* e tswelole, e tlaa tla e tla e le potso.

**DR DIKOLOTI:** *Madam Speaker, mo karabong ya me ke buile gore this exercise has revealed that some infrastructural development along the river will require some form of monetary compensation. Honourable Gobotswang, le mo sekaing se a reng o a se go fa, a re 81 out of 86. O ntse o a nkaraba, indeed some need compensation, that which we do not have...*

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

**DR DIKOLOTI:** Nnyaa, Dr Gobotswang o dumalana le nna gore go na le batho ba ba tlhokanang le *compensation* e re senang madi a yone. *That is all what I am saying. That is why* ke re, kgang ya ga Dr Gobotswang e *share information* ya gore ba bangwe ke bo maipaafela. Ga ke na bothata le gore a bo a *share information* ya teng. *All that I am saying* ke gore, *there is a dire need for compensation for some of these infrastructural developments*, tse e leng gore ga ke na *budget* ya tsone. *This process has been put in NDP 12.* Ke arabile sentle *Madam Speaker*. Ga go na gope fa go tlhaetseng teng mo dikarabong tsa me, ntle le fa e le gore *Madam Speaker*, o belaela gore go na le golo gongwe fa go setseng teng.

Ke arabile Rre Gobotswang ka fa a neng a mpoditse ka teng. Ga ke eletse ka tsela epe gore a batle go nkgogela kwa a batlang go nkgogela teng *Madam Speaker*. Kgantele re bo re felela re fapaanya mafoko ka fa go sa tshwanelang go nna ka teng. Ke tlotla Ntlo e. Ke a leboga.

## STOCK THEFT CASES

**MR V. B. PHOLOGOLO (KANYE WEST):** asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to brief this Honourable House on the number of stock theft cases that have been brought before courts in

the last three years and how many of these cases have been adjudicated and how many are still pending; the Minister to further state;

- (i) on average, how long it takes for such cases to be adjudicated; and
- (ii) how many of these crimes were committed by repeat offenders.

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

**MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MR MOHWASA):** *Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Mma ke simolole ka go kopa maitshwarelo. E rile fa ke tsena fa, ke bo ke tshwanetwa ke gore ke kopane le Rre Kaizer ka potso ya gagwe e a neng a e boditse. So, e ne e se ka mokgwa ope fela.*

My ministry has recorded a total of 5003 cases of stock theft in the last three years throughout the country.

Out of all these cases, 71 were adjudicated before courts of law and 4 932 are still pending investigations and prosecutions.

Madam Speaker, a case of stock theft takes eight to 24 months on average from the time it is reported to the completion depending on the complexity of the case.

Madam Speaker, out of these registered cases, 104 were committed by repeated offenders. *Ke a leboga.*

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** *Supplementary. Thank you for that Honourable Minister. The number of cases tse di bonalang fa, are a cause for concern, because kgomo ke selo se se tshegetsang Motswana. Go a lebega Tona gore dipalo tse ...*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Sorry Honourable Phologolo, Honourable Jacobs, why are you going out *o na le potso?*

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Be mindful* gore o se ka wa diega, ka gore fa e ka feta, ga ke ka ke ka e boela. *Continue Honourable Phologolo sorry for that.*

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** *Thank you.* Ke tlaa simolola kwa ntlheng, *because I got distracted.* Ke ne ke re, *the number of cases reported in the past three years are a*

*serious concern* fa re lebile gore Motswana kwa gae o tshela ka kgomo, e bile ke yone e mo fang seriti. Mo dinakong tsa gompiano tse go senang *opportunities*, re ikaega ka dikgomo tse. Go a supafala gore *there is a problem because of the 5 000 cases.* Fa gotwe go sekilwe di le 75 fela, *one would want to know* gore gantsi se se paledisang gore dikgang tse di kgone go reediwa, di bo di fela *within eight to 24 months*, ke eng? Ke eng e le gore *we have a high number of repeat offenders* ba ba lekanang le 104. Ke botsa ke ema gone foo ema *Madam Speaker. I wish o tlaa mpha supplementary* gore ke tsweledise.

*The question Honourable Minister* ke gore, *what is it that you find as a challenges* gore dikgang di bo di saletse kwa morago gore di wele, mme di le di ntsi ka palo e e kanakana? Se sengwe gape, go ka dirwa eng gore *these repeat offenders*, ka go a lemotshega gore ba tswelela fela ga ba kgone go ithuta sepe, ba se ka ba boela mo go direng tshenyo e e tshwanang le e? Ke tlaa botsa gape *Madam Speaker*, fa o ntetla. *Thank you*

**MR MOHWASA:** Mma ke simolole ke tlhalose gore, go tlaa simolola ka go baakanya molao gone fa. Ba *police* ba diragatsa molao o re o dirileng gone fa. Se ke ka se tlhalosang gape ke gore, rotlhe re a itse gore go na le ditlhaelo tse di kae tsa sepodise go latedisa dikgang tsa bogodu jwa leruo. Se sengwe gape ke gore, le rona re le barui, tlhokomelo ya rona mo dikgomong ga se e e nametsang. Ke a leboga.

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** *Supplementary. Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister*, a selo se ga se supe gore molao o re o dirisang, ga o a re siamela kgotsa ga o kgone go tlisa maduo a re a eletsang? Fa ke leba ke tabogile, gongwe Stock Theft Act Section 3 (a), re e okomele gape. *This burden of proof* ya gore kgomo fa o e tshotse, mapodise a supe gore ke ya bogodu, gongwe re e ise kwa go wena yo o e tshotseng. E nne wena o supang gore ka boammaaaruri, kgomo e, ga se ya bogodu ke ya gago. *Holistically, would not think* gore nako e gorogile gore re tlhodumele molao o, re o baakanye, re o tokafatse, re kgone go kgarametsa *cases* tse.

*Then again*, ga se gore re oketse *those who specialise* ka go sekisa dikgang tse, re ba ise kwa dikgaolong ka go farologana. Re se ka ra nna le *officer* a le mo Lobatse,

*covering the whole Southern Region*, e le ene e sekisang mo kgaolong e e kalokalo. Ke a leboga.

**MR MOHWASA:** Ke a leboga. Ke tsaya gore ga go na ope mo go rona fa yo o ka reng ga go na ka fa a amanang le leruo ka teng. *Either* a kile a disa kana a kile a nna le batho ba ba kileng ba nna le leruo. Botlhokwa jwa leruo, ke tsaya gore re a bo amogela mo matshelong a rona. *Madam Speaker*, dikgang tse fa gongwe o fitlhela di diiwa gape ke gore, le bone ba bosekisi ba na le dikgetsisi tse di ntsi tse di saletseng kwa morago.

Se sengwe ke gore, batlotlegi ba a itse gore go kile ga bo go na le thulaganyo ya Kgomo Khumo, e e neng ya dira maduo a ke a tsayang gore a ne a nametsa. Mathata ke gore mo nakong ya gompiano, ditsompelo ga di yo. Go tlhoka ditsompelo tseo, go reela gore mapodise ga ba na didirisiwa tse di lekaneng gore ba dire tiro e. Le fa go ntse jalo, dingwe di a dirwa. Ke kile ka tlhalosa gore re tere tshwetso ya gore *police stations* tse di tshwanang le ya Broadhurst le Maun, re simolole re dire *pilot* e re tlaabong re dirisa dikoloi tsa batho ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi, gore kgang ya letlhoko la dipalamo, e nne selo sa maloba. Mapodise gore ba ye go fitlhelela kwa magodung, ba tlhokana le dipalamo. Se re tlaabo re se dirisa e le *pilot*, mme re tsaya gore dikoloi tse di dirisiwang mo *police stations* tseo, di tlaa tsewa gape di phatlalatswe le *police stations* tse dingwe. Tse di tlaabong di neetswe dikoloi tseo, di tlaabo di ka nna mo seemong se se botoka sa go lwantsha bogodu jwa leruo. O itse gore gompiano jaana, Broadhurst Police Station e tsentse Oodi le tikologo e e gautshwanyane.

Sa bobedi mo godimo ga moo *Madam Speaker* ke gore, fa re le mo seemong se go senang dikoloi, go dirwa ke gore *at any given time, close to half if not more*, dikoloi tse mapodise ba nang le tsone di kwa go thulwang teng. Golo mo, go bo go ama bokgoni jwa bone jwa go lwantsha bogodu ka kakaretso go tsenya le jwa leruo. Ke a leboga.

**MR FRENZEL:** *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Potso ya me e mo dikgetsing tse gongwe di tsayang ...

**MR HIKUAMA:** *On a point of procedure.* Ga ke itse gore o arabile jang, mme go na le potso e e neng e boditswe ke *Honourable* Phologolo, e ke neng ke eleditse go utlwa karabo ya yone. Gompiano go na le

*burden* e e fiwang mong wa kgomo gore a *prove* gore ke ya gagwe, mme go na le bosupi jwa gore legodu le le e tsereng, ga le supe gore ke ya gagwe. O e kgaotse ditsebe, o phimotse ditshipi, o dirile sengwe le sengwe; ke eng go sa nne le *burden* ya yo o utswileng gore le ene a *prove* gore ke ya gagwe? Ga ke a utlwa a e araba.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Honourable Members*, mma ke *clarify* e ya ga *Honourable* Hikuama. *I thought the Minister* o buile gore mapodise a setse molao o re o dirileng. Ke rona re tshwanetse go boa fa, re baakanya ka fa dikgang di ntseng ka teng. *I think* eo, a e fete.

**MR FRENZEL:** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Kgang ya me e ne e le mo dikgetsing tse di ...

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** On a point of procedure. The question here was would he not consider to shift the burden of proof? That is the question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Honourable* Phologolo, *he cannot consider* go se na sepe se a beileng mo go sone, le sa dira molao. Ke kopa o nne fa fatshe *Honourable* Phologolo. Le ja nako, bona metsotso e e setseng.

**MR FRENZEL:** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Tona, re lebelele kgang ya *cases* tse di gobokwang, di bo di felela di le di ntsi, di tshwanelwa ke go ka sekiwa. Go na le *cases* tse di kgonang go tsaya *more than 10 years* di sa sekiwe. A mme ga se nako ya go bona gore *more especially* mo go ba ba nnang ba boelela, motho a nna a tshwarwa, re ba ise mo Makgotleng a Setswana? Re bone bo Makaseterata ba ba latela kwa ba diretseng melato teng, gore re fefose dikgang tsa go tshwana le tse.

Potso ya bobedi ke gore, fa *cases* tse di fela, go diragala jang ka leruo? A le boela mong wa lone kana go diragala jang? A yo o bonweng molato, o a duelwa leruo la go tshwana le leo? Ke raya gore o di mphitsetse fa *Minister*.

**MR MOHWASA:** Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Rraetsho Frenzel, seemo se se teng ke tsaya gore ga gona ope... ke tlhalositse seemo sa bogodu ja leruo, le bogodu fela ka kakaretso bo a tshwenya. Golo moo ka bogone go tshwanetse go bo go supa maikaelelo a rona ka kwano go bona gore re dira tse di siameng go baakanya seemo se.

Ka tlhalosa gore, kgomo ka fa e ntseng ka teng e ama matshele a rona ka ditsela tse di ntseng jang. Jaanong se ke ka se tlhalosang fela ke gore, re tlaa tswela re ntse re bona gore re tokafatsa jang. Go tlaa nna go ntse go baakanngwa melao, melao e ga e a simolola e ntse jaaka e ne e ntse bogologolo, e ntse e fetolwa go lebelelwa dikgwetlho tse re lebaganeng le tsone. Ra tswela re baakanya melao e, ga nna le jaaka e bidiwang bo Kgomo Khumo, ya ema ka gore go ne go na le dikgwetlho tse re neng re na le tsone. Ka bokhutshwane tota le yone e re neng re ntse re e bua Rre Phologolo re tlaa tswela re bona gore re tokafatsa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Le le Mapalamente ke tsaya gore le dirisana le dikomiti tsa twantsho borukutlhi kwa dikgaolong tse di farologanyeng. A re nneng re bue le mapodise le ba *Attorney General*, ra bona gore re tokafatsa seemo se jang. Ga re ka ke ra nna le seemo se Batswana ba humanegisiwang mo dilong tse ba ka itirelang botshelo ka tsone. Ke tsaya gore ke le arabile.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Procedure. Madam Speaker, procedure* e ke emang ka yone e tsalwa ke karabo e e tswang gone fa mo go Tona. Tona o supa gore, go maleba gore re tle re baakanye molao, mo ke dumalanang le ene 100 *per cent*. Gompieno re na le *instructions* le *Bills* tse re lekileng go di isa kwa Ntlong gore re kgone, mme ga re kgone ka gore batho ba ba ka re thusang go dira melao e, ga ba yo mo Palamenteng, kana ba a imelwa. Jaanong ene *Minister*, o tlisa *Bills*. Rre Phologolo o ne a botsa gore, ka ba na le kwa ba kgonang go dira teng motlhofo, re lekile re tsentse *drafts, instructions* di ile, ga go na sepe se se diragalang, a mme ka gore o na le kgonagalo le boruma jwa go ka tlisa *Bill*, ga a bone go tshwanela gore a dire *Bill* ya mofuta o ka gore re a leka go a pala?

**MR MOHWASA:** Ke tsaya gore motlotlegi, e bile ka o ikaelela go nna motho *who will chair* diphuthego nako nngwe, o ka amogela gore fa motho a re, le bereka le dikomiti tsa twantsho borukutlhi, mapodise le rona mo ofising re batla go tokafatsa seemo se, re ka buisana la gakolola, la supa fa makoa a leng teng. Ke gone ka fa batho ba nnang le morero ka teng, gore re baakanye. Ke sone se ke neng ke arabile jalo, ga ke itse gore ga o tlhaloganyane fa kae.

