13th PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

PARLIAMENT OF BOTSWANA

OUR PARLIAMENT OUR PRIDE

DAILY HANSARD

YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2026

MIXED VERSION

HANSARD NO: 221

DISCLAIMER
Unofficial Hansard

This transcript of Parliamentary proceedings is an unofficial version of the Hansard and may contain inaccuracies. It is hereby published for general purposes only. The edited version of the Hansard will be published when available and can be obtained from the Assistant Clerk (Editorial)

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

Clerk of the National Assembly	- Dr G. G. G. Malebang
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Ms K. H. Dikgokgwane
Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Dr A. R. Masuku
Senior Assistant Clerk	- Vacant
Assistant Clerk (E)	- Ms K. Nyanga

CABINET

The President Adv. D. G. Boko, MP.	- President
His Honour N. N. Gaolathe, MP.	- Vice President & Minister of Finance
Hon. M. C. Mohwasa, MP.	- Minister for State President, Defence and Security
Hon. Dr P. Butale, MP.	- Minister for International Relations
Hon. N. Ramaotwana, MP.	- Minister of Justice and Correctional Services
Hon. K. Motshegwa, MP.	- Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs
Hon. Dr E. G. Dikoloti, 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 Sport and Arts
Hon. N. S. L. M. Salakae, MP.	- Minister of Transport and Infrastructure
Hon. M. B. Mophuting-Dikoloti, MP.	- Assistant Minister for State President, Defence and Security
Hon. A. Nyatanga, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Justice and Correctional Services
Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Traditional Affairs
Hon. M. G. J. Motsamai, 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, Child Welfare and Basic Education
Vacant	- Assistant Minister, Water and Human Settlement
Hon. K. Atamelang, MP.	- Assistant Minister, Transport and Infrastructure

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

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

OPPOSITION

(Botswana Congress Party)

Hon. D. Saleshando, MP. (Leader of the Opposition)	Maun North
Hon. C. K. Hikuama, MP. (Opposition Whip)	Maun West
Hon. Dr U. Dow, MP.	Kgatleng West
Hon. Dr K. Gobotswang, MP	Tswapong South
Hon. K. K. Kapinga, MP	Okavango West
Hon. G. Kekgonegile, MP.	Maun East
Hon. T. B. Lucas, MP.	Bobirwa
Hon. K. Nkawana, MP.	Selebi Phikwe East
Hon. P. Aaron, MP.	Ngami
Hon. G. Disho, MP.	Okavango East
Hon. T. Furniture, MP.	Tati East
Hon. R. W. Kaizer, MP.	Selebi Phikwe West
Hon. B. B. Mabeo, MP.	Gamalete
Hon. S. O. Mapulanga, MP.	Chobe
Hon. M. Moalosi, MP.	Nkange

(Botswana Patriotic Front)

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

(Botswana Democratic Party)

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

(Independent Member of Parliament)

Hon. Dr E. G. Dikoloti, MP.	Goodhope- Mmathethe

SPECIALLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY, 2026

CONTENTS *PAGE (S)*

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENT 1

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER.....1-17

BUSINESS MOTION.....1

GOVERNMENT BILL

National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 of 2026)

Committee Stage.....18-19

Third Reading.....20

MOTIONS

Deferred Motions.....21-22

Government to Authorise Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) to Focus on Distribution of Power

Motion.....23-28

Wednesday 29th July, 2026

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

P R A Y E R S

* * * *

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG): Order! Honourable Members, a *re nneng fa fatshe*. Good afternoon Honourable Members.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Good afternoon Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: There is an announcement Honourable Members. Please note that there is a corrigendum removing the Tabling of a Paper from today's Order Paper. So, let us start the business of today with questions. Again, before questions, I understand the Leader of the House has a Business Motion to move. So, can you move the Motion Honourable Leader of the House, Acting Minister Mmolotsi.

BUSINESS MOTION

ACTING LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MMOLOTSI): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I beg to move in terms of Standing Order 130.1 to suspend Standing Order 40.7 to allow this Honourable House to extend question time to 1600 hours to allow for more questions to be answered and also to cater for the conclusion of the Committee Stage of the National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 of 2026). I thank you Madam Speaker.

Question put and **agreed to.**

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

COMPENSATION AND PAYMENTS MADE TO EX-MINERS

MR G. KEKGONEGILE (MAUN EAST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to brief this Honourable House on the progress made in the compensation and payments made to former workers of South African mines, with emphasis on:

(i) the total number of individuals identified for payment in Botswana so far;

(ii) the number of those who have been paid as well as, the number of those whose claims are currently being processed for different stages of the payment process;

(iii) how many of those paid and those still being processed are from the Okavango and North West Districts; and

(iv) whether the Minister will arrange feedback through kgotla meetings for ex-miners in Maun, Gumare and Shakawe; if so, when, and if not, why not.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MR KEKGONEGILE: A ko e arabiwe ke Mokgware e seng Mmolotsi.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

ACTING MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR MMOLOTSI): *Thank you very much Madam Speaker*. Ga ke itse gore motlotlegi o batla karabo kana motho, mme fa e le gore o batla karabo ke ka tswelela, fa a batla motho ke ka nna fa fatshe.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MR MMOLOTSI: Madam Speaker, let me preface my response by informing this Honourable House that, the Government of the Republic of South Africa has assisted the Botswana Government with locating Provident Fund Administrators that have pensions, gratuities and annuities belonging to Batswana ex-miners. Moreover, a company known as Tshiamiso Trust has been appointed to facilitate compensation for ex-mine workers who contracted occupational lung diseases during their time of work. Essentially, there are two areas of funds recovery in the form of compensation for occupational disease and pension and annuities.

(i) Madam Speaker, a total of 3838 individuals were assessed for occupational lung diseases, of which 1933 were eligible for compensation.

(ii) All the 1 933 individuals have been paid their compensation for occupational lung diseases, at a value of R206,014,007.00, approximately BWP169,081,422.73. However, assessments continue to be done as customers visit the testing centre every now and then.

(iii) For the Okavango and North West Districts, an outreach to locate qualifying individuals for pension payments was conducted from 12th - 17th July 2026. A total of 32 claimants were identified and are being processed, while the process of identification continues. The value for the 32 claims is R1,885,876.10, approximately BWP1,547,790.94.

(iv) Madam Speaker, let me assure this Honourable House that identifying ex-mine workers is an on-going process, and the ministry will continue to engage customers across the country, including Maun, Gumare and Shakawe through various platforms and Kgotla meetings as the process unfolds. The schedules for such meetings will be communicated to all places of visit to District Commissioners' offices and offices of respective area Members of Parliament (MPs). I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Supplementary*. Tona re a go utlwa, wa re e rile fa potso e tsena mo Palamenteng le bo le siana le ya kwa Okavango le North West, gone fa gare ga di 12 le di 17 tsa ga *July*. Gakere ke beke e e neng e feta e, mme fela gone le tswa teng. Le ikaelela go ya go boela teng leng gape, ka gore palo e le e boneng teng ya 32, e nnyennyane fela thata fa re e tshwantshanya le bokete jwa ditsholofelo tsa batho ba ba neng ba ile meepong? Golo fa go ntse jang? Go duelwa ba ba leng mo botshelong fela, ba ba seng mo botshelong, *dependents* tsa bone ga ba ka ke ba kgona *to claim for them if it is possible*, tsamaiso ke eng?

Dipalo tse o di buileng tsa 3.8 ke tsa ba ba sekasekelwang botsogo fela, ga o a bua ka tsa ba *pension*, mme o ne o re *funds* tse di pedi. Go na le ya botsogo le ya *pension* fa e le gore ke go utlwile sentle. Jaanong ya *pension, ministry* o simolola leng go leka go e sekasekela le gore batho ba duelwe? Tanki.

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Gongwe ke supe fela gore kgang ya gore e ne ya re potso e tsena, re bo re taboga re ya kwa, ga se mafoko a boammaaruri ka gore thulaganyo e jaaka ke bua, e tsweletse. Ke thulaganyo e e tswang kgakala e ntse e dirwa, mme gape jaaka ke tlhalositse, *identification* e ntse e tsweletse mo mafelong a a tshwanang le bo Maun, Gumare le Shakawe, go tlaabo go ntse go tsweletswe ka yone.

Kitsiso ya gore go tlaa iwa leng e tlaabo e ntse e tsweletse ka diofisi tsa ga Molaodi, tsa gago le Mapalamente a mangwe. Ka jalo e e ntseng jalo, re a tswelela gore re tle re leke go thusa.

Karabo ya potso ya bofelo ke gore, kana fa batho ba ba le *identified,* go tshwanetse gore go tlholwe gore a ba ne ba amiwa ke bolwetse jo. Fa ba setse ba tlhokafetse, go tlaa nna bokete gore re itse gore a ba ne ba amiwa ke bolwetse kana jang.

Mo go ya *pension;* gongwe ke kgang e mo nakong ya gompieno e santse e sekasekwa go bona gore go ya go dirwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Re mo dipuisanyong le ba South Africa go bona gore eo e wela ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke a leboga.

MR MOROLONG: *Supplementary.* Ke lebogile thata *Madam Speaker,* ka gore ke tswa mo phuthegong e ke neng ke biditse batho ba The Employment Bureau of Africa (TEBA) mabapi le dikgang tse tsa batsadi ba ba neng ba bereka kwa meepong ya South Africa. Ke dumela gore ka fa *Minister* a arabang ka teng, ditlhaloso tse a di bayang Palamente pele, di boammaaruri ka fa le bone ke neng ke utlwa ba tlhalosa ka teng.

Go na le kgang e nngwe fela ke e *Minister* e ke kopang gore o e *note,* e e leng tlhoraboroko. *Are you aware* gore go na le selo gatwe se bidiwa *Letter of Authority* e le *demand* e e dirwang ke ba *High Court* kwa South Africa *for a beneficiary,* fa e le gore motsadi *(ex-miner)* wa Botswana *who qualified* o tlhokafetse. Jaanong *there is a beneficiary here,* mme go supafala gore madi a teng *for* motsadi wa rona yo o hulereng, mme go tlhokafala le lekwalo le, le le dirwang fela kwa South Africa. Re thusana jang le Goromente wa South Africa gore batho ba rona… kana re bua ka batsadi ba bangwe ke batho ba ba tona thata go ka tlola molelwane. Re thusana jang re le *Ministry* wa *Labour and Home Affairs,* gongwe le wa *International Relations* mo kgannyeng e, go nolofaletsa babereki ba pele ba meepo ya South Africa gore ba thusege.

Fa ke wela, ba TEBA ba supa gore ba na le *backlog* e e seng kana ka sepe ya dikgang tse di emisitsweng fela ke temana e, ba kopa thuso mo go Goromente wa rona gore re *intervene.* Ke bua selo se ke leng *fresh* mo go sone, ke tswa Kgotla *meeting* e e fedileng ka 12:30 p.m. kwa *main* Kgotla kwa Mochudi, e le *ex-miners* le batho ba teng. Ke a leboga *Minister.*

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* E ke nngwe ya dikgang tse di neng tsa itshupa morago. Jaanong mo nakong ya gompieno, lephata le setse le simolotse *to engage* go bona gore go ka felela go thusanwe ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke a leboga.

MR LUCAS: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Kgang e ke kgang e tona thata. Go lebega gore ba Tshiamiso Trust ba ikganeletse thata kwa Molepolole, mme se se tshwenyang le go feta ke gore ga ba letlelele bosupi bope jo bo tswang mo dipateleng kgotsa *clinics* tsa rona mono. A ga se gore go tlhokafala gore go nne le puisanyo le lona ka koo le le bogogi, gore bogolo fa e le sengwe, ba amogele bosupi bope jo bo tswang mo dipateleng tsa rona gore batho ba ba tona ba tle ba kgona go bona thuso. Gore jaanong batho ba tswe mo dikgaolong tsotlhe tsa Botswana ba ye kwa Molepolole kwa *clinic* e e kgethilweng ke bone, go lebega go sokodisa batho thata. Ke sengwe sa dilo tse gongwe le ka se sekaseka, a lona ga le bone go tshwanela gore le se sekaseke?

Ya bobedi ke ya *pensions;* ba *pension* ba ne ba tlile kwa kgaolong ya rona ya Bobirwa, mme ba kgona go bona batho ba le *eight* fela *out of a thousand who attended,* e bile ba re ba simolola ka 1989. Ke re jaanong ka gatwe *trusts* tse di tlaabong di tshotse madi di a farologana di kwa South Africa, le dira leng thulaganyo ya gore *trusts* tseo di tle ka kwano, di tle di re tlhalosetse sentle gore bomang madi a bone a kwa kae, gore batho ba teng ba se ka ba nna ba bolawa ke mesepele ya *to attend* diphuthego gotwe go tlile *trust* e *one*, fa ba tsena kwa go bo gotwe e *trust* ga se ya lona, e ke e e simololang ka bo 1989, mme batho ba ne ba ile meepong go simolola ka bo 1970.

Ya bofelo, go na le dirukutlhi tse di boneng phatlha, ba ba neng ba solofetsa batho ba, ba ba kolekele madi gore ba ye go ba batlela madi kae. Ga ke itse gore a le setse le itse kgang eo, fa le e itse, le dira eng ka yone go leka go bebisa seemo se, ka gore bagolo ba le bantsi ba latlhegetswe ke madi e le gore ba neela batho ba gore ba ye go ba batlela madi ka kwa South Africa, mme go tswa foo ga go nke go bonala sepe. Ke a leboga.

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Ke simolole ka ya borukutlhi gore, re ne re ise re itse sentle gore go ka tswa go na le borukutlhi jo bo ntseng jalo. Kana mo go yone, tota ke go leka *to caution* batsadi fela gore fa ba na le thulaganyo e e ntseng jaana, ba tshwanelwa ke gore ba thusiwe kgotsa ba lebagane le ba e leng gore ba a ba tshepha. Ba se ka ba tshepha mongwe le mongwe ka thulaganyo ya madi, ka gore e dingalo mo go feteletseng. E tlaa re jaaka re ntse re tsweletse ka go buisana le bone le diphuthego tse ke ntseng ke bua ka tsone, re tlaa boa re ntse re gakolola batsadi gore e re fa le utlwa o kare go bokete, tsayang ba le ba tshephang gore ga ba ka ke ba le utswela madi. Gone re a itse gore go dingalo, le ene ngwana wa gago yo o mo tshephang, o kgona gore a go ele ka dinakana bodibeng. *They have to try by all means to make sure that the people they send are people* ba ba tshephagalang.

Mo dikgannyeng ya *pension Honourable* Om Luu, jaaka ke ne ke tlhalosa, dipuisanyo *are ongoing* go bona gore thulaganyo e ya *pensions* e ka dirwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang mo go bonolo. Goromente wa Botswana le wa South Africa ba mo dipuisanyong tsa gore ba tle ba kgone *to facilitate this thing,* e tle e kgone gore e diragale ka tsela e e bonolo gore ba ba tshwanetseng *to benefit,* ba se ka ba iphitlhela ba sokola kana ba palelwa.

Mo go ya gore ga go amogelwe *evidence from* gongwe le gongwe, jalo he, go raya gore Batswana ba felela ba tsamaya *distance* e telele, ke boammaaruri, ba na le thulaganyo e e faphegileng ya gore ba ka tshepha bafe go ka ba direla tiro e e tlhokafalang. Jaaka le rona re itse, ba re ba tlhoka gore ba ba ba direlang tiro e, e bo e le ba ba ba tshephang ka gore le a itse le lona gore gompieno jaana, o kgona go neelwa *sick leave* ke bongaka mme o sa lwale, e le fela gore o batla go ya golo gongwe. *So that is why* ba re, go raya gore e bo e le ba re ka ba tshephang *and monitor* sentle *or else* kgantele mongwe le mongwe o ka felela a bolawa ke bolwetse jo le ba ba neng ba bo falotse. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo Om Luu, go raya gore mo nakong ya gompieno seemo ke seo. Fa e le gore seemo se ka fetoga mo nakong e e tlang, se ka fetoga *but for now* mabaka a bone ke one a ke ntseng ke a tlhalosa.

