

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**NOTICE PAPER**

**(WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024)**

**NOTICE OF QUESTIONS**

**(FOR ORAL ANSWER ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024)**

1. **MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Finance to update this Honourable House on the amount of money drawn from Special Funds for the COVID-19 Fund Seed Capital including how much the Government got from each Fund. The Minister should further state and explain: **(352)**
  - (i) the position of the financial law on management of special funds including repurposing (purposes other than which is stipulated in the Fund Order) the money from the fund;
  - (ii) the number of Special Funds and current state of Special Funds including how much is in each fund;
  - (iii) funds which have not submitted their books of accounts to the Auditor General for audit and which ones have not been audited since 2019;
  - (iv) what Government has changed in the management of Special Funds since the National Petroleum Fund (NPF) issue; and
  - (v) international best practices for managing these funds and whether they have codified investment guidelines.
  
2. **MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology to provide an update on the implementation of the SmartBots Village Connectivity project in Ghanzi District settlements, specifically addressing: **(353)**
  - (i) the specific objectives and key components of the project;
  - (ii) any challenges or obstacles faced in the execution of the project;

- (iii) the anticipated timelines for completion and activation of the SmartBots Village Connectivity in all settlements in Ghanzi District;
  - (iv) the measures in place for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the project in improving access to communication services; and
  - (v) whether he is aware of concerns by residents of Ghanzi settlements regarding the quality of cell phone network reception and radio signal and the steps being taken to address these issues.
- 3. MR. P. P. P. MOATLHODI, MP. (TONOTA):** To ask the Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology if there are any plans to build a new Post Office in or around Tonota Constituency; and if not why, given that villages in the vicinity of constituency have grown extensively. **(354)**
- 4. MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Entrepreneurship to state: **(355)**
- (i) how his Ministry supports small business development and small business owners in rural areas with low literacy rates, ensuring that they have access to training, mentorship and financial assistance to grow their businesses; and
  - (ii) if there are specific programmes designed to help small and micro entrepreneurs in these rural areas overcome literacy-related barriers to business success.
- 5. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to apprise this Honourable House on the state of electricity distribution in Botswana as well as the progress and plans for electricity infrastructure and electricity extension to the villages in Kanye North, Kanye South and Boteti East Constituencies, further: **(356)**
- (i) what is the number of transformers required in each village within the mentioned constituencies to fulfil the requisite electricity extension;
  - (ii) explain the budget necessary to address this need and shortage and when the allocation and execution of this project are planned;
  - (iii) what is the duration for which residents of these villages have been waiting for access to electricity; and

- (iv) what is the Minister's perspective on the current distribution of electricity across Botswana, including whether he is satisfied with its status.
6. **MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state whether there are plans to open an Omang office at Mmadinare. **(357)**
7. **MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture to state: **(358)**
- (i) when the Botswana National Library Service Act will be reviewed in order to align it with modern information needs; and
- (ii) why it has taken long for it to be reviewed.
8. **MR. M. I. MOSWAANE, MP. (FRANCISTOWN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to state: **(359)**
- (i) how many (in kilometres) of internal roads are needed in Gerald Estates, Moselewapula and Kanana; and
- (ii) how much the project will cost.
9. **MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (NGAMI):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security to apprise this Honourable House on the state of the long closed Dibete Police building/offices; including, the exact cause(s) of not using the building and to further state: **(360)**
- (i) what his Ministry is doing to ensure that the building is functional and serves its initial purpose;
- (ii) if there are any specific plans and time set for the renovation of this building;
- (iii) how the closure of this building has impacted service provision to the public;
- (iv) how the closure has affected the performance of Police Officers looking at issues of productivity and morale of officers at that Police Station; and
- (v) if it would be wrong to conclude that Government does not care about the welfare of both Police Officers and the public who are meant to use this facility.

- 10. DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (SEFHARE-RAMOKGONAMI):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security if he is aware of the existence of anti-stock theft crime prevention volunteers or *Mephato* in the Sefhare-Ramokgonami Constituency and what he is doing to support as well as facilitate them in their noble endeavor; he should specifically state: **(361)**
- (i) if he is aware of the recent unfortunate incident where one of the anti-stock theft volunteers lost his life during a violent confrontation with suspected livestock thieves; and
  - (ii) whether he will consider consolidating and rationalising the community policing cluster volunteers and anti-stock theft crime prevention volunteers.
- 11. MR. O. RAMOGAPI, MP. (PALAPYE):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to brief this Honourable House on the public transport situation in Palapye in particular stating the following: **(362)**
- (i) lack of combis in Palapye to assist the public whereas there are some people that have such permits. If the answer is in the affirmative what action has been taken; and
  - (ii) challenges of taxi operators (bearing in mind that there is one Government) such as poor roads that hinders them to ferry the public to their destination at Extension 7,8,9,10 and other surrounding areas.
- 12. MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBONONG):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry to give a detailed progress report on the Platjan-Mathathane road construction project indicating the expected commencement and completion dates for the project. **(363)**