## MODERN ICT ESTABLISHMENTS

**MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE):** asked the Minister of Communications and Innovation:

- (i) whether there are any plans to advance communities with modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT) establishments and fair installation of community internet centres in cities, towns and villages regardless of locality development backgrounds; and
- (ii) if this approach can align our national ICT development setup to African Digital Development Strategy and Advancing Digital Economies.

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE):** Thank you very much Madam Speaker and thank you to Honourable Jacobs for this question. It will help us to explain some of the things that we never get an opportunity, because Honourable Members do not ask questions about my ministry.

Madam Speaker, I wish to preface my answer with an extract from the Executive Summary of the Botswana National Digital Economy Roadmap 2025-2030 which the sector developed immediately upon my assumption of office in April 2025. It reads, “the Botswana Digital Economy and Innovation National Roadmap envisions transforming the nation into a digitally driven, knowledge-based economy by 2030. This bold vision aligns with Botswana’s broader national development goals and recognises that digital technologies will be fundamental to future prosperity, competitiveness, and social inclusion. The vision seeks to position Botswana as a continental leader in digital innovation while ensuring that technological advancement benefits all citizens”.

In line with this sector blueprint, my ministry continuously works to uplift livelihoods of communities particularly in unserved and underserved areas with digital technologies. This drive has seen provision of broadband internet to Government facilities such as health centres, public schools and Dikgotla across Botswana. We have also facilitated the roll out of wireless hotspots in various public spaces including

shopping malls and airports to enable public access to affordable broadband internet.

Madam Speaker, I wish to detail specific outcomes of the digitalisation drive I am referring to as follows:

#### **Public Wholesale Wi-Fi Hotspots**

A total of 32 public Wi-Fi hotspots have been provided at airports, hospitals, bus stations in locations such as Gaborone, Mahalapye, Palapye, Serowe, Francistown, Maun and Kasane. This infrastructure was implemented through Botswana Fibre Networks (BoFiNet) on an open-access principle, and the service is retailed by licensed Internet Service Providers (ISPs) at affordable prices.

#### **Provision of Broadband Internet to Government Facilities**

Through the Universal Access and Service Fund we have facilitated a provision of high-speed internet to a total of 408 Government facilities including schools, health facilities and Dikgotla. The project includes provision of 50 educational tablets, high speed internet connectivity, printers and smartboards per school in the areas such as Kgagaladi, Mabutsane, Ghanzi, Northwest, Okavango, Goodhope and Southern districts supported by 209 Information Technology (IT) officers.

#### **Digital Centres (ICT Labs) in Public Schools**

Madam Speaker, public schools continue to receive fully equipped state-of-the-art digital centres in an effort to promote the use of communications services from grassroots. My ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education launched 15 digital centres launched at primary schools of Ditshegwane, Kopong, Batlokwa National, Botsalano, Ditladi, Etsha 6, Mabele, Molete, Tewane, Kgomodiatsaba, Kgosi-kgosi, Mafitlhakgosi, Mogobane, and Struizendam. We have also renovated and fully equipped Dikgatlho Junior Secondary School (JSS) Computer laboratory to restore its functionality to a state-of-the-art modern digital centre. Construction of additional digital laboratories is ongoing in Sankoyo, Makakung, Dimajwe and Boitumelo Primary Schools, including the Special Needs Material Production Department in Tlokweng.

#### **Village Mobile Network Upgrades**

Madam Speaker, the digital drive is comprehensive and covers upgrades of mobile base stations in rural villages to minimize 4G technology that is done in collaboration with mobile network operators; Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC), Mascom and Orange.

#### **Internet provision through smartboard village connectivity projects**

Through the smartboards programme, a total of 1138 public facilities have been connected across 144 villages with 16 additional villages to be connected in this financial year, 2026. Madam Speaker, Botswana Digital Transformation Strategy is perfectly aligned with the African Digital Development Strategy specifically the AU Digital Transformation Strategy 2030 and broader African Digital Economy Initiatives. We are aligned especially with the foundational pillar of enabling legislation, digital infrastructure rollout and support for digital skills.

Botswana's digital vision is to transition the nation into a high-income knowledge-based economy. Our focus is on creating a smart sustainable society by digitising public services, strengthening digital skills and fostering pro-innovative ecosystems. In line with the principles of regional integration and trade, Botswana is aligning its digital strategy with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to leverage digital trade, enhance e-commerce and access to large African markets.

Madam Speaker, I wish to conclude by indicating that we have just commenced a Digital Services Act. We will soon as 1<sup>st</sup> April commence the Cyber Security Act which seeks to modernise governance, improved data protection, and create a secure and a reliable digital ecosystem, complying with regional standards. We are collaborating with several partners including the European Union (EU) to enhance our digital infrastructure and to improve public service delivery. I thank Madam Speaker.

**MR JACOBS:** *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga Tona Tsere. Ke batla go go gakolola sengwe. O mpohelela gore kwa Struizendam go na le maranyane, mme nna kare *next door* le wena fa Lobatse fa, ga go na maranyane a sepe.

Re mo lefifing mo Lobatse. Bana ba rona kwa Lobatse fa ba batla maranyane, ba ya go kukuna fa Dikgotleng fa gare ga masigo ba batla WI-FI or internet gore ba kgone to do their studies. Jaanong ke re Rre Tshere, ke a go kopa mongwame, a ko re oketse hotspots mo Lobatse gore bana ba rona ba tlogele go kukuna fa Dikgotleng fa gare ga masigo o kare baloi.

Potso ya me ya bobedi, Rre Tshere, *how prepared is Government to make an internet connectivity programme with special focus on taking the internet to the constituencies and constituency Wards and bringing connectivity developments to enhance the alignment with modern ICT skills?* Ke yone potso ya me ya bobedi. Ke a leboga.

**MR TSHERE:** *Thank you very much Honourable Jacobs. Honourable Jacobs, go raya gore ga a itse leina la me sentle, ke Tshere, go raya gore “kgaoganang, le se ka la lwa.” Kana ka fa ba re tsere fa gotwe kgaoganang. Jaanong ga go tshwane. Kwa ga Mmangwato ke tshere.*

Batho ba ya kwa hotspots tse di available jaaka clinics, le bosigo. Ke amogela seo gore ke mathata, e bile re tlaa lebelela gore re oketse hotspots. Mo e leng gore re a go dira kwa lephateng, gone jaana re tshwaragane le ba BTC, ke project e re e ribolotseng mariga a a fetileng kwa Old Naledi e e bidiwang gotwe Community WI-FI. *What we do is we target a certain community. Gompiano jaana what is happening kwa Bontleng, re tsere that area yotlhe ya Old Naledi and then connected it to WI-FI, meaning that we put our infrastructure around, so that they can speak together. WI-FI eo o ka e tshwara o le kwa lelwapeng. That is an initiative that we are piloting, e e leng gore fa e ka bonala gore e a bereka, then re ka kgona to roll it out. Eo e tlaa thusa gore batho ba se ka ba ya go kgobokana kwa hotspot e leng teng. We will be making the WI-FI available in a certain area, so that you can access it from home at a very minimum fee. Ka gore jaaka re itse thulaganyo ya ga Goromente ke gore mongwe le mongwe a connect mo maranyaneng.*

Se sengwe se re tshwanetseng re se itse ke gore, maranyane ga se mahala. Go raya gore Goromente o tshwanetse a duelele batho. Goromente o tsere tshwetso ya gore batho ba tshwanetse ba bone maranyane botlhe le kwa mafelong a a kwa tengnyanateng tota. Ba tshwanetse ba nne le access to internet ka gore re isa services koo. Fa Goromente a tsaya tshwetso eo, go

raya gore o tshwanetse a tseye maikarabelo a go duelela internet services tsa mofuta oo. *Otherwise* rona kwa lephateng tota ga se gore re rekisa internet per se, ka gore there are mobile operators ba re rekisetsang bone. Rona re wholesale, go na le bo general dealer ba e leng Mascom le Orange ba ba dirisang moo. *We do not play in that area because we regulate it as well, but because of Government’s commitment to offer these services, that is why we give it on a humanitarian basis. That is why* o bona batho ba kgona to access internet. *It is not free, Government has paid for it. I thank you very much.*

**MR MOALOSI:** *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga Honourable Tshere. Ke a leboga Madam Speaker. Ke re, lenaneo le la go tsenya internet kwa metseng, kwa Dikgotleng, jalojalo, la SmartBots, le fitlhetse le le kwa Office of the President (OP), a mme ga le na maikaelelo a gore le le tseye le nne kwa go lona ka gore *as you speak, there is a lot of maintenance issues?* Ke gore fa go senyega, batho ga ba itse gore ba ya kae. Ke dumela gore ka gore lona le teng le phatlaletse le lefatshe lotlhe, go ka nna botoka maintenance o dirwa ke lona. A ga le bone gore go ka nna botoka fa le ka tsaya lenaneo leo, la tla kwa ministry wa gago ka gore ke one o o tshwanetseng o bo o bereka ka dilo tsa technology? Ke a leboga.

**MR TSHERE:** *Thank you very much. That is a very interesting question. Let me explain this,* ke ntse ke tlhalosa gore kwa lephateng, boikarabelo jwa rona ke gore fa gotwe re tlisa internet kwa Tutume, especially that we are doing it right now, re bo re goga line, connecting Tutume, metse ele yotlhe. E bo e re fa re tsena mo metseng, re bo re tsamaya re dira connections not necessarily end to end, but re dira a connection up to the gate ya facility, being sepatela, Government facility, Kgotla, dikole tsone tse re di bonang. Tota rona re tshwanetse re ka bo re ne re dira jalo, so that we can give the mobile operators the liberty gore ba gwebe go tswa fa re leng teng, go go neela internet. Ke gone ka fa re berekang ka teng ka gore internet ya teng ba tlaabo ba e tsaya at a wholesale price from BoFiNet. Rona ga re ka ke ra tsamaya, re bo re ya to connect kwa pele.

Jaanong potso e ya gago fa ke re *it is interesting, remember SmartBots is a Presidential initiative.* Jaaka ke ntse ke bua, *it is humanitarian in the sense that* bone ba re, Motswana mongwe le mongwe o tshwanetse to be connected. Rona kwa lephateng le fa e le gore

re ne re eletsa, re ne re ka se ke re dire jalo. Jaanong Goromente *comes in and say, you know what, connect everybody. Fa o mo connect jalo, then that idea because it is Presidential, that is why it was sitting at OP e le an initiative ya lefatshe lottle to make sure that there is this humanitarian effort to connect the people. That is the purpose of SmartBots jaaka e ne e le kwa, e bo e boa e gakolola Tautona in terms of the rollout of SmartBots.*

*You are right, there are issues tse di buang ka the maintenance, that we are dealing with, and we are looking at how we can work together. Remember le bone they do not have expertise. Go raya gore Goromente fa a tsere tshwetso ya gore o ya to connect mongwe le mongwe, kwa re neng re ka se ke re kgone to connect, o neela lephata la rona madi, a bo a re tsamayang le ye to connect through BoFiNet. Gakere o a itse gore SmartBots is connected through BoFiNet, that is where you have to report anything that does not work. It is because of that collaboration between Ministry of Communication and Innovation and OP.*

*We can improve it kwa pele mme fa e le gore re a e ntsha kwa OP, it no longer becomes a humanitarian thing e e dirang gore Motswana mongwe le mongwe le yo a neng a ka se ke a kgone to afford, a nne le internet. Fa re e ntsha koo, jaanong re tlaabo re e neela internet mobile operators ba e leng gore bone ba ya to charge. Ke yone fa difference e teng.*

*This is a Presidential initiative that is aimed at bridging the gap ya internet connectivity, so that every Motswana is connected and that alone, is a humanitarian thing. Internet connectivity like I have said, is very expensive and Government is covering it through this initiative under OP. I thank you.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Further supplementary madam.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Nnyaa* honourable, you will clarify *fa ntle le ene* because he explained *ka lebaka. O mmoletse fa ntle.*

#### MONEY DISBURSED TO BMS

**MR M. MOALOSI (NKANGE):** asked the Minister of Sport and Arts to state:

- (i) the amount of money Botswana National Sports Council (BNSC) disbursed to Botswana Motor Sport (BMS) over the past 10 years:

- (ii) the number of Annual General Meetings (AGMs) that BMS has held over the same period where financials have been presented;
- (iii) whether it is normal for tax payers' money to be disbursed annually to an organisation that does not account for the said money; and
- (iv) which AGM minutes were used by BMS for re-registration with the Registrar of Societies since AGMs have not been held regularly.

**MINISTER OF SPORT AND ARTS (MR KELEBENG):** *Thank you Madam Speaker. Tanki Rre Moalosi.*

- (i) *Madam Speaker, the National Sports Association (NSA) tse di affiliated to Botswana National Sports Council (BNSC), Botswana Motor Sport Association e le nngwe ya tsone, ba tsaya direct grant allocation annually of which 40 per cent goes towards development, while the 30 per cent goes towards administration and 30 per cent o mongwe o ya kwa competitions. Madi a is disbursed to the NSA's tse e leng gore are compliant. A ntshiwa on a quarterly basis. Le fa go ntse jalo, fa gongwe NSA's fa di se compliant, BNSC e kgona go thusa batshameki directly without involving the Executive Committee. Fa re lebelela the Botswana Motor Sport Association le activities tsa bone, they have been funded ka madi a a kana ka P1, 070, 000, 986. Madi a teng, re ka a kgaoganya jaana gore 2018/2019 period ba filwe P177, 993.00, 2019/2020 ba fiwa P370, 915.00 mme 2020/2021 up to 2022/2023 dingwaga tse tharo tse, e ne e le nil, ba sa fiwe madi. E ne ya re 2023/2024 ba fiwa P50, 000, 2024/2025 ba fiwa P164, 233.00, 2025/2026 ba fiwa P307, 845.*
- (ii) *Ba Motor Sport ba nnile le Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the period under review. Meetings di nnile ka 2016/2017, 2019 le 2021. Mo meetings tse, go ne go ne ga rolwa pego (present) financials fela ka 2019, morago ga go nna le lebaka le le lee go sena handover between the elected committees.*
- (iii) *Mo go reng tota go diriwa madi a setshaba a a ntshiwang annually, is it accounted for. Re le lephata, ga re itse sepe fela se se supang gore ba*

Motor Sport *have not accounted* ka madi a ba a neetsweng a setšhaba a a tswang kwa BNSC. Le fa go ntse jalo, go botlhokwa ka gore setšhaba se itse gore fa *subvention fund* e ntshiwa, e ntshiwa go na le *controls* tse di dirwang ke ba BNSC. BMS ga e ise e tseye madi *directly* fela. Se se diragalang ke gore, BMS *submits formal request* kwa go ba BNSC, madi a bo a rebolwa *for activities* tse ba di kopelang. BNSC *verifies legitimacy for each request*, mme dituelo le tsone di a dirwa *directly by the BNSC to service providers for approved obligations*. Mo dingwageng tse *five* tse di fetileng, dituelo tota e ne e le tsa *international affiliation fees, public liability insurance* le *targeted support* ya *athletes* tse di neng di tsaya karolo mo *continental competitions*. Re rurifatse gore re le lephata, dilo tsa madi ka fa di tsamayang ka teng, kana *financial accountability mechanisms in place* are fully applied. Re bua ka madi a setšhaba, bogolo jang re lebagane le ba metshameko ya dikoloi le dikuta mo lefatsheng la rona.