MR BAGAISAMANG: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker. I think* tse dingwe *were covered by Honourable* Lucas. Go na le kgang e *one Honourable Minister* ya gore kana mme batho ba *pensions,* ba TEBA, ba ne ba na le *office* rra kwa Palapye e e neng e thusa Northern Botswana. Jaanong ke re ke utlwe mo go wena gore jaaka e tswetswe jaana, Batswana ba ba kwa bokone bale bone, thulaganyo ya bone ke eng, ka gore go raya gore gompieno jaaka Rre Lucas a ne a supa, go iwa fela kwa Boswelakoko. Batswana ba ba kwa Bokone bone le ba thusa jang, ka gore re mo pakeng ya leshekere la madi, go ya kwa Molepolole ke namane e tona ya tiro? Northern Botswana yotlhe e ntse e thusiwa kwa Palapye, mme go tswetswe. Ke a leboga.

MR MMOLOTSI: *It is a genuine concern Honourable Member of Parliament,* gore kana jaanong batho ba tswa kgakala go latela *office.* Fa ba ne ba tswala ofisi nngwe ya dikgang tse ba neng ba na le tsone, e ne e le

gore dipalo tse di gorogang o fitlhela di le kwa tlase mo jaanong *the cost* ya *to run office* e le kwa godimo, mme e le gore batho ga ba tle ka dipalo tse di kalokalo. E bile ba supa gore le gone kwa Molepolole ga se gore dipalo tsa batho di tla di le kalokalo, *but they are keeping the office open, nonetheless.* E ne e le kgang fela ya go leka *to manage costs* gore *they should not run* diofisi tse pedi, mme batho ba ba tlang kwa go tsone ba se bantsi, ba kgona go nna lebaka le le leele ba ntse foo go sena ope yo o tlang. Ka tsela e e ntseng jalo, *yes, it is understandable* gore *it is going to be very expensive* mo Batswaneng ba ba tlhokang dithuso tseo, *but at the same time,* go ne go setse go le bokete mo go bone *to run office* e e leng gore *on a daily basis* fa gongwe e kgona go nna beke, dibeke tse pedi go sena yo o tlang kwa go yone. Ke a leboga.

MR MAPULANGA: Ke a go leboga *Madam Speaker,* tla ke go leboge Tona. Gongwe ke latedise kgang ya go duedisa batsadi, a o a re ba ne ba sa tshwanelwa ke gore ba ka bo ba duedisitswe? Ke gakologelwa kwa kgaolong ya rona, *over* 100/*minus,* ba duedisitswe ba bo ba pegiwa dibase ba isiwa Molepolole *to be tested. Since then* megala ya ofisi ya Molepolole e arabiwa ka fa ba batlang ka teng, kana gotlhelele ga e tsene. Le mme yo re neng re neetswe *contacts* tsa gagwe ga re sa tlhola re mo tshwara. A mme ba ne ba tshwanetse go duedisiwa, kana ka gore ba ne ba thusiwa *through* ofisi ya ga Molaodi re boele kwa go yone re bone gore *they are refunded* kana *facilitated* go bona dituelo tsa bone? Ka gore go tla go tsena jaana, ke sa itse mo dipalong tsa gago fa o ntse o tsaya *answer* eo gore go na le fa o kileng wa kgabodisa teng gore mo Kgaolong ya Chobe, batsadi…ka gore *already* ke na le *five* ba ba setseng ba tlhokafetse, ba ba neng ba le *on the list*, a mme go na le ba le setseng le simolotse go ba duela madi a bone a *pension,* kana go na le ba le kgonneng *to confirm* gore ba ne ba nna *affected* ka dikgang tsa *tests* tseo ka gore go didimetse?

Gongwe ya bofelo ke kgang ya gore, re dumela gore e ka tswalwa leng kgang e, kana re sale re e sala morago, e na le lebaka? Kwa ga rona *I think* ke kopane le yone *for almost three years now*, ga e wele kgang ya teng *Madam Speaker.* A mme Tona o ka re neela seelo sa gore mme ba eletsa gore *this time around,* re bo re tswetse kgang e, batsadi ba duetswe kana ba ba sa duelweng re itse gore *they do not qualify?* Ba itse gore ba se ka ba solofela sepe, ka gore letsatsi le letsatsi mo Dikgotleng ba re botsa gore madi a tla leng, re solofele leng? Ke dikgang tse di mo Dikgotleng, gore re ka bona *timeline* ya gore kgang ya teng e tlaabo e tswetswe leng?

MR MMOLOTSI: Ke a leboga. Jaaka ke ne ke tlhalositse, tse di neng di setse di amogetswe e ne e le 3,838. Mo go tsone jaaka ke bua, morago ga *assessment* go ile ga kgona go feta fela tse di 1,933, ke bone ba ba neng ba tshwanelwa ke *to be compensated*. Ke tsaya gore palo e *reflects* dipalo tsa batho *that were assessed*. Go ne ga kopanwa le bone *and they were assessed*. Ke tlaabo jaanong ke sa itse gore ba Chobe fa e le gore ga ba mo palong e, ke ba ba kopaneng le *assessment* mo nakong efe. Ke tsaya gore ke selo se re ka boelang kwa morago go tlhola gone gore a mme e ka tswa e le thulaganyo e ba neng ba tla morago, ga ba yo mo dipalong tse kana jang. *It is something that we will do and then we can get back to you*.

Gore e tlaa nna kgang e e tlaa tswalwang leng; ke dumela gore mo nakong ya gompieno go santse go lekwa. Ke sone se ba lephata ba simolotseng le gone go tsamaya kwa dikgaolong go leka go tswapinya gore batho ba kgang e e ise e goroge kwa go bone, e goroge, ba tle ba kgone go tla ba thusiwe. Re santse re dumela gore go na le bangwe ba molaetsa o o iseng o goroge kwa go bone. *That is why* Lephata le re, *maybe* go tsamaiwe go lekwe go gakolola batho kana go ba bolelela gore go na le thulaganyo e. Ke tsaya gore ka mafoko a a kalo *Madam Speaker*, ke ema foo.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Caterpillar Hikuama.

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

BCL

MR R. W. KAIZER (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST): asked the Minister of Minerals and Energy to explain:

(i) how funds exceeding BWP 633 million that were reported by the liquidator as recoveries have been utilised in the case of BCL;

(ii) how much was used to pay creditor claims, and how much is still owed to creditors; and

(iii) how much remains available in the liquidation estate to be used as an ex gratia payment to the former BCL employees.

MINISTER OF MINERALS AND ENERGY (MS KENEWENDO): Thank you Madam Speaker and a very good afternoon to this Honourable House, *le ba ba reeditseng kwa gae.*

(i) Madam Speaker, the cost of care and maintenance activities associated with the dewatering of operations of South East Extension (SE Ext), No 1 Shaft and No. 3 Shaft includes labour costs; water and electricity; rates and taxes; spares and maintenance costs; housing and the maintenance, and use of underground vehicles has cost the estate of BCL close to BWP2 Billion since inception of liquidation.

While Government (GRB) has paid all care and maintenance costs in full until March 2021 as a cost of administration in the winding up of BCL, post March 2021, all care and maintenance costs were paid by the liquidators from funds at hand while GRB and MDCB made ad hoc payments as and when funds were available from the Government coffers.

The liquidator has since repaid GRB P100 million on its post liquidation loan account as well as utilised funds at hand for the ongoing rehabilitation costs. Funds were provided for the purchase of tremor monitoring equipment as well as to pay the costs of administration which are payable in terms of the law.

A full accounting of all income received by the liquidator as well as all expenses paid from BCL funds for the period from date of liquidation up to 30th of September 2024 are included in two Liquidation and Distribution Accounts which were lodged with the Master.

A further accounting of all funds received and of expenses made from 1st October 2024 will be included in a Third liquidation and Distribution Account once all the transactions have reached financial close and the liquidator is released from further rehabilitation obligations and in particular from any obligations which may arise in terms of Section 75(3) of the Mines and Minerals Act.

(ii) In terms of the Insolvency Act, there are three classes of creditors, namely, Secured Creditors, Preferent Creditors and Concurrent Creditors.

(a) Secured Creditors

ABSA Bank is the only proved secured creditor of BCL and her claim of P35, 000, 000 was settled in full in terms of the confirmed First Liquidation and Distribution Account.

(b) Preferent Creditor

Employees are preferent creditors for their terminal benefits as defined in the Insolvency and Employment Acts. GRB funded and paid the terminal benefits of the employees to the value of P152, 945,722 and therefore took cession of the employees claims. This therefore extinguished claims of the BCL employees and GRB now holds the preferent claim in the amount.

(c) Concurrent Creditors

The value of the claims of the proved concurrent creditors of BCL is P1,162,439,389.68, however, claims of the creditors who have to date not proved a claim against BCL have since prescribed by the operation of the law.

(iii) Madam Speaker, the Companies Act makes no provision for *ex-gratia* payments to employees. However, as was already discussed in negotiations with the Ministry for State President, and not the Ministry of Labour, there is a taskforce that is looking at the benefit that was made in announcement by the Former Minister for State President that there would be an additional payment in addition to the terminal benefits, that were already paid.

The liquidator has a statutory duty to act in the best interest of the general body of creditors. This brings me back to the point that I said Government is also pursuing a second creditors meeting in order to lodge its own rights. Thank you.

MR KAIZER: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Ke leboge Tona ka go araba ka botswapelo. Ke na le dipotsonyana di le tharo. Potso ya ntlha ke gore, *do you have any legal instrument or statutory framework* e e itebagantseng le go laola ka fa *profits* tsa BCL di dirisiwang ka teng fa go sena go rekisiwa *assets?* Gongwe mo go yone eo, o tswe o papametse, o tsepame gore, a mme fa e le gore e teng, a dituelo tsa babereki ba BCL tsone tsa *ex-gratia,* a mme go papametse mo mokwalong oo gore ba tlaa duelwa madi ao?

Ya bobedi ke gore, a mme fa re setseng re tsamaya teng, a le setse le kgonne go fetsa tsamaiso ya gore mme babereki ba pele ba ya go duelwa ka tsela e e ntseng jang? E nngwe e bo e nna gore, gone mme *in the event that* madi a a tswang kwa *assets sales* a bo a felela mo go dueleng *other creditors,* a Goromente o ikaeletse gore a ye go batla madi mangwe a e leng gore *she can finance this ex-gratia?* Fa e le gore Goromente ga a ikaelela jalo, e tlaabo e le ka mabaka afe a e leng gore o tlaabo a sa dire jalo?

Ya bofelo, gone mme le le Goromente, a le kile la neelwa *any recommendation or legal advice* ya gore Goromente wa UDC o ka duela *ex-gratia even before the liquidation process concludes?* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.*

MS KENEWENDO: Thank you Madam Speaker. As I first stated, the liquidation is being guided by the Companies Act. I stated that the Companies Act in itself does not make provisions for *ex-gratia* payments, instead the terminal benefits have already been paid, but there is a task team that has been put together, that has been chaired by the Minister for State President in line with an announcement that was made to the employees back in 2016 that the Government intends to figure out how to honour that announcement. So, the workings and the dealings of the various questions that you have asked in relation to payment to the former employees are currently being negotiated under that task team. I would like for us to allow the conversations that are ongoing under that task team to continue because that is where it will be determined between Government, the former workers, both that are unionized and non-unionized on how to further proceed. As it speaks to legal advice, yes, there is legal advice on how best to proceed. It is well within the confines of managing a liquidation process. We are diligently moving within that space.

Further, the first question you asked was, is there any legal instrument that manages all the revenues that come from liquidation. Yes, under the Master of the High Court, that is where it is managed and through the creditors' assessments, especially as it relates to rehabilitation, the regulator which is the Department of Mines, is constantly engaged on the costs that are associated with rehabilitation. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR MONAGENG: *Supplementary. Thank you, Madam Speaker.* Go ne go na le monna mongwe mo *television,* o ne a atle a re, "a ke go utlwa sentle fa o re." Jaanong le nna *Madam Minister,* ke re ka boikokobetso a ke go utlwa sentle fa o bua ka bo P2 *billion,* ga ke itse gore a one o re P2 *billion or* P2 *million.* Tlhalosa go sekaenyana gore ke eng go ya go tsena kwa go bo P2 *billion? Also, how long has this been going on, the liquidation of* BCL? Ke eng go sa fele?

Lastly, e kare ke a itse gore go na le *liquidators* ba ba kileng ba nna ba tsena ba tswa, go hirwa yo mongwe, jang, jang, *how many liquidators have tried to sell* BCL, *and why* ba ntse ba tswa go tsena ba bangwe, ba sa feleletse tiro e ba e romilweng? *Thank you.*

MS KENEWENDO: Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you, Honourable Member. *Ke ne ke tlhalosa kgang ya* P2 billion. *Mma ke e boelele gore,* the cost of care and maintenance have since the inception of liquidation, been up to P2 billion. This is since 2016. So, it is about 10 years. *Ke ne ke tlhalosa gore* activities *tse di welang* under care and maintenance Madam Speaker, includes the dewatering of operations of the South East Extension No. 1 Shaft, No. 3 Shaft, water and electricity. *Le tlaa gakologelwa gore go na le* former workers *ba* BCL *ba ba santseng ba nna mo matlong kana mo* hostels, *ba ba neng ba duelelwa metsi le motlakase* for the period that they were there. All these costs include all of that, *mo re neng re go bitsa re re* care and maintenance.

Ke tsaya gore ke arabile ya gore liquidation *e e simolotse leng,* 2016. There have been three liquidators to date. The first liquidator was dismissed promptly after the first creditors' meeting. The second liquidator passed away, and his associate then took over as the liquidator who she still remains as the third liquidator to date. Madam Speaker, *ke tsaya gore ke di weditse jaaka di ne di boditswe.* Thank you.

NEPOTISM AND TRIBALISM IN THE WORKPLACE

MR C. K. JACOBS (LOBATSE): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to state Government's efforts in fighting nepotism and tribalism in the workplace particularly concerning recruitment of cleaners, gardeners and security personnel.

Later Date.

X-RAY MACHINE

MR P. AARON (NGAMI): asked the Minister of Health if he is aware that the new X-ray machine that was received on the 31st of January 2026 at Gumare Primary Hospital is not serving the community of Ngami Constituency at least up until July 2026, and that residents continue to travel to Maun, Ghanzi and Shakawe to access X-ray services on very bad roads and for long hours; if so:

(i) to state the reasons why the X-ray machine has not yet been commissioned and brought into service;

(ii) whether there are any staffing, training or technical challenges affecting operation of the machine; and

(iii) what immediate and long-term measures has the ministry put in place to ensure accessible radiological services for the people of Ngami Constituency.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR S. MODISE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, may I request that I give a response later. I am still waiting for the response for the Honourable Member's question. I tried to reach out, he did not get my message. So, may I request Honourable Member, that I respond to him at a later date. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Minister,* gakere mme o a itse gore ga o a tshwanela gore mo *floor* e bo e le gone o rialong, *because* go na le *channels of communications* tse o ka bong o di dirile *before coming here*?

DR S. MODISE: Yes, Madam Speaker, I am well aware. I humbly submit, I tried to reach out, but the message is still pending. I do appreciate that there are channels available. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR AARON: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Gongwe ke tlhaloganye gore a re potso e e mo kgamang e, o ka e araba leng? Ga ke a utlwa sentlentle.

DR S. MODISE: Ke a leboga. Santlha ga go na sepe se se kgamang. Sabobedi, ke ka e araba kamoso. Ke kopa ka mowa o o edileng. Ke a leboga.

MR AARON: Ke tsaya gore ka o setse a rile *later date for tomorrow,* ke a amogela.

Later Date.

