

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



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

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

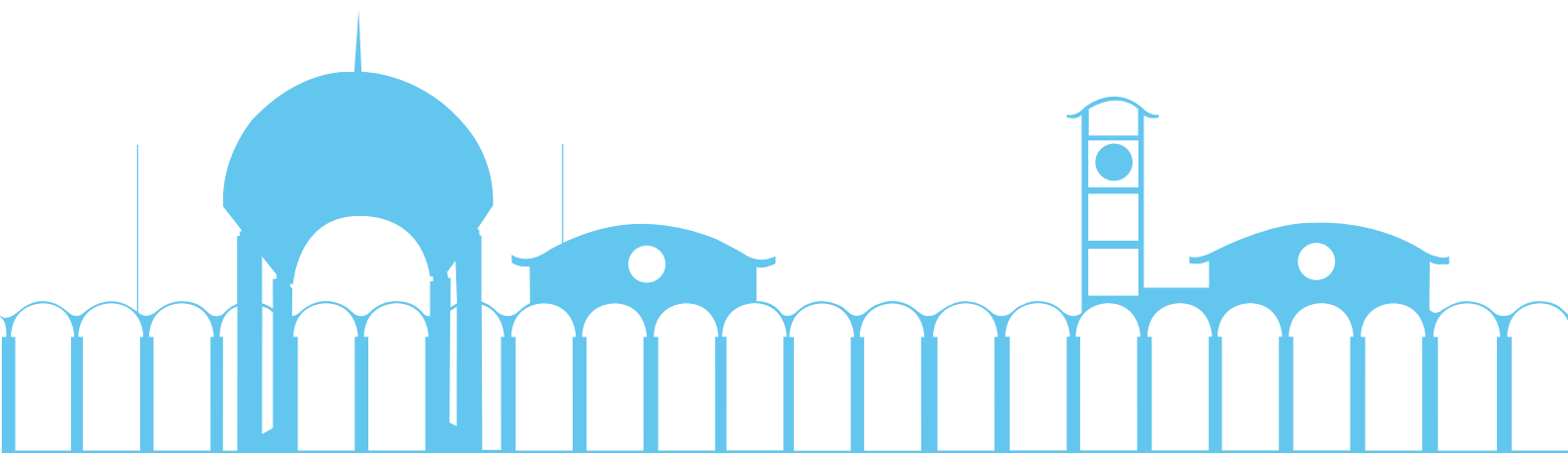
*YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT*

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

**THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2024**

**MIXED VERSION**

**HANSARD NO: 215**



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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	- Ms B. N. Dithapo
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Vacant
Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Advocate L. O. Tlhowe
Senior Assistant Clerk	- Ms K. H. Ketshajwang
Assistant Clerk (E)	- Vacant

**CABINET**

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

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

Names	Constituency
<b>RULING PARTY (Umbrella for Democratic Change)</b>	
The President Mr D. G. Boko, MP.	President
His Honour N. N. Ndaba, 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 South
Hon. S. Ntlhaile, MP.	Gaborone North
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	Ghanzi North
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	Boteti East
Hon. M. Bagaisamang, MP.	Shoshong
Hon. L. Barongwang, MP.	Mogoditshane East
Hon. T. Bogatsu, MP.	Lentsweletau-Lephephe
Hon. Dr M. C. Chimbombi, MP.	Kgalagadi South
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. Kwapu, MP.	Jwaneng-Mabutsane
Hon. G. Lekau, MP.	Mogoditshane West
Hon. R. M. Lekutlane, MP.	Kgalagadi North
Hon. H. P. Manyeneng, MP.	Metsimotlhabe-Mmopane
Hon. Brig. D. Mokgwathi	Letlhakeng
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 North
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 South
Hon. G. Sedombo, MP.	Tonota
Hon. P. M. Segokgo, MP.	Tlokweng

## **OPPOSITION**

### **(Botswana Congress Party)**

Hon. D. Saleshando, MP. (Leader of the Opposition)	Maun North
Hon. K. C. Hikuama, MP. (Opposition Whip)	Maun West
Hon. Dr U. Dow, MP.	Kgatlung 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.	Kgatlung 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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Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

### PRAYERS

\* \* \* \*

**MR SPEAKER (MR KEORAPETSE):** Good afternoon Honourable Members. Let us start the business of today with questions.

## QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

### WATER SHORTAGE

**MR M. BAGAISAMANG (SHOSHONG):** asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement if he is aware of the halting of the construction of a transmission main water supply to Shoshong from the ongoing construction of the 20 ML water tank at Mahalapye; and if so:

- (i) what plans are in place to resume such and when as currently Shoshong village is faced with water shortage due to rationing between Tswapong and Mahalapye villages; and
- (ii) to update this Honourable House on the state of rampant water shortages in Kalamare, Mosolotshane, Kodibeleng, Mmutlane, Bonwapitse and Tobela and the proposed remedial actions as this has been ongoing since July 2024.

**MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR RAMOGAPI):** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a go dumedisa morena wa me. Mma ke simolole ka go leboga Motlotlegi Mopalamente wa Shoshong ka potso ya gagwe e a e boditseng. Ga se potso fela *Mr Speaker*, ke potso ya batho. Ke mo arabe ka gore ke a itse ka bothata jo, le ka konteraka e e diegisitsweng ka lebaka la letlhoko la madi. Ke maikaelelo a rona gore re itsolopanye e re fa madi a tla mo *financial year* e e tlang, re bone gore tota re dira ka gotlhe gore batho ba Shoshong le metse e e mabapi le bone ba bone thothi.

*Mr Speaker*, mo re go dirang mo bogompionong jaaka motlotlegi a itse ka kgang ya letlhoko la metsi, ke yone kgang ya *short term* le *long term*. Jaaka motlotlegi a itse, o ne a nteletsa mo bogaufing gore go maswe ga go na le fa e le thothi, a ema ka dinao a bua ka metsi. Le nna ka ema ka dinao ka tshwara Chief Executive Officer (CEO) wa Water Utilities, a leka bojotlhe le ene a batla

*additional bowser* gore bogolo batho ba Shoshong ba se ka ba swa ke lenyora. Ba ne ba fekeetsa le gone go *bowser* mo go ntseng go le teng. Jaanong ke nngwe ya dikgang tse re di tshwereng.

Go ya pele e le mathata a sennelaruri *Mr Speaker*, go goga metsi gape mo *pipe* e re neng re tsaya mo go yone ya North-South Carrier le ya Mahalapye, re lemogile *capacity* ya yone ga e kgone go siela batho. Re bone gore re tle re ntshe *pipe* e e tlang e tswa fela e le nosi, e bo e ya go siela batho, e sa *tap* mo go e e tswang kwa Palapye le Mahalapye. Jaanong tse re ikaelela go di dira go ya kwa pele gore batho ba Shoshong ba nne le thothi.

Kgang ya *rationing* ke nngwe ya dikgang tse re di lekileng gore ba bangwe ba se ka ba nwa mo go ntsi ba tima ba bangwe. Batho betsho, ke tshwanetse go tlhalosa gore tota go *bowser* ga go a lekana. Fa gongwe fa o tshela gone foo, e bile go a fela. E a bo e le maiteko fela a nakwana, *we shall overcome*. E tlaare kwa pheletsong, re tlaa goroga, re fenyete moleko o o fa pele ga rona. Ke a leboga *sir*.

**MR BAGAISAMANG:** *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Mma ke leboge Tona ka karabo ya gagwe. Tona, mma ke re ke utlwe tlhaloso sentle ka kgang ya *the halted construction* ya *pipeline* e e neng e tshwanetse go dirwa kwa. Ke utlwa Tona o supa gore e tlaa dirwa *in the next financial year*. Ka gore tiro e, e ne e tswetsetse e abilwe, e ne e abilwe jang Tona, mo e felelang e emisiwa go bo gotwe e tlaa tswelela *in the next financial year*? *My understanding* ka nako e e neng e rolwa, e ne e le tiro e e tshwanetseng e bo e dirilwe, e bo e ya go fela ka *August* ngwaga o o tlang. E le gore kgaolo ya Shoshong e ne e solofetswe gore ka *August next year*, e bo e na le metsi a a *enough*. Jaanong ke utlwe gore gone fa go tsamaile ka tsela e e ntseng jang?

Ya bofelo ke ya *bowring* Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, jaaka Tona a supa gore ba bone *bowser* e *one*. Gompiono ke bua ka seemo se e leng gore metse ya kgaolo ya me e le *seven* ga e na metsi ka nako e ke buang ka yone. Moralane, Mosolotshane, Kalamare, Mmutlane, Bonwapitse, Shoshong le Tobela ga e na metsi *at this moment but we have got only four bowsers*, a mme *bowser* e *one* mo metseng e e kana *Minister*, o bona e tlaa kgona go thusa seemo se se ka kwa? Ke a leboga.

**MR RAMOGAPI:** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Honourable* Bagaisamang. Boammaaruri jwa kgang ke gore, go *bowser* go le esi ke simolole ka yone, ke rile ga

go a lekana batho betsho. Ke maiteko a gore motho a lale ka thothinyana a e beile mo lelemeng, ga se selo se se siameng gotlhelele. Maikaelelo a rona a a tletseng a feletse ke gore, batho ba sielwe metsi. Fa o utlwa ke re re tlaa fenywa jaana, ga re robale. Re tla ka maiteko otlhe a go bona gore go ya kwa pele, re tshwanelwa ke gore kgang e ya letlhoko la metsi re e fedise. Ga se kgang ya Shoshong fela, kwa Tswapong jaaka o utlwa re re kgang e nngwe ya Tswapong South ya bo Rre Gobotswang, *pipe* e re neng re *tap* mo go yone le kwa go bone ga go lekane. Ke gore ga go na gope kwa e leng gore tota go a lekana teng.

Ke tsena mo go ya bobedi ya rakonteraka yoo, ke go tlhoka lesego motlotlegi gore ke bo ke go bofelela gore ga se yone fela kgang e e neng ya emisiwa ka mathata a madi. *Projects* ka bontsi tse di neng di abilwe, tse dingwe di ise di abiwe, go ne gatwe nnyaa batho betsho, go kgaritlhegile. A re name re di beile fale ka gore fa batho ba ka dira, re ya go ba duela ka eng. Ga go na se re ka ba duelang ka sone. Jaanong e diilwe ka lone lebaka leo gore e tlaa tla e tswela. Ga se gore e ntshitswe gotlhelele, nna ka tsholofelo mokaulengwe. Le bone ba reeditse ba kwa Shoshong gore mme yone e tlaa felela e dirwa.

Re ikokobeletsa batho ba Shoshong mokaulengwe, e bile re kopa maitshwarelo gore re bo re sa ba siele metsi. Maikaelelo ke gore tota re siele mongwe le mongwe metsi, a kolobetse leleme la gagwe. Ke a leboga.

#### PLANS TO ATTRACT A LARGE SCALE INVESTOR

**MR M. M. MOROLONG (KGATLENG CENTRAL):** asked the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship if there are plans to attract a large scale investor to Kgatleng District and Kgatleng Central Constituency; if so, to state:

- (i) the number of people who will be employed; and
- (ii) other developmental opportunities that can uplift the lives of the Kgatleng Community.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MR MATHOOTHE):** *Good afternoon Mr Speaker.* Mma fela ke simolole ka go leboga Mopalamente wa Kgatleng Central, Rre Morolong go bo a tlisitse potso e e tswang kwa Batswaneng kwa Kgatleng. E a batlang go itse gore *ministry* wa rona o leka go le kae go tlisa babeetsi mo Kgatleng District le mo Kgatleng Central Constituency,

le gore re solofetse gore ba ya go tlhama mebereko e le kae. *Mr Speaker,* mma ke tlhalose jaana gore mo *ministry* o wa rona, re na le lekalana la Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC), le le lebaganeng le go lebelela babeetsi ba ba leng teng mo lefatsheng la Botswana le ba ba ka tswang ba tswa kwa ntle ga lefatsho.

*Mr Speaker,* fa ke tlhamalela kwa dikarabong, go na le ba kompone ya Master Farmer, e e leng gore maikaelelo a yone ke go tlhoma *hatchery* kwa motseng wa Artesia e re solofetseng jalo gore ba tlaa tlhama mebereko e e selekanyo se se kanang ka 320. Re solofetse jalo gore ba tlaa hira batho ba le 320. *Project* yone e e tlaa simologa mo ngwageng o o tlang wa 2025 mo dikgweding tsa ntsha.

Fa ke tsena mo go ya bobedi, go na le *project* e nngwe ya kompone e e bidiwang gotwe Whale Rock Cement ba e leng gore ke kompone e e tswang kwa lefatsheng la Hong Kong ba ba nang le maikaelelo a gore ba tlhome jalo madirelo a go dira semente kwa Matebeleng. Re solofetse jalo gore ba bo ba ka tlhama mebereko e e kwa palong gotlhe e tsamaela kwa go 500. E santse e le gone ba simololang, ke tsaya gore e tlaa re fa nako e atumela ya gore ba re tlhalosetse sentle gore ba ya go simolola leng, ke gone re tle re tlhalose jalo.

Go na le ba Kgatleng Farming Community e e leng gore Bakgatla jalo ba na le lefatsho le le kanang ka selekanyo sa 4000 *hectares*, kwa e leng gore koo ba batla gore ba tle ba dire temo ya dijo tsa leruo kwa Masama, ba dire *fodder production*. Re solofetse gore ba tlaa tlhama mebereko ya selekanyo se se kanang ka 1000. Jaanong fa ba setse le bone ba simolotse, re tlaa tla re tlhalosa gore ba tsamaya fa kae.

*Mr Speaker,* fa ke tswela, go na le ba bangwe gape ba kompone ya Life Steel e e mo Mmamashia, e tlaabo e dira ka ditshipi, *melting* ditshipi jalo gore ba tle ba dire tse di amanang le tsa tshipi. Re solofetse gore kompone e e bo e ka simolola mo ngwageng o o tlang ka *October*. Re solofetse jalo gore e dire mebereko ya selekanyo sa 500 *people*. Ke tsone tseo *Mr Speaker. Thank you.*

#### UPGRADING OF ATHLONE HOSPITAL

**MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE):** asked the Minister of Health to brief this Honourable House as to:

- (i) why upgrading of Athlone Hospital to a modern hospital was not carried out in the financial year 2015/2016 since the then Minister of Health in 2014 when answering a question in Parliament



had said the construction could not be carried out in 2014/2015 Financial Year due to financial constraints;

- (ii) what happened to the designs that were carried out and paid for;
- (iii) whether the contract to build the hospital was terminated and Government had to part with P12 Million for the cancellation and when should we expect the re-tendering for the project; and (iv) whether the ministry has any plans to fulfil that which was promised to Lobatse residents being construction of new Athlone Hospital, as was the case with Sekgoma Memorial in Serowe and Scottish Livingstone in Molepolole.

**Later Date.**

#### VEGETABLE BAN

**MR K. S. GARE (MOSHUPA-MANYANA):** asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to apprise this Honourable House on the gains if any made through the vegetable ban and if the Government has the intention to continue with the ban and to further state:

- (i) how many jobs were created as a result; and
- (ii) the impact of this ban on the Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) loan book.

**Later Date.**

#### WATER CRISIS IN MACHENG AND CATCHMENT AREA

**MR R. M. LEKUTLANE (K GALAGADI NORTH):** asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement to apprise this Honourable House on:

- (i) the current water crisis in Macheng and catchment area being the villages of Zutshwa, Gwathe, Monong, Ncaang, Maake and Hunhukwe;
- (ii) the long and short-term solution of the water crisis;
- (iii) how long has this crisis been affecting the said areas;
- (iv) how long has the Government been bowsing water to Macheng and its catchment area;
- (v) how much has been spent on water bowsing from Kang to Hukunsi and surrounding settlements and the current projected costs, clearly stating the;

- (a) number and cost of purchased water bowser trucks;
- (b) number and cost of hired water bowser trucks;
- (c) overtime paid to personnel doing the water bowsing;
- (d) number of water bowser trucks in good condition and those at the garages for repairs; and
- (vi) why has the ministry terminated the shift water bowsing system which was working well to keep water available to the affected communities.

#### MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR RAMOGAPI):

Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga *Honourable* Lekutlane. Karabo ya gago motlotlegi e telele, mme fela ke tlaa e khutshwafatsa ke bo ke tla ke go e neela gore o kgone go ipalela. Fela jaaka ke kile ka bua ka dikgaolo tse dingwe kana ka batlotlegi ba bangwe, le wena ke go leboge rraetsho gore o bo o tlisitse selelo sa batho ba kgaolo ya gago mo Palamenteng.

*Mr Speaker*, metse ya Macheng e e leng; Hukunsi, Lokgwabe, Tshane le Lehututu ba sielwa ke didiba di le nne, mme ke tshwanetse ke supe gore didiba tse bokgoni jwa tsone ga bo kgone go fitlhelela se batho ba se tlhokang. Kwa ntleng ga go bua dipalo, ke tlaa tla ke go di neela.

Metse e mengwe ya Maake, Hunhukwe, Monong le Ncaang tsone di nosiwa ke sediba se le sengwefela kwa Hunhukwe. Fela jalo le sone se a tlhaela gore se ka kopantsha botlhoki jwa motse. *Mr Speaker*, fela jaaka *common sense* e bua, fa go ntse jalo batho ba sena le fa e le thothi, *short term* e nngwefela ke go bona gore batho ba nwa jang ba lale ba apeile bogolo. Tsela e nngwefela ke yone ya gore batho ba bo ba nosiwa *through bowsing*. Ke tshwanetse go supa gore *to bowse* gone mo, tota ga go a lekana, e bile ga go nke go lekana, e bile go na le dikgwetlho tsa teng tsa gore dikoloi di kgone gore di senyenge, e bile gape go a tura.

*Mr Speaker*, mme re na le mo gotweng ke *long term solution*. Ke yone ya gore metse e ya bo Monong, Zutshwa, Gwathe, Hunhukwe, Ncaang e tle e kgone gore e sielwe ka metsi a a tlaabong a tswa kwa Kgalagadi North, e le *project* e e leng gore motlotlegi e rile fa a ntse a tswetse, a bua ka yone. Ke tlhalose gore *project* yone eo e re neng re solofetse gore e tlaa siela batho, rakonteraka mongwe o ne a ipelaetsa, mme mo go



ipelaetseng ga gagwe, a felela a atlega kwa *Tribunal*. Fa a sena go atlega, a boa gape a ikuela gore nnyaa, le fa a atlegile, o ntse ga a kgotsofala jaanong o isa kgang kwa *High Court*. Gone moo kana go raya gore ba lephata le ke santseng ke le eteletse mo bogompionong, le bone ba supa gore mme kana mo bogompionong jaana madi le one ga a yo, *projects* kana ditiro ka bontsi di emisitswe, jaanong go raya gore ga re ka ke ra bua mo go tseneletseng ka kgang e ka gore rakonteraka o santse a isitse kgang ya gagwe gape kwa *court*. Jaaka le itse, molao wa lefatshe la Botswana gore fa kgang e santse e le kwa *court* ga e dubadubiwe, fa re e dubaduba, re a bo re le molato. Fela mma ke re ke se ka ka e tlogela fela ke re e kwa *court* ke bo ke sa tsenelele kwa teng.

Ka bokhutshwanyane fela *Mr Speaker*, ke tlaa neela mokaulengwe wame dikarabo fa. Karabo e nngwe e a neng a e batlile ke tshaba go e bala ka gore e telele, ke *eight pages*. O kwadile gore *costs* ke bokae, mme re di kwadile ka botswerere fa, re tlaa di mo neela *Mr Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

**MR LEKUTLANE:** Supplementary.

**MR SPEAKER:** Gakere o utlwile gore a re karabo e e telele e kwadilwe, jaanong go raya gore dintlha dingwe tsa yone di mo karabong e e kwadilweng. O mo utlwile *Honourable Lekutlane*?