- (iv) Potso e nngwe e ne e le gore a go nnile le *minutes* tsa AGM fa go tla go kwadisiwa sesha (*re-registration*). Ke tlhalose gore mo *re-registration* ya mekgatlho, go ne go sa tlhokiwe *minutes* tsa AGM gore go kwadisiwe jaaka le itse gore *under national re-registration exercise* ya Registrar of Societies under the Societies Act of 2022, mekgatlho yotlhe e e neng e kwadisa, e ne e lopiwa gore e nne le *Constitution membership list, current registration certificate number and a list of office bearers*. Mo gongwe e ne e le *financial returns* tsa *bank statements*, le *list* ya *branch and their physical addresses*. Ba BMS *submitted all those documents* tse di batliwang ke Act, mme le yone Registrar for Societies *duly approved the organisation's re-registration*. Go bo go raya gore ba BMS *comply* le ba Societies Act ka gore ba dirile thulaganyo ya *re-registration*.

Ke tswale ka gore re le ba lephata, re a itse gore go na le mathata kwa go ba Motor Sport. Go na le dikgang tse di ntsi tse e leng gore ke maragana teng a bana ba mpa kwa Motor Sport. Le fa go ntse jalo, re tsere kgato Madam Speaker, ya gore re bone gore re thusa jang go tshereganya le go baakanya seemo se re se bonang koo. Ke ka se ke ke bue thata ka maragana teng ao gore a ntse

jang, ka gore ke dikgang tse re santseng re di beile fa fatshe, re di kopanetse, le botlhe ba ba amegang.

Maiteko tota ke gore, ke a itse gore *Honourable Member*, ke motho yo o nang le lerato thata. Ke mongwe wa barotloetsi ba ba tona ba motshameko o wa dikuta le dikoloi. Se ke neng ke se bua ke gore, re leka go letlanya *Madam Speaker*; gore motshameko o, e nne wa botlhe. Bana ba ba tswang kwa tlase, ba ba itekang, ga re batle go bona seemo gompiano se e leng gore fa gongwe fa re bua ka *selection* ya *national team*, ba bangwe ga ba bone tshono. Fa re nna le metshameko, ba nna le metshameko e e farologanyeng fa gongwe e mengwe e le *parallel*. Go dira gore bana ba ba nang le talente e e ka bonalang ya thusa setšhaba, ya tshetsa lefatshe la Botswana, ra nna le bo Ross Branch ba bangwe, ba bo ba sa bonale ka lebaka la gore go na le maraganateng mo motshamekong o wa dikuta le dikoloi. Re a dira *Madam Speaker*, re tswetsetse ka puisanyo ya go letlanya ba botlhe ba ba amegang. Ke a leboga.

**MR MOALOSI:** *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Honourable* Kelebeng. Fa o bona re botsa potso e *honourable especially* ya AGM, ke gore *the current committee has been there since* 2016. Ba sa tshware *elective* AGMs. Fa motho a le teng *for 10 years, obviously* go na le mathata a gore *the sport is not growing*. Potso ya me e ka nna gore *are you aware* gore go ntse go sa tlhophiwe dikomiti jalojalo, go ntse go na le batho ba le bangwefela, fela?

Then kgang ya *accounting* ya madi a setšhaba, ga se a o buang ka one fela, go na le madi a Zebra Fund. Ka komiti e mo teng, Zebra Fund ga e neelwe *the best kids that are in the sport*, madi a teng a feletsa a neelwa ba e leng gore *they are aligned to this committee* e e ganelelang mo ofising. *Is it fair* gore Zebra Fund, madi a ga Goromente le makgetho a batho e bo e tsamaisiwa ka tsela e e ntseng jalo? E le gore batho ba tsenya bana ba bone fela mme go na le bana bangwe ba e leng gore *they are as talented than* ba ba leng teng. A mme dikgang tse *Honourable Minister*, o di tsere ka *the importance that they deserve?* Le bona le tlaabo le baakantse dikgang tse mo lebakeng le le kae? Ke a leboga.

**MR KELEBENG:** *Honourable* Moalosi, fa ke ne ke wela ke tlhalosa, gore ga ke batle go bula mathata a a leng teng ka gore le ene *is an interested party* mo dikgang tse ke di rarabololang. Ke mongwe wa ba ba

amegang. Ke sone se ke neng ke sa batle go tla go mo araba fa ka gore thulaganyo e tswelitse. Re tlaabo re sa fodise se re batlang go se fodisa fa e le gore fa ke tsena fa, jaanong ke tla ke arabisana le *Honourable* Moalosi mme go na le kwa re teng, le ene go na le kwa a teng mme maikaelelo ke go fodisa e seng go kgaoganya.

Dikgang tsotlhe tse di buelang tsa gore go na le mathata, re tlhalositse gore mathata ao a teng, re a a lemoga. Mo phuthegong e e fetileng e re neng re kopane le botlhe ba ba amegang, dikgang tse tsotlhe re di beile mo tafoleng. Maikaelelo ke gore, re di rarabolole mme ga re a ikaelela go diega thata mo go tsone. *Madam Speaker*, jaaka ke tlhalosa, re setse re simolotse thulaganyo ya go buisa botlhe, Rre Moalosi o a itse o ne a le *represented* sentle gone koo. O a itse gore dikgang tse re a di rarabolola. Ke ne ke ka se ke ke tsene mo go reng di rarabololwa jang ka gore ba bangwe ga ba na tshono ya go ikarabela. Ke tlaabo ke sa ba direle sentle *Madam Speaker*, fa nka dira jalo. Ke a leboga.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. Let us go to the next item; Motions.

#### COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS OR TRUSTS

##### Motion

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Mapulanga to present.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Procedure.* Mma ke kope maitshwarelo gore gongwe ga re a kgona *to submit as per the agreement* e re e dumalaneng gore re supe gore ba ba tlaabo ba seyo. *I think I own that I failed to notify you. Madam Speaker, Honourable Mapulanga is not around, o sale a ya kgaolong a na le bo Rre Mmolotsi ka diphuthego le ditirelo tse di dingwe ka koo.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Madam Speaker.

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM (MR MMOLOTSI):** *Procedure. Madam Speaker,* golo mo ga gore re ipakanyetse go tla go buisana ka Ditshutiso, e bo e le gore fa re tsena fa, bo Rre Hikuama ba simolola *excuses* tsa gore re ne re beile bangwe

kwa diphuthegong. E kare ke le fa ka baya motho kwa phuthegong kwa Kasane ka tsela e e ntseng jang? Selo se *Madam Speaker*, ke go tswa mo tseleng. *Honourable* Hikuama o tshwanetse go boela mafoko a gagwe morago ka gore nna ke fa, ke ne ke le fa maabane, jaanong ke beile monna yole kwa diphuthegong dife?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** E tlaa baakanngwa *Honourable* Hikuama.

#### INTRODUCTION OF SIGN LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

##### Motion

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Morolong to present.

...Silence...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Next item, Clerk.

#### AMENDMENT OF SECTION 201 (A) OF THE PENAL CODE NO. 18 OF 2018

##### Motion

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Jacobs to present. Let me found out *gore a Minister o buile. Minister o ne a re President o a mmita fa ditanteng, ga ke itse gore a o le laetse.* Continue Honourable Jacobs. Honourable Butale is there for Minister.

**MR JACOBS (LOBATSE):** I thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I proposed the Motion that this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending Section 201 (A) of the Penal Code No.18 of 2018 and charge with murder, any person found guilty of unlawful possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains. Madam Speaker, Section 201 (A) reads, “a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum term of 10 years imprisonment or to a maximum term of 30 years imprisonment.”

Madam Speaker, 201 (A) proposes the amendment must read, “a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be charged with a sentence in equivalent to murder.”

Madam Speaker, the circumstances will determine which charge or sentence under murder is applicable based on the degree of the murder or the offence committed. Madam Speaker, the law is naked, legally vague and indefinite and needs amendment to protect the innocent lives of vulnerable potential victims and deter possibility of this likely crimes because of this legal gap or loophole.

Madam Speaker, the legal technicality of the current sentence is weak in terms of legal applicability to protect the vulnerable, the innocent lives of Batswana. Madam Speaker, I am talking about the lives of our children, sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers and our parents.

Madam Speaker, the prudence, the relevance and the legal applicability of the Motion welcomes a critical and urgent provision that any person found in possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains outside of the legally authorised people such as medical, educational or forensic context shall be charged with offense of murder.

Madam Speaker, the Motion before us is of great public interest and importance, it speaks to the rights of the marginalised and the forgotten. We are human rights centred Government and must step up. Batswana have had a high prevalence in surge of ritual murders and killings. Many of our people have gone missing mysteriously, some have never been found. Some have disappeared without a trace while some have been found with missing body parts.

The current legal framework treats possession of human remains as circumstantial or secondary in nature, often requiring further investigation to lead the accused to a murder or to a related crime. This legal gap creates an opportunity for the most heinous crimes, ritual killings, trafficking in body parts and untraceable murders to continue without an appropriate consequence.

Madam Speaker, possession of human body parts is unlawful circumstances, it is not a passive act, it is an active participation in the violation of human dignity. It is in essence, evidence of murder, complicity to murder or preparation for murder. In such instances, the intention is not only criminal, it is deliberate premeditated and morally abhorrent.

Madam Speaker, across our nation and the region, we have witnessed horrifying cases where human body parts are found in homes, cooler boxes, plastics, vehicles or hidden in remote locations yet the absence of a proven link to a specific murder often allow perpetrators to escape with lesser charges.

This amendment proposes that such possessions be treated as murder per a person unless the accused can provide lawful justification under a strict and limited exceptions such as medical professionals operating under the Anatomy Act or criminal investigations sanctioned by law.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear, this amendment is not intended to create room for wrongful prosecutions nor to ignore the rights of the accused. It is intended to create deterrence, to preserve human dignity and to strengthen our justice system by closing a dangerous legal loophole.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I move that this Honourable House supports the amendment of Section 201(A) of the Penal Code to ensure that any person found in unlawful possession of human flesh or body parts shall be by default be charged with the crime of murder subject to due legal process. I submit this Motion in defence of the most sacred principle, the sanctity of human life Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, the Motion also calls upon this Honourable House to reaffirm and uphold the sanctity and the protection of human life, drawing not only from our legal frameworks but also from our moral and spiritual guidance in the Bible, a text that continues to be revered by many citizens of our nation, Honourable Dr Dow.

Madam Speaker, the Bible, in its sacred wisdom speaks with clarity and authority on the matters of purity and sanctuary of life. In the book of Genesis 1:27 we are a told, “so God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” The foundational verse reminds us that human life is not merely biological, it is spiritual, divine and sacred.

Furthermore, in Exodus 20:13, the Sixth Commandment declares plainly, Honourable Mmolotsi, “You shall not

murder.” This is not merely a law, it is a moral absolute, a divine mandate against any act that devalues or desecrates human life.

Madam Speaker, the Bible further speaks to purity, the moral and physical. The scriptures emphasize the need for personal, social discipline, responsibility and the respect for human dignity.

Madam Speaker, it is therefore our duty as legislators, law makers and as leaders of this House to ensure that our national laws reflect these values of sanctity, purity and the protection of life. We must resist any normalisation or tolerance of acts that threaten the moral fabric of our society or diminish the worth of a human being.

Accordingly, I move that this Parliament commits itself to;

- (1) Strengthening legislation, there protects human life from any form of abuse, violence or desecration.
- (2) Promoting moral ethical values based on our shared religious and cultural heritage.
- (3) Upholding the dignity and the purity of the human body and condemning all acts that corrupt, kill or defile it.

Madam Speaker, let this Motion not be seen as a religious imposition but rather as a reaffirmation of moral principles that transcend doctrine, principles of respect, dignity and protection of life. Let us as leaders echo the word of Micah 6:8, “what does the LORD require of you,” Honourables in this House? “To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. We are the light of the world, let our lights so shine before men so that the God can be glorified in heaven.”

Madam Speaker, let us protect human life and save that humanity as per the will of God and the law of the Botswana nation.

Madam Speaker, there is no any other legal authorised valuable reason for possession of human flesh, body parts or remains apart from medical reasons or educational reasons and forensic context.

Madam Speaker, even the law of economy says nothing is for free, and there is always a loss for every free possession. A simple free possession of human flesh

body parts or human remains means a valuable life is lost or was lost.

Madam Speaker, a simple relevant question comes, where is the owner of the human flesh, the body parts of the human remains in possession? The suspect should prove and give true reasonable evidence about the victim of the possessed human flesh, body parts or human remains. As we propose in this Honourable House that every person found guilty of the possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains shall be charged with murder.