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEYS AND MAPPING SYSTEM

MR L. LESEDI (SEROWE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Lands and Agriculture if he is aware that the:

(i) Department of Surveys and Mapping System has been down for more than a year; and if so, what caused the system to crash; and

(ii) aforementioned system enables the staff at the Department of Lands to assist with any information related to plot applications; and if so, to explain how the unavailability of the system has affected the department, how the system outrage has affected staff productivity and service delivery and the accuracy of information being given to members of the public at the same exorbitant price.

MR LESEDI: Mma ke go dumedise *Madam Speaker.* Potso e, ke ngwe ya tse di kgologolo thata. Ke kopa re dumele gore e setse e siilwe ke nako, mme *Minister* a mphe karabo.

MINISTER OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE (DR DIKOLOTI): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Tota jaaka Motlotlegi Lesedi a bua, re tswa go ngunanguna, *I have shared the answer with him as well.* O ne a rile re e bale fela mo Ntlong e ka gore tota; nnyaa, e bile a re ke tlogele le go e araba, ga go na bothata *Madam Speaker.* Ke tsaya gore re dumalane nna le ene...

MADAM SPEAKER: Gore ga e arabiwe?

DR DIKOLOTI: …gore ga e arabiwe. Tota e fetilwe ke lebaka. Re dumalane, ke abelane le ene, o tshwere *information* yotlhe ya teng. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.*

MR LESEDI: Tiriso ya mafoko e nnile e bogole. Nnyaa, *I just wanted him to share*. Go siame *Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Dikoloti, I think just summarise because interest *ga se ya gagwe fela a le nosi.*

DR DIKOLOTI: Let me not summarise, *mma ke e bale yotlhe jaaka e ntse*. *Gone* I have shared with him. *Ke mo neetse* soft copy Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: How long is the answer?

DR DIKOLOTI: Nnyaa, ga e telele *Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Okay.

DR DIKOLOTI: (i) Madam Speaker, I am not aware that the Department of Surveys and Mapping System has been down for more than a year. What I am aware of, is that in 2021, the department experienced a cybersecurity incident, resulting in the disabling of a critical information system for a duration of less than three months.

The systems under the Department of Surveys and Mapping are the national geospatial and land information systems that facilitate surveying, mapping, cadastral administration, geodetic management, land administration, and the delivery of geospatial data services within Botswana. The primary platform for these functions is the Integrated Geographic Information System (iGIS III), which encompasses three fundamental databases: Cadastral Information, Topographic Information, and Geodetic Information.

(ii) Madam Speaker, the core databases have remained operational since the 2021 incident and continue to support the department in the execution of its mandate: to provide the foundational geospatial information and services essential for socio-economic development. Geospatial user departments and systems, such as the Department of Lands, land boards, and Deeds Registry, are fully supported by these core systems.

Madam Speaker, to ensure sustainability, reliability, and security, the department has established Enterprise Service Level Agreements (SLAs) encompassing infrastructure support, database administration, cybersecurity, software licensing, storage management, and comprehensive systems maintenance. This initiative will ensure the continuity of services for all departments that rely on Department of Surveys and Mapping Systems, including the Department of Lands.

Madam Speaker, with respect to service fees, these are prescribed under the Land Survey Act Chapter 33:01 and its associated regulations, and are not contingent upon the temporary availability of the integration interface. I have shared with him Madam Speaker. *Re ne re supa gore mo lebakeng le le rileng, ba ntse ba dirisa* system *e jang, mme tota ke e buisanye le ene, ke tsaya gore re utlwane. Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker.

INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AT SOME TEACHERS' HOUSES

MR O. KWAPA (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): asked the Minister of Water and Human Settlement whether he is aware that there is inadequate water supply at some teachers' houses at Molongwa Junior Secondary School; if so, what measures will be put in place to address the situation.

MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT (MR RAMOGAPI): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Kwapa wa Jwaneng-Mabutsane. Potso ya gago motlotlegi, ya mabapi le metsi a Molongwa Junior Secondary School, go boammaaruri rraetsho, re a itse gore a a tlhaela mo motseng wa Khakhea. Motse wa Khakhea *is supplied* ka metsi a a tshwanetseng go ntsha selekanyo sa 1.1. Le fa go ntse jalo, metsi a a tswang ke 0.8 *millilitres.* Go raya gore go na le tlhaelo ya 0.3. E bile gape motse o, sediba se se o nosang, tota ga se sepe se se kalokalo jaaka ke sa tswa go bolela.

Ka jalo, ka go supa gore go na le bothata, go na le sediba se e leng gore re le *ministry,* re a se sekaseka, re a se gokela. Se bidiwa gotwe ke sa BH10292. Re bo re tsenya kago ya *pipeline* e e tlaabong e tswa *supplying* Itholoke *village* ka metsi. Lephata la rona la *Water Utilities* le sekasekile gape gore le bo le tsaya metsi go tswa mo *pipeline* e, gore re kgone *to supply* Molongwa Junior Secondary School. Tshwetso e rraetsho e, re e tsere ka gone go lebelela gore tota sediba ga se ntshe metsi a a lekaneng. Re bo re bona gore re thuse sekole sa gago rraetsho. Ka mafoko a le kalo, ke tsaya gore ke arabile potso ya gago motlotlegi.

MR KWAPA: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga Tona ka karabo eo. Se ke neng ke se botsa sentle, ke ne ke re golo kwa sekoleng sa Molongwa kwa, go na le tlhaelo ya metsi go ya kwa matlong a barutabana ba bangwe. Ke utlwa karabo ya gago sentle motlotlegi gore go na le tlhaelo ya metsi mo Khakhea. Ke dumela gore go na le dilo tsa segompieno tse di ka dirang gore thothinyana e e teng, e kgone go lekana ba ba leng teng. Jaaka o itse motlotlegi, dikole di na le ditanka. Ke eng go sa tshelwe metsi mo ditankeng, a bo a tsamaisiwa ka *booster pump* gore a goroge kwa matlong a mangwe ka lebaka la gore go lebaka, barutabana ba ntse ba sokola ka metsi?

O a itse gore go tlhatlosa *morale* wa barutabana. Ke batla go itse gore a ga le akanye go ka dira dilo tsa go tshwana le tseo? Barutabana le bone ba nne le tshiamelo ya go bona metsi. O a itse gore metsi ke selwana se e leng gore go tlhapa pele fa ba ya tirong, go apaya gammogo le gone go phepafatsa, gore a ga le bone go le botlhokwa gore go ka nna le tshiamelo e e ntseng jalo? *Thank you.*

MR RAMOGAPI: Mo go ya metsi gore re ka tsenya jojo, tota re ne re ise re tsene mo mogopolong oo. Mogopolo o o neng e le gore tota re mo go one, jaaka re bua jaana, ke gore re tsenye *pipeline*, re rarabololele mathata ruri. Re bo re itse gore metsi a tlaa nna teng mo sekoleng sotlhe fela ka kakaretso. Motlotlegi, tota dikgang tsa *bowsing* tse, gongwe o tlaa dumalana le nna gore di tura fela thata. O fitlhela e le gore fa re setse re tsere tshwetso, e bile sediba se setse se le *equipped,* re bona gore re setse re segile tema. Go ise go ye kae, re tlaabo re setse re feditse *project* e motlotlegi. Mme fela gone mananeo ke mananeo, kana maano, kana megopolo ke megopolo. Fa madi a letla, re lebeletse tlhaelo gore e kae, re tlaa sekaseka mogopolo oo le one gore o ka thusa. Ke mogopolo o o ka isang sekole golo gongwe. Ke raya fa re lebeletse gore ke sekole, mogopolo wa gago o a utlwala motlotlegi. Ke a leboga.

MR KWAPA: *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Ke lebogela karabo motlotlegi. Tota o mphe *assurance*, gore fa o re mo nakong e khutshwane motlotlegi, ke ne ke utlwa o bua ka tlhaelo ya madi, mme o mpha tsholofelo ya gore le tlaa dira bojotlhe go bona gore *pipe* e a gokelwa. Gompieno o bua ka tlhaelo mo motseng wa Khakhea gammogo le Itholoke. Ke ne ke sa batle go tsena thata mo go tsone. Ke batla go tlhaloganya gore a *pipe* e o buang ka yone, e o reng le batla gore le e tsenye mo bogaufing, o mphe *assurance* ya gore le dumela gore mo nakong e e rileng le bo le setse le baakantse? Mogopolo one re o utlwile, ke raya gore ke tle ke tlhaloganye le gore, a o raya gore se o se buang, go tlaa kgona go lekana batho ba Khakhea mo motseng, ba Itholoke gammogo le barutabana? Ke a leboga.

MR RAMOGAPI: Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Motlotlegi, *plan* ya rona ke gore, go agiwe a 2.9 kilometre (km) *pipeline* e ke buang ka yone e. E e tlaabong e ya go felela e tsena le kwa sekoleng. Maikaelelo a rona ke gore, e re ka kgwedi ya *August* 2026, re bo re feditse *pipeline* eo. Ke kgang e e leng gore e gaufi fela thata, re lebeletse seemo sa tlhaelo ya metsi. Jaaka ke setse ke buile, kana bagaetsho, metsi ga a tshwane le motlakase fa o seyo, o ka mamaisa wa batla kurwana. Rona bogologolo re ne re na le dikurwana, metsi ga a tshwane le motlakase, o ka batla *candle.* Metsi fa a seyo, ga a yo, batho ba a sokola. Re lekile ka bojotlhe gore le fa go sena metsi mme *pipeline* ya 2.9 km e dirwe go ya kwa sekoleng *at the end of August* 2026. Go raya gore ke kgwedi yone e fela motlotlegi. Le fa madi a seyo, re lole ka sengwe le sengwe go bona gore re ya go thusa. Ke a leboga.

MANYANA-MOSHUPA ROAD

MR K. S. GARE (MOSHUPA-MANYANA): asked the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to provide an update on the progress made to date regarding the construction of the Manyana-Moshupa Road; and to further state:

(i) the current percentage of physical completion of the project;

(ii) whether the project is on schedule to meet its planned completion date;

(iii) the challenges, if any, affecting the implementation of the project; and

(iv) the measures being taken by the Ministry to ensure that the project is completed within the approved budget and timeframe.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (MR ATAMELANG): Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Gare.

(i) Madam Speaker, the construction of Moshupa-Manyana road currently stands at 42 per cent physical completion level against the planned 79 per cent. To date, a total of P92,741,602.39 has been spent out of a total of P376,410,494.94.

(ii) The project is behind schedule by 10 months to meet its planned completion date of 17th October, 2026.

(iii) There are quite a number of factors which contributed to the delay and they are outlined below:

(a) Delay in granting mineral permit resulting in the contractor sourcing material 12 km away from a private borrow pit since project inception until 13th July, 2026. This is the date when a permit was granted for a borrow pit 1 which is along the road alignment. This led to slow progress on site due to hauling distance.

(b) Inclement Weather - Cumulatively, a total of 52 days were lost during heavy rains experienced in 2024, 2025 and 2026 rainy seasons. As is the case right now, the contractor has submitted to the Engineer, his Notice of Intention to claim for time delays due to inclement weather.

(c) Contractor's financial constraints emanating from contractor's slow rate of progress. The contractor's current rate of progress has not assisted his cashflow as he has been paid Interim Payment Certificate (IPCs) which are less than the minimum Interim Payment Certificate (IPC) amount set in the contract as his progress was lower than anticipated. The ministry was acceding to payments of these IPCs in order to facilitate the contractor's cash flow.

(d) Unilateral suspension of works for one month due to delayed payments during 2024/2025 financial year emanating from Government liquidity challenges.

(e) Unforeseen circumstances such as water seepage or rising water table. As a result of this water seepage, earthworks in the affected areas had to be halted pending exposure of the water table and provision of subsurface drainage works.

(f) In an endeavor to ascertain timely delivery of the project, the contractor has been issued with notice to accelerate progress or catchup as required by the contract. It is anticipated that the project will be completed within budget. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR GARE: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Honourable Minister*, ke a go utlwa. Ke utlwa o re *you have issued the contractor the notice,* ga ke tlhaloganye gore e mo thusa jang? *I thought* gongwe mathata a o ntseng o a nankola o ka bo gongwe o supa le *interventions* tse di *clear.* O ka tlhalosa gore *notice* o raya eng?

MR ATAMELANG: *Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker. *Ke ne ke re* notice *ke e a e tsentseng ene ya gore go na le* claim for time delays due to weather. *Ke yone e re emetseng gore re e sekaseke, re bo re bona gore…*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: …(Inaudible)…

MR ATAMELANG: I will read the last part *ka gore wa re ke yone e go tsietsang.* In an endeavor to ascertain timely delivery of the project, the contractor has been issued with notice to accelerate progress or catch-up as required by the contract. It is anticipated that the project will be completed within budget. Notice *fela ya gore fefosa* your delivery.

MR GARE: *Further supplementary. Honourable Minister,* ke kgatlhegela thata kgang ya *the interventions from your ministry to try and help the contractor to catch-up.* Ke bua fela ka gore *you know the consequences* tsa gore fa a sa *catch-up* le tsela e sa dirwe, go raya eng mo badirising ba tsela le mo go lona *as Government. So, it is in our interest* gore o ntshe *interventions* tse di ka mo thusang gore a fefose go fetsa tiro. Ke utlwa o re wena o mo reetse o re fefosa. *It looks like* ka fa o neng o bua ka teng kwa tshimologong ya potso, o ne o tlhalosa dikgwetlho tse di mo lebaganyeng, *which I thought* kwa bofelong o tlaa wela ka gore o di *address* jang kana o mo thusa gore a di *address* jang, *so that* a kgone go fefoga. Jaanong ke utlwa fela o re o mo reile o re fefoga.

MR ATAMELANG: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Kana ke gore *honourabl*e o tsere *just one aspect of the answer. Issue* ke gore o saletse kwa morago *and* o tshwanetse gore fa a nna a ntse a duelwa *these payment certificates*, o duelwa ka gore o *progress* jang. Fa a le bonya, o mo raya o re fefoga gore re kgone go mo duela, a dire ka bofefo. *That is one of the interventions*. Tse dingwe o tsentse *claim* ya gore o diilwe ke gore seemo sa loapi se ne se sa ema sentle. *Claim* ya teng re ya go sekaseka. E bile le rona *like I said,* re ne re eletsa gore o ka dira tiro a *claim* gona le gore re nne re ntse re mo duelela kwa pele fela ka gore ra re re batla gore *project* e goroge. Ke tsone dilo tse e leng gore *at the end of the day,* di *compromise delivery* ya *projects* tsotlhe mo Botswana, go nna re ntse re duelela batho kwa pele fela. Re mo raya re re a fefose mme re ntse re itse gore o tsentse *claims,* re tlaa mo duela ka nako. Ke yone *the intervention* e e leng gore e teng gone jaana. Kana o batla gore a ntshiwe *sir?*

MR GARE: Nnyaa.

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS OWED TO LITIGANTS

MR T. B. LUCAS (BOBIRWA): asked the Minister of Health to state and give an age analysis of the money owed to:

(i) litigants who successfully sued the public health facilities for neglect, malpractice and/or ill-treatment of patients of any form; and

(ii) workers who have won court cases against the Ministry of Health.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR S. MODISE): Thank you very much Madam Speaker and thank you Honourable Member for your question. Good afternoon.

(i) Madam Speaker, as we speak, there are no outstanding payments owed to litigants.

(ii) The Ministry of Health has a number of Court Orders involving different cadres as per the table that I will numerate below. Majority of the Court Orders involve Healthcare Assistants. It is imperative to note that Court Orders did not state amounts due to the employees which then requires the ministry to analyse and engage the same employees to determine the quantum or payments due to each employee hence some orders are yet to be costed.

Madam Speaker, the bulk of the amounts are for the Healthcare Assistants as I stated and they are to the tune of P367, 243, 469. 29. These delays were caused by financial difficulties and we are working on this to pay all the Court Orders that we have been ordered to pay Madam Speaker. So, as the economy continues to improve and we have money available, we will continue to pay these Court Orders.