**MR LEKUTLANE:** Tanki *Mr Speaker*, mma ke fete ka yone, ke mo utlwile *Honourable Speaker*. Mme se sengwe se a buileng ka sone ga a tlhalosa *straight away* ka kgang ya gore, o ne a bua ka kgang ya metsi a e leng gore didiba... bo Maake, Ukhwi le Ncaang ba sielwa ke sediba se se tswang kwa Hunhukwe. Jaanong golo foo ga a tlhatswa kgang ya gore, kana Maake ga a gokelwa mo laeneng ya Hunhukwe, gore ke eng a sa gokelwe *straight instead of water bowsing*? Ke nngwe ya dipotso tse ke neng ke di buile. Ga ke itse gore o raya gore e teng gone foo, ke ya *to studies it* pele, ke gone ke tlaa tlang ke boela kwa go ene? *Thank you Mr Speaker*.

**MR RAMOGAPI:** *Mr Speaker*, tota e teng. Kana karabo e fa o utlwa jaaka o ne o mo gakolola jaana, ke *one, two, three, four, five, six pages Mr Speaker*, e e leng gore... jaaka o bona potso ya teng le yone e le telele. Jaanong ke leka gore ke se ka ka jela batlotlegi nako ke e soboke. Ke tlaa go e neela *honourable*, mme o boditse potso e e botlhale thata, o a e bona le wena gore ditlhopo o tlaa di bona.

#### PROTECTION OF FARMERS ALONG OKAVANGO RIVER

**MR P. AARON (NGAMI):** asked the Minister of Environment and Tourism if he will consider protecting farmers along the Okavango River and flood plains within the Okavango, Ngami, Maun Constituencies from the destructions of their farms by elephants through:

- (i) drilling boreholes in strategic places especially those high up on animal corridors; and
- (ii) adequately empowering and resourcing the Department of Wildlife and National Parks to drive away problematic wild animals approaching communities as and when such incidents are reported to them.

#### MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

**(MR MMOLOTSI):** Sorry Mr Speaker, *ke ne ke santse ke ile kwa* briefing ya ga *Tautona*, that is why I came late. Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Thank you very much *Motlotlegi Mopalamente Aaron* for your question. I do not need to repeat the question, I will just go straight into the answer. *Tota potso ke gore, o eletsa go itse gore a go ka epiwa didiba kwa mafelong a a rileng go leka gore go thusiwe diphologolo gore di tle di tsamaele koo.*

- (i) Mr Speaker, the destruction of farms by elephants is a great concern to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism as it affects livelihoods of communities who are dependent on cultivating lands and rearing livestock. To reduce human-wildlife conflict, my ministry has and continues to drill boreholes in protected areas and other strategic places in wildlife management areas to keep most elephants away from human settlements. However, provision of water along migratory pathways used by elephants in the delta while searching for food and water would not help to resolve human-elephant conflict, especially the destruction of farms. There is enough water in the natural water bodies in the Okavango rivers. As elephants wander around looking for food, they will indeed enter and destroy farms along their migratory routes. So, *tse ke dingwe tsa dilo tse gongwe re ka nnang le bokete jwa* to avoid them. Mr Speaker, the only barrier to stop elephants from destroying farms is electrified fences. The ministry is encouraging farmers to cluster their farms together so that they can be assisted with the electrified cluster fencing through the Conservation Trust Fund (CTF). Mr Speaker, let me also remind this Honourable House that Section 46 of the Wildlife Conservation and

National Parks allows the owner or occupier of the land or any agent of such owner or occupier may subject to the provisions of this Act, kill any animal which is causing or threatens to cause damage to any livestock crops, water installation or fence on such land, property owners to protect, kill any wild animal that destroys or threatens to destroy property. In this regard, lawful methods of killing should be used, and the killing should be reported to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks or the police.

- (ii) On the issue of adequately resourcing the Department of Wildlife and National Parks to drive elephants away from community areas, Mr Speaker, resources required by the department will not be deemed adequate in the short term. The ministry has and will continue to do its best to resource the Department of Wildlife and National Parks to adequately perform its duties. Unfortunately, Mr Speaker, the needs of the Department of Wildlife compete with equally important needs of other departments of the ministry. Mr Speaker, currently, we do not have enough financial resources to meet all the requirements of my departments, Wildlife Department included. We will however, continue to look for resources to empower the Department of Wildlife and National Parks to enable it to be in a better position to deliver its mandate, including driving elephants away from human settlements as we desire Honourable Member.

In that pursuit, in addition to promulgating, enabling legislation and strategies, we are also working with likeminded local and international conservation agencies to build capacity and acquire the much needed resources. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR AARON:** Supplementary. *Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Honourable Minister, tla ke re ke a utlwa, le supa gore go na le mafelo mangwe a le thusitseng ka go epa didiba. Ka ke Mopalamente wa Ngami now to be specific, I would like to know gore areas tse le lekileng go dira maiteko a mo Ngami ke dife?*

Question two; are you aware that migratory routes for animals are influenced by food and water resource?

Question three; are you aware that when we have good rains, destructions to farms are less as compared to when we have less rain? *Ka bokhutshwane ke gore, nako tse go leng leshekere batho ba lemile, pula ga e yo, mo e*

*leng gore mo ba go robang ke gone mo ba ka go jang, ke yone nako e ditlou di boang di tla mo masimong. Ka re a itse gore fa metsi a seyo kwa megobeng di boa di boela mo di ka bonang teng metsi, di bo di feta ka masimo. Jaanong, in short, I must say by virtue of my experience of about 30 years, I would regard myself as an expert in animal behavior, and I know very well gore we can curb this problem, because jaaka o sa tswa go bua, areas like Savuti we managed...*

**MR SPEAKER:** Be brief Honourable Aaron.

**MR AARON:** *We managed to control the situation ya diphologolo between Linyanti and Savuti ka mo go tshwanang, ke dumela gore re ka go dira. Fa o ka nna le nako le nna ke ka go thusa.*

**MR MMOLOTSI:** *Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Ke a leboga Honourable Aaron. Tota I like the spirit sa gore re ka thusana ka gore dikgang tse tsa diphologolo, ke tse re tlhokang gore re thusaneng go bona gore batho ba kgaolo ele ba ka thusega ka tsela e e ntseng jang, ka gore letsatsi le letsatsi ke dikgang tse di re tshwenyang. Therefore, I am going to be engaging you, indulging you, so that we work together go leka go bona gore dilo tse re ka di thusanya ka tsela e e ntseng jang.*

O ne o botsa gore ke mafelo afe a go epilweng didiba; tota didiba di ne di epiwa bokgakalanyana ga noka, e le gore mangwe a maikaelelo a go dira jalo e ne e le gone gape go fokotsa gore diphologolo ka bontsi di se ka tsa ya kwa *because* di ne di baka tshenyo kwa letshitshing la noka. Ga ke itse *the exact spots* tse go epilweng mo go tsone, mme ke kopile ba lephata gore mo bekeng e e tlang e re fa re tsamaetse kwa, re ye go leka go bona mafelo ao. O tlaa lemoga Tona gore ke santse le moshia mo Lephatheng, jaanong ke santse ke leka go bona dilo tse gore e tle e re nako e e tlang ke bo ke le araba ka dilo tse ke di boneng totatota. Fa ke ya koo, ke ya go go tsaya gore le wena re tle re kgone gore re bone dilo tse mmogo.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Supplementary!

**MR MMOLOTSI:** *Ga ke ise ke fetse go araba, mma ke arabe ya boraro. E a neng a botsa gore a ke a itse gore migratory routes they are influenced ke gore dijo le metsi di fa kae. Tota ke a lemoga gore go ntse jalo.*

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Supplementary!

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECENTLY REVIEWED CITIZENSHIP ACT

**MR G. KEKGONEGILE (MAUN EAST)** asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to brief this Honourable House on the implementation of the recently reviewed Citizenship Act concerning dual citizenship and repealing of default position, with emphasis on whether:

- (i) a directive has been issued to districts guiding the implementation of the Act as per the new clauses; if so, when; if not, why not and when will the directive be issued; and
- (ii) the ministry intends to address the concerned citizens more especially in Ngamiland; if so, when and who will be addressing them.

Later Date.

### MAITENGWE POLICE STATION

**MR M. MOALOSI (NKANGE):** asked the Minister for State President to state progress of the Maitengwe Police Station, detailing:

- (i) what was the original completion date;
- (ii) what is the cause of the delay;
- (iii) what steps are being taken to complete the project;
- (iv) if he is aware that the Security Guards at the Police Station have not been paid for 24 months; and
- (v) what he is doing to resolve this long outstanding problem

**MR SPEAKER:** Minister for State President is still not here.

Later Date.

### HOUSES DAMAGED BY BLASTING IN MEDIE

**MR T. BOGATSU (LENTSWELETAU-LEPHEPHE):** asked the Minister of Minerals and Energy if she is aware of the damage caused to houses in Medie due to blasting at the Coal Mine and if so, what remedial actions she will put in place to rehabilitate the damaged houses and further state:

- (i) if she would assure the Medie Community that the fumes released due to blasting are not toxic; and
- (ii) the Corporate Social Responsibility of the mine to the people of Medie.

Later Date.

### ACCESS ROAD TO MMOKOLODI KGOTLA

**MR K. T. MMUSI (GABANE-MMANKGODI):** asked the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to state progress of the construction of the access road from A1 road near Kgale to Mmokolodi Kgotla and detail:

- (i) what caused the delay for the commencement of the road since the tender was awarded to Phangastin Project (Proprietary Limited) to the tune of P111, 498,837.75 through a letter from the ministry dated 10th September, 2024; and
- (ii) when the ministry intends to address the community of Mmokolodi to update them on this development.

### MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR SALAKAE):

Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke a leboga Motlotlegi Mopalamente wa Gabane-Mmankgodi, Rre Mmusi. Ke arabe jaana Motlotlegi Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente gore, kago ya tsela e, e e sa weleng ka fa tlase ga Development Manager (DM) Model ya Mmokolodi *access road*, e simologile ka Kgwedi ya Ngwanaatsele 2024. E solofetswe go wediwa ka Kgwedi ya Lwetse ngwaga o o tlang, *September 2025*.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke ka tlhalosa jaana gore tshimolodiso ya kago ya tsela e, e ne ya diega go simololwa ka mabaka a *contractual processes or obligations*. Go ne go le botlhokwa Mopalamente gore, dikgang tse di konetelelwe pele ga tiro e ka simololwa. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke eletsa go tlhalosetsa Motlotlegi Mopalamente jaana gore lephata le mo maikaelelong a go lekodisa banni ba Mmokolodi pele ga Kgwedi ya Sedimonthole 2024 e wela, fela jaaka Environmental Assessment Act e laola. Maikaelelo a phuthego e, e tlaabo e le go lekodisa banni gammogo le go rerisana le ba ba tshwanetseng go sutisa ditlhabololo tse. Ke ka tlhalosa jaana motlotlegi gore fa godimo ga se, go tlaa nna le tekodiso ya batsayakarolo botlhe ba ba amegang, dikgwedi dingwe le dingwe tse tharo fa tiro e ntse e tswetsetse. Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke a leboga Mopalamente.

**MR MMUSI:** *Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker.* Ke lebogela karabo e ntle e Tona, mme ke botse gore kana tsela e e na le 4 kms go tsena mo motseng wa Tloaneng. A ga le a akanya gore gongwe le e atolose

fela go tswa fa Kgotleng go ya go tse na fa tseleng ya Tloaneng gore e kopanye metse e mebedi e, go se ka ga nna le phatlha e go nang le 4 kms o o senang sekonterere? Ke a leboga.

**MR SALAKAE:** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, ke a leboga Motlotlegi Mopalamente. Kana ditogamaano tsa tsela e ke di fitlhetse, mo go rayang gore dikgang tse tsa gore gongwe go bo go tlogetswe ka fa thoko tsela e ya Tloaneng, ke dikgang tse e leng gore ga ke itse gore go ka tswa go bakilwe ke eng gore ba e tlogele. Ke tlaa bona gore ke dira jang, re tlaa tshwanelwa ke go kopana nna le wena re buisane gore a mme madi a a letla gore re ka tlisetsa batho ba Tloaneng tsela, ka gore ke tshwanelo e bile ke maikaelelo a Goramente wa Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) gore gongwe le gongwe kwa batho ba leng teng, tsela e goroge kwa go bone. Jaanong ke a dumela gore fa o bona o bua ka fa o buang ka teng, o lemogile gore go na le matshwanedi a gore tsela e ye kwa Tloaneng. A nna le wena re buisane motlotlegi. Ke a leboga.

#### TAU MANTHE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**MS H. P. MANYENENG (MMOPANE-METSIMOTLHABE):** asked the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to apprise this Honourable House on the state of Tau Manthe Primary School and in particular if she is aware that:

- (i) the school is very old with 1120 pupils, but only 37 teachers;
- (ii) there are 22 classrooms out of which three are too small and were built way back through Ipelegeng programme;
- (iii) 13 classes are taught under trees;
- (iv) there are no desks, chairs, staffroom, teachers' offices, textbooks and exercise books;
- (v) the school has no boundary fence and that animals roam the school and vehicles and people trespass the school;
- (vi) the toilets are dilapidated (pit latrines);
- (vii) the kitchen has no dining hall and the electric cooking pots are not working hence meals are cooked outside using three legged pots; and
- (viii) teachers are not promoted hence no motivation.

**Later Date.**

#### SUSPECTS SHOT BY SECURITY AGENTS

**MR K. K. KAPINGA (OKAVANGO WEST):** asked the Minister for State President if he has any intention to review the previous Government's handling of the incident in which 10 alleged suspects were shot to death by people reported to be security agents.

**Later Date.**

#### QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

##### ONGOING CONSTRUCTION WORKS ON A BURIAL SITE

**MR S. O. MAPULANGA (CHOBE):** asked the Minister of Environment and Tourism if he is aware of the ministry's ongoing construction works in Kasane which is on a grave/burial site; if so:

- (i) why is the ministry continuing with construction while they have discovered such tragedy;
- (ii) how did they consult the community before commencement of construction;
- (iii) where are they keeping the discovered human remains; and
- (iv) whether the ministry does not think it is proper to halt the construction; survey the site, exhume and rebury the remains in dignity.

##### MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

**(MR MMOLOTSI):** Ke a leboga Tona, ke raya ke a leboga Mopalamente, ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Le tlaa nna le ntse le intshwarela fa ke ntse ke re Tona, ke tlaetse go nna ka koo ke raya ba ba ka kwano ke re ke Matona. Jaanong fa ke bona Mmusi a le ka kwa, fa gongwe ke akanya gore ke Tona, ke lebala gore ba *four* fela.

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

**MR MMOLOTSI:** My response to that Mr Speaker is that, it is true that the ministry is constructing 150 institutional houses on Plot 9478 in Kasane, where human remains were unearthed during excavations. *Ke boammaruri gore lephata le aga matlo kgotsa le aga bonno jwa badiredi mo lefelong le e leng gore e rile fa re tswetse re aga, ra fitlhela e le gore mo teng go na le mabitla mangwe a bogologolo a go neng go sa itsiwe gore a teng.*



- (i) Mr Speaker, let me address the question on why we are continuing with the project by providing a background of the project. On the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024, the ministry signed a contract with Sharps Construction (Pty) Ltd for the relocation and construction of 150 institutional houses in Kasane as part of the Kasane/Kazungula Redevelopment Project.

Mr Speaker, in preparation to commence construction, pre-construction activities required under the law were undertaken as follows;

- (a) The construction plot measuring 8.5 hectares was applied for and allocated to the then Ministry for Presidential Affairs by the Department of Lands on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 to accommodate the 150 institutional houses and three storey Integrated Office Block.
- (b) The plot is part of the approved Plateau Hospital Layout which was to be serviced by the then Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs (MLWS). As part of the engineering design for the servicing of the layout, MLWS was issued with an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) clearance by the Department of Museums and Monuments (DNMM) on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) clearance by the Department of Environmental Protection on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Both studies had not identified any graves within the project area. At this point *go ne go sena sepe se se supang gore go ka tswa go bo go na le mabitla foo*.
- (c) Detailed architectural and building designs for construction of the 150 institutional houses and an Integrated Office Block prepared by my ministry were approved by the Chobe District Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- (d) On the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, the project was issued with a waiver for the Archaeological Impact Assessment by the DNMM as the plot was previously developed. So these previously developed plots *di bidiwa gotwe* brownfield sites. Therefore, *fa o ne o fitlhela e le gore go ne go ntse go na le dikago foo go agilwe, tota fela* the expectation is that *go raya gore* due diligence would have been done *pele* to ascertain *gore ga go na dikgang tsa mabitla a bogologolo jalojalo*. On the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023, following the submission of a project brief

by the ministry, the Department of Environmental Protection made a decision that an Environmental Management Plan should be prepared for the proposed developments as opposed to a full EIA. This was for the same reason that there were some existing developments on the plot, which was a brownfield site.

- (e) The above were deemed to have satisfied the environmental and archaeological impact requirements as per the law and construction was cleared to proceed.

Mr Speaker, regrettably two months after commencement of construction, including clearing the bush area, the contractor discovered the first presumed human remains on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 and the area was immediately cordoned off to report to the relevant authorities, including the Botswana Police Service (BPS), District Commissioner (DC), Council Secretary (CS) and DNMM as per the Monument and Relics Act, 2001 Section Number 19. The BPS concluded their investigation, including laboratory analysis, and confirmed that they were human remains.

Mr Speaker, following the discovery of the first finding, the ministry instructed the environmental consultant, being the projects Environmentalist Consultant, to conduct additional Archaeological Assessment of the plot. The consultant submitted an Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) to DNMM on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Based on the Management Plan and the Monuments and Relics Act, the following recommendations were made:

- (f) That the project proceeds as this were chance discoveries and also the distance between the findings were far apart and this is in line with International Best Practice. *Mabitla a go ne go supagala fa* ka language ya teng *go na le mo gotweng* chance discoveries, *o le wetse ka phoso lebitla le. Jaanong go ne ga itshupa gape gore mabitla a a ne a sa tlhomagane jaana jaaka mabitla a dira. Le lengwe le ne le le fale, le lengwe le le fale kgakalanyana a sa bapa. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo*, ministry *o bo e le gore tshwetso ke gore* according to International Best Practice *fa go ntse jalo, mo go bidiwang gotwe* chance findings then *go raya gore* construction can go ahead.
- (g) That the ministry should engage an on-site archaeologist to immediately carry out monitoring daily and better manage of any other chance

findings which may occur; in line with provision of the law and International Best Practice. *Ke gone jaanong tshwetso e bo e tsewa gore go nne le a fulltime archaeologist on site gore letsatsi le letsatsi fa go theogetswe a bo a ka kgona go potiela, go bona gore a go ka tswa go bo go na le seemo se se tshwanang le se re neng re setse re se lemogile.*

- (h) That trial test pits be undertaken on the rest of the site particularly the sandy areas that are consistent with burial practices of the era. *Go diribe trial tests mo lefelong leo, mme thatathata kwa go nang le motlhabanyana ka gore go itshupa gore go ne go fitlhelwa kwa go nang le motlhabanyana ka gore fa o tsamaela kwa pele go mantswenyana, kwa go ne go sena mathata, jaanong go lebege e le gore mathata a a ka tswa a bo a le kwa go neng go setse go itshupa gore go na le mmu kgotsa motlhaba o o ka epegang gore go fitlhwe, trial test pits di ne tsa dirwa gone koo.*

It is on the basis of the above, Mr Speaker that the ministry did not discontinue the project. The ministry has engaged a resident archaeologist to undertake further archaeological investigations, including extensive community consultations and ensure compliance to the legal instruments.