Madam Speaker, the issue has affected me deeply, it affected me right at home, right at my constituency. A suspect ritual murder case came home to my door step when the boy Tlotso Karema went missing in Lobatse. Two years ago, the chickens had come home to roast at my door step Madam Speaker. We all saw the outrage of the Lobatse community and how much our people hate and abhor ritual murders. When the issue hits right at home, it demonstrated how the hunt for human body parts are becoming a scourge and a surge and a cancer in our society, that even the police records show that the number of missing persons, the people used in ritual murders has increased by more than 100 per cent.

According to the Botswana Police Commissioner, *Mme Diana Marathe*, the Botswana Police have registered 51 cases reported as missing people in December 2024. All of them over the festive period. The Chief of Police revealed the staggering statistics for the ... (Inaudible)... that there was an increase by double amount when compared to 2023 during the festive period.

The missing person report were recorded from 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 to the 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 for the same period. In the previous year, the police had recorded 25 missing people cases. The number of people reported missing increased by 100 per cent, meaning an increase of 26 cases, some of these included children aged between 14 who went missing on rainy days observed during the Christmas and the New Year holidays. 87 people have already been reported missing in Botswana between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2025. This is against the 160 people who went missing in 2024.

This is why I am here today to call upon Honourable Members of this House who I know are affected in their

various constituencies to agree with me and support this Motion. If anyone in this country is found with human body parts should be charged with murder and that the Penal Code should be changed accordingly Madam Speaker.

Additionally, Madam Speaker, it happened in a controversial case of a suspect ritually murdered, Tlotso Karema, that a dead human skeleton was identified and presented genetically unmatching the victim Tlotso Karema. The question *bagaetsho*, is whose remains was that skeleton? Whose life was lost and not accounted for? Where, who and how was the skeleton found? Someone must account and that a person found in possession of human flesh and body parts of human remains outside the scope of legally authorised reasons such as medical reasons.

Madam Speaker, in Molepolole, suspects were found in possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains and a house was burnt to delete exhibit or material evidence, then the case disappeared. Madam Speaker, let us lead by example and be a stable Government driven by people's interest and human rights first. We are all aware that ritual murders happen in our various constituencies where people have gone missing in places like Boteti, Molepolole, Lobatse, Mochudi, Mahalapye, Francistown, Jwaneng and Rakops. Not all the murder cases are reported. Some people were missing and were never identified until today. What do we do with such suspected cruelty and barbaric murderous?

Madam Speaker, as long as a human killed a human, then no human can protect another human. Only the law can do that and this is the amendment to the Penal Code 18 of 2018 that we propose Madam Speaker. I settle that the legal proposition of Section 201 of the Penal Code of Botswana be amended in a way such that every person found in possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains outside the legally authorised reasons be found guilty and charged with murder.

Madam Speaker, a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains, commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum of 10 years imprisonment or to the maximum term of 30 years imprisonment.

Madam Speaker, I propose amendment must read; "a person found in unlawful possession of any human

flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be charged with a sentence in equivalence to murder." Madam Speaker, the circumstances will determine which charge or sentence under murder is applicable based on the degree of the murder and the offence committed. I so act and present this Motion before the Honourable House for approval.

Honourable legislators, *kgang e ya polao ya masika a rona ga se ya polotiki, mme ke tshwanelo ya lona ya gore re gagamatse molao ka gore bana ba rona mo Botswana ba a nyelela. Bana ba rona ba a jewa mo lefatsheng la rona, e setse e le kgwebo ya go rekisa dirwe tsa motho. Dirang se se tshwanetseng, dira se Modimo a se batlang, ka gore kamoso legislatures, e tlaabo e le ngwana wa lona yo o nyeletseng. A re direng se se tshwanetseng go dirwa. Ke a leboga botsadi.*

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Jacobs, move your Motion.

**MR JACOBS:** I move that a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be charged with the sentence in equivalence to murder Madam Speaker. I thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. The debate follows.

**MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (DR BUTALE):** *Thank you very much Madam Speaker.*

*Ke lebogele Motion wa ga Honourable Jacobs, o o supang matshwenyego ka dikgang tse di tshwentseng Mopalamante mongwe le mongwe, Motswana mongwe le mongwe, tsa go nyelela ga batho, tsa dipolao tsa batho, tse gantsi o fitlhelang di amanngwa le dipheko kana mo re atlang re re ritual murder.*

Ke tlhalose gore re tshwenyegile fela thata re le Puso ka dikgang tse. Ke batla gore pele ke wela kwa goreng ke akanya gore re ka lebelela *Motion* o ka tsela e e ntseng jang, ke tlhomamise gore re tshwenyegile ka seemo se, e bile re utlwa matshwenyego a ga Honourable Jacobs. O ne a tlhalosa gore o eletsa gore re fetole Penal Code re bo re re, ope fela yo o fitlhelwang ka dirwe tsa mmele wa motho, a lebiswiwe molato wa polao. Ke ne ke re ke fete pele ka gore Penal Code e, e ne ya baakannngwa ka

2018, ga tsenngwa ditsetlana tse ke batlang gore ke di quote gore re tle re tlhloganye gore re fa kae gompieno.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Please do.

**DR BUTALE:** E ne e baakanngwa go tsenngwa Section 201 (A), e e reng, “*a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum of 10 years imprisonment or to a maximum term of 30 years imprisonment.*”

Then 2 (o) (1) (b) yone ya re, “*a person who wilfully ingest the flesh or blood of a human being, commits an offence termed cannibalism and shall be sentenced to a minimum term of five years imprisonment or to a maximum term of 14 years in prison.*”

Amendment e ke ya 2018, e ke dumelang gore tshimologo ya puisanyo ya rona, e tshwanetse e nne gore dipaakanyo tse di neng di dirwa ka 2018, ra reng ka tstone. Ba bangwe ba re nnyaa, dikattholo tseo di buang tseo ga di a lekana, ka gore jaaka motlotlegi a ntse a bua, *they have not acted as a deterrent*, jaaka re bona dipolao tse di tswetse di ile kwa godimo. Molao wa rona le one o a tlhalosa gape gore, ba ba lebisitsweng molato wa polao ya motho, ke ba ba tlaabong ba tshwerwe mo mabakeng afe. Re dumela gore, go botlhokwa gore re atolose kgang e gore re tle re e tlhloganye ka botlalo, gore kwa bofelelong jwa letsatsi, re tle re tswe ka tharabololo e e ka re thusang.

Dikgang tse jaaka motlotlegi a ntse a tlhalosa, di amana le ditumelo tse ba bangwe ba etleng ba re ke boloi, ke tshwanetse ke ithatafatse. Ba bangwe e bile motho a tshwerwe ka dirwe tse, e bo e le gore ba ba tshwanetseng go tlhotlhomisa, le bone ba tshaba le gone go tlhotlhomisa. Go na le dikgang tse di sha tse mafatshe a lebagang le tsone tsa *human trafficking* tse le tsone di leng foo. Rona re ne re dumela gore se se botlhokwa ke gore, gongwe *we should adopt holistic nuanced approach to understand this issue*. Re tlhloganye gore ...

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

**DR BUTALE:** Ga ke gane, ke ne ke re re buisane mogopolo wa ga mokaulengwe re wetse dibete. *This is a highly emotive topic*, e Batswana kwa ntle e ba amileng, gongwe le rona fa re amegile ka ditsela tse di

farologanyeng. Fa re o labile, re tlhloganya re lebeletse *all the facets of this problem, from a religious and legal perspective*. Ba molao le bone ba tlaa tla ba re tlhalosetsa gore gone mme fa re re *murder under the current laws* tsa rona, re raya eng? Fa re re mongwe le mongwe yo o fitlhelwang fela ka *parts* a bo a lebiswiwa *murder*, *is it practical or it is something that we can implement*. How do we then infuse all these worries that we have, and come up with a remedy e e tlaa re thusang.

*Fa gongwe fa re ka fela re re*, we must change the law, these people must be charged *ka murder*, that is not where the answer is. I approach this Motion with a flexibility that say we do acknowledge the concerns. We do acknowledge that this is a serious problem that takes away the most precious thing that all value which is life. *Jaamong re dumela gore puisanyo ya rona fa, e tshwanetse e gogele kwa go reng re atolose go tswa fela mo molaong kana gore batho ba be charged ka murder*. *Re simolole ka go lebelela amendment e gore*, these offences *tsa cannibalism tse di tsentsweng fa*, do we think that the problem is the sentences that are there, *gongwe re bo reya kwa go tsone re baakanya tsone*. *A re dumela gore* we need to elevate it to murder as *mokaulengwe* has said.

My counsel or request to the House is that, *gongwe re nne le* that nuanced approach to the Motion, *re tle re tlhloganye gore* at the end of the day, are we on the right track? Are we proposing a remedy *e e tlaa berekang, kana e tlaa re fa re a sena go nna re ...*

**DR DOW:** *On a point of clarification*. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Fa ke go reeditse, a o a re re ipotse gore a mathata ke gore dikotlhao di kwa tlase re di oketse, kana *is defining* molato o o gore *murder has already been defined* mo Penal Code, ke fa motho a tsere botshelo jwa motho go bo go nna le gore o tlaa otlhaiwa jang? A mathata a rona a a lebagang le mokaulengwe ke gore, dikotlhao tse di mo molaong tse di kwa tlase, a re di tshoetse ka gore *to define it as murder*, ga go tlise sepe se se sha? A o a re re ipotse kgang eo?

**DR BUTALE:** Ke a go leboga *Mother of the House*. Tota kgang ya me e gone foo. Fa re sekaseka molao ka fa o ntseng ka teng mo nakong ya gompieno, o a tlhalosa gore fa gotwe o lebiswiwe molato wa polao, ke fa go rileng. Fa e le gore ra re re batla go ya go atolosa tlhaloso eo, gore e tsenye gore le fa o fitlhelwa fela ka

dirwe tsa motho go se na kamano kana bosupi jwa gore gone o bolaile motho, go raya gore ra re, o athlolwe ka *murder*. Re bo re atolosa re tsamaela fa pele gore fa o tsena kwa makgotlatshekelo, o tshwanetse o ye go supa gore botshelo jo bo tserwe ke motho yo a ne a dira jang. Ke sone se ke reng fa re tswa foo, re bo re tsena mo go reng a mme mathata ke dikatlholo tsa *amendment* ya 2018? Dikatlholo tse di bua ka *cannibalism*, di bo di tlhalosa gore mme fa o fitlhetswe ka dirwe tsa batho, o athlolwa jang.

Potso ke gore, *is this Motion quiring the adequacy* ya dikatlholo kana *this Motion speaks to expanding the definition in the Penal Code of a murder charge, such that it includes being found in possession of human flesh?* Ke sone se e leng gore *I want us to look at*, ka gore ke na le mathata a gore fa gongwe re tloga re alafa mo e seng bothata. Fa re alafa mo e seng bothata, e bo mathata a a re tshwentseng rotlhe, a tswela. Mathata a jaaka ke ne ke bua, ga e sa tlhoke e le gore re re batho ba a nyelela, re setse re lemogile gore *this is now also an international phenomena* e e leng gore *there is also human trafficking involved in it. It has multiple dimensions. So, a nuanced approach will ... (interruptions) ...*

**MR HIKUAMA:** *On a point of clarification.* O a utlwala, ke gore o etla o bua dikgang tsa Sekgoa, tse gongwe di itayang ba bangwe tsebe, re bo re sa tseye sentle molaetsa kana *position* ya gago *as someone responding*.

Ke go reeditse ka tlhwaafalo, ke batla go utlwa gore la bofelo o wela o re re dire eng re le Palamente e. O re gakolola jang, kana *Government's position is to advise us to approach this debate* ka fa o bua jalo, o tlaabo o bua o emetse Puso. Jaanong fa e *react* mo molaetseng o, ya re re dire jang? A re amogele Tshutiso jaaka e kopiwa ke mokaulengwe, re e fetole kana re e gane? Ke sone se ke batlang go se utlwa fa o wela.

**DR BUTALE:** O tlaa intshwarela mokaulengwe gore gongwe ke ne ke dirisitse mafoko a bo *nuanced*, tota ke ne ke raya fela gore, *a multi-dimensional, multi-disciplinary approach* e ne e ka re thusa. Re e lebelele ka ditsela tsotlhe kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi, gore re felele re na le karabo. Go araba Rre Hikuama, tota kgang ya rona ke gore, mogopolo wa ga motlotlegi o bua kgang e e masisi, e e ka se keng ope a e tsaya loleya, e bile a re ganang fela. Re tshwanetse rotlhe gone fa, re thulanye

dithlogo gore, gone mme re tlhaloganya bothata bo le fa kae. Re tlhaloganya kopo ya mokaulengwe e re kopa re le Ntlo gore re dire eng? Se ke lelang go se bua ke go le kgothatsa, *to nudge you in the direction of having distilled and crystallised the Motion and understanding it.* Then re bo re dumalana gore gone mme *how best can we answer the public outcry there*, ya gore batho ba a nyelela, bana ba a nyelela, batho ba a bolawa ka ditsela tse gongwe di amannwang le *these ritual killings. I am challenging you Honourable Hikuama to say, let us have a progressive approach to this Motion, an approach that will assist in solving a problem that we all agree is reaching crisis level in this country.* Ke sone se tota ke lelang go se bua. *I did not want to be prescriptive, I just put the issues on the table to say, this is what the amendment ya 2018 is saying, this is what the description of the Penal Code as it is ya murder case says.* Go raya gore e tshwanetse ke gore re nne fa fatshe mo Ntlong e jaaka re filwe boikarabelo ke *the Constitution*, gore re dire melao e e tlaa isang lefatshe la rona kwa pele.