Madam Speaker, it is important to note that we derive no joy of benefiting, owing all these Health Care Assistants and it is our intention to pay them. Thank you.

MR LUCAS: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Minister*. Madi a le a kolotang *Health Care Assistants* a mantsi thata, P367 *million*, ke a utlwa gore le bua ka letlhoko la madi. Kana fa batho o ba kolota ba le dipalo tsone tse le ba kolotang ka tsone, a mme le setse le na le thulaganyo ya gore le batla go ba duela ka go ba kgaoganya ka tsela epe fela e le ka tswang le e akantse *because* go kolotiwa ke Puso go botlhoko fela thata? *Health Care Assistants* dikgang tse ba neng ba na le tsone le lona fa moragonyana fale tse di neng tsa *lead* gore go nne le *claims* tsa madi a a kana, a le setse le di buile tsotlhe? Ke a leboga.

DR S. MODISE: Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Tla ke simolole ka e o neng o e umaka gore madi a a mantsi thata, ke a dumela gore a mantsi thata, ba a kolotiwa e bile ba kolotiwa ka lebaka ba le bantsi. Kana mme dikgang tse di ne tsa dirwa ke gore go ne ga sekiwa le Goromente ka nako eo, Goromente a bo a latlhegelwa. Se re se itlamileng ke gore bone ba ba setseng go supegetse gore re a ba kolota e bile ba tshwanetse ba duelwe, re na le thulaganyo kwa lephateng ya go bona gore re ba duela jang. Go na le ba go santseng re ba *cost* motlotlegi, ke bone ba ke reng re bereka le bone ka bongwe ka bongwe ka gore mabaka a bone ga a tshwane, re bereka le bone go tlhomamisa gore ba kolotiwa bokae ba bo ba duelwa. Kgabagare maikaelelo a rona ke gore mongwe le mongwe yo lephata le mo kolotang, a bone dituelo tsa gagwe. Ke a leboga.

MR LUCAS: *Further supplementary*. Ke a leboga. Se o se buang *Minister* ke gore le na le thulaganyo ya go ba duela. Tota fa e le ope fela yo o kolotiwang o kgatlhegela go itse gore thulaganyo ya go duela ke thulaganyo e e ntseng jang, e kgaogantswe ka tsela e ntseng jang? A ba tlaa kgona go bona tuelo eo mo ngwageng o kgotsa mo kgweding e e tlang fela jalo ka gore le bone ba na le tse dingwe tse di ba tshwereng tse ba ba tlang go di dirisetsa madi ao? Ke a leboga.

DR S. MODISE: Go leboga nna motlotlegi. Ke boammaaruri, mme kana batho ba ga se gore ba mo seemong se se tshwanang kana se sengwefela ba botlhe, ba a farologana. Jaanong go na le ba ba ka tswang ba bone dikatso tsa bone, ba bangwe ba santse ba kolotiwa. Re na le ba ba itebagantseng le dikgang tse kwa lephateng, ba ba berekisanang le bone. Go ka se ke go nne motlhofo gore ke go reye ke re, e tlaa re ka *August* e bo re setse re ba duetse botlhe ka gore diemo tsa bone ga di tshwane, mme re tsweletse ka thulaganyo motlotlegi gore ba re ba kolotang, re bone gore re ba duela ka tsela e e ntseng jang. Ke a leboga.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Gobotswang, Member of Parliament (MP), Tswapong South.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you.

SCIENCE LABORATORIES IN BOTETI WEST JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

MR S. O. DIGWA (BOTETI WEST): asked the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education:

(i) if she is aware that all Science Laboratories (Labs) in Boteti West junior secondary schools are no longer serving their intended purpose but instead, they are used as normal classrooms;

(ii) whether the ministry still treats Science as an important subject in junior secondary schools;

(iii) if sharing the already dilapidated Science Labs will not frustrate and further demotivate Science teachers; and

(iv) when her Ministry intends to improve this situation so that learners in Boteti West can also have an opportunity to learn in a conducive environment.

Later Date.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Mapulanga for Honourable Hikuama.

SHORTAGE OF STATIONERY IN POLICE STATIONS

MR C. K. HIKUAMA (MAUN WEST): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security:

(i) whether he is aware of the severe shortage of basic operational tools, specifically stationery, across all Police establishments nationwide, which forces officers to solicit supplies from other Government departments to discharge their duties;

(ii) to state immediate measures his ministry will take to ensure that Police stations are adequately provisioned with essential administrative materials so that service delivery and criminal investigations are not compromised; and

(iii) to provide an update on the current review of the Botswana Police Service welfare policy, specifically addressing growing internal frustrations regarding the transparency of promotions and the frequency of disproportionate transfers.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI): *Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker. *Mma ke tseye sebaka se go go dumedisa, go dumedisa batlotlegi le* Batswana *ka kakaretso kwa gae.*

(i) Madam Speaker, the ministry is aware of the shortages of stationery in our police establishments across the country which was caused by shortage of funds. The degree of shortages of stationery differ from one station to another depending on the volume of need. Madam Speaker, it is normal practice that Government departments may at times solicit supplies from sister departments to execute their day-to-day duties where it is absolutely necessary.

(ii) Madam Speaker, the ministry has already floated a tender to supply stationery to address this matter, which will in turn enhance service delivery to our people. Evaluation of the 173 submissions was completed in 2025, and the tender is currently before the Procurement Oversight Committee awaiting approval.

(iii) Madam Speaker, the Botswana Police Service (BPS)'s comprehensive Transfer and Promotion Policies, designed to enhance clarity, consistency and transparency in transfer decisions are at an advanced draft stage. At present, transfers are overseen by the Transfer Advisory Board, which makes recommendations based on operational requirements, established human resource considerations and the availability of posts.

In its deliberations, the board considers a range of factors, including organisational needs, rank structure, specialised skills, career development opportunities, availability of vacancies, personal circumstances and the imperative to maintain equitable staff distribution across the country. Transfers are effected either in response to the exigencies of the service or upon the request of identified officers.

The ministry remains firmly committed to ensuring that transfer practices uphold professionalism, integrity, accountability and delivery of effective policing services nationwide.

Madam Speaker, the ministry acknowledges the frustrations arising from delays in career progression. As I indicated previously in this House, on a similar parliamentary question, progression within the BPS has been significantly slow. This is primarily due to prevailing economic challenges, which have limited the Government's ability to create new supervisory positions within the organisation. Consequently, the Commissioner of Police is constrained, as promotions are only possible when positions become vacant due to attrition, these being resignation, death and retirement. However, efforts are being made to address this challenge, given the prevailing budgetary constraints, it is not always possible to achieve the promotion targets we aspire to. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR MAPULANGA: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Tla ke go leboge Mothusa Tona. Ke latedise kgang ya gore jaaka o amogela gore go na le mathata a tlhaelo ya didirisiwa tse. Ke *stations* tse kae tse le setseng le di lemogile tse e leng gore *they are affected*, bokete jwa teng di kwa *side* efe; *the southern, northern part, eastern*?

Sa bobedi, go setse go amile go le kae dikgang tsa *criminal investigations or even court proceedings*? A mme go setse go supile gore go tlhaelelwa ke *stationery* gone mo, go re amile thata mo e leng gore gongwe go nnile le *delays* dingwe mo *cases* tse di tshwanetseng gore di ka bo di setse di tswetswe? Ya boraro, ke kgang ya gore thatathata se se diang ke *procurement process* kana ke gore *budget* e ne e le kwa tlase kana e ne e seyo?

E nngwe ya bofelo e ke neng ke re ke latedise mo go yone, ke ya *staff welfare*. A mme le le Puso, le ka *commit* gore go ya kwa pele le simolole *to publicise on merit-based promotions* tsa bone? Go bona gore dingongora tse di kanakana mo lephateng la gago tsa gore o kare go na le *favors* kana bangwe ba nna golo go le gongwefela lebaka le le leele, le ka atolosa *transparency* ya lona, *especially in terms of promotions* gore mongwe le mongwe a kgotsofalele gore o itekile lesego ga a kgona kana o kwadile ga a pasa kana o pasitse ke emetse maemo. Kana go na le kgang e gotweng maemo a tlhaetse. A mme le ka leka go atolosa gongwe *for transparency to publicise promotions* tsa lona go ya kwa pele?

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Mma ke simolole fela ka gore dipotso tsa gago *are very valid honourable, but* o tlhaloganya gore *you are coming with new questions with exception of* ya bofelo e e leng gore *it is a recommendation*, ke a e amogela *and* ke tlaa e tsaya mofago *honourable*.

In terms of the first three questions, tota o ne o gatelela mo dilong tse e leng gore ga ke na dikarabo tsa tsone *right now, but* fa e le gore o batla dikarabo tsa tsone, *please put in* dipotso tse disha, di lebagane le dipotso tseo. Fela jaaka ke bua, *they are very valid, very important questions you are raising,* mme ka ga ke na *data* ya teng, ga ke batle go ikgolega motlotlegi, ke kopa fela gore o tlise e le dipotso re tle re go arabe mo go faphegileng. Ke a leboga.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

MR G. DISHO (OKAVANGO EAST): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to brief this Honourable House that in terms of the Constitution:

(i) who is vested with the authority to appoint Judges upon the establishment of the Constitutional Court; and

(ii) to clarify the Constitutional procedure, institutional safeguards, and consultative mechanisms that will govern such appointments to ensure the independence, impartiality and separation of powers as entrenched in the Constitution.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI): Thank you once again Madam Speaker. *Mma ke simolole fela ka go supa gore karabo e telele.* Madam Speaker, *ga ke itse gore o gakolola jang.*

MADAM SPEAKER: How long is the answer?

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: We are talking four good pages.

MADAM SPEAKER: Can you summarise, but do not take long.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Ee mma, ke tlaa leka go dira jalo *Madam Speaker.* Fa *Honourable* Disho a batla *the entire...*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mma re mo utlwe, o kare o a ngunanguna.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Ehe! o a ngunanguna.

MR DISHO: I was saying it is fine, you can give me the answer later. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: *Ee,* summarise Honourable.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: *Ke go leboge gape* Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Clause 11 of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2025 inserts Section 102C into the Constitution. Under Section 102C (1), the Judges of the Constitutional Court shall consist of -

(a) the Chief Justice;

(b) the Deputy Chief Justice; such number of Justices of the Constitutional Court as may be prescribed by Parliament; and

(c) such other Judges as the President may appoint, acting with the advice of the Judicial Service Commission, for a limited period as required.

Accordingly, the Judges of the Constitutional Court are appointed as follows:

(a) The Chief Justice will continue to be appointed by the President as is currently provided by Section 96 (1) of the Constitution; and

(b) The amendment of the Constitution establishing the Constitutional Court confers the power to appoint the Deputy Chief Justice and the other Judges of the Constitutional Court on the President on the advice of the Judicial Service Commission as required by Clause 102C as read with the Constitution Court Bill.

Madam Speaker, *mma ke fete gape ka gore* Constitution of Botswana establishes the independence of the Judiciary and ensures that Judges are impartial in discharging their mandate in the different Courts under which they operate. This Bill, as it amends the Constitution does not divert or water this down. It contains several Constitutional safeguards designed to preserve the independence, impartiality and integrity of the Constitutional Court in line with what currently obtains.

I think Honourable Members *ba setse ba kgonne go lemoga* trail *e re e tsayang mo karabong e. Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker.

MR KAIZER: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Potsonyana ya me e *one* fela, gongwe ke go tlhaloganya gore *will these appointments be subjected to Parliamentary oversight,* a go tlaa feta fa kana e ya go nna dithata tsa ga Tautona le *Commission* fela gore e nne bone ba ba lebelelang khiro ya bone? Ke a leboga.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Ga se gore ke simolole fela ka go go lebogisa *Honourable* TG, ka o ntse o seyo ke gone fela ke go bonang, fa o bona e le gone ke go lebogisang.

As it stands, dilo di ya go tswelela fela *like how they are currently configured, according to the Constitution honourable.* Re amogela dikgakololo tsa lona gore la re re ka baakanya jang, gakere *this is where laws are passed in Parliament.* Dikgakololo tse dingwe tse motlotlegi, a re di tliseng fa, re di sekasekeng, re bo re leka go baakanya *where we feel* gore go tshwanetse ga baakanngwa teng. *For now things remain as is. I thank you.*

MR NKAWANA: *Further supplementary. Thank you, Madam Speaker.* Tona, ke eletsa go tlhaloganya gore khiro e e tlaabong e dirwa ke Tautona, a mme go tlaa nna le kgaisano, re tlaa bona batho ba dithutego le dikitso tse di tshwanang ba beilwe mo sekaleng se le *one* go tomolwa a le mongwefela, go nnile le phadisano? Ke a leboga.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: *Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Ke kopa go go balela fa,* appointments of Constitutional Judges are made in the same manner as it is currently provided for, that is with the advice of the Judicial Service Commission, thereby ensuring that the process benefits from the independent advice of the Constitutional body established to advise on Judicial appointments.

Ke oketse fela ka gore, I think *ke ne ke gatelela kwa go* Honourable Kaizer *gore* things will remain as is according to the Constitution. *Ka gore* maybe *ke ne ke ketlola fale le fale, ga ke a bala kana ke atolosa karabo e ke e tshwereng, le wena* I can avail you a copy of the answer. and it should have some of those answers for questions that you have. *Ke a leboga motlotlegi.*

FIRE OUTBREAKS AT BDF CAMPS

DR K. GOBOTSWANG (TSWAPONG SOUTH): asked the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to apprise this Honourable House on Botswana Defence Force Camps that have experienced fire outbreaks in the last 10 years; and to further state:

(i) the number of fire outbreaks and the main causes;

(ii) if there is a relationship between the fire outbreaks and building materials used;

(iii) the number of lives lost and cost in monetary terms;

(iv) if the affected people or close relatives were compensated; and

(v) plans in place to prevent future outbreaks and timelines for such interventions.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI): *Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker. *Ke a leboga motlotlegi.* Madam Speaker, this is another very lengthy answer, even more lengthier than the previous one. *Ga ke itse gore a ke ka e tsaya ka boripana fale le fale,* and then make available the answer in its entirety to the Honourable Member.

MADAM SPEAKER: I think *e bale,* because looking at the time, *re santse re na le nakonyana.*

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Right, *ke a leboga* Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, the number of fire outbreaks and the main causes has been established that 10 fires have occurred from various causes at the following barracks. Notably, these affected accommodation structures, were constructed using mainly prefabricated materials.

Gaborone

- Village Garrison (50 Units) : July 2024
- Sir Seretse Khama Barracks (100 Units) : March 2023
- Sir Seretse Khama Barracks (100 Units) : August 2022
- Village Garrison (50 Units): February 2020
- Glen Valley Barracks (75 Units): August 2017
- Glen Valley Barracks (25 Units): September 2016

Francistown

- 2 Military Garrison (Donga) (25 Units): May 2025

- 1 Military Garrison (Area S) (25 Units) : January 2023
- 2 Military Garrison (Donga) 25 Units) : September 2021

Maun

- Maun Garrison (25 Units): September 2021

Madam Speaker, following investigation, it has been determined that the primary cause of the fire outbreaks was electrical faults resulting from system overloading, albeit at Glen Valley Barracks 100 Men Barrack Block, where the fire incident was determined to have been deliberately started in one unit and continued to destroy 24 more. As for the rest, the building's electrical distribution was designed around the assumption that residents would obtain meals from the communal kitchen and would not regularly use high-power cooking appliances in individual units. Several residents however, who stayed with family members brought and frequently used personal cooking appliances (hot plates, electric kettles, portable burners, etcetera). The additional, unplanned load from these appliances exceeded the capacity of the circuits and protective devices, resulting in overheating, insulation failure and ignition.

Contributing factors:

- Unplanned high-power appliances were plugged into circuits not designed to carry extended cooking loads. Electrical circuits and protection (cabling, breakers, fuses) were not sized or configured for the increased demand.
- Inadequate or absent overload protection and/or degraded wiring increased the risk of failure.

