

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(FRIDAY 7TH MARCH, 2025)

MINISTERS' QUESTION TIME

HRS/MINS

0900 – 0945

1. Minister of Justice and Correctional Services

THEME: THE BUTTERFLY CASE

To ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services to state:

- (i) if in the so called Butterfly Case, Gerrie Nel was hired or is still hired by the State as its legal counsel and since Gerrie Nel is linked to AfriForum, what was the rationale of the State in engaging Gerrie Nel who undermines and does not support the struggles of the African National Congress (ANC) in fighting for liberation in the Republic of South Africa;
- (ii) whether this does not reflect negatively towards the geopolitics of our neighbouring countries who share the same pain; especially the Republic of South Africa;
- (iii) how much has been paid to date for his services;
- (iv) if he is still owed by the State and if so how much; and
- (v) whether Bank of Botswana provided the State with an affidavit that clearly denied the theory that money was stolen under the State's watch and supervision. Why did the State not disclose the existence of this affidavit to the public or even use it to avoid prosecuting an innocent person.

(Mr. O. Kedikilwe, MP. – Serowe West)

2. Minister of Higher Education

THEME: SPONSORSHIP CHALLENGES FOR BOTSWANA STUDENTS IN RUSSIA

To ask the Minister of Higher Education:

- (i) to provide an update on the status of sponsorship disbursements for Botswana students studying in Russia, particularly regarding their living allowances, in light of the complications arising from the ongoing war between Ukraine and Russia;
- (ii) what mechanisms are currently in place to ensure that students receive their funds efficiently and without complications;

- (iii) if there any identified obstacles in the disbursement process, and if so, what strategies are being implemented to mitigate these challenges;
- (iv) if the Ministry explored alternative methods to safeguard the timely transfer of funds to students studying in conflict affected areas; and
- (v) what assurances can the Government provide to ensure that students abroad can focus on their studies without financial disruptions.

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

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

1. **MR. G. LEKAU, MP. (MOGODITSHANE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education: (257)
 - (i) to apprise this Honourable House about restarting of Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) when Form 4 students open next week; and
 - (ii) if the Minister would consider temporarily suspending the Outcome-Based Education (OBE), so that the current Form 5 students seat for BGCSE not OBE as it requires a lot of funds to implement.
2. **MS. H. P. MANYENENG, MP. (MMOPANE-METSIMOTLHABE):** To ask the Minister of Health if he will consider allocating an ambulance to Metsimotlhabe Clinic as a matter of urgency given the recent incidents at the village owing to the unresourced clinic, therefore posing serious health threats. (258)

TABLING OF PAPERS

1. Water Utilities Corporation Annual Reports, 2022/23.
(Minister of Water and Human Settlement)
 2. Competition and Consumer Authority Annual Report, 2023/2024.
(Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship)
- **STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CAUSUS ON WOMEN**
 - **STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT**

**INSTITUTING A PARLIAMENTARY SELECT COMMITTEE TO REVIEW
THE STATUS OF MADIRELO TRAINING AND TESTING CENTRE (MTTC)**

1. "That this Honourable House requests Government to institute a Parliamentary Select Committee to review the status of Madirelo Training and Testing Centre (MTTC) as a national examining body for trades as it is currently disbanded and not fully performing its mandate."

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

(Resumed Debate)

REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL SELF-DRIVE CUSTOMERS

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government to regulate international self-drive customers to utilise local companies in undertaking their game drives and related activities in local National Parks and Game Reserves in an effort to promote economic inclusion of locals in the tourism industry."

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

(Resumed Debate)

CREATION OF A NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUDGET

3. "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)

SETTING UP OF A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

4. "That this Honourable House resolves that a Presidential Commission be set up within 60 days of the adoption of the motion in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act; the primary focus of the Commission of Inquiry being to investigate, report and recommend actions concerning allegations of corruption in various sectors and to also assess the extent, causes and impact of corruption and recommend measures to prevent future occurrences."

(Mr. D. Saleshando, MP. – Maun North)

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

5. "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)

GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A SOCIAL JUSTICE AUDIT

6. "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)

LOCAL PAYMENT OF HOTELS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE DELTA

7. "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)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

8. "That this Honourable House resolves to consider the establishment of a Constitutional Court."

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

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

9. "That this Honourable House request 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 to 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**

10. "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)

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS FOR DRILLING BOREHOLES ON FARMS

11. "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

12. "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**

13. "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

14. "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

15. "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**

16. "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)

SETTING UP OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

17. "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**

18. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce Early Childhood Education as a compulsory component of Basic Education to open access to Basic Education Program 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**

19. "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

20. "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

21. "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

22. "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

23. "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
UBRUPT CLOSURE OF THE BCL MINE**

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

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