Gape le rona gone fa re emetse batho ba ba re tshwenyang letsatsi le letsatsi ka dikgang tse gore batho ba a nyelela. E bile kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi fa re ka felela e le gore ga re a tsaya kgang e ka tlhwaafalo e e tshwanetseng, go ya go felela e le gore *we are being accused of not giving it the necessary attention, taking it with the necessary seriousness. It is a sensitive and emotive issue and the mover of the Motion when he was presenting made reference to actual cases, tse e leng gore by mentioning them, you are also reminding the nation.* Ka Setswana gatwe o kgobola ntho, fa e le gore ke sone Setswana. Nna le Furniture se na le go re timelela. Ke gone moo re tshwanetseng re e tseye jalo. Ke gore letsatsi la gompiano le mo Ntlong e, *we need a bipartisan approach to this issue because it affects all of us. I thank you Madam Speaker.*

**MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE):** Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke simolole ka go leboga *the mover of the Motion* gore a bo a supa matshwenyego a le rona re a itseng tota. Batho ba a nyelela, ba a timela tota kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi, o fitlhela go ntse go na le dikgang tsa gore go na le *ritual*, gore yole o fitlhetswe ka serwe sa ngwana yole, yole o fitlhetswe ka sennanne, e nna mathata fela. Golo mo go utlwa Batswana botlhoko. Ke dumela

gore Mopalamente le ene go mo utlwisa botlhoko ka tlhamalalo. Go siame thata gore go bo go mo utlwisa botlhoko, le nna go nkutlwisa botlhoko *because* golo mo go diragetse le mo kgaolong ya me. E bo e re motho a timetse, kwa bofelong re bo re utlwa gotwe, go bonwe sennanne, o fitlhetswe a sena sennanne. *I am going to be very direct, kgang ya me e fa, I think the mover of the Motion o tshwere a wrong section to amend. I think the Section that we should be amending ke ya murder. I think he should have said, let us amend Section ya murder which is 202 of the Penal Code. Let us amend it to include possession ya human flesh, tsone tse a di buang. Fa a ne a e beile jalo, ke ka bo ke mo utlwa. Madam Speaker, kgang e ya murder, ke kopa to quote mo Penal Code how they define it, e bile gape ke kopa gore o bo o ntetlelela to quote manslaughter.*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Do quote.*

**MR MAELE:** *We have to put it at murder or manslaughter kana re re, include se a se buang into manslaughter or murder. Fa re bua ka murder Madam Speaker, tlhaloso ya yone ya re, "any person who of malice afterthought causes the death of another person by an unlawful act of omission, is guilty of murder." Mo Penal Code, that is how murder is defined, ga e tsenye gope gore motho a bo a fitlhelwa a na le parts tsa motho. Now, fa re simolola re re, we are amending e sele, 201, the court is going to say, no, but definition ya murder ke e. That is why ke re, he should have actually dealt with Section 202, e tota e buang ka murder.*

A bo a re, a re atoloseng *definition ya murder to include possession ya parts, to include this, foo ke ka bo ke mo utlwa sentle. Gone jaana ga ke mo utlwe sentle because ka fa a e buang ka teng, go raya gore re ya go tsamaya le e a e buang e a reng, re tsenye e e baakantsweng ka 2018, e e buang ka cannibalism, gore jaanong a re re e dire murder. E tlaare fa motho a tsena kwa court go bo gotwe, nnyaa, that is not the definition of murder, murder ya re, ya re. Go bo go raya gore Palamente ga e a dira sepe gotlhelele, e tshwere go sele, ga e a tshwara kwa go neng go tshwerwe sentle. I do not know gore mover of the Motion will consider possibly gore e re fa go ntse go tsweletse, gongwe a leke to amend it in terms of gore go buiwe ka kgang ya murder e seng e a e kopang.*

Go na le e nngwe gape ya *manslaughter*, ke kopa le yone ke e *quote* re tle re bone gore a mme re tshwanetse

go e tsenya kwa go *murder, manslaughter*, kana *we should amend* e a e buang. Ya *manslaughter* ya re, *"any person who by an unlawful act or omission, caused the death of another person is guilty of the offence termed manslaughter."* Two ya yone e bo e re, *"an unlawful omission is an omission amounting to capable negligence to discharge a duty tending to the preservation of the health whether such omission is or is not accompanied by an intention to cause death of bodily harm."* This is the confusion that I am having gore, fa o lebile *manslaughter* le *murder*, bokete jwa tsone ga bo tshwane. A mme yo re mo fitlhelang a tshwere *parts* re mo tsenye kwa go *murder* kana *manslaughter*, kana re dire jaaka a bua. *My opinion is that, I think o tshwere section e sele, o ka bo a dirile maybe sections tse pedi, e ya murder le manslaughter, a kopile gore bogolo re fetole definition ya teng go tsenya tse a di buang tsa gore motho fa a fitlhelwa possessing human flesh.*

*In short Madam Speaker, in the manner in which the Motion is, ke dumela gore batho ba ka tloga ba re tshega re le Palamente gore, Mapalamente ba ntse ba itse gore go na le definition ya murder le manslaughter, ba bo ba ya go tshwara section e sele, 202 B e e leng gore it has got nothing to do with the definitions. Ba bo ba re ba amend yone, ba e amend ba reng. Fa ba e baakantse jaana, the court is still going to look at the definition of murder. E bo e re, murder ga e tsenye possession of human flesh, therefore, this is not murder. Re tlaabo re sa dira sepe. That is why ke ne ke re, let us look towards possibly, fa e le gore Mopalamente feels strongly about it, towards amending ya manslaughter which is Section 200 kana re amend 202 that defines murder. E ya gagwe Madam Speaker, I still believe gore batho ba ka re tshega ba botsa gore, Palamente e o raya gore e na le diagente tse di tshwanang le bo Mme Dow, e bo e baakanya molao in this fashion, batho ba ka re tshega.*

Ke wela ke re, re tshwere fa go sa tshwarweng teng, kana re ngwaa fa go sa babeng teng. A re ngwaeng fa go babang teng. Fa go babang teng, ke Section 200 le Section 202 which is manslaughter and murder. In terms of mabaka a Honourable Kamal a ntshitseng a kutlobotlhoko ya batho ba ba tsamayang ba tselwa dirwe, ba tweng, nnyaa foo ke dumalana le ene. E bile gape le nna ke batla gore batho ba ba fitlhelwang ka dirwe, ba gamolwe. A re ba gamoleng re tsere process e e siameng sentle. Re se ka ra tloga jaanong ra tshwara

kwa le kwa, a bo e le gore kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi, re iphitlhela e le gore ga re a dira le fa e le sepe. Fa re ka dira jaaka Rre Kamal a bua, *to be honest, courts* di ya gore kante le ne le re le dira eng. *That is why...*

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

**MR MAELE:** Wa re ke boelela selo se le nosi?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Hey!* Wena Aaron.

**MR MAELE:** No, you are just a nonentity.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Members.

**MR MAELE:** Yes, Madam.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** 58.4.

**MR MAELE:** *Okay. My apologies Madam Speaker. Ke wetsa jalo ke re, the best thing that we have to do is just to look at those two sections; manslaughter and then murder. In the fashion and form that he has put it, ga ke dumalane le yone because e ka se ke e ngwae fa go babang teng, e ya go ngwaa go sele. In terms of the underlying reasons that he has given; of to deposes flesh, a go reng, foo ke dumalana le ene 120 per cent gore batho ba a re ba gamoleng. Fela in terms of fa a reng re baakanye teng, nnyaa foo I do not agree. Ke gone mo ke reng, ga ke itse gore o tlaa dira jang. Aaron o ka ema ka dinao, mathata ke gore ga a itse gore go buiwa ka eng, gongwe ke ene a ka tlang a sutisa Motion wa gore go bonwe gore go ka dirwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke a leboga Madam Speaker.*

**MR MABEO (GAMALETE):** Mma ke go leboge *Madam Speaker. Ga ke na go bua nako e telelele. Ke bue jaana gore I support Motion wa gago Honourable Member. Tota ke dumela gore bothata jo jwa go bolaiwa ga batho, re tshwanetse re bo tseye re le serious jaaka ke bona o batla go dira. Ba ba tlhologanyang jaaka Rre Maele a tlhalositse jaana, ba tlaa tlhalosa. Nna e ke dumalanang le yone ke idea ya gore yo o fitlhelwang a tshotse dirwe kana nama ya motho, o bolaiwe motho. Ke dumalana le yone tota. A ke murder or manslaughter, ba ba itseng ba tlaa tlhalosa. Ke belaela e le murder ka gore manslaughter fa ke lwa le Kaizer ke bo ke mo ngata a bo a wa, ke mmolaile, ke manslaughter; ka kitsonyana ya me. Murder ke mo ke tswang fa e bo e le gore I plan, ke bo ke ya go mmolaela kwa sephiring. Yo o bolaetsweng*

kwa sephiring, ke ene yo o ka tsewang dirwe ka gore go supega gore ke a bo ke ne ke na le se ke batlang go se dira.

Ke ema jaana gore *I support*. Ga ke batle go bua selo se le sengwe *over and over*. Ke ema jaana *to support* ka gore ke dumela gore fa re ka gagamatsa melao eo, dipolao tse tsa batho di ka fokotsega. Le gone go gopelwa mo ga batho, go ka fokotsega.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Hang on Honourable Mabeo.

#### “EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERSHIP”

**MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE):** Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Mabeo, continue with your debate.

**MR MABEO:** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (DR BUTALE):** *Clarification Mr Speaker. Ke a go leboga motlotlegi. O nthuse fa; ke utlwile o re, ba ba tlhologanyang ba tlaa tla ba tlhalosa. Wena ka fa kutlwisisong ya gago, is there anything under the law as is currently, that preclude anybody found in possession of human flesh, and where there is evidence that they committed a murder? Is there anything that recuse them from being charged with murder?*

**MR MABEO:** *I would assume if there is evidence that they committed murder, there would not be anything that precludes it being stated as murder. However, ka re, e Rre Jacobs a re e bayang pele, ke dumalana le yone gore fa o tshotse nama kana dirwe tsa motho, o a bo o tsere karolo mo polaong ya gagwe. Ka gore either o ne o bolaela motho yo gore o tle o neelwe dilo tseo, kana o ne o le koo. Jaanong le fa motho a ne a bolaiwa gore o newe dirwe, le wena o tsere karolo. Ke dumalana le wena thatathata gore ga ke itse gore ke mang fa yo ke ka reng re tsena golo gongwe ka fitlhela...*

**MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR RAMOGAPI):** *Procedure Mr Speaker. Ke simolole Mr Speaker; ke kopa maitshwarelo mo go Motlotlegi Mabeo. Ga se maikaelelo a me gore ke mo emise, ke mo kgoretse mo debate. Tota ke batla re tseye guidance from your office. Kgang e e fa pele ga rona e, ke ya semolao. Ke tsaya gore ka tsamaiso fa re dira le kgang ya molao, re na le Counsel wa rona mo*

Palamenteng yo o tshwanelwang ke gore a re kaele ka gore re tloga re go jela nako. Re tsaya nako e ntsi re bua ka kgang e e leng gore tota ka bongwefela jwa pelo, re dumalana le mala a teng. Re farologana mo go beiweng ga teng gore ga re re tshware fa kae, re se ka ra tshwara fa kae. Ke batla go kopa gore *Parliamentary Counsel* wa rona, a re fe bogakolodi, *through you Mr Speaker*, gore ba ba dumelang le ba ba ganang, re bo re na le bogakolodi jo bo tsepameng ka gore tota kgang e e fa pele ga rona, e tlhamaletse e le ya molao. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**MR SPEAKER:** Mma ke utlwe pele.

...Silence...

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, I was conferring with the Parliamentary Counsel. Let me give her the opportunity to provide some guidance.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** I will take two so that when she makes her remarks, she takes that into consideration.

**MR DIGWA:** Clarification. *Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Ke re, bagaetsho*, we have just started, the mover has just moved this Motion and very few people contributed. So, may I request that at least not Ministers this time, backbenchers *le bone re utlwe* views *tsa bone gore ba reng? E re fa* Counsel *a tla a tsena, a bo a alela a utlwile* background *ya the views tsa batho gore di lebile kae. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker*.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Nnyaa*, the issue is not the views *tsa lona*, it is the wording of the Motion. The Motion the way it is worded, seeks you Honourable Members, to call the possession of human flesh, something which it is not. So, that is what the Motion seeks you to do. So, it is in order that the matter is raised by the Honourable Minister...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Nnyaa, ikettle pele* Honourable Jacobs. Perhaps the object of the mover is for the offence to attract the same penalty as murder. Perhaps that is the objective, but as Parliament, certainly you cannot call possession of human flesh murder, it is not murder. This is because murder you have to prove the important elements. Where we are, so that we debate an intelligible

Motion, I would request perhaps the Parliamentary Counsel (PC) to assist, so that following her assistance, you could possibly amend the Motion if you so wish.

**LEARNED PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL (DR MASUKU):** *Thank you Honourable Speaker and good morning. Ke tlaa leka go bua ka Setswana, gongwe se tlaa pala fa ke tlhalosa melao. So, ya ntlha may be let me just lay the foundation in terms of an offence and understanding molato. Molato mongwe le mongwe fela in the Penal Code including molato o o bolelwang, o tlhoka dilo tse pedi; o tlhoka gore go bo go na le an act, act is real, so the action must be done by mmelaelwa. There must also be mens rea, there must the mental intent. So, e ya bo e se gore o dirile molato oo fela o sena kakanyo le keletso ya gore o dire jalo. Fa re tsena mo molatong wa murder, similarly as defined, I think Honourable Maele read it, but I will read it again for the benefit of those who perhaps were not in the room at the time. Section 202 of the Penal Code states that murder is defined as any person who have malice or forethought causes the death of another person by an unlawful act or a mission is guilty of murder. There is a requirement that (i) go bo go na le tiragalo ya polao.*

Sa bobedi, o bo o na le tlhaloganyo ya go eletsa go bolaya motho. *Those are the two elements that would then cause for you to be convicted of the offence known as murder in the Penal Code.*

Potso e nna gore *before us today*, a re eletsa gore, gore o fitlhele ka serwe sa motho ya bo e le gore gatwe o nnile le tiragalo ya gore o bolaile motho, e bile o eleditse jalo? *Is that the intent for us to convert the definition of murder to extend it to include that if you are found in possession of a human flesh, you have done the act of killing someone with the mental intent, or is it that we wish to elevate the starters of a different offence to attract the penalty that ascribes to that one of murder? Se ke se rayang ke gore, gompieno the offence that we are referring to is an offence known as possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains which is Section 201 (a) of the Penal Code.*

*Currently the offence is defined as follows; "a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum of 10 years imprisonment, or maximum of 30 years. Go tlaabo go raya gore ga re*

fetole gore molato ke eng, se re se fetolang ke gore, fa o tshwerwe ka molato o, o ka athholwa jang. *Are we elevating the status of the penalty, or are we converting the offence in its existence? This is what I believe is before is before the House today. Thank you Mr Speaker.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, now following the explanation by the Parliamentary Counsel, it is up to you the House, whether you amend the Motion, or if you do not, I may be inclined to disallow this Motion because the way it is crafted, is problematic.