Madam Speaker, as to whether there is a relationship between the fire outbreaks and building materials used, in the context of the prefabricated facilities referenced, it is pertinent to note that the construction employs aluminium panels that sandwich polystyrene foam, with overall wall thickness of 70mm. Research and observations by our fire department following investigations into the fire incidents, have indicated that this combination can contribute to the rapid spread of fire once ignited, as the polystyrene foam is known to be a combustible material. Furthermore, during these fire suppression efforts, it has been observed that the aluminium panels can act as a repellent to water from hydrants, potentially hindering effective firefighting measures.

Madam Speaker, as to whether there have been lives lost and costs due to these fire outbreaks; there has been one fatal incident where one member of the rank of Corporal, who was visiting at the time, unfortunately lost his life when the 25 Men Barracks Block burnt down in Maun. This was in September 2021 and the criminal matter is still pending finalisation before court. All these fires resulted in building damages totalling P13,323,363.66 for 342 Units.

Madam Speaker, as to whether the affected persons or their relatives have been compensated, I wish to state that no compensation has been paid for damage to personal properties of members in all incidents captured. This is because compensation with respect to loss or damage to personal property was in the past purely a question determined by the law of damages. That is, there has to be evidence of wrongdoing on the part of either the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) or a person employed by the BDF that resulted in the fire outbreak and the consequent loss or damage to personal properties. Acknowledging the predicament that members found themselves in, the BDF considered but was advised against ex gratia payments at the time. The Attorney General advised that the Government only compensates when liability has been established against the Government.

Madam Speaker, however, in 2018, Parliament enacted Section 331 of the BDF Act amongst others when the old BDF Act was repealed, and introduced compensation for loss or damage of personal property when such property is in the custody or responsibility of the BDF. Fire incidents are therefore, enquired into and where custody or responsibility of the BDF is founded, compensation would be paid to members or their dependents. There is currently an ongoing case where liability for compensation was admitted based on the investigations ex post facto, and a dispute arose as to the quantum of compensation. Botshelo Mathake and Others took the matter to court for assessment of damages involving 23 members who lost their personal household items in Village Garrison Fire outbreak. The initial claim was P1.4 million and is yet to be determined by the Court.

Madam Speaker, as a proactive measure to prevent future outbreaks and timelines for such interventions, we are, in all existing and new construction projects consider the following:

- Short term intervention. We are currently upgrading electricity/power reticulation to ease overload of many appliances used by members.
- Long term intervention. The ultimate end state is to phase out prefabricated accommodation structure with a brick and mortar structure, subject to availability of funds. We have budgeted barracks blocks in each garrison in the current NDP 12. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAWANA: *Supplementary*. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Mma ke simolole jaana Tona, go na le mongwe yo o neng a latlhegelwa ke botshelo. Ga se gore ke go utlwile sentle gore a wa re o ne a le moeng, mme boeng jwa gagwe ga bo a ka jwa dira gore masika a gagwe ba bone sengwe? Tota mabaka e le gore, e ka tswa e le eng gore fa o golafaletse mo kampeng ya sesole, o le ngwana kana moeng, kana lesika fela la ba ba nnang foo, e bo e le gore wena, nnyaa, ke molelo o go jele…

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Members,* le re itaya tsebe foo. *Honourable* Barongwang, *Honourable* Phologolo le *Honourable* Lekutlane.

MR NKAWANA: A ko o re tlhalosetse gore, tota la re batsadi ba gagwe seemo sa bone ke eng? Ke eng fa batsadi ba gagwe ba ka se ke ba atswiwe ka sepe?

Se sengwe e nna gone gore, ba ba latlhegetsweng ke dithoto, o balolotse madi a bone gore… ka gore ntlo nngwe le nngwe e ne e na le ba ba neng ba ikapeela ka ditofo tsa bone, diwelese le *televisions,* a mo sebakeng sa gompieno ba setse ba duetswe botlhe kana le santse le le mo tshekatshekong? Fa e le gore ga ba ise ba duelwe botlhe, bothata e ka tswa e le eng? Ke utlwile gore wa re bangwe ba ile *court,* mme fela gompieno kwa ntle ga go ya *court,* se se kganelang gore Goromente a ba *compensate,* e ka tswa e le eng fa ba latlhegetswe ke dithoto mo matlong ao?

Ke ne ke rile gongwe o tla re fa *breakdown* jwa *costs, unit by unit*. Kana ke *barracks or something,* gore kwa *it costed* bokana, fale bokana, fale bokana. Fa e le gore o na le *information* ya teng, o ko o re thuse ka yone. Ke a leboga.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hang on Honourable Minister. *Batlotlegi, re na le baeng* on the gallery, both sides. *Ke bana ba* Mathangwane Primary School from Shashe West Constituency.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Applause!)...

MADAM SPEAKER: Ba re etetse, ba tlile go bona Palamente.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: *Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker. *Motlotlegi, ke a leboga. Ga ke itse, ga se gore* maybe because *karabo e e ne e le telele jaaka ke ne ke tlhalositse*, so maybe you have missed one or two points, *ka ke ne ke tseetse gore tota ke e arabile motlotlegi. Ke ne ke tseetse gore ke e arabile ka botlalo*, but *ke kopa go ipoeletsa.*

"I wish to state that no compensation has been paid for damage to personal properties of members in all the instances that were captured *motlotlegi.* This is because compensation with respect to loss or damage to personal property was in the past purely a question determined by the law of damages." So, *go gatelela karabo ke gore, nnyaa, ga go na* any compensation that has been awarded to anyone. *Ke a leboga.*

MR MAPULANGA: *Further supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Tla ke go leboge Tona. Ke ne ke batla go utlwisisa gore, a mme BDF e na le *third-party insurance? In case of* ditiragalo tse di tshwanang le tsone tse gore fa motho a etetse ba lesika gone koo, go bo go diragala ditiragalo tse, a bo motho gongwe a latlhegelwa ke botshelo kana dithoto tsa gagwe, a mme le na le *third-party insurance to cover up for extension* e e tshwanang le dikgang tsone tseo? Ke a leboga.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Thank you honourable. *Ke a leboga* Madam Speaker. Does BDF have third-party insurance; I cannot state that as a matter of fact, I would have to go and ask, and then I would have to come back *ke go arabe motlotlegi.* Thank you.

MR DISHO: *On a point of procedure.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Go na le potso e e boditsweng ke Rre Nkawana, ga ke a utlwa Motlotlegi Mophuthing a e araba, ya gore a mme *audit* ya dithoto tse di sheleng e dirilwe le gore di lopile bokae? Ke yone e ke neng ke e solofetse, mme ga di a arabiwa. Gongwe o e tsibogele ka bofefo foo Tona *before* re botsa tse dingwe.

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Has there been an audit on the damages, and quantify. *Ga ke itse gore a* audit *e dirilwe,* but that is a very interesting question which I am going to go and find out *gore a mme* audit *e kile ya dirwa.* Do we have quantified figures; for now, *ke kopa gore o ntetle ke ye go sekaseka gore a* audit *e dirilwe,* and do we have the figures of how much has been spent. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Minister,* o ya go tlisa leng dikarabo tse o senang tsone tse?

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: *Fa ke ka kgona go di bona gompieno* Madam Speaker, *fa o ka ntetla, kamoso* I can present those answers before the House. *Ke a leboga.*

MR KAIZER: *Supplementary.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* E re *Minister* a araba dipotso tsame, a itse gore ke ne ke le lesole, ke itse gore ke bua ka eng. *I am a former soldier.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, *Honourable* Kaizer, a ko o botse potso o lese go ipoka.

MR KAIZER: *Minister,* is BDF *complying with the National Fire Regulations*? Le gore *material* o o dirisitsweng go aga matlo a BDF a, ke o o siameng, o e leng gore o ka fema melelo? Fa o araba, o itse gore ke itse gore ke bua ka eng *honourable.*

E nngwe ke gore, mo dithotong tse di sheleng, a BDF e senyegetswe kana e latlhegetswe ke *any military assets;* e ka nna ditlhobolo, *ammunition or any other equipment that is very critical to discharging mandate* wa BDF? Ke a leboga, *Madam Speaker.*

MS MOPHUTING-DIKOLOTI: Ke a leboga *Honourable* Kaizer. Is BDF complying with the National Fire Regulations; I would have to believe that they do. *Ga ke itse gore* what would be the reason that they would not comply.

A material *o e leng gore o dirisitswe,* is it fire resistance if I can just sum it up. Well, according to some of the contributions, *ke ne ka bua gore re lemogile gore tse dingwe tota ga di a itsetsepela sentle motlotlegi. Ke bo ke bua gore* interventions *tse re batlang go di dira* is to upgrade electricity *jaana,* power reticulation. *Ke bo ke bua gore tota mme tse dingwe tse* we want to phase them out, and it has been budgeted for *mo* National Development Plan (NDP) 12. Madam Speaker, there is just so much noise coming from this side, I cannot even hear myself *sentle*. *Ke kopa o ba kope gore ba fokotse modumo, ke arabe motlotlegi mo go faphegileng.*

E nngwe honourable *o ne o botsa gore* during those fires, *a go ne go na le* ammunition that was destroyed or *dipe fela tse e leng gore* they cannot execute or carry out properly mandate *wa bone.* I have not been made aware of that one *motlotlegi. Jaanong ka* you are an ex-soldier, *ke tshaba gore* you are probably more vested than me in this matter. So, *ga ke batle go ikgolega. Ga ke itse* at this stage, but it is something that I would have to look at. *E ke neng ke batla go feta ka yone, ke ne ke re* jack of all trades, is the master of none. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR LEKAU: *On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker,* ke ema fa ke kopa gore o mphatlholole leitlho. Kana re na le dikomiti tsa Palamente tse e leng gore *in my belief they are by extension, official Parliament. As such,* re solofela gore dipuo le mafoko otlhe a a ka buiwang kwa dikomiting tseo, di bo di ntse di tshwere serodumo sa Palamente.

Ke ema fa ka letshwenyego la gore ke na le malatsi a mabedi ke ntse ke bona mo maranyaneng, go supafala ditshwantsho tsa komiti e e tshegeditsweng ke *Honourable* Lucas e le gore ga e bue sentle e bile e senya serodumo sa Palamente. Ke re *Madam Speaker,* mo seemong se se ntseng jalo, ka gore fa re le mo Palamenteng ke bua lefoko *that we feel* gore *it is unparliamentary,* go a tle gotwe le ntshiwe le bo le ntshiwe gotlhe le mo kutlwisisong ya Palamente.

Mafoko a a builweng ke *Honourable* Mabeo le *Honourable* wa kwa Lobatse, Kamal Jacobs, a ke mafoko a a re siametseng le Ntlo e *Madam Speaker*? Fa e le gore a a dumalanwa, go raya gore le fa ke ka tla fa ka bua mafoko a a ntseng jalo mo Palamenteng, ke tlaabo ke ntse ke siame, ke le mo tsamaisong. Ke re o mphe lesedi la gore mafoko a a neng a buiwa ao, a siametse komiti eo ka ke utlwa e le gore le ene mogolwane wa bone, e leng *Chairman* wa Komiti, ga a ise a ko a tle fa a nthaya a re Rre Lekau intshwarele, ba komiti yame ga ba a bua sentle. Ke a leboga.

…Silence…

MADAM SPEAKER: *Order*! *Honourable Members,* ke ne ke santse ke batla bogakolodi, go na le fa re kileng ra e bua kwa ofising ya rona. *Honourable* Lucas ke ene *Chairman* wa komiti eo mme le fa re lebile, o ntse a leka go kgalema. Jaaka a ntse jaana, le ene o a utlwa, o a bona, jaanong re solofela gore mo *reports* tsa gagwe, sengwe se tshwanetse go tlhagelela.

MR LEKAU: *Procedure.* Fa e ne e le *Minister Madam Speaker, we would invoke some* Standing Orders gore re kope gore a ntshe *statement.* Jaanong mo Standing Orders, ga go na gope fa re ka patikang teng *Chairman* ya komiti e gore go *urgent,* re utlwe a ntsha *that apology. We need a public apology* ka *statement* se se builweng seo ke *Chairman* ya komiti, mme ga go na gope fa re ka mo tlamang teng. Re ne re re, re dirise setho fela gore le fa a kgalemile, bangwe ba mmone. O ka ema fela a re, mme ke utlwile, ke kopa maitshwarelo. *Unless* e le gore o romilwe gotwe tsamaya o ye go ba bolelela jaana.

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, *Honourable* Lekau, motho fa a filwe boikarabelo gotwe ke ene *Chairman*, ga e ka ke ya re fela gone gompieno, a bo a tewa gotwe ema ka dinao o re. Le ene tiro ya gagwe o tlhokometse komiti ele, e bile o a itse gore go diragala eng kwa go yone. O a itse gore o dira eng, tsamaiso ke eng. O fela pelo, gongwe re santse re tlaa arabela tse dingwe. Ke ne ke re a re tsweng mo kgannyeng e re emele Om Luu, go fitlhelela jaanong dikgang tse re di isa kwa *General Assembly* kana kwa *advisory*. Fela *ruling* ya me ke gore, *Chairman* ke ene mong wa komiti ntate.

MR NKAWANA: *Procedure.* Ke tlotla tshwetso ya gago *Madam Speaker.* Ke dumela gore Lekau *is out of order.* Ke ene a neng a tshwanetse go kgalemelwa gore a se ka a tla a re tlhabela mainane mo Palamenteng. O bua dilo tse rotlhe ba rona fa, re iseng re di utlwe. O tla ka dikgang tse a di selang kwa a di selang teng, a bo a re re reetse le wena o tseye tshwetso. Ke tsaya gore golo moo, ke go tlhoka go tlotla batlotlegi ba ba mo Palamenteng e. Ka go rialo, ke ne ke kopa gore a boele dikgang tsa gagwe morago ka gore ga re di rate.

MADAM SPEAKER: Nnyaa, mme ga ke dumalane le wena *Honourable* Nkawana. Jaaka fela a simolotse a bua, nnete ke gore Public Accounts Committee (PAC) e tswa gone fa, ke rona re e tlhophang, e tswa mo Palamenteng. *So,* le setšhaba fa se bua sa re, Mapalamente, ga se nke se re batho ba PAC. *I have ruled,* jaanong re tsena mo go e sele, re tsena mo komiting batlotlegi.

MR LUCAS: *Procedure.* Ke utlwile mafoko a ga *Honourable* Lekau, ka bo ka utlwa *ruling* ya gago. *Madam Speaker,* la bofelo re utlwa dikomiti tsa Palamente di buisiwa ka tsela e rraetsho a batlang go di bua ka yone, ke fa go ne go na le Mopalamente wa pele, a phatlalatsa dikomiti tsa Palamente ka *Motion.* Ke utlwa gore rraetsho o batla go tlisa dikgang tsa komiti ka kwano, ka tsela e e sa tlhamalalang. Fa e le gore o na le kgang epe e a nang le yone, o ka e tlisa ka tsela fela e e tlhamaletseng, a ya go tsenya *complaint* kwa go *Speaker* le dikomiti tsa ga *Speaker* tse di lebaneng. Re tle re buisanye kgang e. Se ke se itseng ke gore, ka nako e ditiragalo dingwe di diragalang kwa komiting, re kgalema gone foo. E re re sena go kgalema, e bo e le gore kgang e, e a atolosiwa go batla go kgopakgopetsa *mandate* wa komiti, o dirisa Palamente e tona. Tota kgang e tona ke gore, fa go na le kgang, a e ye kwa go tshwanetseng teng, e seng fano. O ka e tlisa kwano fela, a setse a batla go phatlalatsa komiti. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Ee, batlotlegi, nako ya dipotso e sale e fedile. Re tsena mo komiting.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

(CHAIRPERSON in the Chair)

NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL BILL, 2026 (NO. 23 OF 2026)

MADAM CHAIRPERSON (MS MANYENENG): Order! Order! Honourable Members, please note that the National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 of 2026) has 37 Clauses. An amendment has been noticed and I shall therefore, call the Clauses consecutively.

