

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER P A P E R

(WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL, 2025)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

1. **MR. G. DISHO, MP. (OKAVANGO EAST):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism: (346)
 - (i) when he will consider drilling boreholes in Deception valley as wild animals walk long distances to Sunday Pan and Letiahau and eventually abandon the area for the whole peak season or half a year;
 - (ii) when the road from Matswiri, Tsau and New Xade Gates will be gravelled to facilitate easy movement; and
 - (iii) if his Ministry will drill boreholes in Makgadikgadi for the 50 000 zebras, elephants and other small animals as they now have to walk long distances to Boteti and Jacks Camp searching for water.

2. **MR. M. M. MOROLONG, MP. (KGATLENG CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to state: (349)
 - (i) the criteria and format used to calculate terminal benefits of Councillors;
 - (ii) the total amount of terminal benefits for the 2019–2024 Councillors; and
 - (iii) whether there are unresolved queries surrounding their terminal benefits.

3. **MR. C. K. JACOBS, MP. (LOBATSE):** To ask the Minister of Health if he is aware of the state and situation at Sbrana Psychiatric Hospital particularly in terms of health risks, that include patients' wellbeing, state of the facility and wellbeing of employees. (350)

4. **MR. R. W. KAIZER, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to state: (352)
 - (i) when last the Botswana Railways (BR) Organisational and Salary Structures were reviewed and implemented;
 - (ii) if the two (2) structures were both reviewed and implemented across all positions; if not, why not;

- (iii) why there is a huge disparity between the highest paid and the least paid employee; and
 - (iv) when there will be a review and increment of salaries for the BR staff.
5. **MR. A. K. KHAN, MP. (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH):** To ask the Minister for State President to explain the functions and roles of the Department of Broadcasting Services and Department of Information Services; and to further state: **(353)**
- (i) the staff compliment for each department in terms of core duty and support staff;
 - (ii) the number of outstations each department has, and how many outstations are headed by personnel in salary scales C1, D4, D3, D2 and D1 in each department;
 - (iii) why the Department of Information Services has more officers heading outstations on C1 and D3 salary scales whereas the same is not done at the Department Broadcasting Services;
 - (iv) the number of officers (reporters) on C1 salary scale top notch in the Department of Information Services and Department of Broadcasting Services; and
 - (v) why employees at the Department of Broadcasting Services seem to progress better career wise than those working for the Department of Information Services.
6. **MR. S. O. MAPULANGA, MP. (CHOBE):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state: **(354)**
- (i) the status and ownership of the Nyungu (Ko Letswaing) Basubiya royal ruins;
 - (ii) when the ownership changed and how it changed from the community to the current status and ownership;
 - (iii) when and where consultations with the affected community were held regarding the status and ownership of the ruins;
 - (iv) whether the Nyungu royal ruins cannot be restored to community ownership under the management of Cisiya Nkulu Trust;
 - (v) the whereabouts of artefacts which included human bones and pottery that were excavated from the Nyungu ruins area;

- (vi) whether the Ministry would allow access to the artefacts by academics and researchers representing the community to document observations that will add to the literature and heritage of the Basubiya tribe which has inhabited the area from about AD 900 according to accient archaeological research;
- (vii) the status and ownership of the Ghoha Hills areas and when such status and ownership were assumed;
- (viii) whether the ownership and/or management of the Ghoha Hills area cannot be restored to the community through the management of Cisiya Nkulu Trust;
- (ix) whether he is aware that the Ghoha Hill is an ancient Subiya settlement/village with two graves of former Basubiya chiefs, a water well, castor oil medicinal plants and other sites that need preservation and official acknowledgement as part of Basubiya heritage; and
- (x) whether he is aware that the settlements/ruins of Nyungu and Ghoha Hills are documented by some of the renowned researchers/authors such as Mr Anthony Sillery (1952, pp. 190 – 193), Professors Thomas Tlou and Christine Saidi, Messrs Daniel Shamukuni, and Nicholas Katanekwa (archaeologist) to mention but a few.

7. MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST): To ask the Minister of (355)
Environment and Tourism to state:

- (i) concrete steps that Government has taken to implement key policy objectives of the Climate Change Policy, 2021, particularly on efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuel, enhance food security in drought-prone areas as well as to address increasing climate variability;
- (ii) measures in place to ensure adequate climate financing and whether Botswana is leveraging on international funding sources such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to support adaptation and mitigation efforts; and
- (iii) plans to review and strengthen climate adaptation strategies, particularly for communities that are mostly at risk of extreme weather events considering that Botswana remains highly vulnerable to climate change effects.