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE):** *Point of clarification. Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Clarification e ke e kopang fela mo go Legal Counsel ke gore, fa ke mo reeditse sentle, go nna le body parts kana sengwe fela; ke ipotsa ka yo o kgonang go tshuba moswi, a bo a baya molora oo sentle, a fa o mphithhela ke o beile, e ka nna molato? Ke a leboga.*

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa gakere Section 201 (a) of the Penal Code e bua ka *possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains*. E bua ka *unlawful possession of, gakere? In other words, mmoshara ga o ka ke wa lefisiwa (charge) because they are lawfully in possession, kana a pathologist mo ntlong ya gagwe, kana wena wa losika yo e leng gore motho o tlaabo a tshubilwe (cremated), o bo o neelwa, you are not illegally possessing. I do not know if PC will clarify it further.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Ke kopa go tlhalosa.

**MR SPEAKER:** PC, I will come back to you Honourable Jacobs.

**LEARNED PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL:** This is in order Honourable Speaker, exactly as you have explained. This requires one to be unlawfully in possession of the products being referred to here. *Jalo he, fa e le gore o tlaabo o fithelwa ka serwe sengwe, mme e le gore* it is lawful possession for whatever reason, if it is lawfully authorised to have that possession of the human flesh, then you would not attract this offence in the Penal Code.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Jacobs, *mma ke go utlwe.*

**MR JACOBS:** Point of clarification. Mr Speaker, I want to clarify this point, Section 201 (a) reads, “a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts, or human remains commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum term of 10 years imprisonment or a maximum term of 30 years imprisonment.”

Mr Speaker, Section 201 (a), I propose an amendment Member must read, and listen to me carefully; I am saying, I propose the amendment must read; “a person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts, or human remains commits an offence ...”

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Jacobs, there is point of order by Honourable Maele.

**MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE):** Point of order. *Motlotlegi* Jacobs, the best thing that he can do is to talk to someone who is going to hold the floor. He is not holding the floor, and if you are not holding the floor, you cannot amend a Motion without holding the floor. *Ke mo thuse gore bogolo a sebetse mongwe* who will hold the floor *gore baakanya jaana*. As it is *tota yone*, it has to be amended, but *ene ka bo ene, e le* a point of procedure, he cannot amend it. *Ke a leboga* Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Jacobs, *tsaya kgakololo. Kgakololo ke yone ele*, amendment of Motions is regulated under Order 47. So, a Member who has risen to speak on a Motion may propose an amendment to that Motion.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Aaron, Standing Order 58.1, *ke nna ke gakolola* the mining engineer ...

**MR LESEDI:** *Point of procedure.* Mma ke go dumedise *Mr Speaker*. Tota re ntse re reeditse ka tlhwaafalo mo Tshutisong. Tshutiso e, ke gakolole *the mover* gore tota go lebega e sa kwalega.

Ke a itse gore ke motho yo o a tleng a utlwisise, jaanong ke mo kope gore a name a boetse Tshutiso e kwa morago e ye go baakangwa, e tle e balege sentle. *Mr Speaker*, fa re ka e bua, tota re e bua e sena kwa re yang teng. Ga o ka ke wa e bua ka tsela e e kana. Ga e na kwa e yang

teng ka gore go tshwanetse go bo go na le bosupi jo bo feletseng jaaka fa *Learned Counsel* a ne a tlhalosa. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**MR SPEAKER:** Hang on before I make a ruling. Honourable Members, *go na le dikgakololo di ka nna pedi. Batlotlegi ba le babedi, mongwe o ne a bua ka Standing Order 47 on the amendment that the Motion be amended. Honourable Lesedi seeks to evoke Order 54.2 so that you defer this Motion. Once we have deferred it, Honourable Jacobs can maybe confer with his colleagues in the caucus. When we resume at a date that he wishes, it maybe next week Friday, then that amendment can be moved, maybe when we have reflected on how we want it worded. That is the import of what Honourable Lesedi is saying.*

The other option is that any Member holding the floor can amend the Motion now and then you continue with the debate. Those are the two options available to you. Honourable Members, *ke bona o kare...*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure.

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, ke batla re fetse e; yo o ka thusang. Gakere le nkutlwile gore ke ne ke reng. *Honourable Jacobs, o utlwile akere.*

**MR JACOBS:** ... (Inaudible)...

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

**MR SPEAKER:** *Honourable Jacobs, ga go thuse sepe gore o ka ngala. O se ka wa ngala, wela dibete motlotlegi, o mo Palamenteng. Honourable Jacobs, ke ne ke re ka Tshutiso e setse e le fa pele ga Mapalamente, le na le options tse pedi; either a Member holding the floor can evoke Standing Order 47 and move an amendment to suit the objectives tse o di batlang mo Tshutisong.*

*Secondly; the other option ke ya 54.2 that o ka kopa gore Tshutiso e, a e name e eme ke ye go bua le bagaetsho. A bo re dumalana gore fa e tla ka Labotlhano yo o tlang, re e amend ka tsela e e ntseng jang. O buile le mongwe yo e tlaa reng a ema a debate, a bo a re Tshutiso e re dumalane jaana, ke e amend ka tsela e e ntseng jaana, e e tlaa tsamaelanang le objective ya gago. Those are the two available options.*

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Jacobs.

**MR JACOBS:** I defer it to next week Friday sir.

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

#### Motion-Deferred.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. The Motion is adjourned until next week Friday. Honourable Mabeo, you will have your time.

### SPEAKER'S RULINGS

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, before you go to the next Motion, there are few issues that I want to deal with, *re bo re ka fetsa ka tsone.* Honourable Members, yesterday I promised to make an announcement regarding the issue for future of our allowances by MPs. Please receive the following guidance with respect to any Honourable Member who may wish to forfeit their allowances in one way or another. Section 4 of the National Assembly, Salaries and Allowances Act provides that "a Member shall be paid from monies appropriated by law for such purpose, the salaries and allowances prescribed in the Schedule." This provision sets out the mandatory provision coined with the word, "shall" giving no exception for when funds that have been properly appropriated by law shall not be paid when they accrue to an Honourable Member and thus become due and payable.

In addition to Section 4 set out above, the specific Clause given the rate of allowance for each Honourable Member, Clause 2 of the Schedule stipulates that, "every Member who attends a meeting of the Assembly or of a Committee of the Assembly shall receive an allowance at a specified rate every day on which he or she attends such a meeting." Accordingly, Honourable Members, a reading of the relevant provisions does not give the Speakership authority to deny payment of such allowances to any Honourable Member on any basis, including voluntary forfeiture.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Le ka ya kwa ditilong.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members, this notwithstanding, we acknowledge some Honourable Members may wish to donate to Government during

this austere economic circumstance. Please Honourable Members, be advised that all donations or forms of aide to the Government are facilitated through the Ministry of Finance under prescribed processes. *Ke yone kgakololo* Honourable Members.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** Ao! *Clarification* eo ke ya eng jaanong? *Honourable Members*, ke ne ke ithaya ke re ke clear.

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

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM (MR MMOLOTSI):** *Clarification. Mr Speaker*, jaaka o buile kang e, ke dumalana le yone, gape ke ka fa e ntseng ka teng. Fa o batla go thusa batho ka madi a gago *or* mekgathlo, ke gore fa o duelwa, o ka a isa kwa o batlang go ya go thusa batho teng. Ga se mo go tlhokafalang gore o anamise mo Palamenteng gore ke batla go ithaopa se ke riana. Mapalamente otlhe a na le *responsibilities* kwa dikgaolong tsa bone. Letsatsi le letsatsi ba thusa ka sele le sele. Madi a jaaka Mapalamente mangwe a eletsa gore ba ka thusa ka one, le gololesegile go ya go thusa kwa dikgaolong tsa lona.

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, le *debate ruling* jang?

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Le *debate ruling*. Ke ne ke le fa *guidance Honourable Members* gore fa o batla go fa Goromente madi, *you go to Ministry of Finance, they will guide*. Ke le *Speaker*, ga ke na dithata tsa gore e kare tuelo e e go lebaneng ka fa molaong, ke bo ke sa e duele. E ne e le *simple* fela jalo. Ga ke batle *debate* mo kgannyeng eo *Honourable Members. Honourable Moswaane* o kae? *Where is Honourable Segokgo*.

*Order! Honourable Members. On a point of order raised by Honourable Leader of Opposition (LOO) on the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2026, regarding a statement laid by Honourable Segokgo on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026, I received the Hansard and the video recording of the day. I can confirm that Honourable Segokgo is captured to have said inter alia the following; "Fa re ka balelela madi a e leng gore LOO o a dirisitse gompiano Mr Speaker, o dirisitse bo P8 million go fofa mo mafatsheng ka business class, a tsamaya ditiripi tse di seng kana ka sepe, mme*

*ga go batle dikgang tse re di bua."* In light of the above, Honourable LOO's assertions are true that Honourable Segokgo alluded to an P8 million figure in relation to the travel of Honourable Saleshando. A statement he has unfortunately been unable to substantiate.

A figure which in reality could not possibly be substantiated as this figure is quite high to be anticipated for the travel of only one Honourable Member. I therefore rule that he withdraws that portion of his statement. *E tlaa re* Honourable Segokgo *a tla, o tlaa* withdraw.

Honourable Members, in regards to the evidence that was to be brought by Honourable Moswaane to my office on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026, the Honourable Member has forwarded some documents which we are still reviewing, *di di ntsinyana dilo tsa teng tse a di tlisitseng*. We will therefore be coming back to this House to give a ruling in that regard.

The last one, *go na le ya ga* Honourable Moswaane which was raised by Honourable Kaizer. I want to quote from the Hansard. "*Le ene yo o reng ba kgaola salaries, o bua fela ka gore o amogela madi a cash loan.*"

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

**MR SPEAKER:** "O batla go raela bangwe a ba raya a re, hee wee! tsenang fa ke tsenang teng, batho ba Modimo ba bo ba sala ba sena madi. Mapalamente, ga le amogele, le se ka la forwa ke Mopalamente a re hee wee! Heela! o *run cash loan*, o a itse gore o *charge 30 per cent*. O jetse batho ba Selebi Phikwe madi, ga go na sepe se ba se bonang."

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

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members, *ga ke itse gore le tshenga eng*. Honourable Moswaane is also quoted as saying "*ke ne ke supa fela gore Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) Government e tshwere go tlhabolola seemo se se thata sa kwa Selebi Phikwe fa mongwe ene a ba charge ma 30 per cent interest, o a bona? Seemo se ga se a siama, ba itumedisiwa ke gore, batho bale ba kolote cash loans rona re tliša to solve mathata.*"

Honourable Members, on this one, the objection is raised by Honourable Kaizer, but no quotations *tse tsothle*, there is no where Honourable Moswaane is referring to Honourable Kaizer. So, I am unable to rule against him on this because he is not in anyway specifically talking to Honourable Kaizer but also when I read through the debate *ya ga* Honourable Kaizer, *ga go na fa a reng go kgaolwe* salaries. I cannot infer that *fa a re go kgaola* salaries *o bua ka* Honourable Kaizer, so which is why I am unable to rule against Honourable Moswaane on this one.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Mr Speaker.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure.

**MR SPEAKER:** I hope *ga le* debate rulings.

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** *Procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker.* Ke ne ke re *on Honourable* Segokgo, ke supe gore ga a yo fa ka lebaka la gore o na le mogotlhwanyana. *So,* re bo re mo kopa gore a ye fa lelwapeng o tloga...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MR PHOLOGOLO:** Mogotlhwane, *flu.* *So,* re mo kopile rona. O ne a ntaetse gore fa kgang e e ka tla gompiano, fa go na le bokao jwa go nna jalo, ke e boele morago *on his behalf.* *I thank you Mr Speaker.*

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, ga go diriwe jalo *Honourable* Phologolo.

**MR MOTAOSANE:** *Procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker and good morning.* Mma re go leboegele gore o bo o tsile ka dikgang tse. Ke ne ke re a mme fa e le gore go ntse jaana, ka gore kgang e go lebege e ama *cash loans* tsa kwa Selebi Phikwe, a se gore o raya *Honourable* Mohwasa, *Honourable* Nkawana le *Honourable* Kaizer ka gore ke bone batho ba Selebi Phikwe? Ke raya gore *you should make a ruling* o lebeletse gore gone mme le fa a ne a sa supa mongwe ka monwana, go raya gore o raya batho ba bararo bao; *Honourable* Nkawana, *Honourable* Kaizer le *Honourable* Mohwasa.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Le Speaker.