Clause 1 **agreed to.**

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: I understand that the Honourable Minister has an amendment to move without notice at Clause 2. Before I call you, I would like to warn you *gore* this is the last time *o tsisa* amendment on the floor of Parliament. *Re dumalane gore ga re sa tlhole re batla* amendments *mo* floor, *mo* House. *Ke go fa* last chance Honourable Minister, you can come for your amendment.

Clause 2

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): Thank you very much Madam Chairperson. I should apologise for bringing this amendment on the floor. The real amendment really is to beef up the definition. Madam Chairperson, I move that we amend Clause 2 appearing at page B162 by substituting for the definition of accredited body appearing therein with the following new definition;

- "Accredited body means an organisation that is recognised by the council in writing as technically competent, impartial and compliant with standards to conduct functions such as award, research permits, conduct research and other as may be prescribed." I thank you Madam Chairperson.

Like I said, on this amendment, we are really beefing up the definition of accredited bodies. There is no much difference from what is written there. Thank you very much.

MR NKAWANA (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST): Ke a leboga *Madam Chairperson.* Ke tlhaloganya gore Standing Orders tsa rona di letlelela tsamaiso e ya gore *you can rise from the floor and present an amendment.* Go na le bothata. Bothata jo bo leng teng ke jone jo re itseng gore go *draft* batho ba ba seyong fa, ba e leng gore fa *amendment* e sale e dirwa, ba a bo ba setse ba e bone *before presentation*.

Jaanong e e tlang ka *Honourable* Tshere, re ipotsa gore fa e le gore e ya *to affect* melawana e mengwe, go ya go diragala eng mme rona ka kwano re rile e siame? Ke dumela gore le fa Standing Orders di letlelela, gongwe fa e le gore *Bill* ga e wele *today,* ba tlhole pele le *drafters* gore *is it in order*, ga e lwantshane le melawana e mengwe. Ke a leboga.

MR TSHERE: Thank you very much Madam Chairperson. This amendment is consistent with the explanation I gave yesterday *gore* this council will be an apex body. Therefore, it will give credit to what we refer to as accredited bodies, meaning sectoral councils like health *ke bone ba fang* permits *tse di amanang le* research *e e amanang le batho*. Agriculture has research *e e amanang le* plants and animals, *ba* environmental *ba na le* research *e e amanang le* climate change and other things. *Rona* as a council *kwa godimo,* we give them that accreditation. *Jaanong* this definition is just to beef up to say these people will be recognised as accredited bodies. *Ke sone se se tlaabong se ba fa dithata* to issue a permit. In other words, you cannot issue a permit without having been given accreditation by the council. This is the definition that we want to broaden and encompass everything. It does not really change the price of bread Honourable Nkawana, it is to make sure the explanation is overly encompassing in all the functions of the council and sub-council.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Batlotlegi, ke na le letshwenyego, re tshwanetse *to amend Bill* mme le a tlhaela, le tswa fela. Le fa *bell* e lela, motho o tswa fela. Ga ke itse gore a bo go raya gore re reng; re lotlele? A re se ka ra dira jalo bagaetsho, bana ba le lebeletse kwa. Ke kopa gore re eme fa re bitse Mapalamente a tle go tsweledisa tiro. Ke kopa gore o bitse batlotlegi bao.

DR DOW: *Procedure. Madam Chairperson*, boammaaruri ke gore o tshwana le moruti a le mo kerekeng a omanya batho gore ga le tle kerekeng, ga le tle kerekeng mme a bua le ba ba foo. Batho ba ba seyong mo Palamenteng, ke eng o sa ba bitse ka maina? *The front row* go na le motho a le mongwe, *the* 7th *row* ba bararo. Ke raya kwa babusing. Kwa morago ba batlhano. *The Leader of the House* le Digwa ga ba dire tiro ya bone *Madam Chairperson*. Nako le nako ke rona re nnang gone fa bone ba seyo. Jaanong se omanye ba ba tsileng kerekeng, omanya ba ba seyong gone fa. Ke a leboga *Madam Chairperson*.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: *Honourable Members*, a re reetsaneng. *I think this thing* ga re e tseye *serious*. Ke ipotsa gore a ke bue le *Speaker* re emise tee e e fa ntle, le tle le jetse ruri fela ka *lunch*. Ga ke tseye gore a re tshwanetse gore e re fela e re re tsena mo Palamenteng ka 2:00 p.m. go bo go nna le *movement* o montsintsi o kare re sa le re tsene maphakela. Motho yo o tlaa iponang *bell* e lela gotwe a se ka a tswa a bo a tswa fela, a bo a itse gore ke mmeetse dithupa.

Honourable Frenzel, ke utlwile *Mother of the House* a go raya a re *decorum,* o bo o re o ne o sa bone motho. *Decorum* ga e reye motho. O ithute gore fa o tsena mo Palamenteng, o dira jang le fa o tswa. Fa o ka itlwaetsa go dira jalo, o ya go nna o dira fela, a mang o fa kae kana mang, o dira fela jalo.

MR PHOLOGOLO: *Procedure. Madam Chairperson*, go na le go pitlagana mo go bitswang gotwe *call of nature*. Fa motho a tswa ka seemo seo, ga o a tshwanela go mo tshelela dithupa.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Nna fa fatshe *Honourable* Phologolo.

MR MOSANANA: *Procedure*. Tanki *Madam Chairperson*. Go tswa gompieno e tlaabo e le nna ke letlelelang batho go tswa fa ba tswela kwa ntle, ba ikwadisa, ba bo ba ikopa mo go nna *Madam Chairperson*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: …(Inaudible)…

MR MOSANANA: Gakere le tsamaya fela ga le ikope mo go *Speaker*.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Nna fa fatshe *Honourable* Mosanana.

MR FURNITURE: *Procedure*. Ke a leboga *Madam Chairperson. I think you are raising an important issue*. Kana mme e kile ya buiwa *before*; fa o lebeletse mo Ntlong fa, batho ba bantsi ke Mapalamente, Matona ga ba yo mme kana *Bills* tse e a bo e le tsa bone. *Leader of the House* ga a yo, le *Acting* le ene ga a yo. Ke ene a ka bong gongwe a go thusa kgang e.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Tshere, were you through?

MR TSHERE: Yes, Madam. I had moved for that amendment to Clause 2 appearing on Page B.162. I move accordingly.

Amendment **agreed to.**

Clause 2 as amended **agreed to.**

Clauses 3-6 **agreed to.**

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Members, there is an amendment at Clause 7.

Clause 7

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): Thank you very much once again Madam Chairperson. I think this one was well noticed. I move that "The Bill be amended at Clause 7 appearing on Page B.166 by deleting paragraph (f) appearing therein and renumbering the subsequent paragraph."

Madam Chairperson, this is consistent with the amendment that I just moved, beefing up the definition of accredited research, accredited issuing bodies. The function of the council; *kana* this Clause speaks to the functions of this council. Now we are removing the functions of issuing permits from council altogether, that it will be given through the accredited bodies like I explained earlier on. That is the amendment that we want to do. We want to remove the functions of issuing permits by the council and leave it for the other sub-councils that will arise, that we are referring here as accredited bodies. I thank you and I move accordingly.

Amendment **agreed to.**

Clause 7 as amended **agreed to.**

Clauses 8-10 **agreed to.**

Clauses 11-20 **agreed to.**

Clauses 21-30 **agreed to.**

Clauses 31-37 **agreed to.**

…Silence…

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Lucas, *o a nkgakolola, re na le* apologies *tsa bo* Minister *gore ba dule ka ditiro, ba emetswe ke ba ba re neetseng maina a bone gore ba teng gone fa,* that is why *ba seyo ka kwano*. Honourable Members, I now call upon Honourable Minister of Communications and Innovation to report the Bill from Committee.

NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL BILL, 2026 (NO. 23 OF 2026)

Bill reported from Committee **with amendments.**

Third Reading - **Forthwith.**

Third Reading

NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL BILL, 2026 (NO. 23 OF 2026)

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

MADAM SPEAKER (MS MANYENENG): Honourable Members, the question is that the National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 of 2026) be read a third time.

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INNOVATION (MR TSHERE): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I move that the National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 Of 2026) be read a third time and do pass.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, the question is that the National Research and Innovation Council Bill, 2026 (No. 23 of 2026) be read a third time and do pass. In accordance with Standing Order 62.1 (c), I should order a division. The division shall be held in a manner prescribed in Standing Order 63. The bell will be rung for two minutes and you will be voting.

Question put and **Division Ordered.**

...Silence...

MADAM SPEAKER: I am activating, please vote. Button 2 is for "yes," button 3 "no," button 4 "abstain."

...Silence...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the results. We are all 27, "yes" 25, "no" zero, and no "abstain," and one did not vote. Thank you, Honourable Members.

Bill read a third time and **passed.**

ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE THE EXTENT OF FOREIGN WORK PERMIT ABUSE AND NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CITIZEN SUBCONTRACTING MANDATES IN GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

Motion

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable* Tshere, a o badile gore fa o tswa ga o dige *quorum*? Ke kopa gore le nne le bala ka gore jaanong re bereka jaaka o kare *zigzag*.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MADAM SPEAKER: Re kopa *two members* ba tsene re tswelele. *Order! Honourable Members*! *Honourable* Moalosi *to present*.

…Silence…

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Ga a yo.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MADAM SPEAKER: Ga go na yo o buang le nna kana, ke bona le *mumble* melomo fela.

MR KAIZER: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. O re itsisitse gore o go kwaletse lekwalo gore o na le *constituency commitment* kwa kgaolong.

MADAM SPEAKER: Motho fa a ne a laela gore o tlaabo a seyo, gakere o kgona go le laela gore le mo tseele. Ga a re raya a re ga a yo e bile re ntshe *Motion*. Go raya gore o tlaa ya go simolola go fola kwa morago *Motion* wa teng.

Motion**- Deferred.**

POLICY FRAMEWORK OR LEGISLATION, EMPLOYEE SHARE SCHEMES AS A STRATEGY TO ENHANCE EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT, RETENTION AND ALIGNMENT OF INTEREST OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES

Motion

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members.

MR KAIZER (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker* ka gore *Leader of the House* kana ke gone a gorogang. *Motion* o kana o kwa *ministry* wa gagwe. *Assistant Minister* o ne a kopa gore ga ba ise ba nne *ready to handle Motion o Madam Speaker*. Ke a leboga.

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE): *Procedure*. Ke ne ke re ke gakolole gore fa e le gore *Honourable* Kaizer *is not ready*, a bue fela gore a re *he is not ready*. Ga go tlhokafale gore a bo a kopa *Minister* ka fa gore *you have to be ready for the Motion*. Ke belaela gore ga a *ready*.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mohwasa to answer for that. *Ke tlaa tsaya mogala gone jaana ke o tseela ruri*. Can you respond to Honourable Kaizer regarding the Motion?

MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT, DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MR MOHWASA): *Madam Speaker*, fa le ka lemoga, go ne go na le fa e leng gore *we have decided* gore Mme Mma Dikoloti o tlaa *deal* le *these questions and Motions*. *So, the request that she put across to Honourable* Kaizer ke gore a busetse *Motion* kwa morago, o tlaa tla a *deal* le one le fa e le kamoso. Ke a leboga.

MR KAIZER: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker. Later Date.*

Motion-**Deferred.**

MADAM SPEAKER: *Thank you. Honourable* Kedikilwe ga a yo fa, *that is his Motion*.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *Procedure. Madam Speaker*, fa o bona re setse re tsamaya fa jaana, e tlhakatlhakane *in a sense that* kana o ya go tsamaya le *Motions* tsotlhe fela jaana, ba seyo gone fa ka ga ba solofela gore *Motions* tsa bone di a tsena letsatsi leno. *So, I think the best thing* fela ke gore a *Leader of the House* a *adjourn* re tswe…

MADAM SPEAKER: Nna fa fatshe Kekgonegile.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Members*, ga se lantlha kgang e, e nna. Re dumalane gore le tsena Palamente go fitlhela e tswa. Ga go na yo o tshwanetseng go leba gore a sa gagwe se tlaa tsena. Ga o tlele sa gago, o tlela Palamente gore e tsene bagaetsho. Ga re ka ke ra nna re tla go tsena mo Palamenteng motsotso re bo re tsamaya. Re bo re re ka gore re ne re sa itse gore a *Motion* wa gago o tlaa tsena. Jaanong, *I will be calling all these Motions* gore e re kamoso di le kwa morago, le se ka la re ga di a ka tsa bidiwa.

MR PULE: *Procedure*. Ga ke itse mongwame. Kana fa re le fa, re bagakolodi ba gago. Fa ke re ke a lebelela, Matona ga ba yo, ba *four* kana *five, six or seven*. Le ka kwano batho ga ba yo. Ke rata gore o kare re ka sala morago mogopolo wa ga Rre Kekgonegile. Tota ga se gore gongwe o a nyenyafatsa kana jang. Go ka nna ga felela kwa go rona re seyo le bone ka koo ba seyo, a bo e nna o kare re a tshameka. Tota o a bona fela gore Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) ga e yo. Ga ke itse gore e kwa kae. Ke mathata fela a a seng kana ka sepe. *Madam Speaker*, ga o bolo go kgalema ka kgang e, mme ga e reediwe, bogolo jang babusi, ga ba go reetse, ga ke itse gore go diragala eng. Ke a leboga.

DR DOW: *Procedure*. Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Kana mathata a re leng mo go one gompieno ke gore Palamente e, ke ya molao. *If you look at* Botswana Economic Transformation Programme (BETP), go tlile go tle go fetisiwa 32 *pieces of legislation* gore e diragale. Gompieno jaana *the reasons why* re tsentse *Motions* ke gore babusi ga ba ipaakanya. Ga go na molao o *mature* o mo *debate,* jaanong *that is why* re tsaya ya ba botlhale re e tlisa kwano. *We are covering for them.* Gompieno jaana ba tshwanetse gore ba ikope maitshwarelo gore ke eng ba se *ready* ka melao. Ba bo ba re pateletsa gore re dire *Motions* tse e leng gore jaaka o bua, le bone ga ba *ready* ka tsone. Boammaaruri fela tota ke gore Batswana ba tlhokana le *an apology. This particular session is for* melao. E kae melao e e tshwanetseng gore re bo re e *debate* gompieno? Jaanong re a thiba, re a thiba … (*Inaudible*)… *Madam Speaker*.

LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MOHWASA): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker*. Ke tsaya gore kwa ntle ga ga Mme Mma Dow ka fa a neng a bua ka teng, Rre Kekgonegile o ne a bua kgang tota e e leng botlhale. Ga re ka ke ra nna fela re bua. Gone go supa mongwe ka monwana go siame jaaka gongwe motho o ka nna a felela le ene a supa ka monwana gore, kana ga go ise go bo go nne le *Motion* o sutisang gore re tle re *amend,* ka gore re ne re itse gore *business* e re e rulagantse ka tsela e ntseng jang. *From what I have been told* ke gore, ga re ise re nne le *Motion* ope o o sutusiwang go baakanya dithulaganyo tsa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

As for an apology e gotweng re tshwanetse *to tender it,* ke tlhalose gore *if* Palamente e dumalana, *we can move to* kamoso. Mathata a teng ke gore bone, bogolo jang ba kganetso, ba ne ba ntse ba ngongorega thata *and we have committed ourselves to ensuring that we are avoiding Bills* tse di tlang ka *urgency.* Fa e le gore re a dumalana, *we can start tabling those Bills tomorrow* ka *urgency,* mathata e ntse e le lona le gana. *Bills* di teng tse di tshwanetseng gore di ka tsena, mme re emetse gore di ka *mature.* Ke tsamaiso e e teng, e e beilweng.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: …(Inaudible)…

MR MOHWASA: O bona selo se se tona se o ka se ipolelelang mo botshelong, o se ka wa letlelela gore *Madam Speaker* ka gore ga a go reetsa, e bile ga a ka ke a go kgalemela, o bo o ipuela fela. O tlaa dira gore le nna la bofelo ke ipuelele, a bo gotwe jaanong ga re mo tsamaisong, mme o simolotse go roba tsamaiso. A re tlotleng tsamaiso.