8. MR. P. M. SEGOKGO, MP. (TLOKWENG): To ask the Minister of Local (356)
Government and Traditional Affairs:

- (i) if he is aware:

- (a) of a sewerage tender that was awarded by the Council in Ramfurwa Ward in 2011;
 - (b) that the company did not complete the work;
 - (c) that the P4 Million that was budgeted for the tender is still in Government coffers; and
 - (ii) if he will consider sending this money to Water Department to continue with the project and help Ramfurwa residents.
9. **MR. J. J. FRENZEL, MP. (SHASHE WEST):** To ask the Minister for State President: (358)
- (i) if he is aware of the lack of a fully functional police station between Francistown and Orapa;
 - (ii) what plans are in place to rectify the situation; and
 - (iii) when the lack of police vehicles at Chadibe and Mabesekwa villages will be addressed.
10. **MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST):** To ask the Minister of Health if he is aware of the deplorable conditions of Ditladi Health Post and that the building is old and has not been maintained for a long time; if so, what does he intend doing to rectify this situation. (359)
11. **DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (TSWAPONG SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture if he is aware that the process of merging public entities to constitute the National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI) experienced critical challenges. The Minister should specifically state: (362)
- (i) whether the National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) in Kanye has been fully integrated into NARDI and explain why it continues to have a care taker;
 - (ii) if assets from NFTRC were fully transferred to NARDI;
 - (iii) if he is aware that since 2022 there are researchers from NFTRC who continue to be paid salaries they remain staying at home because they opted not to be relocated to NARDI;
 - (iv) if he is aware that Farm Technicians were given employment offer letters that were later retracted and to state the reasons for doing so; and
 - (v) what he is doing to remedy the situation at NARDI.
12. **MR. L. BARONGWANG, MP. (MOGODITSHANE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism: (363)
- (i) if any comprehensive study with a detailed report has ever been conducted to provide feedback from the Hotel and Tourism Business community following the introduction and implementation of local travel per diem;

- (ii) to provide latest data from the Ministry on;
 - (a) decline and/or increase in occupancy rates at licensed small to medium hotels, lodges, and guesthouses across the country;
 - (b) the number of small to medium accommodation providers that have closed their operations since the Policy's implementation;
- (iii) to outline measures put in place to ensure that the Local Travel Per Diem Policy does not adversely affect the small to medium hotels, guest houses and lodges operators; and
- (iv) how the Government ensures that the Government travel expenditure directly supports small to medium, dully registered, and tax-compliant local businesses.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

MOTIONS

1445 – 1800

**ADOPTION OF THE POLICY ON THE LICIT USE OF CANNABIS
IN BOTSWANA FOR INDUSTRIAL AND MEDICINAL PURPOSES**

1. "That this Honourable House resolves to adopt the Policy on the Licit use of Cannabis in Botswana for industrial and medicinal purposes."

(Minister of Lands and Agriculture)

(Resumed Debate)

GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A SOCIAL JUSTICE AUDIT

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government to conduct a social justice audit to assess and proffer proposals for addressing inequalities obtaining in our country."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobirwa)

(Resumed Debate)

LOCAL PAYMENT OF HOTELS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE DELTA

3. "That this Honourable House resolves that all payments for hotels and activities in the delta, parks and tourism attraction areas should be fully paid for in Botswana."

(Mr. G. Lekau, MP. – Mogoditshane West)

**GOVERNMENT TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE LIQUIDATOR
ON BEHALF OF THE FORMER BCL EMPLOYEES**

4. "That this Honourable House requests the Government to negotiate with the liquidator on behalf of the former BCL employees to be awarded a special programme of subsidised purchase of BCL houses including but not limited to rent-to-buy, turn-key and any other social welfare housing scheme to enable them to continue occupying these houses."

(Mr. R. W. Kaizer, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

**INTRODUCTION OF 26 DAYS MONTH PAY MODEL
FOR TEACHERS IN BOTSWANA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

5. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce and/or adopt a 26 days month pay model for teachers in Botswana Public Schools, as a form of recognition for the peculiarity of their work, in shaping the minds of the next generation, as well as fostering a positive learning environment for learners."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Maun West)

(Resumed Debate)

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS FOR DRILLING BOREHOLES ON FARMS

6. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider providing financial and technical assistance to farmers across Botswana for the drilling of boreholes in their farms to enhance water access for agricultural purposes."

(Mr. M. M. Pule, MP. – Kgatleng East)

DECLARATION OF LESHIBITSE VILLAGE AS A HORTICULTURAL ECONOMIC ZONE

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to declare Leshibitse Village in Kgatleng a Horticultural Economic Zone and to that end recognise residential homesteads as small horticulture holdings, facilitate the drilling and equipping of communal boreholes, support the necessary infrastructure and generally do such things as shall be necessary for the success of the programme."