**MR MOTAOSANE:** Le *Speaker* gape.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Procedure.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Honourable Members,* tiro ya lona e ntsi. Fa ke ntshitse *ruling*, ba ba ipelaetsang le ka ikuela kwa *Business Advisory Committee*, ke yone e nang le dithata tsa gore e ka *review rulings.* *The ruling of the Speaker is final.* E feletse foo, jaanong lona le batla *to debate ruling.*

**MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE):** *Procedure. Mr Speaker,* ke ne ke re ke kope thuso mongwame. *Tradition* ya Palamente, Standing Orders ke tsone tse di dirisiwang gape, *I think we have offended the provisions of* Standing Order 30. *In terms of* Standing Order 30, go na le tsamaiso ya *business* ya Palamente, *announcements* di tla pele fa go simololwa, ga di ka ke tsa tsena fa gare fa Palamente e ntse e tswetse. *So,* ke ne ke re gongwe *Speakership* se ntlhalosetse jalo *because in my view, we are offending* Standing Order 30, gore re bo re tsenya dikgang tse re di tsentseng fa *in the middle of the session* e tswetse. *So,* o ka nthusa mongwame ke tle ke thaloganye sentle ka gore gongwe re dira *precedent* e e seng yone. *Thank you Mr Speaker.*

**MR SPEAKER:** *Ke a go utlwa* Honourable Maele. Remember the Right Honourable Deputy Speaker had indicated that this will come but *gape* these are rulings. *So,* rulings can come at any time, they are not necessarily announcements.

**MRTSHERE:** *Further procedure. Thank you very much Mr Speaker.* *No,* ga ke *question ruling* mme ke belaela gore gongwe re ka tswa re ne re dule mo tsamaisong. Ke gore ga ke itse gore a go a kgonagala gore e re ke se mo Palamenteng, e bo *business* e tswelela letsatsi le bo le phirima, e bo e re kamoso ke bo ke re, "nnyaa ke ne ke utlwile mo Facebook gore motho o ne a bua ka nna, *now I am raising point of order.*" *I want to ask Mr Speaker if that is procedural? Going forward, can we do that?* Fa e le gore re ne re seyo mo Palamenteng mme re bo re reetsa kwa Facebook, re bo re tla re *raise points of order on a different day, is that permissible? Thank you.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Hang on! I have to rule on that.

...Silence...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Tshere, you had risen on a point of

procedure. I think you can be well guided by Order 53.1. Honourable Tshere, *ya re*, "Subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 55 and Standing Order 56, a Member shall not interrupt another Member except –

- (a) by rising to a point of order or procedure, to draw attention to a breach or misconduct by the Member speaking or some other irregularity in the proceedings of the House," so, it is giving you two options.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes. *E bo e re*, "when the Member speaking shall resume his or her seat and the Member interrupting shall direct attention to the point which he or she wishes to bring to notice and submit it to the Speaker for decision;" *e bo e ya fela jalo*.

So, the reading *ke gore ya re*, "some other irregularity in the proceedings of the House," so it does not say when this can be erased. I think the assumption here is that a Member may go back to review the record as we sometimes do and if in the view of that Member that constitute an irregularity in the proceedings, this may be submitted to the Speaker for a decision. *Ga ke itse gore a mme le a e utlwisisa? Se se buang* Honourable Members *ke gore, fa o* debate in the House and then you offend *nngwe ya ditsamaiso*, it is probable that it may pass them by without noticing, especially those that it does not concern them but somebody may spot that irregularity subsequent to the irregularity being committed and that may be brought to the attention of the Speaker. So, that is the tradition, that is how we have been dealing with these matters.

Honourable Tshere, what I will do is that; I will reflect further on it but the tradition of this House is that if you have committed an irregularity by either offending any of the Standing Orders, *ga go na mo gotweng fa go fetile, go fetile. Ke raya gore* going by the previous Speakers rulings because as I say Honourable Members, I will reflect further on it and look at the Standing Orders comprehensively.

**MR TSHERE:** Procedure Mr Speaker. *Ke a leboga tlhaloso e o e fang.* Gakere *the reading of the* Standing Order suggests that *motho yo o buang o tshwanetse a eme, a gakololwe. Jaanong ke a utlwa gore* by extension,

*o ka nna a gakololwa* even two weeks, a month or year later. So, that brings the House now *gore e nne* disorderly in a way, but I accept that you will reflect further on this issue. Thank you very much.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let me reflect further on the issue.

**MR KAIZER:** *Procedure.* Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker.* Ke utlwile *ruling* ya gago le gore gongwe ga o ka ke wa e fetola gompiano. Ke na le tumelo ya gore go na le sengwe se o sa se tlhaloganyang sentle mo *engagement* e e neng e diragala. Ke dumela gore *that ruling* e o e ntshitseng e, e *set a very wrong precedent* mo Ntlong e.

*Mr Speaker, it was evident* gore *the Honourable Member was talking to me.* Le fa nne a tswa a sa bua leina, jaanong ga ke itse gore seo se raya eng ka *ruling* eo *Mr Speaker?* A go ka tlhaselanwa fela mo Ntlong e, ra bua dipuo tse di sa siamang, re sa bue maina a batho, o a go letlelela gone golo moo? E bile *the Honourable Member* o ne a bua fa ke fetsa go nna fa fatshe. *I am the only person* yo ke neng ka ema fa ke bua ka *forfeiture of allowances.* *Of which the very same Honourable Member, referred to that.* So, it was evident gore o bua ka nna. Ga ke tlhaloganye gore fa o re, ga go na sepe se o se bonang se se ne sa tswa mo tseleng ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, o raya ka tsela e e ntseng jang? *I think perhaps Mr Speaker,* o leke go tlhalosa yone eo, gore *even going forward,* re ka tswelera fela ra dira jalo ra tlhaselana, mme re sa bue maina a batho. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Further procedure *pele o araba.*

**MR SPEAKER:** *Nnyaa,* Honourable Members, *gakere ke le tlhaloseditse* gore le na le Business Advisory Committee *kwa e leng* gore rulings *tsa ga* Speaker, because I think the framers of the Standing Orders were cognisant of the fact that the Speaker may err, and as I have said, I am not perfect, I can err. However, *fa ke lebeletse* Honourable Moswaane *ka fa a neng a bua ka teng,* o kare he vaguely made reference to *go kgaola* salaries. *Ga a nne* clear *gore o bua ka Mopalamente ofe.*

If you describe Honourable Lucas *o mo tlhasela* and then you say Vice President (VP) *wa* Botswana Congress Party (BCP), I know very well that you are talking about Honourable Lucas, and if you are offending the Standing Orders, I will stop you and I have been doing

that Honourable Members. *Fa le tllhaselana ke nna ke le gakolola gore nnyaa*, you are offending Standing Orders, withdraw. I have just done that *ka* Honourable Segokgo. So Honourable Members, *ga go na le fa e le ka tsela epe*, as I say, my reading of the record and interpretation and the ruling may be wrong and you have an internal structure to deal with that, which is the Business Advisory Committee.

So, *tsweetswee* Honourable Members, *a re tsweleng ka Ditshutiso, ga ke batle re dwell mo dikgannyeng tsa* rulings. Our Standing Orders are clear, *ga le ka ke la tllhaselana, ga le ka ke la rumolana*, you may not impute improper motive. You have to conduct yourself in a manner that preserve the dignity of the House. *Ke nna ke le gakolola*. Standing Order 58, *soithe fela, se bua ka* behaviour of you Honourable Members, *gore ga le a tshwanela go dira eng, le tshwanetse le dire eng*. So, it is very clear. *Ga go na jaaka fa e ka nna bulela ditswe ya gore jaanong go a tllhaselanwa, nnyaa. Fa le tllhaselana* within the four corners of the Standing Orders, it is allowed, because as I said, *ga se kereke, ke Palamente, le tlile go tllhaselana, mme le tllhaselana* within the confines of the Rules of Order and Procedure. *Nanabelang kwa ditilong*, Honourable Segokgo, *o bo o* withdraw *mafoko ao*.

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

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Procedure Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Honourable* Segokgo, emelela. O dire fela ka bokhutshwane o se ka wa tsenya megatlana mo teng.

**MR SEGOKGO:** *Mr Speaker*, jaaka o bona, ke molwetse, ke ne ke le mo tseleng ke ya fa Tlokweng, ke tsamaya ke reeditse mo *radio*. Ke filwe *bed rest* kwa ngakeng. Ke ne ke re ke tle ke tllhalose kgang e. Fa ke tsamaya fa South Ring, e le gore ke ya *to rest* kwa Tlokweng, ke bo ke utlwa kgang e, ke bo ke re ke boe, e se ka ya nna o kare ke...

**MR SPEAKER:** Ntsha *mask* oo gore *microphone* o go tshware sentle.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Dumela *Mr Speaker*. Ke ne ke re, ke sa tswa go fiwa *bed rest* gone jaana, mme ke ne ke tllhaloseditse mokwaledi wa gago le mothusi wa gago. Ke ne ke le mo tseleng e le gore ke ya kwa Tlokweng,

ke boa fa South Ring, ke tsamaya ke reeditse mo *radio* mo koloing.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Withdraw* mafoko a le a P8 *million* fela o bo o nna fa fatshe, kana o bo o ya *bed rest*.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Nnyaa, ke raya gore ke tla ke reeditse mo *radio*. Ke ne ke re, ke ne ke reeditse mo *radio*, gongwe o ka e tllhalosa kwa tshimologong, ke tle ke e utlwe sentle, ke ikarabele mongwame.

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

**MR SEGOKGO:** Ke ne ke reeditse mo *radio*. Gakere e tshwanetse e tsene mo *record* gore o nthaya o reng ka gore ke ne ke reeditse e le gore ke ya kwa Tlokweng.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Segokgo, on a point of order raised by Honourable LOO on the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 regarding a statement made by Honourable Segokgo on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026, I reviewed the Hansard and the video recording of the day and can confirm that Honourable Segokgo is captured to have said inter alia the following, “fa re ka balelela madi a e leng gore LOO o a dirisitse gompiano *Mr Speaker*; o dirisitse bo P8 *million* go fofa a tsamaya mo mafatsheng mo ka *business class*. A tsamaya *trips* tse di seng kana ka sepe, mme ga go batliwe dikgang tse re di bua.”

In light of the above, Honourable LOO’s assertions are true that Honourable Segokgo alluded to an P8 million figure in relation to the travel of Honourable Saleshando. A statement he has unfortunately been unable to substantiate. A figure which in reality could not possibly be substantiated as the figure is quite high to be anticipated for the travel of only one member of this Assembly. I therefore rule that you withdraw that portion of the statement.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a go utlwa, ke a go tlotla. O a itse *Mr Speaker* gore *for the past 20 years* re ntse re bereka mmogo, ke go tlotla thata. PC a tle a re thuse le bakwadi ba Setswana gore lefoko “bo” a e ne e raya gore ke P8 *million* fa ke re “bo” kana ke *around*..(*Interruptions*)... Re e tseye gone foo, gore *around* wa teng a o ka simolola kwa go *zero* go ya go tsena kwa go P8 *million* kana *from* P8 to P60 *million*. *That is number one Mr Speaker*. Nnyaa, ke a go utlwa, ke tsile *to withdraw Mr Speaker*. Ke ne ke re...

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa *Order! Honourable Segokgo*, ke eme ka dinao.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Okay.

**MR SPEAKER:** Withdraw. That is the order. Withdraw.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Ke a utlwa *Mr Speaker*, kana mme *Honourable Lucas* o ne a *act*, ga ke itse gore a o a nyadiwa ka gore e ne e le LOO letsatsi leo.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Segokgo!

**MR SEGOKGO:** *Okay, Mr Speaker*, ke boela mafoko a teng kwa morago. Ga ke itse gore a mme go na le kwa ke ka ikuelang teng.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Segokgo.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Ga go na kwa ke ka ikuelang teng *Mr Speaker?*

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, *you have withdrawn*. Ke rile o se ka wa tsenya megatlana gakere. *Let us go to the next Motion*.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEDICATED ARM OR UNIT OF THE POLICE SERVICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS

### Motion

**DR DOW (KGATLENG WEST):** *Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise Mr Speaker, to move as you have already indicated to this House, "that this Honourable House requests Government to establish a dedicated arm or unit of the Botswana Police Service for the protection of Judicial officers."*

*Mr Speaker*, Boatlhodi ke bongwe jwa matshego a mararo a tsamaiso ya puso ya batho ka batho. Boatlhodi bo botlhokwa fela jaaka Palamente e, gape jaaka *Executive*. Potso ya ntlha e ka nna gore ke eng ke buelela Boatlhodi gompieno? Ke eng ke bone go tshwanela go tla ka *Motion* o. Lantlha ke re, Boatlhodi tota ga bo na lentswe mo setšhabeng jaaka maphata a mantsi. Gantsi ba bua le setšhaba ka dikatlholo tsa bone.

Ga se gantsi o ka ba fitlhela kwa Facebook ba re bolelela mathata a bone, ga se gantsi o ka ba bona ba le mo *press conferences* kana *press releases* ba re bolelela mathata a bone. E bile ga o ka ke wa ba bona ba gwanta ba re bolelela mathata a bone. Tota gantsi ke batho ba e leng gore ga ba na molomo o o tshwanang le batho, maphata, mekgatlho le dikokoano ka bontsi.

Gantsi fa re le Mapalamente, re akanya ka *our constituents*, re lebile batho ba re tswang kwa go bone ka *constituencies*. Boammaaruri ke gore, *constituents* ga se batho ba *constituency* ya gago fela, e ka nna dikereke, *scouts*, kana mekgatlho e mentsi *which can fall within your constituency because they are special groups*. Ke tlhalose gore ke eng ke bona go tshwanela gore ke buelele *this particular constituency*, mme e se *the traditional constituency*. Fa o re motho *is my constituent*, o raya gore o go tlhophile kana o tswa kwa kgaolong e e ntlhophileng. Ke tlhalose ka bokhutshwane jalo.