Madam Speaker, ke tlhalose gore ga se ka bomo, re emetse *Bills to mature.* Ke tsaya gore Rre Kekgonegile, o ne a bua sentle. Gompieno fa mongwe a ne a solofetse gore go tshwanetse gore *Motion* wa gagwe a tle a o baakanye kamoso, a bo gotwe o tla gompieno, ga go nne sentle. Le ba ba tshwanetseng gore ba kgwe motho yoo dikgaba ba sa ipaakanya, le gone ga go nne sentle. Ke a leboga.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ke batla *to respond* go na le *quorum.*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Mosanana, ba bitse foo. Mosanana o tlaa ba bitsa.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Kana *Madam Speaker,* gakere jaanong re tsere dikgang.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Laughter!)…

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Le fa mang…

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable Members,* a re reetsaneng. Ke a le utlwa jaaka le ntse le bua, *Honourable* Kekgonegile, ga go na jaaka ke ka emisa tiro ya gompieno ka mabaka a le reng batho ga bayo, ba ne ba sa itse *Motions* tsa bone. *It is posted in your groups* le a di bona, e bile ba ne ba le teng gone fa ka 2, *they decided to go.* Jaanong ga ke tle go emisa tiro ya Palamente, ka batho ba ba sa ikaelelang go theogela. Ba ba batlang go theogela, ke ya go bala *Motions* tse fela ba ba leng teng di tlaa feta, ka gore kamoso o mongwe le tlaabo gape le re *Motions* tsa lona di di kgologolo di sale di ile kwa ga di tle.

Bagaetsho, se ke batlang go se tlhalosa ke gore, ga go na Mopalamente ope yo e reng Palamente e tsene a sa *excuse officially,* a bo gotwe ga a yo ka gore ga a itse gore *Motion* wa gagwe o a tsena, ga go na golo mo go

ntseng jalo, *that is being irresponsible.* Ke kopa gore fa re le mo Palamenteng, fa o tswela kwa ntle, tswela kwa ntle o boe. Ke kopa gore ope a se ka a nna a ya go bidiwa kwa ntle, ga re a tla go bitsa ope fa, re rile re tlile go theogela.

Jaanong ke kopa go tsweledisa *Motions* tse, mong wa *Motion* o o leng teng o tlaa o tsenya, o o sa o tsenyeng o a feta. Jaaka *Mother of the House* a bua, re emetse melao e mentsintsi e e leng gore ga re ka ke ra dia nako ka batho ba ba sa tlhwaafalelang go tla go tsenya *Motions* tsa bone, ba bo ba re tshwara *at ransom.*

HONOURABLE MEMBER: *Go tlatsa* Madam Speaker…

GOVERNMENT TO STOP CHARGING FARMERS TAX ON IMPORTATION OF LIVESTOCK

Motion

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Kedikilwe to present.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: *Honourable* Kedikilwe, o santse a tswetse kwa ntle, mme ke mmoleletse gore *Motion* wa gagwe o ka nna wa tsena, a bo a re Moalosi o teng, ga se o o ka tsenang *today.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Laughter!)…

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Jaanong tsena mo go o o latelang *Madam Speaker.*

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Laughter!)…

MR PULE: *Procedure. Honourable* Frenzel ga a tseye Rre Kedikilwe sentle. *Honourable* Kedikilwe o ntaetse, o sianetse kwa Tlokweng, o ne a re o ile go bona ngaka teng. Go raya gore gongwe ga a ka a ela tlhoko, *but* o ile ka tsa botsogo. Jaanong *Honourable* Frenzel ke ipotsa o a bo a raya jang. Kana ba lwela setilo.

MADAM SPEAKER: Le tlaa mmolelela ba a le laetseng gore e fetile.

Motion-**Deferred.**

GOVERNMENT TO AUTHORISE BOTSWANA POWER CORPORATION (BPC) TO FOCUS ON DISTRIBUTION OF POWER

Motion

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Disho, ga o ka ke wa tswela kwa ntle.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: …(Murmurs)…

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Lekau to present.

MR LEKAU (MOGODITSHANE WEST): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Ke ema fa ke batla go supa gore mo *Motion* o, tota ke tlaa kopa gore bakaulengwe ba dirise ditlhaloganyo tsa bone, gore ba nne fa fatshe ba akanye gore golo mo go ka sologela Batswana molemo go le kana kang.

Sa ntlha ke gore BPC go tle go tseneng jaana, mo dingwageng tse di fetileng le tse di kwa morago tse di kgakala, go ne go supa gore e nna le tshokolo e tona ya go itsamaisa le letlhoko la madi. E bo e re fa go nna le seemo sa mofuta o, e bo e isa *costs* tseo e di isetsa kwa motswaneng wa sekei. Ke buisiwa se ke gore, o fitlhela e le gore fa o na le *farm* gope kwa o nang le yone teng, e e leng *a kilometre or less* go tswa mo *grid* ya BPC, to *connect it* ka bo gone go raya gore o tlhokana le madi a a ka tshwarang P600 000. E se gore BPC *directly* ke yone e yang go dira *project* eo. E bo e re fa BPC e sena go go fa *that quotation* ya P600 000, wena o ya go batla *quotation* kwa *a private company* gore e ba tsenyetse *connection* e o e kopang. E bo *private company* e tla *with a quote of* P200 000 *from the* P600 000 *they quoted for you.* E bo go raya gore bone fela ba tlaabo ba neela motho tiro, a bo a ya go dira. *It proves* gore *companies* tsa Batswana ka botsone di ka kgona go dira *that installation,* mme BPC ka gore ke yone fela e le nosi, kana *there is that monopoly in the market,* le fa e isitse *prices* kwa godimo, ga go na gope kwa o sielang teng. Gore jaanong re re a e tswe mo go nneng *monopoly* ya gore ke yone fela e tshegeditseng *power,* re raya gore go nne le *competition, so that* go ka nna le *price* e e *reasonable for connection.*

Fa o lebelela BPC ka boyone, le gore re batla gore motlakase *by* 2030 o aname lefatshe le lotlhe, ga go ka ke ga kgonega re tsamaya ka *pace* e re tsamayang ka yone ya BPC. *Even the backlog* e e teng kwa BPC, ke e e tsitsibanyang mmele ka gore ga ba kgone *to meet the demand* ya motlakase gompieno. Mongwe le mongwe mo a leng teng mo lwapeng kana kwa masimo, bangwe ba ka bo ba nna kwa masimong a bone, ga ba nne teng fela ke gore ga go na motlakase. Fa ba lebelela boturu jwa motlakase o o *provided by* BPC, go ba ketefaletsa *to connect* motlakase kwa ditshimong tseo.

E bo e re le ntswa re na le batho ba ba kgonang *to produce* motlakase, BPC e bo e kwala mokgakgathoma o o kana ka *pages* tse di *more than* 20 tsa konteraka, tse di go itsang gore o ka ya *to sign and distribute* motlakase *to* batho ba motse oo fela. Moo ka bogone go itsa gore, le fa go na le *a private company* e e nang le *capacity* ya *to produce* motlakase *and electrify* metse kana dijarata tse di foo, ga e ka ke ya kgona *under the current setup,* ya gore motlakase o tshwanetse gore o fiwe fela ke BPC. Moo ka bogone go re ketefaletsa gore le *projects* tse re reng di a dirwa tsa di *solar,* beng ba tsone ba tlile go simolola go lelela gore ga go na ope yo ba ka mo rekisetsang ntleng le go rekisetsa BPC fela.

Jaanong go leka gore BPC re e fokotse gore le yone e tsene *in competition* mo mmaketeng, a tiro ya yone e leke go lebelela gore *standards* tse di teng tsa *material* o o dirisiwang, a ke tsone. *They should inspect the material* o o dirisitsweng le *installation* gore a e dirilwe sentle. E se ka ya nna bone fela ba le nosi ba ba tlaabong ba lebagane le motlakase. Ke lebelela gore moo ka bogone *causes* gore go se ka ga nna le *efficiency, and by so doing, we are going to eliminate the supply chain bottlenecks* tse re di fitlhelang di le teng mo mmaketeng gone jaana. Gompieno o ya go fitlhela e le gore go na le ngwana wa rona mo Botswana *who produces metres,* mme *metres* tsotlhe tse e reng fa re re re a di batla tsa BPC, ka yone e saenne *contract* le mongwe kwa South Africa, go raya gore ga go na ope *who can supply metres* tseo. *So* motho *can produce metres* ga bo go re a di rwale gape a ye go tla a ipapanne e kare o tswa South Africa gore a kgone go rekisa. Golo mo ke mo e leng gore *it is a trade that was designed by default* gore bangwe *should benefit because* ke kgang ya *monopoly,* e re itsa gore batho *who can produce*, fa ba ka nna le tshono ya gore dilo tseo ba di bone.

Jaanong e ne e le gone go kopa gore, *this honourable House* e role BPC mokgweleo o mongwe gore e o neele dikompone tse di ikemetseng.

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (MR MAELE): *Clarification.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Ke a leboga *sir and thank you so much for bringing this important Motion. I am suggesting* gore, ga o bone go le botlhokwa gore gongwe re leke go tshwaratshwara *Motion in terms of to amend it* gore motho a nne le *choice?* Ke gore gongwe *sometimes* ke tlaabo ke sena ba ke ka ba rayang ke re, *I want to engage you* ba ke ba itseng *to come and* ba ntsenyetse motlakase, mme e le gore nna ga ke na *problem* le BPC. *So* ke ne ke re, ga se gore *let us amend it* go sekaenyana fela re supe gore a motho a itlhophele gore a o batla go tsenyediwa ke BPC *or a private company, because* fa gongwe o fitlhela e le gore ke ya go batla a *private company,* ba ya go re tsietsa ba bangwe ba ba sa itseng sepe. *So if I want to say, okay* ke batla go baya *responsibility* ya tshenyego yotlhe mo BPC, *let me leave them to do it. I do not know sir, I am thinking* gore *maybe we can just tweak it a bit just to provide for choice* ya yo o batlang *to choose.* Ke a leboga motlotlegi.

MR LEKAU: *Thank you very much.* Gongwe o ka bo o nthusitse, ke dumalana le wena ka gore le fa o le kwa BPC *when you fill the forms,* o a supa gore a o batla *underground* kana *overhead,* mme gongwe le yone e ya *installation,* go nne *open in the market, so that* o ka itlhophela go tsenyetswa ke bale kana go ya go tsenyetswa ke BPC. Kana se se teng se re tshwanetseng go se lebelela re le Batswana ke gore, kwa bofelong jwa letsatsi, motlakase o tsenyetswe Motswana ka tlhwatlhwa e e kwa tlase. *This thing* ya gore motlakase o tsenngwa mahala wa P5,000 o go neng gotwe *is connected* gongwe le gongwe, *I did not buy the story honestly, because* kwa bofelong jwa teng, go boa go potiwa ka kwa go dirisiwa metlhale e mengwe ya *to recover the cost* tsa madi a a neng a tsenyeditswe Motswana, go bo gotwe ke mahala. Jaanong ga ke dumalane le mo e leng gore motho o direlwa bosigo ka kobo, a re papamale gore, fa gotwe *cost* ke bokana, e bo e le gore ke *cost* e o e itseng gore *you will incur it and it is a once-off cost.* E seng mo go tlaabong gotwe re tlaa go tsenyetsa mahala mme gone re itse gore re ya *to recover* jang madi a re go tsenyeditseng ka one.

Ke dumalana le wena motlotlegi gore *that could be amended.* Ke tsaya gore e tlaa re fa ke sena go nna fa, go kotama, ke tlaa eletsa gore e re le akgela *and amend* batlotlegi, le e dire ka mautlwelobotlhoko a Batswana, le gore ke a lwala ga ke tlhoke go utlwa botlhoko thata. Ke a leboga.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. The floor is open.

MR AARON (NGAMI): Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Le nna tlaa ke eme ke tlatse *Honourable* Lekau gore mogopolo o ke o montle thata, o tlaa intshwarela ga ke a tsoga sentle gompieno. Ke supe gore, ke dumela gore tsela e e neng e ka berekela Batswana… ka gore le fa e le gompieno le fa o ka ela tlhoko, le fa gotwe BPC *is connecting,* tota ga se bone *that are connecting,* ke *private companies that are connecting.* A go ka nna le

tsela ya gore, ke gore bao ba e leng gore ke dikompone tse di nang le boitseanape jwa *to connect,* a go ka nna le *the way they can be tested.* Ba bo ba ka nna le go itsiwe gore mme dikompone tse di nang le boitseanape jwa *to test* ke tse, e bo e re Motswana mongwe le mongwe yo o eletsang *to connect,* a bo a ka itlhophela gore ke efe mo dikomponeng tsele, ka gore *now* o na le *choice* ya gore o ka ya go ipatlela *quotations* di ka nna mmalwa. Kana gompieno *quotation* re e fiwa ke BPC e le *one,* mme fa e le gore dikompone tse, tse di nang le bokgoni *can register, that were tested* ka tsela e, re na le tshwanelo ya gore re ka ya go ipatlela *quotations* tse di farologaneng. Mme *surely* ke dumela gore *quotations* tse, ga ke dumele gore tse tsotlhe di ka nna fa godimo ga tlhwatlhwa e gompieno re e bonang mo BPC. Go boammaaruri thata gore ditlhwatlhwa tse di teng gompieno ga di rotloetse Batswana gore ba ka tswa mo metseng-selegae kana setoropo ba ya go ikagela ba phuthologa kwa masimong kana merakeng ya bone. Betsho, kana nngwe ya dilo tse e leng gore re a bo e le gore kwa masimong le merakeng re nna le di…(*Inaudible*)…jaana re sa kgone go aga matlo a a rileng, ke gone gore ga go na motlakase.

MR FRENZEL: *Clarification.* Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Go na le sengwe se se ntsietsang fa *Honourable* Aaron, fa o reng batho kwa masimong gongwe le kwa merakeng ba palelwa ke go aga ka fa ba batlang ka teng. Kana ka fa ke itseng ka teng, go ka dirisiwa *solar panels*, ke sa itse gore gongwe a ga o itse tsamaiso ya *solar panels.* Gongwe o tle o ntlhalosetse gore o e bona jang, a ga se yone?

MR AARON: Ke a leboga *Madam Speaker.* Keletso ya rona ke gore, a motlakase o fitlhelele Motswana mongwe le mongwe fa a leng teng. Fa e le gore Motswana o na le bokgoni jwa gore o ka goga motlakase o, bogolo jang re bua ka mafelo a a *less than* bo *five kilometres* go tswa *from the main grid* mme o bo o fitlhela e le gore go riana… Afrika Borwa gore a bo gompieno e tlhabologile ntlheng ya *agriculture* ke gore, puso e ne ya tsaya tshwetso ya gore motlakase o fitlhelele *farmers* kwa di leng teng. Jaanong ke tsaya gore mogopolo wa ga *Honourable* Lekau o gone fa, gore e seng fela kwa magaeng, fa re o atolosa, fa e ne e le gore Puso e ne e ka tsaya tshwetso ya gore fa go ntse jaana ba ba ka kgonang, dikompone *that can connect for you,* o ka ya go tsaya ditlhwatlhwa mo go bone, mme BPC ya tla *to check* gore a mme *standard compliance* ya gore a mme a *connection* e e dirilwe ka tsamaiso, e bo e nna boikarabelo jwa bone.