- (ii) Mr Speaker, extensive consultations were undertaken prior to development of the area as part of the AIA and EIA clearance for the Plateau Hospital Layout mentioned above. The review process for the above studies as provided by the Environmental Assessment Act of 2020 and Monuments and Relics Act, 2001 demand thorough consultations, including Kgotla meetings, and these consultations must be widely publicised in local newspapers and Government Gazette. Further localised consultations were carried out during the preparation of the project EMP.
- (iii) Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this House that the human remains exhumed during the excavation have been handled with utmost respect and care. Currently, they are securely stored in a dedicated room at the Project Office, with materials from each grave carefully labelled to ensure proper identification and preservation. Plans are in place to transfer the remains to a mortuary, where they will be kept temporarily while consultations are

finalised with interested and affected parties. Thereafter, the remains will be reburied in accordance with the cultural and traditional norms of the area, ensuring that dignity and respect are upheld throughout the process.

- (iv) Mr Speaker, as already explained above, the competent authorities did not deem it necessary to halt construction. Additionally, as part of the Archaeological Management Plan, the ministry revised the layout of the houses being constructed so as to secure the bulk of the suspected burial site for preservation, while allowing construction on the rest of the plot. This will allow for the reburial of the discovered human remains at the suspected burial site once the development is completed. This is in addition to the implementation of the Archaeological Management Plan.

...Silence...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Go raya gore re ne ra tshwanelwa ke gore re boele kwa morago dikago tse re neng re tshwanetse gore re di dire, re bo re tlogela *site* e go lebegang re tsaya gore mabitla a ne a ka bonwa, re bo re tswa mo go yone re boela kwa morago. Maikaelelo ke gore *site* eo, go tle go fitlhelwe batho ba mo teng, re bo re e dira *site* gape e e leng gore e lebege sentle thata go fa batho bao seriti se e leng gore ba a se tlhoka.

Gongwe ke digele ka gore go tla go goroga mo nakong ya gompiano, ga re ise re kgone gore ope a goroge go tla go supa gore bagabone ba ne ba fitlhelwa koo, mme re santse re tlaabo re le mo tseleng ya go *consult*, go leka gore gongwe re ka kopana le bangwe ba e leng gore ba ka tswa ba bo ba ka itse ka ditso, ka gore golo mo go itshupa fa e le gore mabitla a ke a e leng gore a diragetse bogologologolo thata. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**MR MAPULANGA:** *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*, ke a go leboga Tona ka karabo. *Mr Speaker*, o tlaa dumalana gore maloba ke boditse potso, go bo go latolwa gotwe *there is nothing in the records*. Gompiano *I can tell you* gore go ne go nniwa fale from 68/78, ba bo ba bolelelwa gore fudugelang kwa Kasane yo o kwa tlase. *So*, ga ke itse gore fa gotwe bogologologolo go tewa *dates* dife *because* lebitla la 68 le santse le tshwanelwa ke gore le nne *fresh*, le santse le ka bonala, o santse o ka fitlhela motho yoo.

*So*, Tona a re ba nnile le *extensive consultations*. Ga ke itse gore a o na le *dates* dipe tse a ka di supang fa gore *the community was consulted*. Ka gore go na le Dikgosi,

baeteledipele ba motse le batsadi *and to date* ga o ka ke wa epolola motsadi wa motho o bo o tla o re ke *chance discoveries*. *I do not think that statement is proper*, ka gore golo foo go ne go nna batho. *So, process* fa a e bala, *it is accurate but is this happening on the ground Mr Speaker?* Golo mo ke tsaya gore *it is either to undermine* morafe o o nnang foo kana *it is a perpetual discrimination* jaaka *Constitution* ya Botswana e bua, gore go na le ba ba tsewang ka tlhwaafalo le ba ba sa tsewang ka tlhwaafalo. Ga e ka ke ya re go bonwa mabitla go bo gotwe ke *chance discoveries*.

Ke kope Tona fela gore ba eme go ye go rerisiwa morafe. Ba simolole *process* e wele sentle. *This de-bushing* e a e buang, *date* ya yone e fa moragonyana thata, mme ba ne ba tswelela fela.

Le fa re ka ya go batla *dates* tse go neng go rerisiwa ka tsone *Mr Speaker, I doubt* gore *there were extensive consultations*. Ka jalo, batsadi ga ba a itumela. Re kopa gore Tona namang le eme le dire *process* e e tshwanetseng, e e tlotlang mongwe le mongwe. Re dumalane gore re Puso ya ditshwanelo tsa batho. Ke kopa gore le eme re ye go feleletsa *process* e e tshwanetseng *Mr Speaker*.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Ke autlwa Motlotlegi Mopalamente, mme ke supe fela gore mabitla a fa a leng teng jaaka ke tlhalosa, go ne go sa bonale gotlhelele gore go ka tswa go bo go na le lebitla. Kana re a itse gore lebitla la Motswana le le senang *tombstone*, gantsinyana go ne go bewa mantswe (*stones*) around, fa gongwe le fa godimo tota go supa gore go na le lebitla, mme ka nako e re buang ka ga yone, tota tseo di ne di seyo.

Gape morero o o dirwang mo *greenfield sites* le o o dirwang mo *brownfield sites*, o pharologanyo. Kana *the brownfield site* ke e e leng gore go ne go na le dikago tse e leng gore di sale di agilwe nako eo, mme e rile fa di agiwa, go ne go dirilwe ditshekatsheko tse. *So, consultation* e ke buang ka ga yone, ke morero o o neng o dirwa le *neighbours* tsa mafelo ao ka lebaka la gore e ne e se lefelo le lešha le go neng go agiwa mo go lone. *So*, ka fa molaong, fa o dira dikago mo lefelong le le ntseng le agilwe le na le dikago, ga go tshwane le fa o ya go dira dikago mo lefelong le lešha, ga o tlhoke gore o dire merero e e tshwanang. *So*, go farologannwa ke molao. Ba lephata la rona ba ne ba dira morero o o tsamaisanang le molao wa gore jaanong fa e le gore ke kwa *brownfield sites*, molao o o dirisiwang ke ofe. *So*, ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, go raya gore re ne ra se ka ra ya *to consult* setšhaba kwa Dikgotleng ka lebaka la gore e ne e le *a brownfield site*, mme fa go ntse jalo, go na le molao o o tsamaisang.

Tota fela ga re na maikaelelo ape a gore re ka *discriminate* morafe ope, e bile go maswabi thata gore ope a bo a ka akanya gore mo nakong ya gompieno, go na le morafe ope o o ka kgethololwang. E bile ke kopa gore Mopalamente, mafoko one a bo go kgetholola, re se ka ra ne re a dirisa ka lebaka la gore ga gona ope yo o eletsang go kgetholola ope. Jaanong re leke gore mo nakong e e tlang, re senke ditsela tse dingwe tse e leng gore re ka bona gore re ka *resolve* dikgang tse ka tsela e e ntseng jang, re sa dirise mafoko a go ka akanya gore go na le Motswana mongwe yo o ka nyadiwang. Re tlotla Botswana botlhe mme e bile Puso e ke ya setšhaba sotlhe, e e senang maikaelelo ao jaaka o bona ke go rata mo go kana mokaulengwe wa me.

Kgang ya *chance discoveries*, *it may sound* gore o kare ka gore ka re *chance*, ke lefoko fela le le tshamekang, nnyaa, ke yone *terminology, the nomenclature*, e e dirisiwang kwa dithulaganyong tse gore mabitla a a bonwang, go ne go sa solofelwa mme e bile a fitlhelwa e le gore fa gongwe a mabedi, a mararo, e bile ga a bapa mo go sa supeng gore go ne go na le *a common burial site*, fa go bonwa a a ntseng jalo, go ya ka *language* e e dirisiwang mo thulaganyong e, go a *two those are chance findings*. *So*, ga se gore ke lefoko lepe la lenyatso, *it is a terminology* e e dirisiwang mo go yone *field* eo.

O ne o bua gore re emise *project*. Jaaka ke tlhalositse ka fa re dirileng morero ka teng le ka fa molao o buang ka teng gore fa go ntse jaana go dirwa *consultation* jang, rona re ne re akanya gore *project* e e re jaaka re tswelletse jaanong re tlaabo re *consult regarding remains* tse re setseng re di bone, batho ba Chobe ba ka nna le tshiamelo e e seng kana ka sepe ka gore kana golo mo ke ditlhabololo tse ditona tse di leakang go bona gore Chobe le batho ba Chobe, ba ka tla ba kgona go bona ditiro le gore ba *attract* bajanala go gaisa gompieno. Seemo sa Chobe le sone se tlhabologe, makgasa a a fale ale le makgakgarapa ale, ga re eletse gore kamoso re bo re tla re re ke Mopalamente yo o ganang ditlhabololo di ya kwa. Ke tsaya gore re ka tswelela ka go buisana le botsadi mme re ntse re tswelletse ka ditlhabololo ka gore ke dumela gore batho ba kwa Chobe ba eletsa ditlhabololo gore di tswelole. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Supplementary.

**MR SPEAKER:** We have done justice to questions. The time is not on our side Honourable Members. I understand that the Minister of Finance has a paper to table.



## TABLING OF A PAPER

The following paper was tabled:

**BOTSWANA SAVINGS BANK CONSOLIDATED  
AND SEPARATE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2024.**

(Minister of Finance)

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members, I understand that the Minister of Finance, His Honour the Vice President, wishes to invoke Standing Order 41 and make a statement. I am satisfied that the statement satisfies or conforms with the whole of Standing Order 41. So Your Honour the Vice President, you may make your statement. You may approach the podium for ease of making your presentation.

## STATEMENT

## State of Public Finances

**MINISTER OF FINANCE (MR GAOLATHE):** Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the state of our public finances by any standards is in an undesirable place, and to be precise by the standards of the new Botswana that we seek, the state of our finances is in disarray. Yet we are filled with hope that this country, this nation is on the verge of something special.

Here is a Government system which once upon a time used to generate more revenues than it was able to spend. Now the same Government system has developed an almost insatiable appetite to spend and spend far beyond its capacity or desire to generate revenue.

Mr Speaker, to be simplistic, the Government has been spending particularly in the second half of this year, at times about P8 billion per month against receipts of only about P2 billion per month. There is no need for a certificate in Physics Mr Saleshando to observe that if unchecked, this is far from sustainable.

In fact, at this kind of rate of financial hemorrhaging, this path leads to a financial implosion of a magnitude such as this country has never experienced. History reveals that this nation has experienced and survived financial or near financial crisis before. We know that this was the case in 1981, in the early 1990s, in 2008 and during the COVID-19 pandemic but none were as severe and as uncertain as our current financial position.

Yet I repeat, that this Government of the people, by the people, for the people, with the people in the new Botswana is on the verge of being part of something special. We are banking on the people of Botswana to

trust us to return this nation to responsible financial management and we hope the people will trust us as we slowly and patiently put in place, institutional foundations for the take-off to a revitalised, modern, deep, diversified, export-focused economy that generates high paying opportunities for every single citizen of this country. Mr Speaker, we are on the verge of something special.

We realise that asking you the people of Botswana to trust us is a big ask and we know trust is the kind of thing that is earned but all the same, we will need your trust and patience to navigate the sometimes painful and uncomfortable path that now lies ahead of us.

Mr Speaker, our struggling finances paint only part of the picture of the many parts of our system that need mending, restoration and healing. Our ailing finances are symptoms and a manifestation of deeper underlying ailments within our system. You have placed faith in us and expect us to be open, frank and truthful with you no matter how inconvenient this might at times be. Allow me to take you into confidence about some of these ailments that bedevil our system:

- (a) Our systems for prioritisation of development projects, procurement, implementation of potentially game-changing mega projects, monitoring of projects, transparent payments and any informed and fair economic decision-making are near dysfunctional, if not broken in the Botswana Government system. They are far from the standards hoped and planned for in the new Botswana. This breakdown of sound operational systems, some of which were once in place has lost the people of Botswana billions of Pulas over the last few years. We will repair, restore and heal these systems in the new Botswana.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:**

- (b) Some of our State-Owned-Enterprises (SOEs) are punching far below their weight, some are insatiable black holes for our national coffers. Some have no boards and are dysfunctional, some have had acting appointments for up to about five years and some are operating without key management staff. This means the very enterprises that should have been generating wealth and liquidity for our nation or facilitating the creation of wealth are

instead mostly a drain on our national coffers. Our job, all of us; this side, that side, among the people is to turn around these SOEs into sound, enduring and nation building institutions that enable and generate funds for our national coffers.

- (c) Mr Speaker, it is clear that the morale of our Botswana Government system is low. Let me take you into a tightly guarded secret and a few people know this that in fact our Government has some of the most talented and finest professionals that you can find anywhere in the world. This talent is under-utilised, under-deployed, working conditions are undesirable and the environment not a flourishing one. We hope to work with this civil service to bring out the best out of them, to bring out the best from what they can do for the new Botswana's transformation agenda as they guide the Government system through these uncharted waters.
- (d) Mr Speaker, concrete signs are increasingly emerging that in the recent past, a new culture of personal enrichment and corrupt practices cultivated by the political leadership brass of the Botswana Government system was taking root but unearthing the nature, the extent and concreteness of it all, constitutes part of the work to which the people of Botswana have entrusted us.

Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Finance working with all other Government ministries is already on a rapid path to pursuing a systematic phased approach.

- (a) We are taking specific steps to halt financial bleeding through the development of processes, internal consultation and deployment of criteria towards the halting, deferment and possible complete re - prioritisation of certain projects.
- (b) We have taken and continue to take specific steps to repair broken relationships, which relationships are necessary to fuel the fortunes of our economy. For instance; we are meeting admirable progress in repairing our relationship with South Africa, and hope even to convince them to be a major market for our electricity and power sector. We are also on a concrete path to repair our valued partnerships including one with De Beers and Anglo American.

- (c) We are taking concrete steps to halt the financial hemorrhaging at some State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) including Air Botswana, with some announcements expected before Christmas. We are also taking concrete steps to stabilise parastatals that we believe are dysfunctional particularly those that are draining our national coffers.
- (d) We are now hand in hand already mapping, with some SOEs to begin, in phases, the building of mega-infrastructure including housing, under a renewed ecosystem and way of doing things, self-funding ways. We will give details of Botswana's plans for building and managing self-funding mega-projects in power generation, transmissions lines, water, rail and pipelines at the next budget speech, with local and global partners.
- (e) We are working to quickly monetise our under-deployed infrastructure (including Government buildings), and at the same time creating partnerships which will begin to create the new global companies of the new Botswana. We are prodding new ways of collecting revenues through Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS), local service charges and through partnerships in strategic enterprises.
- (f) We are on our toes with the Ministry of Communications and Innovation to significantly enhance connectivity, digital capability in the Government system as well as lift outright our capacity in information systems and technological capacity with a view to assist the President's call for an incisive cost-cutting exercise led by a high performance cross functional team.
- (g) We are bringing back the sheer old-fashioned culture and systems of fairness, diligence, and stringent prioritisation algorithms of projects with the highest prospects of transforming the economic landscape of our country, Botswana.
- (h) The President will announce at the right time, how the multi-layered financial forensic audit will unfold in respect to projects, processes (including Government Accounting and Budgeting System (GABS)), Government ministries and SOEs. Once set in motion, this process of financial audit, not even the President will have the power to influence its findings – we are keen as a nation to learn from our past lapses.

- (i) We are also currently receiving and processing promising mega-investments into the new Botswana economy, which investments are likely to mature into opportunities for massive job creation opportunities for all Botswana citizens.
- (j) Mr Speaker, in the end, our current financial situation means that we are not able to afford, in the immediate term, any new expenditures.
- (k) Mr Speaker, we are however optimistic that we will rise as a nation, and we will build our economy together. We are determined that part of this building process will begin to make good, in small but sure dozes, our promises to improve payment amounts to our *tandabala* parents and workers who have been left behind by our economic system. The new Botswana carries many other promises, many of which, with patience, we will more than achieve, in the fullness of time, in a slow but sure fashion.

Mr Speaker, total expenditure and net lending has been consistent with a past decision in August to slash recurrent budget by 4 per cent and development budget by 22 per cent, in response to the subdued revenues.

The outturn for the first half of the financial year points to a deficit of P4.2 billion which is minus 1.52 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Mr Speaker, taking into consideration anticipated revenue collection and expenditure commitments, an overall budget deficit of P18.68 billion (-6.75 per cent of GDP) is projected for the 2024/2025 financial year, if no further adjustments are made to spending. This projected deficit is far more than the approved threshold of -4.0 per cent of GDP, which is itself higher than the long term sustainable level.

Government is aiming to finance this shortfall through various sources such as issuance of domestic Government securities (Bonds and Treasury Bills), drawdown of savings from the Government Investment Account (GIA), as well as other possible borrowing from domestic and external markets, including a facility from the Bank of Botswana (BoB) and the African Development Bank (AfDB). However, I should mention that financing a deficit of this magnitude is challenging, but we have been able to, and we will be coming for authority to this Parliament.

Preliminary data show that the stock of Total Government Debt (including sovereign guarantees) stood at P70.5 billion as at end of September 2024.

This is constituted of P27.2 billion owed to external lenders, and P43.2 billion owed to domestic lenders. Total Government Debt including guarantees, expressed as a percentage of GDP, stood at 25.5 per cent, with domestic debt accounting for 15.6 per cent and external debt accounting for the remaining 9.9 per cent.

Mr Speaker, while the level of public debt is increasing rapidly, it remains well below the statutory limit of 40 per cent of GDP. Nevertheless, we need to pay attention to the trend of rising debt which could potentially lead to a debt problem or even a debt crisis in the future. We must therefore, ensure that Botswana's debt remains sustainable in the medium term by containing Government spending and fiscal deficits.

Mr Speaker, the Government Investment Account (GIA) has declined dramatically over recent years. As at September, 2024 the GIA stood at P1.2 billion compared to P12.6 billion in September 2023. This decline is driven by low inflows revenue compared to high outflows expenditure as Government continues to meet its statutory obligations while providing critical public goods and services and, in the process, reducing Government's cash balances. As a result, Government's overall financial position has also been deteriorating. For instance, the Government's net financial assets have fallen from a peak of 95.5 per cent of GDP in 1998 to -24.6 per cent by the end of August 2024. This decline has largely been driven by declining GIA balances and the steady increase in public debt. The GIA has been on a downward trajectory for various reasons such as utilising the cash balance to cushion the economy against economic shocks such as the 2008 global financial crisis, COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the current global diamond downturn. This is happening in the wake of rising spending commitments. However, it is evident that the overall long-term fiscal trend is unsustainable.

Now, that GIA balances have been almost entirely depleted, further sustained budget deficits will lead to an increase in borrowing. We would need to borrow more which could lead to an unsustainable debt spiral. The fundamental problem which has been apparent for some time but not addressed by previous administrations is that Government is too big and domestic revenue is too low. If these problems are not dealt with, a fiscal crisis will be the result.

Mr Speaker, while some spending cuts have been implemented, this has not been to the extent that would keep the budget deficit at a level that can be catered for

by the current borrowing plan, especially given that the GIA has been depleted and is no longer available to finance spending. The annual borrowing plan for 2023-2024 produced by the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Botswana anticipates new domestic borrowing through the issuance of bonds and Treasury Bills (T-bills) totalling P13 billion. This compares with typical net borrowing in recent years of only between P2 billion and P3 billion and it hence very demanding. With the large shortfall of mineral revenues since the borrowing plan was prepared, we would need to borrow even more, not P13 billion, perhaps P18 billion or more to finance the likely Government budget deficits.