Potso e nngwe e ka nna gore, ke eng ke bua ka tshireletsego ya bone? Tota tiro ya bone re a itse gore ke ya mofuta mang, e e ba bayang mo diphatseng. *Judicial officer* ke tlhalose gore ke bua ka bo Makaseterata, *Judges tsa High Court, Court of Appeal* le tsotlhe fela le e e loriwang ya *Constitutional Court*. Mongwe a re *Constitutional Court* ka fale, le yone e e loriwang eo, fa e ka re ba thanya ba e fetisa, ke bua ka bone.

Kgang e nngwe ke gore, ke eng ke bua ka yone letsatsi la gompieno. Ba ba neng ba le kwa *seminar* nngwe *Mr Speaker*, e o neng wa re e direla o re kopantse le Boatlhodi, ke ne ka lemoga fa ba re tlhathelela gore go na le mathata a matona a a amanang le *security* sa bone. Ke sone se e rileng re tswa foo, ka bona gore ke dire Tshutiso e ka gore ba ne ba bolelela rona re le kwa *seminar*. Ke bo ke re, mma ke ye go atolosa puo ya bone, ke ye go tlhatlosa mafoko a bone mo Ntlong gore *other Honourable Members* le bone ba reetse, ba utlwe gore ba re matshwenyego a bone ke eng, e bile a go ka dirwa sengwe gore re ba sireletse.

Re ne ra utlwa dikgang tse di neng di ngomola pelo, Makaseterata mongwe a tlhalosa gore *court* ya gagwe e ntse jang, go motlhofo jang go tsena mo go yone. O ne a diragalelwa ke tiro e e ntseng jang a ne a sekisa mongwe. E se ene fela, go ne ga lemotshega gore golo moo ga go tlhoka tshireletso, ga se ga bo Makaseterata fela, *High Court* le *Court of Appeal*. Ke tle ka kang e

gore, re tle go e lebelela, re ipotsa gore a mme go ka se ke ga nna lekalana le le itebagantseng le itshireletso ya bone. Go supagetse gore ga ba a sireletsega kwa tirong, mo mebileng, kwa medirong le kwa malwapeng. Go na le tshireletso fale le fale, mme ga e a tlala. Ke eng ke re, go nne le lekalana le le ikemetseng ka nosi kana le le *dedicated*? Fa o dira tiro e o e dirang letsatsi le letsatsi o itse gore o golela fa, o e dira ka botswapelo. Lekalana leo le a gola, le a natlafala, e bile le simolola go lebelela dilo tse dingwe tse e leng gore gongwe fa e le gore o a tsena o a feta, ga o ka ke wa di bona.

Fa re bua ka tshireletso, lantlha fa e le gore re a dumalana Tona, ga e ka ke ya re fela kamoso a bo a re mma ke dirise komiti kana lekalana leo. O tlaa simolola a sekaseka, a dira a *thorough assessment* e tletseng gore tota tshireletso e tlhabela kwa kae. A gompiano jaana fa motho yo o botlhabetsi a ka ya kwa Broadhurst Magistrate Court, a o ka kgona go tsena ka *gate*? O tlele go emisiwa ke eng. A fa a ka fetelela, o ka kgona go tsena mo *court* ya motho, o tlele go emisiwa ke eng? A fa a fetelela o ka mo sala morago, o tlaa emisiwa ke eng? Dilo tse a bo a di lebelela a ipotsa gore se se tlhokafalang ke eng. Dilo tsotlhe ga di ka ke tsa tla ka letsatsi le le lengwefela gape ka mabaka a farologanyeng. Lantlha, o tshwanetse a ithute gore tota botlhabetsi bo fa kae, re ka mo araba jang? La bobedi, madi a a tlileng go dirisiwa, a tshwanetse go nna *budgeted for* sentle, gore re tlele go a tsaya kae, re baakanya fa kae, fa gongwe re beela fa kae?

Kwa *seminar* ya teng, ke ne ka fa sekai se ke tsayang gore ke ka se fa gape gompiano gore ke eng ke bona go tlhokafala gore tota *Judge, Judiciary* le Makaseterata ba fiwe tshireletso e e gaisang *an average member of the public*. Go gantsi o kगतlhana le *Judges in shops and queues* kwa le kwa, mme go sena sepe se se ba thusang gore ba se ka ba sukasukana le batho. Ga ke dumele gore a Makaseterata kana *Judge*, o tshwanetse a ikopakopele gore a mphete kana a fete kgaitadiake. A a bo o tlotla maemo ao, ka gore fa o kgarametsana mo moleng le *Judge* kana Makaseterata, o kgarametsana le *position*, e seng le motho fela. Dilo tse go tlhokafala gore re di lebelele.

Se go ka simololwang ka sone fela *basically Mr Speaker*, ke an Identity Card (ID) e e *special to officer* a ntse jalo. Mo e leng gore fa a tsena a tlele go shafatsa le fa e le *licence*, o a ikopela gore a ye kwa pele, go bo go nna

gotwe mo fetiseng. Go tshwanetse go bo go na le *system* nngwe e e leng gore fa a supa ID e, go tlaa supafala gore motho yo ga a tshwanela go sukasukana le ene, ka gore golo moo go tsuolula maemo a gagwe. Fa a omana le nna, go tsoulola maemo a gagwe. Go ka simololwa ka *something basic as that*.

Go ka simolola jaaka ke setse ke tlhalositse gore, go mothofo jang go tsena kwa ba berekelang teng, go ba tlhasela kwa malwapeng a bone jaaka ke bua jalojalo.

Le ka botsa gore, go diragala kwa mafatsheng afe? Boammaaruri ke gore, fa le ka kanoka, le tlaa fitlhela e le gore ga ke bue selo se se sa dirwang gope. Boammaaruri ke gore, ke e tle ke re, mo Botswana fa e le gore ga re na dilo dingwe, ga se gore mongwe o a gana kana ga a na kelelelo. Ke gore, *we have grown organically*. Go na le maphata a mangwe a a neng a ntse a seyo lantlha ka *independence*, kgantele ra bona botlhokwa jwa one, ra nna ra a tsenya. Fa o ntse o gola o lebelela fa o leng teng, o a ipotsa gore ke ka baakanya fa kae, ke ka godisa fa kae. Boammaaruri ke gore, fa e le gore o na le a *dedicated unit* e e ntseng jalo, e tlele go ithuta thata gore tota fela gantsi botlhabetsi bo fa kae. E tlele go ithuta thata gore, gompiano go na le dilo tse dingwe tse di neng di seyo dingwaga tse di fetileng, *online protection* ya bo *Magistrate, Judicial officers*, di ithuta ka *personal protection* ya motho ka gore mapodise a rona ga se gore ba ithutile *protection of a person*. Ba ithutile bopodise jwa go tlhlotlhomisa jalojalo.

O simolola tiro ya gago o golela mo go yone, e gola le wena. Kamoso o kgona go dira dilo tse di fetang jaaka fa e le gore o a tlišiwa. Ke gore *officer* yo o tlhokometseng *Judge*, ga a tshwanela gore e bo e le yo o itayang lelati gararo, a bo a re, "*all rise in court*" fela. Ke yo e kareng fa a le mo diphatseng, ka boammaaruri a mo sireletsa. Kwa mafatsheng a mangwe *for example; Judges* di kgweediwa ke mapodise *or intelligence officer*. *Even* tiro e ya go kgweetsa, gantsi o fitlhela e le lepodise, kana *protection officer or intelligence officer* ka gore ba tswa mo sepodiseng seo. Tiro ya gagwe e a bo e le go mo tlhokomela ka go mo kgweetsa le ka *personal protection*. Ke dilo tse re ka di lebelelang *to double like maybe* babereki ba ba berekang gone koo jalojalo.

Tota fela ka bokhutshwane, ga ke bone gore a ke sepe se se ka ntshang mokola. Ke selo se re ka se lebelelang, re ipotsa gore, a mme fa re bona fa re leng teng... fa gongwe

re se ka ra leta gore sengwe se diragale. *Magistrates* ba a bua gore, dilo di a diragala, mme re se ka ra leta gore di diragale. Ke sa reye gore ga go na *protection completely*, ka re, *let us beef it up and not only that*, a batho ba teng e nne tiro ya bone, *Chief Justice* a itse gore *these are my protection officers*. Ba itse gore *training* e ke ka ba e neelang, ke e gotweng mang. Ba itse gore fa e le gore go na le fa go tlaelang teng, *training* e re ka e tlisang ke ya mofuta mang. Fa e le gore go tlaela batho, go nne le lephata le le ka fa tlase ga Boatlhodi, ka gore ke bone ba itseng matshwenyego le mathata a bone.

Kwa bofelong, ke tlaa se ke ke tseye nako yotlhe, tota boammaaruri ke gore, fa re bua ka *security*, re bua ka *access and control into the court house itself*. Re bua ka *the access and control to the chamber itself*. Re bua ka *the personal security in terms of a home, work and motor vehicle*. Re bua ka *even in public spaces*, mo e leng gore fa re tlogela go ntse jaana, kgantele re tlaa itshwara melomo. Ke selo se e leng gore ga se a tshwanela go tura mo go kalokalo. mme fela *...(inaudible)... police position*, re tlaa golela mo go yone, e re dumelang gore go nne le lekalana le le *dedicated*, le le itebagantseng le Boatlhodi le itshireletso ya bone.

*Lastly*, mma ke le fe *example* ka nako ya COVID, ke ne ka e fa gape kwa *seminar* ya teng, go ne go se sepitlaganyane batho ba kentiwa, ba bangwe ba tsenngwa dilo mo nkong *being tested*. *I went to a vaccination centre* ke fitlhela e le gore go ne go supafala gore *beforehand* tota fela ka boammaaruri, go ne go na le thulaganyo ya gore *Judges* dingwe di tlaa tla di kentiwa gone foo. Fa ba tla ba le segopanyana gone foo, go sena *any officer* kwa pele ga bone, *there might be an officer* go raya gore o ne a sa apara, *so a sa itshupe*. *So*, ke fa go le modumo gotwe, “jaanong ba ke bomang, ba a re tsenelela.” Fa go ne go na le *system* fela e e siameng, o ne o ka fitlhela e le gore kgantele ga ba itse gore a ba ipuelele gore ke *Judges*. Ke gore maemo a motho, ke e tle ke re maemo a gago *Honourable Speaker*, a dira gore ke se ka ka lwela le wena kgorwana. Maemo a gago *Minister*, ke se ka ka lwela le wena kgorwana, ke itse fa ke tsamayang teng.

Motho a itse fa a tsamayang teng, gore a maemo a sirelediwe gore re se ka ra lwela dikgorwana le bone, mme gape re itse gore ba dira tiro e e botlhabetsi. Ba sekisa dirukutlhi, *decide cases* gore ke tseela motsadi

yo ngwana ke mo neela yo, kana ke tsaya ngwana ke mo neela yo o ka fa, mo go diragalang gore motho a ba tenegele, a bo nako nngwe a tle *to retaliate* gongwe go le kwa lesong, lenyalong, kana mo mmileng. A re baakanyetse dilo tse e re fa re ntse re dira ditlhabololo re ya kwa pele, re ipotse gore a e ne e se nako ya gore go nne le *a dedicated unit to beef up security* ya Baatlhodi.

Ka mafoko ao *Mr Speaker*, *I move that the Honourable House requests Government to establish a dedicated arm or unit of the Botswana Police Service for the protection of judicial officers. I thank you and I so move Mr Speaker.*

**MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MR MOHWASA):** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke simolole ke akgele fela gore Tshutiso ya ga Mme Dow e supa letshwenyego ka pabalesego ya Baatlhodi. E bile ke tshwenyego e e leng gore mongwe le mongwe o tshwanetse a bo a ka tshwenyega ka tshireletsego ya bone. Se ke neng ke ka se bua ke gore, pharologanyo e tlaabo e le gore go nne le *a dedicated unit* e e dirwang mo Botswana Police Service. Mo nakong ya gompiano mapodise jaaka a tlhalosa, ba neetswe *Judges*. Tota jaaka a bua, fa a ka tsenelela mo go reng ba dira eng thata, le gone *we will be compromising* le *security* sa ba Baatlhodi. E bile kgang e a e buang ke gore, ke Baatlhodi e seng fela jwa *Judges* le *Magistrate*. Se ke ka se tlhalosang ke gore, nako le nako go dirwa *assessment* e e supang gore batho ba mo diphatseng go le kae. Gone moo, ke gone mo go ka dirisiwang go ka tsaya tshwetso ya gore a batho ba seemo se se ntseng jalo kana motho fela jang, o ka sireletswa.

Fa re lebelela gape mo *Section 6* ya Police Act, e tlhalosa se se ka diragalang, e bua ka *duties, function, administrative service*. *Number three* ya re, “*the service shall perform such military duties within Botswana as may be required of it under the authority of the President as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. The control of the police in any place shall be vested in such police officer as may be appointed by the Commissioner*, fa o ka tla wa e bala yotlhe *Section 6*, ke tsaya gore Mme Dow *is better placed* gore a bo a ka e bala, ka ke motho wa molao. E fa Tautona le Mmamapodise sebaka sa gore ba bo ba ka kgona *to deploy* ba lebeletse *assessment*. Se ke ka se buang ke gore, rotlhe re tshwanetse go amogela

gore tshireletsego e botlhokwa mo *Judicial officers*. Jaanong kgang e e teng e ka nna gore, e dirwe ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Se ke ka se buang ke gore, *every now and then* go dirwe *an assessment*, go bona gore ke mang yo o tshwanelwang ke go sireletswa ka mabaka a rileng. Ke a leboga.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke tshaba go tsena kwa teng, ka gore fa re tsenelela mo teng, re tlaa tloga e bile re *compromise security* sa bone gore ba nne le tshireletso ka tsela e e ntseng jang.

**MR SPEAKER:** *Honourable Members*, nako ya lona ya 12:30 p.m. e tšhaile ya gore le phatlalale le ye go ikhutsa. Ke tlaabo ke biditse *Leader of the House* to move a *Motion of adjournment*.

#### MOTION

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

Question put and **agreed to**.

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 12:30 p.m. until Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

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