Ke sone ke reng, ke ema fa go gatelela le go tlatsa mogopolo wa ga Rre Lekau gore nako e tsile betsho, mafatshe otlhe a e leng gore a a ijesa gompieno, ke a e leng gore Goromente o ne a tsaya tshwetso ya gore a motlakase o tswe mo ditoropong le mo magaeng, o latele batho kwa ba kgonang go dira dijo teng. Ka jalo, ke go ema nokeng. *Thank you.*

MR PHOLOGOLO (KANYE WEST): *Thank you very much. Honourable* Lekau, ke ne ke re mogopolo o, se se tona se ke se kgatlhegelang ke gore o ka re tlela ka go tlhama mebereko. *We should not have Government monopolising and taking away opportunities* tse e leng gore ka tsone re ne re ka kgona go rotloetsa banana gore ba tsene mo ditirong tsa *policy* ya maloba re bua ka yone.

Se sengwe, e tshwanelwa ke gore e bo e rotloetsa gore bodiredi jo bo dirang jalo, a bo bo fitlhelwa mo kgaolwaneng ya go nna jalo. *I have made out* gore go tlaabo go sa rontshe BPC go netefatsa gore tiro e dirilwe ka manontlhotlho, jaaka le gompieno fa o tsentse motlakase, pele ga ba tla go go tshubela, ba tla ba tlhodumela gore a mme go dirilwe jaaka go eletsega.

Gape kgang e e nkgakolola kgang e nngwe maloba ke ne ke e bua le ba BPC, e le ka lebaka la gore kwa kgaolong e ke tswang kwa go yone, *we have over* 300 *people,* malwapa a e leng gore ba tseetswe *cables. The sad part here is*, gore ba kgone go bona motlakase, go raya gore yone BPC e tlamega gore e ye go batla *cables* tsone tseo, e tle go gokelela batho mo malwapeng a bone. Ke ne ka botsa BPC potso maloba gore go pala eng, kana a go thona gore Motswana yo ene a senang lebaka la go ema sebaka se se kalo sa dikgwedikgwedi motlakase o seyo mo ga gagwe, ke a dire eng. Ke eng a sa letlelelwe gore o ka tla kwa BPC, mme BPC ya mmontsha ba e leng gore ba rekisa *cables* tse di maleba. Ba ne ba nthaya ba re, ga go na molato, ga go ka ke ga pala. *Surprisingly,* go raya gore ba ne ba bua jalo kgang ya teng e ise e wele, gore mme Motswana mongwe le mongwe o ka ya go ithekela. Kopo ya me ke gore, go papamale, e le yone BPC gore mo godimo ga kopo ya gago gore o ikgokelele, kana re gokelelwe ke ba ba ikemetseng ka nosi, le gone gore yo o kgonang go ithekela, a ithekele gore a kgone go thusiwa, segolobogolo yo e leng gore o ne a na le sone seo, mme sa tsewa mo go ene.

Nngwe ya dikakanyo e ne e le gore, ka gore molao *currently* o supa fa BPC e le yone e tsenyetsang batho motlakase, e nne kgang ya gore fa o dirile jalo, o neelwe *compensation. Compensation does not necessarily have*

to follow the expense or madi a o a dirisitseng, e ka nna sengwe se e leng gore bone ba BPC le *ministry* wa bone, ba ka dumalana gore mme se ke sone se e leng gore fa go ne go dira rona, e ne e ya go nna ditshenyegelo tse re nang le tsone. Ke buisiwa se ke gore, re atolose mogopolo wa gago gore o tsenye le go letlelela gore ba re kgonang, re ipatlele *cables* tsone tse di tsenang mo ntlong *from* pale ya BPC.

Ka a le kalo mokaulengwe, ke tlatsa mogopolo wa gago, mme go na le phetogo e e tlamang gore ba letlelele yo o iponetseng kana yo o kgonang go ya go ithekela gore a tle go busetswa mo *grid,* a tle a kgone go tshubelwa, a se ka a ema dikgwedi tse thataro a ise a bone motlakase. Le bone banana ba e leng gore re ba fa ditsha kwa go senang ditlamelo teng, gore ba nne le tshiamelo ya gore a se ka a aga ntlo a bo a ema fela a re o emetse gore ditlamelo di mo latele. Fa a kgona, a letlelelwe ke molao gore a itlhophele gore o ka itsenyetsa motlakase, mme BPC yone e bo e tla fela go tla go mo tshubela, a tswelele le botshelo.

Ka a le kalo rra, ke kopa gore o dire diphetogo tseo, ke a go tlatsa. Ke a leboga Motsamaisa Dipuisanyo tsa Palamente.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRADE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MR MATHOOTHE): *Thank you, Madam Speaker.* Ke ne ke re ke supe jaana gore mmei wa *Motion* o o beile sentle, mme e bile le ka fa a neng a gakololwa ka teng gore gongwe go ka nna le *amendment,* ke dumalana thata le *amendment* ya teng.

Kgang e e fa pele ga rona e, ke nngwe ya dikgang tse e leng gore *they are very critical,* bogolo jang fa re bua ka *investment* mo lefatsheng la Botswana. Fa o bua ka *power, industrialisation,* o tlhokana le motlakase. Se se supafalang mo mabakeng a le mantsi, o fitlhela batho ba bantsi ba ba batlang go dira dikgwebo, kgang e tona e nna *to connect* motlakase, e seng go reka *units.* Go itemogetswe go le gantsi gape gore fa ba dira dikopo tsa go nna jalo, o fitlhela e le gore kgokelo ya motlakase mo lefatsheng la Botswana e kwa godimo thata fa o e bapisa le mafatshe a re bapileng le one.

DR DOW: *Clarification. I thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you* mokaulengwe *for yielding.* Ke ne ke re ke botse gore, kana fa re lebile *Motion* o, tota o kopa gore go baakangwe kante *amend* molao o o tsamaisang BPC. Fa o ka o lebelela sentle, o re bolelela gore tiro ya BPC ke e, gore *Minister* wa Meepo le Motlakase, fa a gakolola, a reng? Tota *if you look at that particular Act, it tells us what the powers of the corporation are, and therefore, I do not know that we can sit here without guidance of the Minister* gore *what would the amendments be.*

Ke botse gape, le bua gone gore o tlaabo o na le setsha sa gago, ga ke itse gore a la re o tlaabo o tla o tsenya *transformer* wena ka bo wena, o bo o isa motlakase koo. Ke gore *the powers of the corporation are broad, they are to generate power, to do the gridlines* gakere, *even to transmit, and then to step down* gape *to substations.* La re le e tseela bothata fa kae gone foo? Nna ke ne ke tsaya gore *guidance* ya ga *Minister* e ka bo e le botlhokwatlhokwa mo kgannyeng yone e pele ga re simolola re re *yes or no.* Ke a leboga. A o dumalana le nna?

MR MATHOOTHE: Mma ke dumalane thata le wena mo kgannyeng ya ntlha e o neng o bua ka *guidance,* ya gore go tlhokafala thata gore *Minister* o ka ba fa *guidance.* Ke gone mo e rileng fa *Motions* go ne gotwe di tswelele, go ne go na le kgang yone e ya gore kana jaanong go latela tse dingwe tse di kwa morago tse e leng gore gongwe ba ba neng ba ka fa *guidance* mo go tsone, ga ba yo fa ka gore ga ba a nna le nako.

Mo go e o neng o e botsa ya bobedi, nnyaa, ke ne ke tlaa tla ke atolosa foo gore re tle re tshwaragane thata mo go yone, *because* ke ne ke tlaa tlhalosa gore go diragala eng mo nakong ya gompieno. Ke ne ke e tlhalosa jalo gore, kana bontsi jwa batho ba ba ikopelang, BPC e tlaa tla e *identify* fa e leng gore ba ka *connect* teng, *and then* ba bo ba dira *a quotation* e ba e tsayang ba bo ba ya go neela dikompone tse e leng gore *they are accredited to* BPC, di bo di tla ka *prices* tse ditona, *and that price* e bo e ya *to customers.* Ba bangwe *they end up running away* e le *investors, looking at the amount of money* e ba tshwanetseng gore ba a tsenye, mme fa ba ne ba ka fiwa *option* jaaka *amendment* e bua, gore…

MR PULE: *Procedure.* Ke gwetlhwa ke *comment* ya ga *Mother of the House.* Kana go lebega e kete jaanong re e gama ka mogogorwane namane ya yone e seyo. *Procedure* e re ntseng re e tlwaetse *Madam Speaker, when a Motion is passed by the mover, before* re akgela, *Minister* o ema ka maoto o a akgela, a re fa *guidance.* Ga se gore jaanong gongwe re sutlheletse mme re se na *guidance?* Ga ke itse gore o e lebelela jang? E kare re ntse re dira jalo nako le nako. Ga ke itse gore gompieno re e tsamaisa ka mokgwa o o ntseng jang? Ke a leboga.

MR KEKGONEGILE: *On a point of procedure.* Tanki *Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker*, gone go ntse jalo. Fa o reeditse jaaka re bua gompieno, *debate* ya teng ga e

guided in terms of gore mme molao wa reng? Gone mme *functioning* ya BPC *vis-à-vis* go batla *to decentralise and demonopolize* mo, *the steps* tse re tshwanelwang ke gore re di tseye, *we need to be having a guided debate*. Jaanong ka fa go ntseng ka teng gompieno, re sa dirise mafoko a a kwa, *Madam Speaker, debate* e, ga se yone.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ke a le utlwa. Ke batla *guidance Leader of the House. But before, I thought collectively if Ministers are here,* ba ne ba ka mo reeletsa kana ba akanya gore go ka tweng, *unlike* go ne go sena le fa e le *Minister* yo o *one. Let me get guidance from Leader of the House.*

MR MOHWASA: *Madam Speaker*, kgantele fa re simolola, Rre Kekgonegile o ne a leka go re gakolola, mme le nna ke leka gore ke mo tlatse ke rialo. Fa morago Motlotlegi Dow le ene o ne a bua jalo le mokaulengwe Mathoothe. *We happen to be in the House*, mo e leng gore re ka bua. Go batla re nna le *engagement* e e *meaningful,* e e tlaareng fa re fetsa re tsaya ditshwetso, re bo re sa tsoge kamoso re itshwere molomo. Re bereka re le Goromente a le mongwefela, mme gape go na le makalana a a kgaoganeng a a filweng ditiro ka go farologana. Fa Tona a le teng, o ka kgona gore a re gakolole, re se ka ra tsoga kamoso re tsere ditshwetso tse e leng gore tota fa ke bua nnete, e ne e le go fetisa nako ya setšhaba.

Go tshwana le *Motion* o re neng re o fetisa maloba ke sa boele kwa morago, wa ga Rre Hikuama. *Motion* wa teng o ne o siame, mme o ne o sa nna le sebaka sa gore re nne re bua. Tota jaaka ke ne ke tlhalosa fa re bula Palamente, ke rile maikaelelo a rona rotlhe ke gore, re tle re buisane fa ka maikaelelo a go aga setšhaba, re sa lebelela gore o wa *party* efe kana jang. Ke sone selo sa ntlha se re tshwanetseng re itebaganye le sone.

Fa re bua fela, re bo re re re tlaa tswelela *even in the absence of the Minister who have to guide us,* yo o yang go diragatsa tse, fa gongwe le rona ga re itirele sentle. O kare ga re dirise nako ya Palamente sentle. *That is why* ke re, le *Motions* tse fa re di tsenya, *Parliamentary Counsel* o tshwanetse le ene a re gakolole. Fa re simolola re fetola thulaganyo, re simolotse re re re ya go dira jaana, *Private Member's Bill* le *Motions* di le mo; fa re fetola go tshwanetse go nne le *Motion* o o fetolang thulaganyo eo, gore batho ba itse gore ka letsatsi la gore, *Motions* tse di ka nna teng. Fa *Motions* di tsena di re tshoganyeditse, ga go nne sentle. Ke sone se ke neng ke re, bagaetsho, ga go molato gore fa dilo di sa nna sentle, re boele kwa morago re ye go ipaakanya sentle, e seng gore re bo re gobelela.

Fa re ka dumalana gompieno, go tlaabo go sa nna sentle, le *Bills* tse di leng teng di ise di *mature* ka gore di beetswe malatsi a a kana, gore batho ba ye go tsaya dikgang ka tsone. Fa e le gore ba bangwe *feel* gore dinako tse dingwe re ka di tsenya, re buisana, ke tsaya gore tseo di ka diragala. Se ke neng ke re ke se kope ke gore, bagaetsho, a re se ka ra gobelela, re bo re ya go fetisa dikgang tse e leng gore kamoso, ga re kgone go di diragatsa.

Gone ee, BPC e turu go tsenya motlakase. *They charge* madi a a kwa godimo. Ba ne ba tlhalosa gape gore go na le *issues* tsa *quality.* Motlotlegi Dow o ne a bua ka dikgang tsa molao, BPC Act yone ya reng? Fa re bua le ka dikgang tsa *servitude,* o simolola *line,* le fale o bo o goga, *servitude* ke ya ga mang? Fa yo mongwe le ene a batla go goga, go nna jang, go nna le *implications* le mo *planning* fela *in general.*

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Leader of the House, *jaanong* you are debating.

MR MOHWASA: Nnyaa mma, fa ke bua ka *planning in general* ka re, *Minister* fa a ne a le fa, o ka bo a re fa *guidance on those matters. It might be* fela gore fa ke gakolola, gongwe go nnile go telele, *but these are issues that we cannot brush over*, go bo gotwe go nna e kete *we are debating*. Ke a leboga.

MR LEKAU: *On a point of order. Madam Speaker,* mongwe le mongwe yo e leng Mopalamente *before* e nna *Minister,* ka gore rotlhe re Mapalamente, o tshwanetse a bo a le mo Ntlong ya Palamente ka nako. O ntse o omana fa o re, "re tshwanetse re nne fa." Gore *Motion* wa gago o tsena leng ga se kgang, wena o tshwanetse o tle Palamenteng. Mme e kare re nna le *exemption* gore fa e le *Ministers*, bone ba ka letlelelwa gore ba se ka ba nna teng. Re tlaabo re ntse re sa direle Mapalamente sentle. Mongwe le mongwe o tshwanetse go nna fa, a reetse dikgang ka tolamo. E seng fela tse di amanang le ene, Palamente yotlhe go tsweng ka 2:00 p.m. go tsena ka 6:00 p.m. Fa e le gore re bona *Ministers* ba sa tle Palamenteng jaaka ba sa tle jaana, go tlaabo go baka gore go nne *chaos.* Ga ke gane *we can step down Motion* o, wa tla wa buisanngwa *Minister* a le teng. Fa o tsena fa, re lebeletse gore boTonanyana ba *two and then Ministers* ba *three*…

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order. Point of order Madam Speaker!

MR LEKAU: Assistant Ministers…

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Nnyaa, Lekau! Nnyaa!

MR LEKAU: Ke e buile ka Setswana ke re, *Assistant Ministers.* Ke boela morago lefoko la boTonanyana.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: I do not understand what is going on here?

MADAM SPEAKER: *Honourable* Modise, ga ke a go fa *floor,* iketle pele. Nna fa fatshe. *Honourable* Lekau, nna fa fatshe. *Honourable Members, I am invoking* Standing Order 26.2; *health break* 15 *minutes.*

PROCEEDINGS SUSPENDED AT 5:09 P.M. FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES

ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly adjourned at 5:52 p.m. until Thursday 30th July, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

HANSARD RECORDERS

Mr T. Gaodumelwe, Mr T. Monakwe, Ms T. Kebonang

HANSARD REPORTERS

Mr M. Buti, Ms Z. Molemi, Ms N. Selebogo, Ms A. Ramadi,
Ms D. Thibedi, Ms G. Baotsi, Ms D. Moitoi, Ms B. Pinaemang

HANSARD EDITORS

Ms C. Chonga, Mr K. Goeme, Ms G. Phatedi, Ms B. Malokwane, Mr A. Mokopakgosi, Ms O. Nkatswe,
Ms G. Lekopanye, Ms T. Mokhure, Ms B. Ratshipa

LAYOUT DESIGNERS

Mr B. B. Khumanego, Mr D. T. Batshegi, Mr K. Rebaisakae