It is clear that if we do not keep this trend checked, then increasingly our borrowing capacity will be strained. However, we are pleased that this Government of the new Botswana has found and we will continue to find sources of funding to finance the current financial gaps, including from sources such as the African Development Bank, as I have mentioned, the Bank of Botswana facility and our bond programme. We are also exploring new avenues as well, including interest free loans from friendly Governments around the world.

Mr Speaker, on the whole, we at the Ministry of Finance are keying on a refreshed and revitalised approach to fiscal management. I will intimate just the few pillars of this new fresh and revitalised approach to fiscal management:

- We are planning to commit to introducing midyear budget statement. We want to commit to a balanced budget in the near future, despite the difficulties in which we find ourselves.
- We wish to commit to allocate part of mineral revenues to savings in the form of the Sovereign Wealth Fund that we have promised for the new Botswana.
- We wish to commit to improving the quality of projections, macro and micro mathematical projections Mr Speaker, in the medium-term fiscal framework.
- We wish to reform the design and implementation of social welfare programmes, and you will see contours of that in the upcoming budget.
- We wish to introduce public expenditure reviews Mr Speaker.

- We wish to commit to introducing carbon pricing in order to guide appropriate investment decisions in our development programme.
- We wish to commit to introducing a multistage project appraisal process, stringent, fair, uplifting, game changing projects should be the projects that should be given priority. We wish to see the completion of a never-ending revision of the Public Finance Management Act.
- We wish to improve the transparency and consultation in the budget process and,
- We wish to revive the practice of using pilot studies, empirical information, templates from which we can scale up.

Mr Speaker, in view of all the foregoing, the biggest challenge facing us ahead is therefore to build a more resilient economy that can be managed not by spending past our savings or borrowing but by cutting back on spending and ensuring that development spending is focused on high return projects that can spur growth. In this regard, we wish to ensure a sustainable fiscal position, it is critical that we significantly improve budget allocations and reduce less priority spending in order to avoid the rapid accumulation of public debt with the risks of an eventual debt crisis. Mr Speaker, to achieve this, the current fiscal situation calls for re-enforcing budget credibility and spending discipline by committing to the planned physical consolidation programme, and that is by cutting spending and raising more revenues in our system. This will help us with bringing expenditures back in line with revenues with the ultimate aim of/at a minimum, achieving a balance budget in the shortest possible time and preferably generating budget surpluses where possible to rebuild our financial buffers.

Mr Speaker, we are determined in the new Botswana. We are determined to cultivate seeds for a harvest of a diversified economy that depends less and less on diamonds. Mr Speaker, part of our solemn task as the new Government, as a nation, is to develop distinctive competencies in new sectors to drive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), to drive export earnings, job creation, skills development and broad based socio-economic development for all our people, the people of Botswana.

Mr Speaker, we have a determined President, we have a determined leadership, a determined citizenry and determined co-political leaders on the other side to



build and transform Botswana into a new Botswana. Yesterday I had a meeting with the President to brief him on some of the things that we need to do quickly, things that we scale up and bring quickly the transformation of our country. As I was explaining to him, before I could even finish what is it that we need to do, he interjected me, he said, “let us do it.” That is a reflection...

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** This is a reflection of just how determined, not only how determined our leadership is, but how determined the people of Botswana are to have a stake in the transformation of their country.

Mr Speaker, this is the state of our public finances, this is the context under which we chart a new economic path, a path to and of a new Botswana. Mr Speaker, we the people of Botswana face some difficult economic times, but like the words to the Corinthians of the old, “we are hard pressed on every side, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed but not in despair.” Mr Speaker, something special is about to take route in this beloved, beautiful nation of the people of new Botswana.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, I want to read to you Standing Order 41.3, “no debate may arise on such a statement, but the Speaker may in his or her discretion allow short questions to be put to the Minister making the statement for the purpose of elucidating it.” *Ke sone* Standing Order *sa lona batlotlegi*. *Jaanong* my view is that, this statement will obviously evoke questions from Members.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Inaudible)

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes, Standing Order 41.3 Your Honour the Vice President, I do not know the mode you want to take. Whether you want to take one question, answer it, go to another one or a group of questions and then you answer them? Which way?

**MR GAOLATHE:** ...(Inaudible)

**MR SPEAKER:** Group of questions? Honourable Members, I shall therefore allow short questions for the purpose of the Minister to elucidate his statement. In doing so... *ke tsaya gore ba setse ba le kaetse ba ba nang le* experience, you will just catch the Speaker’s eye. Honourable Leader of the Opposition, Honourable Saleshando.

**MR KAPINGA:** Point of procedure. Mr Speaker, I am comfortable with the decision *ya gore go tlaa tsewa* a group of questions, *ke kopa re nne* specific *gore VP a tseye* two questions at a time. My problem with a group of questions *ke gore, fa di nna gongwe bo five*, he is not going to answer the question specifically, he is going to scatter around or try and summarise his response to those questions. *Ke ne ke kopa gore gongwe e nne* two questions at a time. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** How many questions you take at a time?

**MR GAOLATHE:** Two is fine.

**MR SALESHANDO:** *Thank you His Right Honourable Speaker. Gongwe pele ga ke ya to specific questions, let me assure His Honour the Vice President* *gore ka kwano ga Ntlo, re tlaa tshwaraganela le wena mosepele wa go aga itsholelo ya Botswana sesha. Rona fa e le gore Botswana o mosha ke o o senang itsholelo e e kgethololang, ke o o duelang dituelo tse di botoka, ke o o fang batho ditiro, ke o o fang batho matlo le botsogo, re tlaa le ema nokeng mo maitekong a lona. Ke na le dingwe tse ke batlang gore o di tsibogele.*

O buile mo puong ya gagwe gore le leka go tokafatsa tirisanyo le mafatshe a mangwe, gammogo le bangwe ba re ntseng re bereka le bone jaaka ba De Beers. Mo nakong e e fetileng, tumalano fa gare ga Goromente wa Botswana le kompone ya De Beers e ntse e le phitlhela. Ba Extractive Industries Initiative ba baya Botswana e le mangwe a mafatshe a sephiri se leng kwa godimo thata mo dikgannyeng tsa ditswammung tsa bone. *Can you assure this House* *gore mo ditumalanong tse le di dirang, ga le ne le dira jaaka Botswana o mogologolo, e tlaa se ke e nne sephiri se le Mapalamente ba bolelelwang fela gore we have secured a good deal go bo go engwa foo without specifics? That is the first one.*

Ya bobedi, o buile gore go ne go na le *personal enrichment*, kana *personal enrichment* ka Setswana bangwe ba ne ba dirisa maemo a bone mo Pusong go ikhumisa ka dithoto tsa Batswana. A o ka bua dikgato tse di papametseng mo nakong ya gompieno, kana wa bolelela Batswana gore le ya go dira gotlhe mo le ka go kgonang go busetsa tse di tserweng e le tsa Pusong go ya go di tsaya kwa go ba ba di tsereng go di busetsa mo matloleng a Pusong? Go botlhokwa gore batho ba utlwe kgang e, gore e se ka ya nna fela bokete jwa puo ya gagwe e ne e re re tlaa leka go aga sesha go batla metswedi e mengwe ya madi. *Can you make a clear commitment* *gore, le tlaa batla tse di utswilweng gore di boele mo Pusong, e le ya bobedi.*

Ya boraro ke gore, mo *speech* sa gago ga o a bua sepe ka batho ba Goramente a ba kolotang. *A lot of businesses* di mo mathateng, ka gore di file Goramente dithoto kana di thusitse Goramente *through some services*, mme ga di duelwe. E re ntswa go se mo *statement* sa gago, a o ka kgona go bua le Batswana gore sengwe se tlaa dirwa go fokotsa madiadia a dituelo?

Ya bofelo *procurement*, o buile ka *procurement*, mangwe a mathata a matona a e leng gore le makgotla a ditsheko a a supile kwa *procurement*, e ne e le mathata a Lekgotla la Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) *at the tenders*. Rona kwa motseng wa Maun, *project* ya metsi a a leng phepa le kgopo ya metsi a a leswe, Goramente o latlhegetswe ke madi a a fa gare ga P200 and P300 million, ka ditshwetso tse DIS e neng e di tsaya. Le kwa *Lands, and tenders* tse dingwe tsa *under Ministry* wa Metsi le Lefatshe wa nako eo, go na le dikgang dingwe tse di supileng gore DIS ke yone mathata. Le ya go dira eng ka DIS mo kabong ya *tenders*, a le tlaa tsaya dikgato mabapi le tse ba neng ba di dira mo Goromenteng yo mogologolo, kana le ba amogetse gore le tlaa tsamaisa le bone Puso mo Goromenteng o mosha? Ke a leboga.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let me just clarify that, this statement is from Cabinet, so I will not allow Ministers to ask any question.

**MR AARON:** Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Le nna ke leboge *His Honour*, gore a bo a re beile pele seemo sa itsholelo ya rona. Go na le sengwe se e leng gore e ne ya re fa ke ntse ke bua le Batswana, bogolo jang mo puong ya ga Tautona le se a sa tswang go se bua, ba rata go nna ba gatelela kgang ya *forensic auditing*. Ke lebogela gore a bo o supile gore le Tautona tota, ga a tle go nna le *influence* kana seabe sepe sa gore o ka laola gore *forensic evidence* e, e dirwa jang kana ka motlhala ofe.

Potso ya Batswana ke gore, ka gore *forensic evidence* e re e dira mo Pusong e e fetileng, *how far back is this forensic evidence going to be?* A e se nne gore Domkrag ke *five years* yo o fetileng fela, Domkrag ke *58 years*. Batswana ba re ba batla *forensic evidence*, bogolo jang ya bo Tautona botlhe ba ba tshelang ba ka ikarabela. *Thank you*.

**MR GAOLATHE:** Let me respond to the Leader of the Opposition (LOO)'s offer to always make himself available along with his colleagues, to be stakeholders in building the new Botswana. I also wish to assure you that in the new Botswana, excellence and merit is what...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Owaii!

**MR GAOLATHE:** Whether *owaii!* you or not, the fact is that excellence in the new Botswana is what will speak for you. Regardless of your party colors, whether you associated with Botswana Congress Party (BCP) or Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) or you are non-aligned, if you are excellent and you can take this nation forward, you will be considered for roles. That is a fact, and that is an assurance.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** You expressed the hope that the age of secrecy has come to an end. I wish to say on this account that, now there are more and more pronounced international benchmarks on what transparency means, and on what levels of secrecy are unacceptable. This Government is committed to moving towards those international standards of openness. In addition to that, this Government is committed to a Legislature that is autonomous, a Legislature that has not only the teeth, but that has the resources to interrogate Government. We are committed that together with yourselves, we will work to a Constitution that will give us a Legislature which will have the teeth and the resources to be able to interrogate issues, including issues to do with our partnerships such as partnerships with De Beers.

The idea of unearthing this method of personal enrichment, do we commit that based on the information that will be unearthed by these kinds of forensics, remember it is nuanced, it is multi-layered, it goes across institutions and years. In terms of timeframes, when Batswana come forward to intimate what it is that they have seen that is wrong, you cannot limit them to talk only about certain periods. You allow people to speak, it is the people, it is those with knowledge, it is those who are aware of things that we are not aware of, who will determine how far. It is not us, who will determine how far.

You are concerned about Government's failure to pay service providers, particularly Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs). The President did talk about this Government being a Government that is Human Rights Centric, this means that this Government has no choice, but to pay what it owes because it is the right thing to do. It is the human rights approach to Government, that we have all committed to.

You are concerned about the interference in the past of the DIS, in procurement decisions. The new Government has said, we are bringing back the old fashioned value of fairness, and by fairness we mean fairness. Whether you are DIS, you cannot in the new Government, certainly not at the Ministry of Finance, interfere on the basis of favoritism. Even the Office of the President itself, will not be allowed to interfere with the old fashioned value of fairness. It is something that this new Government, this crop of leaders is committed to.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** Old things of the past, DIS or no DIS, we have no control on what the forensics will unearth. I will tell you something, and this perhaps *ga ke batle go golega ba bangwe*. I am more concerned with finding the monies that belong to the people of Botswana and retrieving it and bringing it back to the people of Botswana. *Ke rile ga ke golege ba bangwe*, I have no interest in taking people to jail or not to jail, but I have great interest. I will not rest until we have found, and trust me, we will find resources...

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** ...that belong to the people of Botswana to the extent that we are able to bring it back to its owners, the people of Botswana. It is my solemn belief that they did what they did in October because of their faith that this crop of leaders will work together to bring back what belongs to them, and it will happen.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** So Honourable Aaron, I know you asked a question, but it so happened that I have already answered your question as you will testify, which is you were asking how far back and I have answered, we have no control over how far back. When somebody has information and insights about things that happened 58 years ago, we cannot say to that person, *ema pele re lebile e, re lebile e*, no, our job is to be fair and to do things that will not necessarily take people to jail but things that will give us lessons that we must avoid in the future, lessons and lapses that we must bridge in order to lift this country to the new Botswana. Thank you.

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

**DR GOBOTSWANG:** *Elucidation*. Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*. Makgoa ba re *action speaks louder than words*, re tlaabo re letetse. Ke ne ke reeditse ke batla go utlwa

*the specifics in terms of* gore mme gone we will save madi fa kae, *cross-cutting, very specific*. Ka fa o buang itsholelo e ntse ka teng, go supagala gore thebe mongwe le mongwe kana P100 re a mo tlhoka. Jaanong ke ne ke batla go botsa gore mme jaaka le bua gore *civil service* kana badirelapuso ba ka tswa gongwe ba le ba ntsi, *bills* di ya kwa godimo, la reng ka *Cabinet* ya 28 mo nakong ya gompieno? A le na le maikaelelo a go fokotsa Matona a Puso a a kanakana?

Sa bobedi, go na le *constituency allowance* e e fiwang *President, around P20,000* gongwe ka kgwedi. Go na le bo *Specially Elected* ba le 130 ba le ba tsenyang mo teng mo seemong se le se tlhalosang se, le bone le ikaelela go ba neela *ward allowance*? A mme sone se se tsamaelana le ka fa le tlhalosang itsholelo e seemo sa yone ka fa se ntseng ka teng? Ke kopa gore kgang eo e ko e tlhalosege sentle gore tota sentlentle la re le ya go dira jang, *cross-cutting*?

E nngwe e ke neng ke e reeditse ke ya *foreign reserves*, ga ke itse gore ke ka tswa e le gore *I missed it* kae, ke utlwile ya GIA, mme *foreign reserve* o kare ga ke a utlwa, gongwe le yone o tle o re e tlhalosetse.

Ya bofelo, ke tle ke sutele bakaulengwe le bone ba leke dikgang tse, ke ya gore kana Tautona o ne a ile Belgium, mme re ntse re itse gore seemo sa diteemane tsa rona le theko ya tsone o kare e koafetse. Ke batla go itse gore morago ga go ya kwa Belgium, a lesedinyana le a bonala la gore takataka wa gore diteemane tsa rona jaanong o kare di tlaa thanya, theko ya tsone? Ke a leboga *Mr Speaker*.

**MR MONAGENG:** *Thank you Mr Speaker*. Ke ne ke ithaya ke re gongwe ke nako ya go akgela ka State of the Nation Address (SONA), ke batla gore ke akgele ka SONA. Mma nte ke mne fa fatshe, Bakwena ke ba ba ntheditse.

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

**MR BARONGWANG:** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke go leboge *Honourable Minister and the Vice President (VP) for that statement* se gongwe ke ka se bitsang ke re *a saddening obituary*. VP, o supile fa le itemogetse *deteriorating relationships with some Governments and multi-organisations that our economy relied* thata mo go tsone jaaka Goromente wa South Africa le dikompone tsa bo De Beers le Anglo American. Gape re le Batswana, re ne ra itemogela *new relationships* tsa mafatshe a tshwana le bo Zimbabwe le Namibia. *A economy* ya rona e ntse le poelo *unto those new relationships compared to the deterred ones*?



O supile fa go ntse le *tendency of spending and borrowings* tse o ka reng e ne e le *culture e ntšha in the past regime*. Jaanong re tsamaya fa kae *when it comes to our credit ratings?* Ke a leboga.

**MR GAOLATHE:** *Ke a leboga.* Maybe I should start with Honourable Barongwang, and he talks about probably shedding light into how important relationships are with other countries. Let me give you a picture Mr Speaker, in the early 2000s we had two Presidents; President of Botswana at the time, President Mogae and President Mbeki who had an extraordinary relationship. At the same time simultaneously, the then Minister of Finance, whose surname I share, Mr Speaker, had an extraordinary relationship with the then Minister of Finance, Trevor Manuel. Do you know what this relationship was able to do? This relationship was able to secure power purchase agreements for the Botswana Government of a quantum exceeding 3,000 megawatts, South Africa was ready to buy 3,000 megawatts as a start of power generated by our Morupule. Just as we were about to approach benefiting from those power purchase agreements, the relationship between the two countries fell and the South Africans cut the deal, and it meant Botswana was not able to realise the benefits of these power purchase agreements which ultimately could have actually given Botswana more money than we actually get from diamonds, just because of bad relationships.

What we are saying, in the new Botswana is that it is time for us to build and rebuild to restore and to heal these relationships. We are not theorising; we have started the process. I have already met my counterpart, the Minister of Finance, Mr Godongwana in South Africa. We have already as the people of Botswana through myself put forward a pleading to revive those, not only the relationship, but also specifically the market for power. In principle, South Africa is already looking at it. I am not theorising, you were talking about actions speak louder than words. The actions of a new Botswana have already put in motion a process for South Africa to be a market for our power.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** If Botswana secures those power purchase agreements, and those power generation plants are built in Botswana, those alone will transform the economy of Botswana before we even go anywhere. So, the importance of good relationships with other countries can never be overstated. You also asked about

the recent relationships with Zimbabwe in particular and Namibia. I want to say to you that there is so much that this country can actually learn from Zimbabwe and Namibia. I will give an example Mr Speaker. Do you know that Zimbabwe is the only African economy at some stage to have achieved a manufacturing base of more than 30 per cent of GDP? That is the standard of western countries. The ability of a nation to reach that level must not be underestimated; we have a lot to learn from them. Do you have an idea how they have been able to lift the productivity of their agriculture and diversify their agriculture for export; tobacco and maize? They have done what most African countries are not able to do, we have a lot to learn from the Zimbabweans.

So, we in the new Botswana believe that relationships with other countries are so important, they are an integral part of our plan, ambition and aspiration to transform our economy as Botswana.

In terms of credit ratings, there are all sorts of credit ratings, but suffice to say, only Mauritius is at our level. There is no other country on the African continent at those levels, depending on the institution that is rating us.

Honourable Member of Parliament, Dr Gobotswang, you indicate that you missed specificity around exactly what are those measures that would assist us with cost saving. In fact, that is not the case, I have been specific. I will repeat myself, but before I repeat myself, suffice also to indicate that in the State of the Nation Address (SONA), the President was also specific about the areas that we will be looking to save costs and that in fact there will be a high performance cross-functional team looking into that and he was specific.

The amount of money that we spend on technologies and licences, there is opportunity there in some areas, not all to go and open source. The amount of money that we spend still on technological and licence systems that we spend on large companies maintaining these systems, we do not need to. We have so many young people, so many students who are able to maintain. They have the technological aptitude and only need to be trained and in fact, there will be a process, a map to map how exactly this would be done. This would be the same as well in areas such as the maintenance of the Government fleet. No need to give it to the large multinationals when local artisans, local young people can provide these kinds of services if they are organised in a wise, organised and progressive way. These things can be done.