(Dr. U. Dow, MP. – Kgatleng West)

**AMENDMENT OF EXISTING LAWS TO LEGALISE CULTIVATION
AND PROCESSING OF INDUSTRIAL HEMP**

8. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending the existing laws in order to legalise cultivation and processing of industrial hemp."

(Mr. M. Moalosi, MP. – Nkange)

FORENSIC LAND AUDIT COVERING ALL LAND ALLOCATION

9. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider instituting a Forensic Land Audit in Mogoditshane covering all land allocation in the past 15 years to past and current Land Board officials and employees; Councillors, Members of Parliament and Tribal Administration Senior staff."

(Mr. L. Barongwang, MP. – Mogoditshane East)

REVIEW AND STRENGTHENING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LAWS

10. "That this Honourable House requests Government to review and strengthen existing environmental protection laws in view of prevailing harsh climate change conditions that have affected food production with debilitating conditions, particularly for subsistence farmers."

(Mr. K. Nkawana, MP. – Selebi Phikwe East)

GOVERNMENT TO RE-ALIGN THE TENURE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS TO BE 60 MONTHS

11. "That this Honourable House requests Government to re-align the tenure of Parliamentarians to be 60 months as per the Constitution and in similar patterns to Cabinet and Councillors in an effort to close a vacuum and create uniformity in political representation and responsibility."

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

INTRODUCTION OF SIGN LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

12. "That this Honourable House resolves to introduce and adopt sign language as an official language in Botswana."

(Mr. M. M. Morolong, MP. – Kgatleng Central)

SETTING UP OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

13. "That this Honourable House requests Government to institute a Commission of Inquiry into the alleged corruption at Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS)."

(Mr. P. M. Segokgo, MP. – Tlokweng)

INTRODUCTION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AS A COMPULSORY COMPONENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

14. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce Early Childhood Education as a compulsory component of Basic Education to open access to Basic Education Programme to every three-year old child."

(Dr. K. Gobotswang, MP. – Tswapong South)

**GOVERNMENT TO COMMIT TO ALLOCATE PLOTS TO
HALF OF ALL PERSONS ON THE WAITING LIST**

15. "That this Honourable House requests Government to commit to allocate residential plots to half of all persons on the waiting list for such plots in the next 3 years to facilitate home ownership for a significant proportion of the people of Botswana."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobirwa)

SCHOOL SPORT AND TAKING YOUTH OUT OF STREETS

16. "That this Honourable House requests Government to develop and pilot basic sport facilities in Mogoditshane by upgrading Solomon Dihutso football grounds and commence a development programme for pre-primary, primary and secondary schools."

(Mr. L. Barongwang, MP. – Mogoditshane East)

INTRODUCTION OF A RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

17. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce a Rural Water Supply Scheme in order to promote economic and social upliftment of the rural communities."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Maun West)

DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH FOCUSED JOB CREATION PROGRAMMES

18. "That this Honourable House requests Government to develop youth focused job creation programmes, entrepreneurship initiatives and vocational training to address the high rates of youth unemployment."

(Mr. M. Moalosi, MP. – Nkange)

NGOMA TO SEDUDU TRANSIT ROUTE TO OPERATE ON A 24HRS BASIS

19. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to have the Ngoma to Sedudu transit route operate on a 24hrs basis, remove the request for permits system and introduce Police officers to man and manage the 2 gates."

(Mr. S. O. Mapulanga, MP. – Chobe)

**GOVERNMENT TO HUMANITARIANLY COMPENSATE FORMER
BCL EMPLOYEES WHO LOST THEIR JOBS DUE TO THE
ABRUPT CLOSURE OF THE BCL MINE**

20. "That this Honourable House requests Government to humanitarianly compensate former BCL employees who lost their jobs due to the abrupt closure of the BCL Mine retrenchment packages as per section 25 of the employment Act."

(Mr. R. W. Kaizer, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

CREATION OF A NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUDGET

21. "That this Honourable House requests Government to create a detailed and disaggregated national children's budget, which must first be reviewed and passed through the National Children's Forum and Council before being considered and approved by Parliament."

(Mr. M. M. Pule, MP. – Kgatleng East)

**DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAMME AIMED AT ABSORBING
ALL GRADUATES INTO THE JOB MARKET**

22. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider developing a programme aimed at absorbing all graduates into the job market."

(Mr. P. M. Segokgo, MP. – Tlokweng)