We gave the example of parastatals that are black holes. In Physics, black hole means putting something that you never see, it is gone. The way these parastatals are spending and spending money, we even gave you the example of Air Botswana and I said there is going to be a specific announcement of how we will assist it with the capacity. We are doing things differently this time, you are not going to hear open tender, this, this, that. We are using the excellence of people already in the system, that we know can create the capacity and capabilities to restructure and reorganise some of these organisations. It is not just Air Botswana, you will find that we are going to do the same with Botswana Meat Commission (BMC). You are going to see some of the amazing work that we are going to do with Botswana Savings Bank (BSB). BSB is going to embark on a project that I know the people of Botswana will never forget this new Government about.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** This, I promise you, what will come out of BSB and what we are discussing with them and what we are moving ahead with and with what the President said when I was trying to explain to him, saying, let us do it, there is so much that we are going to do in the reorganisation and restructuring of parastatals. We are going to lift the infrastructure, create global companies, improve efficiencies in our economy and lift the upskilling of our people. We are going to do amazing things with our public enterprises, which are now cash drains on our budget.

Then you express a legitimate concern. You asked the question, what about allowances paid to the President and many people who are being appointed Specially Elected Councillors? This is what democracy is about and this is what I like to see Dr Gobotswang, standing up for his nation and saying this is not the path that I would like for our country, this is my preferred path. This is what we are supposed to do, this is what we are about. We should also keep in mind that democracy by its nature is expensive, but it is noted what your preferences are. I am sure in the new Botswana those things will be discussed, they will be debated on and collective decisions will be made.

*Rre* Boko's visit to Belgium, I have just talked about, it is amazing what relationships with other countries and relationships with entities in general can do in the transformation journey of any country. That visit alone, maybe let me step back a little bit. Markets; financial

markets, commodity markets behave in very strange ways. They do not behave the way you and I behave. Even without knowing what is happening in Botswana, markets believe that there is a problem around diamonds in Botswana. The markets do not know what the problem is but they know there is a problem and they react. They say as long as there is that problem, we are not going to buy diamonds or we are not going to spend that much money buying diamonds, or we are going to spend more of our money buying lab-grown diamonds instead of natural diamonds. As soon as they see the miracle; the miracle that has been caused by the ordinary people of Botswana bringing about a new miracle Government, the market do not care who is doing what in the new Government. They can see that there is a new Government, they see that something is happening, they do not know what it is but they think something good is happening and once they smell that something good is happening, once they smell something special is happening, they change. They say because something good is happening, we will begin to look into buying diamonds. That is how markets are like and that is what we are beginning to see but it will take time.

The fact is what has happened in Botswana has enhanced the perception around the world about this nation. Not just about the leadership, but it is has enhanced everything about Botswana; about those who are in power, the opposition and the people of Botswana. Whatever it is, it is a good thing. Whatever good thing it is, it is good for our diamonds and we are beginning to see *matlhasedi a simolola go iponatsa* that something good might take rule.

Foreign reserves; we were talking about the GIA. It is not really an investment account, that is just a name. It is far from being an investment account, it is actually a cash balance of the Government of Botswana with the Bank of Botswana. Now the foreign reserves, reserves belong to not just the Government of Botswana, Government money is in there, your money is in there, everybody's money is there. The reserves have deteriorated but they are still at about eight months of import cover which is still better than most countries but it is far below what Botswana traditionally was able to sustain as import cover.

I have noted your words that words alone mean nothing if they are not followed by action. In fact, that is a maxim even of the Bible and that we embrace. That is

why I am proud that this side and that side will not only feed the people of Botswana with words but that we will act but even prouder that we have started acting. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** My wish is that we end this at 16:30. So I will take Honourable Segokgo, Honourable Lucas and Honourable Kekgonegile, and I will close.

**MR SEGOKGO:** Thank you very much Mr Speaker, ke bo ke go leboge the Vice President (VP) ka *that class of economics*. Ke dumela jaaka o ne o tlhalosa gore ka kwa go na le *hope* ya gore dilo di tlaa siama.

Ke *hopeful* ka gore ba World Economic Outlook ba supa jalo gore United States (US) *economy* e tlaa gola ka 2.7 per cent, then the Goldman Sachs ba supa gore the South African *economy* le fa e le kwa tlasenyana, e tlaa gola between 1.1 per cent and 1.5 per cent mme the World Economic Outlook e tlaa gola ka 3.1 per cent. Golo moo go mpha *hope* because kana *our economy depends* mo the external shocks tse e leng gore fa le *global economic* e tokafala, le rona gongwe re tlaa felela re tokafala.

Ke ne ke kopa dilonyana di le pedi fela VP gore *we have* diofisi tsa rona tsa *Ambassadors* kwa ntle, ba e leng gore fa gongwe tiro ya bone fela ke gone gore fa gotwe *Minister* o teng, e bo e nna tiro ya bone fela. *I think we should just change those Embassies and Consular offices*, di bereke go tlisa these Foreign Direct Investors (FDI) mo lefatsheng la Botswana. E bile *as we do the Performance Management Reviews* tsa rona, *our Ambassadors* le *High Commissioners* ba supe gore ba tlisitse *how much in terms of FDI* mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ba se ka ba emela gore go bo gotwe go na le *conference* kwa America kana *Minister* o ya phuthegong kwa Australia, e bo ba tabogela fela go ya kwa *airport* gotwe ke tiro ya bone.

Kgang e ya gore ba bo ba bereka *from 9:00 to 12:00* le yone e tshwanetse gore e eme. Ke *leakages* tse re buang ka tsone mme e le gore *they are paid a lot of money*.

Sengwe se re tshwanetseng go se ela tlhoko gape VP, ke *issue* ya go palelwa ke go *collect rates* kwa dikhanseleng. *I think in 2015* go ne ga tla *Bill* mo Palamenteng e e neng e supa gore go ka tsewa *rates* ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Tlokweng *for example*; kana *we have so many manufacturing plants and businesses that operate* kwa Tlokweng mme go sa le gotwe Attorney General's Chambers (AGCs) ba dira *guidelines* tsa gore go ka tsewa *rates* ka tsela e e ntseng jang. *You will be shocked*

*gore the business community are eager and hankering to contribute* ka go *duela rates*. *So if we can expedite that process*, re ka felela e le gore re thusa *collection* ya gago gore re tle re kgone *to collect*.

*The other aspect* gape e ke e dirang, ke a utlwa, *you are putting up a strategy direction* ya lefatshe la Botswana. *I believe in you pragmatic ideology*, o a itse gore nna le wena re a dumalana, *we do not focus on classical or liberal economics, we focus on the situation right now*. *As we go into gone* kwa re batlang go ya teng VP, *we need to look into our team of technocrats* gore a mme ke batho ba ba dumalanang le wena *in the journey* e o batlang go e tsaya. *As we speak, we have people* ba e leng gore go tsewetse go a hirwa; ke raya le ka nako yone e, yo mongwe o baya monwana lekwalo *in one of the ministry* gore o a hirwa. *People are positioning themselves*, o ya go fitlhela e le gore o na le batho *as the VP*, ke raya re thusa, ba e leng gore o na le bone mme ga ba na le wena mo moonong. Go bo go tshwana le kwa South Africa kwa e leng gore go fitlhetswe e le gore African National Congress (ANC) ba eteletse kwa *Legislature* mme *the means of the economy is run by* batho basweu. Re ya go fitlhela e le gore re fa gatwe re tshwere *political power* mme *the means of the economy* e tshwere ke bone ba re neng re ba ntsha mo Pusong maabanenyana fela jaana. *So we just have to expedite*, re bone *your team of technocrats* ba ba dumalanang le wena mo moonong.

Ya bofelo, *a lot of young people* ba tshwere *brilliant ideas*. Ke a leboga Mr Speaker.

**MR LUCAS:** Ke a leboga Mr Speaker. Ke re ke botse Mothusa Tautona gore *what are the likely impacts of your statement on the market* ka o kile wa feta ka tsone dimmaraka gore fa o sena go bua jaaka o buile ka wena o motlhalefi, mo go ka raya eng mo dimmarakeng? Go bo go raya eng le mo *investments* tsa Batswana tse ba di dirileng mo mafelong a a farologanyeng? E le potso ya ntlha.

Potso ya bobedi e tsamaelana le gore o a bua mo *statement* sa gago gore *some parastatals are bleeding the economy*. O buile *statement* sa go nna jalo, mme ke utlwa gore e o ka reng o a e bua mme o sa wele ka yone, ke Air Botswana. Go ka tswa tse dingwe e le dife *parastatals* tseo, *you are taking us in your confidence*? E ka tswa e le dife dingwe tsa *parastatals* tse o itemogetseng gore *they are bleeding the economy*? Di di ntsi *parastatals* tsa mono, di ka feta 50. A ko o re nankolele tse di fetang bobedi jo o bo supileng. Ga



ke itse gore a BSB e ne e le nngwe ya tsone kgotsa eo o ne o re ke ya *miracles*? Ke re e tlhalosege sentle eo *Honourable Vice President (VP)*.

Se sengwe sa boraro ke gore, *Honourable VP*, gompieno jaaka re bua jaana, go na le madi a a *locked up* mo *projects* tse di iseng di simolole, mme batho ba teng ba setse ba a duetswe *to finance projects*. A mme le setse le itemogela gore go na le madi a a setseng a tlile go nna *locked up for three years*, ka gore *projects* tseo di ka tsaya *three, four years*? Fa e le gore le a itemogela, le ikaelela go dira eng ka madi a a *locked up in projects for three, four years* mme gongwe go ise go dirwe tiro e e kalokalo mo bogompienong? Ke tshosiwa ke gore o ne o bua ka kgang ya *self-enrichment* e e diragetseng mo nakong e e fetileng, e e leng gore *projects* tse di ka tswa di *reflect personal enrichment* e o neng o bua ka yone. Ke re, le ikaelela go dira eng ka *projects* tse di ntseng jalo? Letsatsi leno ga ke batle go bua ka Development Manager (DM) *model*, mme ke belaela gore le tsone, *they locked up a lot of money* a e leng gore *are running into billions* Mr VP.

Sengwe e ne e le fela gore VP, *you are painting a gloomy picture of our finances but the Ministers on your side* ba tswetse ba bolelela batho gore mme tse di builweng mo *manifesto*, di tlaa diragadiwa, fela fa o bala *budget* ka *February*, di tlaabo di balwa mo teng. Ke reeditse *Minister Moswaane* a bua a le kwa Francistown. Ke reeditse *Honourable Maele* a bua a le mo go yone Palamente e ka P2,500 yo o tlaa duelwang bana. Ke re, mme ka fa o *paint picture* eo, a mme le wena o a ba *corroborate*? O tlhomamisa gore ke nnete le fa go ne go ntse jaana, tse re neng re di solofeditse re tlaa di diragatsa? Fa gongwe *there is wisdom in telling people the truth*. Ka fa o buileng ka teng, ba bangwe ba bo ba bua ka fa ba buang ka teng, ke bona e kete *you are at crossed purposes*. O kare ga le tsamaelane golo gongwe.

Le fa go ntse jalo, ya bofelo rraetsho ke gore, go na le melao e ke dumelang gore le fa gongwe le le basha le ikele tlhoko, le ka tloga la nnela basha ruri. Melao ya teng e ne e batlile gore e ka bo e kgomogetswe gore e baakangwe gore go tle go nne le ledula mo mading a lefatshe la Botswana. Public Finance Management Act; le ikaelela go e kgomogela leng le e baakanye gore re tle re kgone *to address* dikgang tse dingwe? Public Procurement Act; le ikaelela go e kgomogela leng gore e tle e re bolokele mangwe madi?

DCE Act ya *corruption* gore le ikaelela le yone go e kgomogela leng? A ko o mphe *targets* ke tle ke kgotsofale rraetsho. Mongwe e rile a go kaya a re, *you are the most*

*money uninterested person he has ever known*. Ga ke itse gore o ne a raya jang, mme ke utlwile o kare golo ga teng go go supa gore o ka nna le pharologanyo. Ke a leboga rraetsho.

**MR KEKGONEGILE:** Tanki *Mr Speaker*: Mma re dumedise batlotlegi, re dumedise setšhaba ka kakaretso lefatshe ka bophara. Tona, mo 100 *days*, kgang ya State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs), *parastatals* re ntse re di bua. Bontsi jwa tsone, tse dingwe *they are duplicating each other*. Re tseela gore *concern all along* e ntse e le gore di tshwanela ke gore tse dingwe di nne *merged*, tse dingwe di ntshiwe *totally* gongwe go na le maphata a mangwe a di a dirang. *To merge* mo, *to cancel*, go tima tse dingwe botshelo, ga go yo mo 100 *days*. Tsholofelo ke gore *of course* sengwe le sengwe ga se ka ke sa tsena mo 100 *days*. Ka fa o buang ka teng, o buela mo *direction* eo. *Timeframe* ya gore di tlaa *merge* mo lebakeng le le kana, kana le tlaa simolola go di *merge* mo lebakeng le le kana, e tlaa nna leng *after 100 days*? *Will it be 18 months, 24 months, ngwaga*?

Sa bobedi, ke go baakanya *relationship* le South Africa. O kaile ka yo o *share* sefane le ene. O kaile ka wena mme maikaelelo e le go baakanya *relationship* le South Africa le gore go ka siama go le kae, go ka *benefit* lefatshe go le kae. Naare go baakanya *relationship* le South Africa mo, *entails* eng? Gongwe *more specifically the vegetable ban, is it part of* go baakanya *relationship* le South Africa? Fa e le gore *it is part of it*, ga le bone le tlaabo le buseditse lefatshe kwa morago gore le bo le bula *borders*? BCP e bua thata ka *bring back our jobs and once* o bula *borders, you continue exporting jobs*.

Ya *budget cut* o ne o supa *percentages* tsa gore di ya go fokodiwa mo *budget*. Goromente yo o neng a tswa, *cut the budget* gape maloba. Potso ke gore, a *percentages* tse o di buang, ke tsone tse di neng di fokodiwa maloba ke Goromente yo o neng a tswa? A ke tse di tlaabong di fokodiwa ke Goromente *on top of* tse di fokoditsweng ke Goromente maloba? Go botlhokwa thata gore setšhaba se itse gore jaaka ba tlaabo ba ya *offices* tsa Goromente, babereki ba ntse fela tota ga go na gore ba ka tswela kwa ntle, ga go na gore ba ka dirisa eng, gongwe ba itlhoboge ba name ba eme pele, ba se ka ba ya go batla *service* ya ga Goromente.

Sa bofelo ke GIA, wa re ga se GIA, e kgakala le go nna GIA. Ga se gore o le Tona wa *mandate* o, gongwe le baakanye *vocabulary* jaanong e se ka ya tlhola e bidiwa jalo? Wa re ke *Cash Balance Account*, le baakanye *vocabulary*. Batho ba tloga ba tseela gore gongwe e a *invest* mme yone e *balance* fela *cash*. Tanki *Mr Speaker*:

**MR GAOLATHE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Maybe let me start with the last questions, you talk about SOEs and the conversation around the need for some of them to merge, to rationalise and so forth. You assume that these kind of things cannot take place within the 100 days, and you assume that post 100 days you need a target. On the contrary, some of the things will happen within 100 days. We have already been intimately interacting with the issues and I will give you an example, there are strategy papers written about the merging of BSB and National Development Bank (NDB). Ideas were mooted about merging those, but it turns out that you actually cannot...

**MR MAPULANGA:** *Point of order. Ga ke order yo o mo floor. I think I have noticed on many occasions, Honourable Segokgo, fa re goroga mo Ntlong e, re boleletswe gore there is decorum fa o tswa ka Ntlo le fa o tswa. It seems ene o tsaya gore golo fa o kwa lelwapeng. He does not go through to bow or even when he enters. So, can you please remind him gore re mo Ntlong ya Palamente.*

**MR SPEAKER:** O go utlwile Honourable Mapulanga.

**MR GAOLATHE:** You are the one who asked the questions, so it helps to wait for the answers.

I was talking about the conversations around what to do with the parastatals, and I was indicating that those conversations are already taking place and we are getting closer and closer to what needs to be done. For some of the parastatals, it will happen before 100 days. Some of the decisions will be taken and the actions taken before 100 days. We know for example, the NDB book is very different or is much riskier than the BSB book, and the BSB is on a very different trajectory that you do not want contaminated by a riskier book of the NDB which would be more suited to the possibility of establishing an Agri Bank. These conversations are already taking place, and for some of the parastatals, the decision-making process is actually very close before the 100 days. Some of them will be post 100 days. It will depend on what the issues are; it will depend on the scale even of those State-Owned Enterprises (SOE).

You are talking about BCP and the idea of bring back our jobs, and you are unnecessarily linking it with the ban. I do not believe that the BCP's idea of bring back the jobs necessarily means you must support the ban. I will put it to you that the ban is bad economics, in fact very bad economics. Anything which you need to

sustain tariffs for, not even for the short-term is bad economics. What is happening now is that food and vegetables have become more expensive in Botswana. Low income groups, *ba ba kobo dikhutshwane*, people who are struggling spend more of their income, a greater percentage of their income on food. The people that are hurt most are actually low-income groups. Now, indeed vegetable farmers have benefited and are benefiting, and the vegetable farming industry is growing, but the way to grow it is not necessarily to ban. The way to grow it, there are a number of things that we need to do. We need to subsidise them directly, proper fund targeted at them. What we need to target at them is not just funding, but research and development as well, handholding them with the experience done that, farmers as well and you would grow it without putting in place bans.

Now Botswana is a small country. The way that this country is going to be able to create jobs for its people, is to create an industry that exports. Since we have a small market, we need to create enterprises that export to the rest of Africa and to the rest of the globe. Botswana because of its smallness, needs the outside world more than they need us. We must always keep that in mind. If we banned everybody, banned vegetables, banned this, ban this under the guise that we are bringing back jobs, it is not correct. It is not bringing back the jobs, it is actually destroying the jobs; which is not the mantra of the BCP. The BCP I know truly and genuinely wants to create jobs by pursuing the right economic and social policies that will lift industry and generate employment in this country. That is the position.

Now, you must listen to this carefully; in economics, even if you want to unwind to a position, you do not wake up and unwind because the unwinding itself could have deleterious effects on the economy. That is why every decision you make, no matter how good it might look, you need to be very cautious and gradual in how you unwind to the right position. Certain things need to be done, including pleading with the South Africans to assist us set up a fund that can facilitate direct subsidies for our farmers, so that we can make our farmers more competitive farmers that do not need protection, that are competitive, that grow, that become global. Those are the kinds of farmers that we are looking at.

The language GIA, well, we have found it like that but we have noted what you are saying that the terminology might need to be looked at. The percentages of whether 22 per cent cut in development expenditure, 4 per cent cut in recurrent, whether it is cuts of the previous

Government or cuts that the new Government also subscribes to? What is important is the following; when the Development Budget by the previous Government was conceived, initially the cost was supposed to be P13 billion, the Development Models (DMs), it is now P22 billion, right; P22 billion from P13 billion. Therefore, as far as we are concerned, you cannot move from a budget of P13 billion to P27 billion in development expenditure. It means it is a completely different budget. Because it is a completely different budget and because we have a fresh way of looking at and prioritising projects, we have to look at a whole number of things, develop a whole nuance algorithm. One of the considerations is that these projects are in phases. Some of them have already passed the first phase and they are onto the last phase, they are already ongoing and there are contractual obligations from which it may well be difficult to pull out, but that is being looked at. Some of them are first phase, they have not started but the initial stages, pre-feasibility, feasibility is currently being done. So, we are looking at some of those depending on where they fare in terms of the stringent prioritisation. We will be looking at that. So, it is a process of actually going particularly for the large project by project and judiciously and in consultation, with which one is high impact for the people of Botswana...which one...

Now there is a complication that you have raised. Among those complications is that, in some of these models, the upfront payments are more than they should. A lot of money has been paid, but those are also legal nuances that are being looked at. So basically we are on consultation and going mega project by mega project, and trying to reprioritise based on fairness, what is affordable, on high impact, even issues of whether things have been done in accordance with the law. Honourable Segokgo, I wonder why you are sitting so far away from me...

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** A young man of your ideas and zeal should not sit that far from me. I want to note and thank you for what you have said, illuminating to this Honourable House and the people of Botswana issues around how the global economy is doing. It is actually in my speech as well, but I skipped it. So, I appreciate your words. What you said about Ambassadors, the need to attach performance to their work, it is true, and it is actually what we are working on, not just for Ambassadors, but the colleagues as well, for Ministers

as well. Everybody in the end, in the system will have to show what it is that they will do for the people of Botswana within a certain timeframe.

I want to say this to you, that Government is a big place, the civil service is a behemoth that the people that work will more often than not take the shape and character of their leaders. There is no way... if the leaders have integrity and are hardworking, there is no way that the civil service will not do the same, be hardworking and have integrity. If I am corrupt and steal from the Government coffers, the civil service will steal and be corrupt. If I am serious about finding mega investors genuinely without looking for commission or shareholding in their companies, then the Ambassadors will do the same. They will see the character of *Rre Boko* and his Vice and the leadership, and they will take that. Some of the people in the civil service who are excellent I know them, they are BCP, some are Domkrag. What makes you excellent and meritorious is not the color you wear, or whether you are friends with the leader or the leaders. What makes you excellent is what makes you excellent, period! and this is in support of what you are saying about the need to attach performance targets to Ambassadors.

Rates Collection; we have identified the need to aggressively and intelligently begin systematic processes and the right configuration for rate collection and collection of all other user fees in the Government and Local Government system. It is something that we believe will make a humongous difference in our revenue streams. I will give an example of some of the things that needs to be done. You travel across Gaborone, there are shops, well established shops that do not use Automated Teller Machine (ATMs), do not use the banking system. You know, if those shops were paying taxes, it would make a big difference to the Botswana revenue streams. One of the things we need to do is to have the BURS reconfigure itself, structure itself in a way that it is not top heavy, but it is middle heavy and it has tremendous, immense amount of auditors, who are able to play this role and gather taxes efficiently from those who are trying to evade. It is an example, but there are many other things that needs to be done.

Technocrats; it is possible to have a civil service that resists the vision and transformation agenda. It is possible to have a civil service that is mischievous, but I repeat myself, the civil service is a very big place, a very big place. In every big place you will always have pockets of excellence. If you are a good leadership, you will

always have a good sense and sniff of who the talented ones are, who the serious ones are. In the end, the forces of good are always stronger than the forces of negation. About this, I have a strong conviction, but I also have to say to you, I have interacted with the civil service across ministries. I understand the low moral, I understand the frustrations in the civil service. I understand there are those who worked very closely with those who were mischievous in the previous regime. I would say this to you, if this leadership of the new Botswana is genuine about transformation, including the transformation of the civil service if it is genuine and in its work it is genuine, the ones that are mischievous will find that they have no place, they will fall off on their own. Remember my words in 2013 about a different phenomenon, these are my words about a different phenomenon now. If this leadership... this leadership is genuine about excellence, fairness and honesty, that honesty, fairness and integrity will make the mischief makers uncomfortable, very uncomfortable. I doubt that a leader with integrity, who is honest, I doubt whether a corrupt man or woman can walk with them comfortably for a long period, I doubt. So, what you have said would be my response.

Mr Oom Luu, you know whenever the Honourable Member of Parliament speaks, he always clothes his ideas in a cloth of wisdom, and I always appreciate that cloth of wisdom. He asked me a question that he should not be asking me, which is you have just given us a statement, what do you think is the impression of markets out there? You should have not asked me that question. I should not have to be the person to answer that question, because growing up I was told that a man and woman cannot be their own judges. I cannot be a judge of how I would have been interpreted by markets. This is what I will say to you, you cannot cheat the market. They listen to me very carefully, I can assure you that. If I am bluffing, not worthy or not credible, everything will go like this. If they look and listen to me on behalf of the Botswana system, and they think that this man can be trusted, then good things are on their way. I do not know what their position is now, I think only time will tell.

I also realised that you are trying to corner me, into identifying other parastatals or SOEs, that I think are hemorrhaging the fiscal. In other words, the Honourable Member of Parliament *o batla go nkgolega*, but I will gladly offer some names because the truth is the truth, and the facts are the facts. Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) is a drain, it has been on the negative and on

the red for a long time. Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) has been on the red for a long time. These are companies that are losing more than half a billion every year. Okay, there are reasons why there are some of those losses, because there are development aspects to it. Our commitment also is that they can do much better, that in fact BPC in particular, if we were serious as a Government system, we can create global companies out of it. In the modern economy, we should be breaking down the power sector into power generation transmission and services, and become efficient in the way we generate. Naturally, when I said this to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), he would want to resist that to protect his company. If we are nuanced than sophisticated enough, there are things that we can do. With modern technology, if we are able to generate electricity at one tenth cost, why not do it at one tenth cost, and then the difference between the cost and the current cost you charge the public, and that difference you use it to pay off the legacy problems. By doing the right things, we can actually create an incredible power sector, that is the envy not just of Africa, but of the whole world.

You talk about how my presentation has a taste of both caution and loom, in contrast to my colleagues, who tend to be bullish about promises to the people. I have to say this to you. This lot here are so zealous, they are so punchy, they want this new Botswana yesterday, and it is their job to keep pulling myself and *Rre Boko*. They are the ones who are saying no, no, you are not moving fast enough. That is just how seriously they take their job, so I do not think that there is a mismatch Chair, it is very much in the spirit of what they have committed to the people of Botswana. They are under pressure to deliver, *nna ke thwaetse go omanngwa letsatsi le letsatsi*. I know the public *e tlaa nna e nkomanya, e nkomanya*, but I will also always share with the public the truth. The best of what I am able to assist, along with the rest of the leadership. The people of Botswana can be sure that, they will always be told the truth, even if that truth at some point leads to them chasing me out of office, I would be proud I have been chased out of office, for standing up for the truth, than staying in office entertaining what is not true for the people of Botswana. This is my solemn commitment.

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

**MR GAOLATHE:** As I said, you have a way of clothing your ideas in wisdom, and you are anxious about the different pieces of Legislation that you believe



are urgent, whether is the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC), Public Finance Acts or Procurement Acts. We actually have what is called the Legislative Programme, that my office in particular, the office of the Vice President is gripped with, is involved in and it entails consultation not just of colleagues, but of all stakeholders of things that need to be done yesterday. That which can be done within 100 days will be done within 100 days, that which takes time... but I can assure you, we are working full speed. Certainly, I am working full speed, I can assure you Honourable Lucas, I am working full speed and I am happy to be surrounded by the people that surround me, doing the work that we are doing towards the transformation of the people of Botswana, towards the new Botswana. Mr Speaker, thank you.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members we have overshot the runway. Let me at this point announce that, I am also in possession of a statement by Minister Salakae, I have since made a decision that it will come tomorrow. As I say it is here with me, be rest assured that Honourable Salakae will make a statement tomorrow.

## RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

### Motion

#### (Resumed Debate)

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Members, the debate on this Motion is resuming, when the House adjourned yesterday, Honourable Mabeo was on the floor and he was left with 18 minutes 11 seconds.

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

**MR MABEO (GAMALETE):** ... (Laughter!)... Tlaa ke go leboge *Mr Speaker*, dumelang mo Pusong e ntšha, le a tlhela gape.

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

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

**MR MABEO:** *Mr Speaker*, maabane fa ke wela, ke ne ke santse ke bua ka kgang ya moruthutha kwa Gamalete ya metsi e e re tshwenyang thata. Ke kopa gore ke wele ka yone kgang e ya metsi ka gore ke ne ke sa wela ka yone.

*Mr Speaker*, letlhoko la metsi le le kwa Gamalete le le re aparetseng, le a tshwenya. Ke go fe sekai, dijojo tse di dirisiwang mo mafelong a mangwe go tshela metsi, tse dingwe di kgona gore di se ka tsa tshelwa dibeke tse pedi tse tharo, selo se se a tshwenya.

*Mr Speaker*, mafatshe a a tsayang metsi tsia le tšhaba ya bone tsia, ba fetotse melao ya bone, ba dirile melao ya metsi ba bo ba supa gore metsi *is a human right*. Puso ya UDC ke itse gore ba ne ba bua gore ba tlaa fa *free water*. Ke tsaya gore nako e gorogile ya gore molao o papamale, o kwale gore metsi *is a human right* gore Goromente a tle a tlamege gore a ise metsi, bagarona ba se ka ba nna bo *two to three weeks* ba sena metsi.

## ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

**(MR MOSWAANE):** *Point of order Mr Speaker.* Mokaulengwe Motlotlegi Mabeo o e tshwere sentle, *and* ke setswerere sa puo, e bile ke a itse gore o na le dikgatlhego tsa kwa Gamalete, ke ka se ke ke tsoge ke mo nyaditse. A baakanye ntsha fela ya *free water*. Ke ne ke re a e lebelele sentle gore o ka tswa a e tsera fa kae? Mo *Manifesto* wa UDC e supa gore e tlaa neela Batswana *a certain amount of free litres* tsa metsi, mme go tswa foo go fokodiwe *bill* eo ka *a certain percentage*. Ke a leboga.

**MR SPEAKER:** Nnyaa, mme ga se *point of order Honourable Moswaane*. O ka bo o kopile fela *correction* kana *to clarify*.

**MR MABEO:** Tlaa ke go leboge *Mr Speaker*. Jaaka ke ne ke bua ka mafatshe a ba fetotseng melao ya bone ya metsi, *they state* metsi *as a human right*. Seo se botlhokwa thata ka gore se tšile go tlama Puso gore e isetse batho metsi gore bagaetsho ba se ka ba nna bo *three or two weeks* ba sena metsi. Ka rialo ka re go tshwanetse gore melao e re e lebelele, re e baakanye.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** *Procedure Mr Speaker.* Ga ke itse ka gatwe ke le *Form One*, a *quorum* ke yone golo fa, *are we quorated* kana jang?

**MR SPEAKER:** Ee, ba tlaa gakolola kwano.

**MR MABEO:** Le tloga le mpusetsa kwa morago. *Mr Speaker*, kwa Gamalete jaaka ke letse ke buile maabane, re fa godimo ga metsi a mantsi, *aquifer* e e kwa tlase ga lefatshe, metsi a e leng gore *it is a transboundary aquifer* e e bidiwang *the Ramotswa Aquifer*. Metsi a re a *share* le lefatshe la South Africa. Ke kopa go supegetsa Ntlo e gore metsi ao ga re a dirise kwa Gamalete ka

gore ga re na didiba, masimo a rona a masetlha. Ke kopa Goromente yo moshana, yo o ratang Batswana, yo o batlang go tlhabolola Botswana gore nako e gorogile ya go epela ba ba itekang kwa masimong didiba. Re epe didiba gore re tle re kgone go lema. Tlaa ke tlhalose jaana *Mr Speaker* gore kwa Gamalete re na le dikompone tse di silang mmidi, korong, ba ba dirang boupi jwa phaletšhe le jwa borotho. Ke tsaya gore fa re ka dirisa metsi a, *resource* e e kwa tlase e ra phunyetsa ba Gamalete metsi, ga re ka ke ra palelwa ke go lema re *supply* dikompone tse ka mmidi. O ka feta ka kgaolo ya gaetsho ya Gamalete mo nakong ya gompiano, masimo rona a masetlha, mme re fa godimo ga lewatle la metsi. Fa o tlola *border* ya kwa South Africa o bona masimo a bone a phophoma a ntse matala. E bile dikompone tse di silang mmidi le korong kwa Gamalete, di tsaya mmidi le korong kwa South Africa le Zambia, masimo a gaetsho a le masetlha. Ke kopa gore Puso e ntšha e e tlang ka ditsholofetso, e e tsisitseng *hope* e e kanakana, a ko ba tlise *hope* mo go bagaetsho ba Gamalete gore re tle re kgone go lema.

Re buile jalo ka *excellence*, Mothusa Tautona o ntse a bua ka *excellence* le *fairness*. Ke kopa gore a ko re nneng *fair*, re thuseng bagaetsho ka kgang ya go phunya didiba gore re tle re kgone go lema, re itshetse.

*Mr Speaker*, re na le *border* kwa Ramotswa. *Border* e e leng gore *hours* tsa yone tsa go bereka e bulwa ka 7 o'clock phakela, e tswalwa ka 7 bosigo. Ke tla fa ka kopu e e tswang kwa Gamalete, gore dinako tsa *border* e di okediwe. Dinako tsa *border* e fa di okediwa, di ya go thusa. Sa ntlha dinako tsa *border* e fa di okediwa, di ya go fokotsa bokete mo *border* ya Pioneer le ya Tlokweng tse di *commercial*. Ke kopa gore le re thuse le oketse *hours* tsa tsone. *Border* ya Ramotswa fa le e bula gape, e tlaa re thusa. Maabane ke buile gore tsela ya go tsena mo Ramotswa e nngwefela, e bile fa noka ya Taung e tletse, ga re kgone go tla Gaborone kana ga re kgone go tlola re sala re le mo teng ga Ramotswa. Jaanong *border* e fa re baakanya dinako tsa yone, e ya go re thusa thata. Ke gopola mongwe yo a neng a batla *to drop tender*, ya re Taung e tletse a tshwanelwa ke gore a *cross* a tsene mo South Africa a bo a ya go dika kwa morago a ya go tsena ka Lobatse gore a tle go goroga mo Gaborone. *Border* e e tlaa re thusa fa re santse re sekaseka tsela e, e ke e kopileng, e ke e buileng gore ba Gamalete ba kopa tsela gore motse o tle o kgone go tsenega ka ditsela tse dingwe kwa morago. *Border* e e tlaa kgona go re thusa. Kwa Gamalete re na le masika kwa bo Moshaneng,

kwa South Africa ga re kgone *to attend* ditiro ka kwa ka ntata ya gore *border* e e tswala ka pela, re patelesaga go tlogela ditiro di ntse di le *on* re tabogele kwa lelwapeng.

Mothusa Tautona o ntse a bua ka *industrialisation* le *manufacturing*. Nna yo ke fano, ke tla ka kopu e e tswang kwa Gamalete. Re kopa gore Goromente a fetole kgaolo ya rona ya Gamalete e nne *the industrial hub* ya Botswana. Se se tlaa thusa ka ntata ya gore Gaborone o feletswe ke lefatshe re a itse ba rotlhe. Re a *offer*, re eme bontle kwa Gamalete, re na le ditsha tse di teng tse di setseng di segilwe kwa bo Seowane, Disaneng, Otse, Mogobane tsa *industrial*.

A1 e feta gone fa, e bile go na le seporo se feta gone fa, *industries* tse, ka gore Mothusa Tautona o buile gore *we must industrialise*, re bo re kgone go romela kwa ntle *for export*, re siame thata, re *ready*.

*Mr Speaker*, a Puso e ntšha e e utlwe selelo sa garona gore ditiro di tle di tlhamege ka fa Gamalete le mo Botswana ka kakaretso ka gore re tlaa kgona *to accommodate* le ba bangwe. Lefatshe leo le teng le *ready* re a le *offer*.

*Mr Speaker*, re na le matamo a re ntseng re itshetsa ka one go tswa bogologolong, matamo a e leng gore diphologolo tsa rona di nwa mo go one, e bile ke a *tourism*, batho fa ba tswa mo Gaborone jaana, ba kgona go ya fa go bo Mogobane Dam ba ya go iphokisa phefo. MaGaborone le ba dikgaolo tse dingwe ba kgona go ya fa go bo Boatle Dam ba ya go iphokisa phefo, mme matamo a a rona a kategetse. Ke ne ke kopane le ba bogosi kwa Gamalete ba mpoletela gore ba sale ba solofeditse ka dingwaga tsa bo 2009 gotwe *machines* tse di katlolang matamo di santse di le ka kwa *north*. Ke kopa *machines* tseo a ko di atumele tlhe.

Go fetile dijara di le dintsi, 15 *years* re ntse re emetse gore matamo a a tle go baakanngwa, matamo a rona a setse a kategetse thata. Ke kopa gore *machines* tseo di tle ka kwano go katolola matamo a rona. Letamo la Mogobane le lentle thata, le ka ngoka bojanala jo bagaetsho ba Mogobane ba ka itshetsang ka jone, letamo le le tle go re thusa, le katlololwe.

Letamo le le kwa Boatle fa, le lone... le ma-Gaborone, le lona fa re tswa mo Palamenteng, re ka nna ra ya teng fale ra feta ra tsaya *camp chairs* tsa rona ra iphokisa phefo, re ya go ja monate thata, mme mo nakong ya gompiano le kategetse jaanong metsi ga a kgone go tsena sentle mo go lone. Ba Bogosi le ba Gamalete, re kopa gore matamo a rona a tle go katlololwa. Letamo la kwa Lesetlheng, le setse le kategetse thata.

Fa ke bua ka ya botsogo *Mr Speaker*, e bile ke tloga ke siiwa ke nako, Mogobane *clinic* betsho e tlhoka gore e nne le *maternity ward*. Ba Mogobane ba kopa gore *clinic* e ya bone e nne le *maternity ward*. Phakeleng ono ke ne ke le kwa sepateleng sa Bamalete Lutheran Hospital (BLH). *Minister of Health, I am happy you are here sir*. BLH, sepatela se se na le bodiredi jo bo *two types*. Go na le ba e leng gore *they are public servants*, go bo go nna le ba e leng gore ke ba Mission, ba hirilwe ke Kereke Lutere jalojalo. Selo se go bonala se tsositse kgotlhang e tona thata. Ke a go laletsa rraetsho gore a re tsamaye mmogo kwa Gamalete go utlwa selelo sa bone, re ba tlele ka maano a gore re ka baakanya jang seemo se.

Sepatela se sa Gamalete se tsofetse rraetsho, se tlhoka *to be refurbished*. Ke a itse e bile ke a tlhaloganya gore sepatela se ke sa Kereke ya Lutere gammogo le ba Gamalete, mme se tlhoka gore re se baakanye, re se tshwaraganele rraetsho. Fa e le gore *property* e ke ya morafe e bile ke ya kereke, segolo tlhe, a ko re baakanye *maternity ward*. Sepatela sele sagaetsho se itsege thata Botswana jotlhe gore fa re tla kwa peleging re *Number 1*. Ke tsaya gore *reports* tse o setse o di itse, re thuse re baakanye *maternity ward*, segolo re *refurbish* gore re tle re kgone *to accommodate* ba bantsi ba ye gone kwa, re ye go belegisa, bana ba belegelwa kwa Gamalete *Honourable Minister*.

Fa ke bua ka tsa thuto kwa Gamalete, re na le bothata *Mr Speaker*. Kwa Gamalete *Mr Speaker*, thuto e wetse kwa tlase, bana ga ba pase, selo se se a ntshwenya, e bile ke tlaa kopana le barutabana le bagokgo jalojalo gore re bone gore re ka tshwaraganela jang kgang e gore thuto e kgone go gola, *pass rate* e kgone gore e gole.

Bothata bo fa *Mr Speaker*, dikole tse di kwa Gamalete di makgasa thata, di tshwanetse gore di baakannngwe. Ditafole le ditilo di a tlaela kwa dikoleng kwa Gamalete. Selo se se dira gore go ithuta go se ka ga nna motlhofo. *Mr Speaker*, re batho ba bodiragatsi kwa Gamalete, re ka bo re *supply* lefatshe le ka *creativity* e ntsi ya maemo a a kwa godimo. Kwa Gamalete re siame go siama fa re bua ka talente ya bodiragatsi, ya botaki. Selo se se tlhokegang mo Botswana gore se baakanye *the creative industry, it is for the Government to let go*. *Let go of Botswana Television (BTV), Radio Botswana (RB1 le RB2). Let go of Information Services*. Golo kwa go tletse batho ba ba *talented* thata *Minister Tshere*, ba hupeditse fela ke tsamaiso. *Party* ya ga Domkrag, Puso e e neng e tswa, e ne e ba hupeditse ba sa kgone

gore ba supe *creativity* ya bone. Ke kopa gore Puso e ntšha a ko le tlogeleng BTV e bereke jaaka bo South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), e nne *a real public broadcaster*, e ya go le tswela mosolo le lona. E ya go dira madi a mantsintsi, e ya go tlisa *stories* tsa rona, e ya go supa *culture* ya rona, e bile re ya go kgona *to compete le the world because creative industry* e tlile go gola. Bagaetsho ba ba kwa Gamalete, ba ba mo *drama, traditional dance* le ba ba opelang ba ya go kgona go *showcase* Selete sa gaetsho. Ga ke bone gore re tshwanetse re ka bo re santse re lebelela bo *Generations in this era and time*. A Goromente yo mošha yo a tle go nna pharologanyo, le tlogele BTV, le tlogele go tsamaya le BTV kwa bo Kgotla *meeting* ke a le kopa, *that is not news*. Ke berekile kwa Botswana Press Agency (BOPA), ke a itse gore golo kwa go tletse batho ba ba *creative* jang ba le bantsi, ba bantsi le kwa Gamalete. *Let go of the Broadcasting Services please!* Le lona, go ya go le *benefit*. Le bua jalo gore Goromente o tlaela ka madi, bana ba ba ya go dira madi a mantsintsi gone kwa *Broadcasting*. Ke kopa jalo. Ke kopa go wela, ke tswelele jaana ke re...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR MABEO:** Ke kopa go wela ke tswelele jaana ke re...

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

**MR MABEO:** Bagaetsho, ke siilwe ke nako, ke tlaa tla ke le fa kwa morago go setse motsotso.

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

#### “EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERSHIP”

**MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG):** Order Honourable Members! Please! Order!

**MR MABEO:** Dumelang mo go Goromente yo mošha. Ke itumela thata gore UDC ke Goromente yo mošha ka gore maitlamo le maikaelelo a lona ga a kgakala le a rona. Gape ga le lebaka le le fa, le utlwile botlhoko jo le bo itseng. Ke batla gore ke le bolelele gore rona re bagakolodi ba lona, re ikaeletse go tshwaragana le lona. Fa re le gakolola, ga re le kgale. Ga re le ise kwa tlase, re dira jaana ka gore re a itse gore lona re santse re tshwaragane. Nna kana ke santse ke le bona o kare le ba *opposition*. Nna, fa ke le lebelela jaana ke tlelwa ke boitumelo, jaanong le se ka la nkisa kwa tlase e re fa ke le gakolola, le bo le e baya jaaka o kare ke a le *attack*. Betsho, le tlile ka maikaelelo le maitlamo, le

se ka la lebala maitlamo a le tllileng ka one. *Party* e ya UDC, le bua jalo gore lona, *you are the friend of the workers*. *Temporary workers* ba a sokola, ga ba na madi, ga ba duelwe. *Last week* ke ne ke leleditswe ke mmê mongwe a tshwerwe ke mapodise, a na le *four months* a sa amogele, o kolota *company* nngwe e e rekisang *furniture*. Jaaka ke bua le wena *Madam Speaker*, o mo toronkong ka gore ba mo tsentse ka *civil imprisonment*. Ga a kgone go duela sekoloto sa gagwe sa *furniture*. Ke kopa gore a ko le rateng babereki. Jaaka re ya Keresemoseng jaana... *she is a temporary teacher* mmê yo ke buang ka ene. Re ya Keresemoseng, a ko le ba feng Keresemose tlhe, ke a le kopa.

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

**MR MABEO:** Puso e ntšha, ke a le kopa, re bagakolodi ba lona jaaka ke buile. Ke kopa gore ke wele ka kgang e nngwe ke ye, a ko re tlhokomeleng basadibagolo le bannabagolo ba a sokola, *please*. Ke a le kopa, a ko le direng jalo. Nna kwa gaetsho kwa Gamalete, ke bona basadibagolo ba tsamaya sela *tins* gore ba itshetse. Le bosigo mo dibareng o kgona go bona mosadimogolo a eme fale, a emetse gore ngwana a latlhe *tin* fale, a kgone gore a e sele a itshetse. Golo mo go ba jela seriti, go nkutlwisa botlhoko, golo mo a go le utlwise botlhoko. Segolo basadibagolo P1800, a ko le ba neeleng mpho ya Keresemose, ke a le kopa.

Ke kopa go wela jaana ka kgang e. Golo fa re itumetse, a ko le baakanyeng nthagaraga e ya Makhanselara, ke a le kopa, dikhansele di bereke. Dikhansele di eme. A ko le baakanyeng tlhakantsuke e *Madam Speaker*, dikhansele di eme tsii! A ko re baakanyeng kgang e ya *Specially Elected* tsa Makhanselara, khansale ya gaetsho ya Gamalete e bereke. Fa go tla Keresemose jaana, Makhanselara ba saena gore go nne le *activities* kwa Gamalete, ke kopa gore a ko re baakanyeng kgang e.

*Madam Speaker*, ke tlaa felela fa ka nako e mpolaila, mme dikgang tsa me di santse di le dintsi.

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Your time is up honourable.

**MINISTER OF CHILD WELFARE AND BASIC EDUCATION (MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA):** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa...

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Honourable Members*, a go na le mathata ka fa Pusong?

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (MR MOSWAANE):** Ke ne ke sale ke eme, o bone ba ba kwa morago *Madam Speaker*.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Sorry sir*, go raya gore ke lebile motho wa mme.

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

Ke re gompieno le nna ke tsibogele tekodiso ya botsogo jwa setšhaba jaaka re sa le re e roletswe ke Tautona Duma Gideon Boko. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente le Mapalamente a a tlotlegang, mme ke tseye sebaka se ke supe boitumelo jo bogolo go bo Tautona Duma Gideon Boko a nneetse boikarabelo jwa go etelela pele lephata le lesa; *the brainchild of the UDC*, e e farologanyang UDC le Puso e e fetileng. Gongwe e santse e tlaa e farologanya le tse di tlang; lone Lephata le lesa le la Tlamelo ya Bana le Thuto go tswa kwa Moding.

Tiro e e tla ka maikarabelo a magolo ka gore e kopanya dikgang tse pedi; e leng tlamelo ya bana le thuto go tswa mo moding le thuto e potlana. Ke dilo tse ditona tse di kopanngwang *into one*. Ke sone se ke reng ke tiro e tona tota. Ke solofetsa Ntlo e le Batswana ka kakaretso gore ke tllile go e dira ka bonokopila, natla, boammaaruri le keletso e kgolo ya go dira. Ke tsepame mo maikaelelong a me a go baya kwa pele tsotlhe tse di amang bana le go tlhomamisa gore ngwana mongwe le mongwe o bona sebaka ka go bona thuto ya boleng e e tlaa rotloetsang kgolo ya gagwe le go supa bokgoni jwa gagwe.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go tlhonga ga Lephata le lesa le la Tlamelo ya Bana le Thuto go tswa kwa Moding, le tlhoseditse tsholofelo e kgolo le go tsosolosa tsholofelo ya tharabololo ya dikgwetlho tse dintsi tse di lebaneng bana mo lefatsheng la rona. Maitlamo a lefatshe la Botswana a go tlhoma kwa pele ditshwanelo tsa bana a bonala sentle jaaka re beile monwana ditumalano tsa mafatshe di le mmalwa le go di fetola gore di tsamaelane le mabaka a mono gae. Ditumalano tse di akaretse ya Lekgotla la Ditšhaba ya Ditshwanelo tsa Ngwana, ya Mafatshe a Africa a Ditshwanelo tsa Bana le Tlhokomelo ya Ngwana. Ditumalano tse Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo sa Palamente, di gatelela maitlamo a rona re le Goromente wa letsatsi a go tlhomamisa gore go tshela sentle le go sireletsega ga ngwana le dikokomane tse di tlang le a isago e a diragadiwa.



Se sengwe se se botlhokwa ke keletso ya Puso go tlhomamisa go tsamaelana ga melawana yotlhe le Molao wa Bana wa 2009. Go baakanyetsa neelano e ya melawana go botlhokwa mo go tlhomamiseng gore molao wa lefatshe leno o ema nokeng ditiragatso ka botlalo ya ditshwanelo tsa bana le go baya maemo a a siameng a tshireletsego le kgolo ya bone, le mabaka a go tlhomamisa gore ngwana mongwe le mongwe a bone sebaka sa go tsabakela. Re itlama go baya mabaka a fang ngwana mongwe le mongwe go goroga kwa bokgoni jwa gagwe bo mo letlang go ya teng le go aga isago ya ngwana.

Lephata le lesa le le tsepame mo tsholofetsong ya lone ya go baya mabaka a a siametseng tshireletsego, thotloetso le go nosetsa *talents* tsa ngwana. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, se se tlaa tlhoka lephata le le itlolang le dira ka natla mme le na le madi a le a tshwaetseng tiro ya go tlhokomela ngwana. Jaanong fa go setse go kgaogangwa madi, re batla *budget* e e nonneng. Ke solofela gore re tlaa emiwa nokeng gone fa.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, jaaka ke tsaya maikarabelo a, ke na le ba ke dirang le bone, ke itse sentle ka dikgwetlho tse di re emeng pele. Ke itse jaana ka gore go na le *reports* tse dintsi tse ke neng ke ntse ke di amogela *from sub-regions* tse di nkaelang gore go na le dikgwetlho tse di emeng pele maitlamo a re tlang ka one a, tse di akaretsang go tlhomamisa go bona dithuso le go di akola ka tekatekano. Re setse re itse sentle gore ga se mongwe le mongwe wa ngwana wa Motswana, bogolo jang kwa mafelong a kwa tennyanteng kwa re fitlhelang bana ba fitlhelela gone go sireletsega mo le gore ba kgone go tsena dikole le go tlhokomelwa go tswa kwa moding. Ke tsone dikgang tse re di itseng.

Gape re a itse gore go na le dikgang tse dingwe tse di tshwenyang tse di tliwang ke merero ya ngwao. Kwa mafelong a a kgakalakangakala kwa bo Okavango, ke na le go utlwa ke begelwa gore go santse go na le manyalo a bana. Dikgang tse ke tsone tse re tshwanetseng re di tsibogele ka gore re batla gore go tswa kwa moding bana ba tlogelwe e nne bana. Re tlogele go gogela bana mo dikgannyeng tse di ba fetileng re iphitlhile ka monwana, e le yone ngwao e re reng re a e tshegetsatsa. Ke na le bosupi jwa gore melao e tllile go nna teng sentle fela e salwa morago gore bana ba babalesege, ba gole e le bana go fitlhelela ba goroga mo seemong sa gore ke bagolo.

Re a itse gore kgodiso ya ngwana ga e ka ke ya dirwa ke lephata le la rona fela. Le a itse gore motse otlhe le setshaba se sotlhe se na le boikarabelo jwa go godisa ngwana. Ka jalo, ke dumela gore...

**MR HIKUAMA:** *On a point of procedure.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Kana *Madam Minister* o sa tswa go bua gore go utlwalelwa kwa bo Okavango, gongwe ka tsamaiso e e siameng go utlwalelwa ka eng? *Maybe she can bring us the source* e e mo rayang jalo go na le go manega dikgang tse di bosula ka Okavango mme a sena *source*. *I think she is out of procedure, maybe she can provide the source* gore mongwe le mongwe a tle a iponele gore mme se a se buang se na le boammaaruri.

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. *Honourable Hikuama*, ke a leboga gore o bo o re o tlhokana le *source*. Kana fa o tsena mo maemong a bo Tona, dikgang di nna di tla fela di le dintsi; ba bangwe ba tlaabo ba letsa ba lela mme *as an academic*, ke ka dumalana le wena gore gongwe ke ka bo ke na le *source* e e kwadilweng ra kgona *to cite* sengwe. Gongwe jaanong ka gore e ne e le *telephone* fela mme ke ka se ka ka di itlhokomolosa, gongwe *in the meantime* ke boele kgang e moragonyana, ke tla e tlhomamisa gore e kwalwe sentle, e tlaa re mo nakong e tlang ke tle ka yone. Ke a leboga.

Mme ke tswelile ke re go dirisana mmogo gore re kopanele go godisa ngwana go le Magosi, lephata le le ntsha le, merafe mo dikhutlong tse nne tsa Botswana re tshwaraganele kgodiso ya bana.

Se sengwe gape se re tshwanetseng gore re se beye leitlho re le lephata le ke gone gore go sekasekiwe molao kana melao e e tsamaisanang le go tlhamiwa ga lephata le e bile e ama bana. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go botlhokwa go lemoga gore molao wa bana wa 2009 (*Children's Act*) ke one o mogolo o o kaelang tsela ya go tlhoma kwa pele tshireletso ya ditshwanelo tsa ngwana. O rotloetsa kgolo ya mmele, maikutlo, tlhologanyao le kamano le ba bangwe le go tshela sentle fela ka kakaretso.

Molao o, o bua ka tsa go tsholelwa ngwana (*adoption*), go tlhokomelwa ke batsadi ba bangwe (*foster care*) le ditirelo tse dingwe ka kakaretso. Mo godimo ga moo, molao o, o nankola ditshwanelo tsa ngwana, maikarabelo a batsadi le tse di ba tlamang. Thotloetso ya morafe ke kemonokeng ya Puso mo batsading. O tswelile o tlhoma lekgotla la ditherisanyo tsa bana le lekgotla le le tsamaisang tse di amang bana, le go tlhomamisa gore di a diragadiwa. Lephata la Tlamelo ya Bana le Thuto (*Child Welfare and Basic Education*) le tlaa leka ka bojotlhe go tlhomamisa gore molao o wa bana wa 2009 o tsewa tsia, o salwa morago. Ka Sekgoa, *it is implemented* ka botlalo.

Ka jalo, jaaka ke kile ka umaka kgantejana Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, lephata la rona le tlaa fefogela go baakanya melawana epe fela e e sa nyalaneng le o mogolo wa bana go tlhomamisa gore bana botlhe ba sireletsegile. Go fefosa go baakanya melawana epe fela e e sa tsamaelaneng le o mogolo wa bana (Children's Act ya 2009), go botlhokwa ka mabaka a le mmalwa.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ntlelele go tlhalosetsa Palamente mangwe a mabaka a a botlhokwa mo go baakanyeng le go tlhomamisa gore melawana e e amang bana e a tsamaelana mo Botswana. Sa ntlha, se se ka dira go nonotsha tshireletsego go ya ka melao. Fa re dira gore melawana e tsamaelane le wa bana, lephata la rona le tlaa tlhomamisa gore ngwana mongwe le mongwe o sirelediwe ka go tshwana lefatshe ka bophara mo go utlwiweng botlhoko, go jewa ntsoma le go kgokgontshiwa. Re bua jaana go jewa ntsoma re bua ka *child labour* e e tsamayang e *manifest* ka ditsela tse di ntsi tse di iphitlhileng. Ke dikgang tse re tshwanetseng go di sala morago go netefatsa gore bana ke bana. Fa gongwe fa go ntse jaana, ba jelwa le yone nako ya go tshameka. Se se tswala ditsela tsotlhe tse di ka dirisiwang go tlhokofatsa bana. Se se dira mokgwa o o akaretsang botlhe o o tlhomang kwa pele ditshwanelo tsa bana le go tshela sentle ga bone...

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (MR NYATANGA):**

*Elucidation. My Honourable Minister,* o e tshwere sentle fela thata ka gore go supa gore Puso e ya rona e lemoga botlhokwa jwa ngwana. Ke ne ke batla go go tlaletsa gore e re re ntse re le mo go lone leeto le, go botlhokwa thata gore re bo re tlhalosa re le Puso e e ntšha re tsepame ka seabe se e leng gore *family* e tlaabo e se tsaya mo baneng. Ke a go utlwa gore re bua ka setšhaba, Dikgosi tsa rona mme ke batla gore *family* e botlhokwa thata mo baneng, e bile e kgona gore e re fa e dira dilo sentle, bana ba rona ba bo ba pasa le kwa sekoleng. Re batla gore e re o dira maiteko a a ntseng jaana, motsadi mongwe le mongwe mo Botswana, a bo a itse gore seabe sa gagwe mo thutong ya ngwana se botlhokwa. Ke gore ga re batle bana ba go tlaabong gotwe barutabana ba tlaa ba bona. Re ya go tsaya leeto le e leng gore batsadi ba tshwanetse go tlhologanya gore seabe sa bone se botlhokwa. Fa re ka dira jalo, re ya go ntsha bana ba ba tlileng go nna dikgantshwane tse e leng gore kamoso e tlaabo e le bo Tautona, *General Managers*. Ke ne ke re ke go tlatse jalo mokaulengwe.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** *Intshwarele* Honourable Kgafela, Honourable Nyatanga, Standing Order 58.6 e *supa gore* you should be always by your seat with your microphone, not to be moving to another chair.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** O ga o bereke.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** O siame fela, *from* batho ba dikgang, *we checked, it is fine.*

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke a leboga *honourable* ka go tsepamisa ntlha ya gore go botlhokwa gore le mo malwapeng tota, e seng fela boikarabelo jwa batsadi, go tlhomamisa gore le mo malwapeng tota batsadi ba itse boikarabelo jwa bone jwa gore go nne le fa bana ba golelang teng mo go faphegileng. Ba sa kgokgontshiwe, ba sa utlwe dipuo tse di sa thamalelang. Basa bone batho ba tikana ba dikotlele, ke dikgang tse re di elang tlhoko thata re le Puso e e ntšha. *A child friendly home and a child friendly school*, ke yone tsepamo ya rona ya Goramente yo mosha.

Fa ke re re tshwanetse re nyalanye Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, re nyalanye melao yotlhe e e amang bana le Children's Act ya 2009, ga re batle gore go nne le ketsaetsego mo go ranoleng melao. E le gore go na le lephata lengwe kwa le le nang le molao o o gogagoganang le molao wa lephata le lengwe kwa. Fa e ageletswe yotlhe e tsamaisana le Children's Act ya 2009 re ka fokotsa *confusion* e. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, go botlhokwa go fefosa paakanyo ya melao e gore go tsamaelane le Molao wa Bana wa 2009. Re ka itemogela gore gompieno...

**MR MOSANANA:** *Elucidation.* O a utlwala *Minister*. Ke a rata ka fa o e tshwereng ka teng, e bile e le wena *Minister of Education. Minister*, go na le dikgang tse re etleng re di utlwe tse di bolelwang fa e le gore bana *from 11, 13 years*, ba nna *pregnant* ba santse ba le kwa *primary*. O fitlhela e le gore batho ba ditiro tse, *they go scot free* ka mabaka a gore fa ba sena go dira jaana, ba a dikologa ba ya kwa batsading ba ya go ba didimatsa. Ba leka go tshodisa batsadi ka gore go a bo go sena sepe kwa lelwapeng fa o bona go tla go nna jaana. Ba bo ba didimatsa batsadi ba ba neela se ba se ba neelang. Ba ipolela fa ba tlaa tlhokomela mme e bo e re kwa morago, e bo e le fa ba nyeletse. Golo mo o fitlhela e le batho fela ba batona *Minister*, go bo go felela go ntse jalo. Le fa gotwe batho ba ba a batliwa ba salwa morago, batsadi ke bone ba ba lobang. *On the other hand*, ke bone ba sa batleng go ba ntsha ka gore ba lebile gore ba robe sengwe mo go bone kwa morago. *I thank you Honourable Minister.*

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke a leboga *Honourable* Mosanana. Kgang e ya *teenage pregnancy* e bothoko. Ke sa tswa go tswa kwa Kgotlakgolo ya Mochudi ya Bakgatla kwa go neng go ketikiwa letsatsi la bana le fa le ne le ketikiwa morago ga nako ka gore e rile le tshwanetse go ketikiwa, go bo go iwa kwa Victoria Falls. Bana ba ne ba tlile ka bontsi ba supa dilelo tse. Bana ba raelwa gone foo, ba gasetswa one mmopo oo, e bo e le gore fa ba setse ba dirile dilo tse di tsuololang bongwana jwa bone, e bo e re *cases* di tshwanetse go begiwa, batsadi ba bo ba boela kwa morago. Ke raya gore kgang e, re e utlwaetse, e maswe thata. Ke sone se re reng go tsenngwe melao sentle e e tlaa kganelang dilo tse. Ke gore go gagamadiwe melao tota. Ke tsaya gore Palamente e tlaa tshwanelwa ke go amogela melao e e fetolang go diragatsa golo mo.

Mo gongwe gape go tlhomiwe makgotlana a a itebaganyang le ditsheko tse di amanang le tsuololo ya ditshwanelo tsa bana. Go potlakelwe gore batho ba ba tsoulolang melao, gongwe *at some point* le bone batsadi fa ba gana go sekisa batho ba ba dirang tsone dilo tse, batsadi le bone ba tseelwe dikgato.

*At this point in time Madam Speaker,* ke re kana gompiano jaana re le ba lephata lone le, re a itse gore re lebagane gape ke gore bana ba bo ba fepiwa mo dikoleng. Go tlhamaletse sentle fela gore mo nakong ya gompiano bana ba fepiwa gabedi, ba ba tswang kwa tennyanteng, kwa dikgaolong tse di kgakala, ba fepiwa gararo. Re itemogetse sentle gore le tsone dijo tse e leng gore di fepiwa bana ba, ga se dijo tse tota re kareng ke *balanced diet* ka Sejatlhapi. Ke gore bana ba jesiwa fela, gore a ba jesiwa setampa ka 5:00 a.m. kana ba se jesiwa ka 9:00 a.m. go siame fela. Fa ke setse ke ntse ke botsa dikgang tse, o utlwa gotwe nnyaa kana ba jesiwa fela se se leng teng ka gore dijo di a tlaela.

Jaanong re bona go tshwanela gore go nne le mo gotweng *home grown feeding*, e e leng gore jaanong tota gape bontsi go lema bone ba ba mo lefelong lone la dikole kana mo Botswana gore re atumetse dijo tse di lengwang ke Batswana, mme e le gore ka bogaufi jwa tsone jalo, gape go dira gone gore le bone balemi ba kgone go tsenya letseno. Gape re tlaa netefatsa gore ke dijo tse di nonofileng tse di nonotshang mmele ka fa di tshwanetseng ka teng.

Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, re itse sentle fela gore Tautona wa rona fa a re baya tekodiso ya botsogo jwa setšhaba, o gateletse kgang ya gore go bothokwa gore re dire mananeo a rona, le ditlhabololo

tse rona ka mo a go bitsang *human rights approach*. Kgang e ya ditshwanelo tsa batho e bothokwa ka gore mo nakong e e fetileng, o ne o fitlhela e le gore o kare ga se tshwanelo ya ngwana go ya sekoleng go rutwa. O kare ga se tshwanelo ya ngwana kana Motswana go nna mo lefelong le le babalesegileng. Jaaka bangwe ba rona jaana *since* 1993 re ikopela ditsha re ise re di bone bo Nono, go raya gore ga se tshwanelo ya Motswana go nna le sone setsha.

Jaanong fa re dirisa ditshwanelo mo Lephatheng le la Tlamelo ya Bana le Thuto e Potlana kana go tswa kwa moding, re batla go netefatsa gone gore go a lemosega, go a tlhalogannwa mo Botswana gore ngwana o na le tshwanelo. Le fa a ise a belegwe, o na le tshwanelo ya go tlhokomelwa a santse a le mo go mmaagwe. Kana golo mo go raya gore re eme nokeng ene moimana wa rona, re netefatse gore le ka fa a tshelang ka teng, le dijo tse a ka tswang a di tsaya, a bo e le gore ke dijo tse di nonotshang ngwana yo ka go itse gore le jone boboko 80 *per cent* ya jone *develops* ngwana a santse a le gone koo. E re a tswa gone foo jaaka le itse, kana ke bua ka tlhokomelo ya ngwana, go tswa fela a goroga, yone *bundle of joy*, re tlaabo re tabogile mo rona ngwana yo moshaka bonako e le gore ngwana yo o kwadisitswe e bile o neetswe mephuthelwana e e tshwanetseng gore e mo tshegetse. Re a itse go setse go ntile le dikgang Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, bogakolodi jwa gore gongwe mo mephuthelwaneng wa rona re se ka ra eteletsapele mashi a a bidiwang *formula*, one a a bopi. Re a amogela gore ngwana o tshwanetse gore a amusiwe kgatsele ya ga mmaagwe *at least for the first three months*. Re a amogela gore re a itse gore go na le bana ba go nang le diemo tse di patikelelang gore ba simolole kwa tshimologong ba neelwa one mashi a mofuta o. Bone bao re simolola fela jalo ka bone. Ke gore ga re batle *gap* epe ya gore kamoso go bo gotwe bana ga ba a tsoga, ga ba a sielwa mashi, ba bolailwe ke tlala.

Le itse le yone thuto e e kwa moding e gore re tlile go e simolola kwa *two years* fela. A go nne le *crèches* bagaetsho, go nne le *nursery schools* mo metseng mo, re lese go bona bana ba tabogile mo mekgwatheng. Gone go taboga ga bana mo mekgwatheng ba sa tlhokomelwa ke ope, ke gone mo go dirang gore kgantele go bo go nna le dirukutlhi tsone tse di tsamayang di phurumetsa bana ba ntse ba itabogela.

Se sengwe se re se itemogelang re le lephata se re tshwanetseng go mekamekana le sone ka lebelo le letona, ke gone gore re lebelele bone batlhokomedi ba bana ba mo malwapeng. O ka se ke...



**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification  
Honourable Minister.

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke ne ke kopa gore ke name ke tswetse, nako yame e khutshwanyane. Ke a leboga. Gore le bone ba ba tlhokomelang bana ba, bogolo jang ka re itse gore bana ba rona ba a emelela ba ya go batla ditiro rona re sala re tlhokometse bana, bagolo ba rona ba ba tlhokometseng bana, *pension fund* ya bone e okediwe e ye kwa go P1,800.00 ba kgone go tlhokomela bana ba bone. Ba imolole bana ba ba ntseng ba sokola ba morwalo wa go tlhoka go tlamela bana.

Re bua ka *human rights approach*. Re bua ka dikgang tsa *access to education*. A ngwana mongwe le mongwe a nne le tshwanelo ya go fitlhelela thuto gongwe le gongwe kwa a leng teng. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ke rialo ke re gone gompieno jaana, re tshwanetse go lemoga gore go nne le tekatekano mo thutong ya rona. Thuto ya rona e nne le boleng, e simolole fela gone kwa go bo *two years*. Gape go nne le ditsompelo tse e leng gore di ka kgona go kgontsha gone mo.

Gongwe fa ke tswa Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, ka nako e a tsamaya, ke se ka ka tlhoka go tshwara dikgang tse di amang kgaolo e ke kileng ka dira maiteko kwa go yone go emela boPalamente. Kgaolo e e leng gore e aparetse ke lehuma le le kwa godimo. Ke tsamaye ke goroge kwa lehuma le kwa tshotlego di leng teng, le kwa ditsompelo di seyong teng go feta mo mafelong a otlhe a kgaolo yame. Ke palamelele ke ye Oliphant's Drift, Ramotlabaki, ke goroge kwa Phalakampa, kwa e leng gore gatwe go na le *settlement*, bone batho ba e leng gore ba a re tlhopho, ke bua jaana ka gore ba ntlhophile ka dipalo tse ditonatona mo go makatsang. Bone ba ba Phalakampa gatwe ke *settlement*. Go na le *mobile clinic*, mme matlhotlhapelo ke gore ke ka le kaela setshwantsho sa mo go bidiwang *clinic* mo e leng gore one *mobile clinic* e berekela fa teng, mo go nang le 2 by 2 ntlo ya mmu; matlhotlhapelo. Ke atle ke re fa o le lepolotiki o nne le boutlwelobotlhoko. Ke bo ke ipotsa gore tota gatwe bana ba ba kalelwa jang mo lefelong lone le, le le tlaa gosomanang mo go bone, lone lefelo le le lerole go le kana.

Fa ke theoga ke tsena mo Ramotlabaki, ke santse ke fitlhela seemo se e leng gore ga go na *midwives*, *resident doctor*; ga go na *clinic* epe e e leng gore e phuthulogile o ka fitlhela go na le baoki mo teng.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Ke kopa go tswela, ke tlaa go fa go setse 50 *seconds*.

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

**MS KGAFELA-MOKOKA:** Fa ke tsena teng, ke fitlhete seemo se se gakgamatsang ke fitlhela bomme, ke batla go bua ka bomme, ba santse ba belegela mo malwapeng, matlhotlhapelo.

Fa ke theoga ke tsena mo Oliphant's Drift, ke teilwe dinako tse dingwe gotwe go na le *resident doctor*; ka ya teng ka ya go okomela kwa *clinic* ka re mpontsheng *resident doctor*; ka se ka ka e fitlhela, ka re bogolo mpontshe kwa a nnang teng, ka se ka ka mo fitlhela; matlhotlhapelo. Rona re le Goromente wa UDC, *we are clear*; go tshwanetse gore *at least* mo lefelong lone leo le le nang le batho ba, re bo re na le mooki a le mongwe kana ba le babedi *depending on the population*, re na le *midwife*, le ngaka. Jaanong re bua ka batho ba e leng gore ba kgetholotswe, ga ba na ditsela gotlhelele. Fa o tswa mo Mochudi o ya Oliphant's Drift, *close to 90 km*, ga go na sekonotere. Fa o tswa o re o e tsena ka Leshibitse, *more than 80 km*, ga go na sekonotere. Fa o re o e tsena o tswa ka kwa Mmaphashalala, o fitlhela bo Brink ba go lotleletse kwa ntle mo dipolaseng tsa bone, go ntse go sena ditsela. Fa go ntse jalo, batho ba ne ba busa 58 *years* bagaetsho, ga re ka ke ra tlhoka go bua kang e, ba farologantse batho, ba ba kgaogantse le ditlhabololo le masika. Ke gore ba ba tlogetse kwa ntlentle.

Se se makatsang *Madam Speaker*, go na le noka e tona, go na le ditlhapi teng, nako le nako gatwe go na le *fish festival*. Ba ile *to deplete the resources*, ba tlogela batho ba sa tshwara sepe. Go emeletse ka dikoloi tse di tona go ilwe go rwalwa ditlhaphi teng. Goromente wa rona ga a batle moo, ke sone se o bonang re beile *infrastructure* kwa godimo. Ke tsaya gore dinako tse dingwe re tlaa nna re sebaseba le fa ke se Mopalamente wa kgaolo. Ke tlile go sebaseba ka ke mo Goromenteng, gore tsela nngwe fela ya tsone tse tharo tse di sokodisang e, e agiwe gore madirelo a ye teng, re tle re mekamekane le letlhoko la ditiro, ka gore fa go ka nna le *fisheries* gone kwa, ga dirwa ditlhabololo, ga nna le tsela ao! *investors* ba tlile go tabogela gone kwa, re tlhama mebereko, le rona re nna le Oliphant's Star.

Ga ke batle go bua ka bana ba ba tletseng mo mekgwatheng ba e leng gore fa ba fetsa *Form 3* ga go itsewe gore ba isiwa kae, mme re na le tse di tshwanang le bo Oodi College of Applied Arts and Technology

(OCAAT) *that can observe them*. Re tlile go dira jalo. Re tlile *to benchmark* ka *colleges* tse di ntseng jalo kwa bo Cape Town, re bo re tlisa dithutego tsa mofuta o re di tsenya kwa OCAAT. Fa re rutile tšhaba e e ntseng jalo, re rutile banana ba ba tlaa tsholang bana, ba tlhokomela bana ba bone, ba lesa go nna ba ya go tlhatlhelwa mo gotweng *civil imprisonment* gotwe ga ba a duela *maintenance*. Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente gongwe *I can yield for* ba ba batlang go botsa. *I thank you*.

**MR HIKUAMA:** *Point of clarification. Honourable Minister, I had a clarification* le fa nako ya teng e fedile, gore go na le batho ba ba dirisang bana *to collect* dilo ka dipampiri tse di kopang, a mme golo mo ga o bone e le *abuse, something has to be done?* Ka gore bana ba *are exposed to abuse, ridicule and a lot of things*. A o akanyetsa *gore you can address* kgang e?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** It is time up!

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS**

**(MR MOSWAANE):** Mma ke go leboge Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente. Ke leboge Jehovah Morena Modimo, mo leineng le le golo la ga Jeso Keresete go bo mo letsatsing le a mpeile mo *the 13<sup>th</sup> Parliament*. Le rona bo *spook* mathambo re mo teng. Re lebeletse ka bontle jo Modimo a bo diretseng lefatshe, gore Botswana a bo a kgabile, Batswana ba itumetse, UDC e le mo Pusong, ke mabaka a ke a lebogang thata baagi bagolo ba Francistown ka kakaretso, gore ba berekile mmogo, le Batswana mo lefatsheng la Botswana ka kakaretso ba berekile mmogo. Ka tumelo e e tletseng gore go ntse, go lekane, *enough is enough* ka Botswana Democratic Party (BDP)!

Re leboga tšhaba ya Botswana go bo ba ile ba fatlhoga, ba fatlhologa, ba bona go tshwanetse gore UDC e e eteletsweng pele ke President Duma Gideon Boko e tsene mo setilong go ya ka taelo ya Jehovah Modimo. Bagaetsho, re fano, re mo Pusong e ntšha, re mo *new testament*, mo kgolaganong e ntšha, mme ditsholofetso tsa rona ke tsa gore, Motswana ope fela yo o tshedileng mo lefatsheng, o tshwanetse go nna le bokamoso jo bo siameng. Motswana mongwe le mongwe yo o tshedileng mo lefatsheng la Botswana, a bo a tshela botshelo jo bo siameng. A le kwa tennyanteng, a le mo toropong kana a le kae fela, kana a le kwa magaeng, botshelo jwa Motswana bo tshwanetse go fetoga. Dikgang tse re di emetse, re le ba UDC, e bile re tlaa dira gore Puso ya rona e tlhomamise gore maikaelelo a yone a *phethagale*, a diragale.

Betsho ke le simolola ka sefela se se reng “betang pelo ba Morena, le mo sieleng sebaka, o tlaa itse go fetola tsotlhe molemo wa lona.” Batswana betsho, betang pelo ba Morena, le mo sieleng sebaka o tlaa itse go fetola tsotlhe molemo wa lona. Le ka se tlhabiwe ke ditlhong mo Pusong e ntšha, ke bua le wena mogolo yo o itlhobogileng, le wena motlholagadi. Ke bua le wena yo o itlhobogileng o sa tlhole o itse gore go ka diragala eng. Puso ya Umbrella, Puso e ntšha e tlaa fetola botshelo jwa gago. Ba bangwe ba re Moshe, o ne o re isa kae maloba ka *October*, go setse go sa diragale sepe mo nakong ya gompiano. Ka tumelo e re mo go yone re mo paakanyong, *a journey of a thousand miles starts with one step*. Re simolola gone jaana, re na le *30 days*, nnyaa, ke mang yo o ka felang pelo mo *30 days* a re go na le Puso e e re solofeditseng se, e e a palelwa, *30 days!* Mo go *30 days* o o bale o bo o ntsha *10 days* Tautona a ise a tlhomiwe semmuso mo Pusong, mo setilong sa gagwe. Ra re Batswana betsho, re a le kopa gore le se ka la itewa ke ba *social media* tsebe, le bone ga re ba bone molato, ra re lentswe leo ba itshwarelelang ka lone ke gore, betang pelo ba Morena le mo siele sebaka. Le se ka la fela pelo, Umbrella for Democratic Change Puso ya yone e mo tafoleng go fetola maemo, ditulo, go tlatsa ditilo tse di reketlang. Ba ba bokoa badirelapuso ba tlaa neelwa dinonfo. Ke rata go ba solofetsa gore, botlhe ba ba tlaa dirang ka pelo e tletse, ba dire ka bonatla, ba se ka ba tshoga gore a Umbrella for Democratic Change e tlaa ba koba mo tirong. Re batla bonatla, re batla motho yo o ikapolang letlalo la pele. Ga re batle motho ope yo o ganelelang mo dikakanyong tsa Puso e kgologolo. Esitang le ene *the Former President Masisi* o ba itatotse a re, “ke apola jase, salang le jase ya lona ke eo,” a re, “lebaganang le ba galona ke bao, nna ke paletswe.”

Ke re bagaetsho, ke solofetsa Batswana mo nakong ya gompiano ke le *the Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs* gore re gorogile ba re romilweng ke Modimo go fetola seemo. Re tlile ka botlhoko jwa dipelo re sena go bona tšhaba ya Botswana e sokola.

Ke ne ka tswa mo Domkrag go se *fashionable* go dira jalo, mme ke utlwa le ntswe la kgakololo. Ke utlwa molaetsa gore UDC ya re e tlaa fetola diemo. Ke utlwalela molaetsa gore UDC e tlaa ntsha *corruption* e menola le medi ya yone. Ke utlwalela molaetsa gore, Motswana mongwe le mongwe o tlaa tshela botshelo jo bo tokafetseng. Motswana mongwe le mongwe go ya go nyelediwa lehuma mo go ene, gore rotlhe re tshele jaaka Modimo a laetse go ya ka *Constitution* ya lefatshe la

Botswana, gore ga go a tshwanela gore go nne le motho yo o tshelang botshelo jo bo kwa tlaselase, teemane, digauta le kopore le ditswammung tse dingwe tsotlhe di tswa mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Ke rata go solofetsa setšhaba sa Botswana gore, *ministry* wa me, o ke mo go one, ke na le tsholofelo ya gore re tlaa phatlalala le lefatshe lotlhe go ya go bona se se diragalang, e bile le go ya go fetola se se diragalang. Ke rata go raya Batswana ke re, *heish!* ke fetotse diemo, *I am no longer playing an attacking role, I am in-charge of the situation.*

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

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

**MR MOSWAANE:** Nnete e e tshelang ke yone eo. *I am in charge*, ke tlhomilwe Mothusu Tona, ke botshephegi. Se se nnyang moko mo gare ga dilo tsotlhe tse, Tautona yo ke mo setseng morago o tsepame, o a tshephagala, o a tshepisa, o na le tsholofelo, o lwela ditshwanelo tsa batho. Ga a fokole...

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

**MR MOSWAANE:** A re ke lefoko le le mo baebeleng gore, “Morena, nkutlwele bothoko ke mofokodi wa gago?”...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** O a fokola.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Ga a fokole matlhong a gago, a a tletseng bonaba.

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

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

**MR MOSWAANE:** Bagaetsho! ke ne ke re ke tshepise Batswana gore *Ministry* wa rona wa Local Government and Traditional Affairs, o tlaa dira ka bojotlhe go tlhomamisa gore o itshupe gore ke ene Goromente wa bobedi mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Re ya go lwantsha diemo tsotlhe tse di sa bolong go kgokgontsha Batswana. *Thank you.*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members, as it is now 6 o'clock, I shall call upon the Leader of the House to move a Motion of adjournment.

### MOTION

### ADJOURNMENT

**LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MOHWASA):** Madam Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

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