

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(THURSDAY 31ST JULY, 2025)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

- 1. MR. P. M. SEGOKGO, MP. (TLOKWENG):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to apprise this Honourable House on the performance of Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) and if he is aware: **(443)**

 - (i) of the operational inefficiencies at BVI on vaccine production due to obsolete equipment and inexperienced personnel, subsequent to restructuring;
 - (ii) of management reviewing their contracts from three (3) to five (5) years and grossing the gratuity on basic salary and allowances despite BVI being cash strapped and running on an overdraft;
 - (iii) that BVI has not had a Head of Research position since restructuring despite being a critical position; and
 - (iv) that the French partners will be taking their Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) master seeds after December 2027 (which accounts for more than half the seeds used by BVI) but no progress has been made by BVI to have its own master seeds used for FMD vaccine production.

- 2. MR. M. M. MOROLONG, MP. (KGATLENG CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state when he intends to construct the long awaited Mochudi Library and to further state: **(444)**

 - (i) the design project costs; and
 - (ii) estimated construction project costs.

- 3. MR. R. M. LEKUTLANE, MP. (KGALAGADI NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to state: **(445)**

 - (i) the cost of regravelling the Khuis - Khawa gravel road both before and after Khawa Dune Challenge and if the said road was indeed rehabilitated after the event;
 - (ii) the number of road accidents related to Khawa Dune Challenge since its inception;

- (iii) the road distance; and
 - (iv) if it is not cost effective to tar the road, if so, when will it be tarred.
4. **MR. K. T. MMUSI, MP. (GABANE-MMANKGODI):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state: **(446)**
- (i) when his Ministry intends to allocate residential plots to residents of Tloaneng, particularly the youth, who have long awaited allocation as previously promised; and
 - (ii) if there are any plans to utilise available land for infill developments, given that both Mmokolodi and Tloaneng communities currently have a growing number of youth without access to residential plots.
5. **MR. V. B. PHOLOGOLO, MP. (KANYE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Health to update this Honourable House on the number of cases Government is currently facing now and in the past fifteen (15) years for medical malpractice and/or medical negligence; and to further state: **(447)**
- (i) how much money has been paid out to settle claims against his Ministry; and
 - (ii) what interventions are put in place to minimise such occurrences and financial impact on the fiscus.
6. **MR. P. M. MOSANANA, MP. (KANYE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Health to state alternative measures being put in place to help curb the vast impact left by USAID after its withdrawal of its financial assistance which left thousands of people unemployed. **(449)**
7. **MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to brief this Honourable House on progress of payments of various allowances to teachers in the Ministry, with emphasis on: **(450)**
- (i) the number of teachers owed leave concession, transfer allowance, subsistence allowance, overtime allowance and acting allowance;
 - (ii) which district has the highest number of unpaid allowances and why;
 - (iii) reasons for non payment and mitigating factors going forward; and
 - (iv) when and how the Ministry intends to pay the workers.

8. **MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBIRWA):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state: (452)
- (i) the total number of foreign nationals who have been married in Botswana for the past thirty (30) years; twenty (20) years; ten (10) years and under 10 years and yet they have not been granted Botswana Citizenship despite persistent efforts to obtain one;
 - (ii) how the interviews and quota for citizenship affect the application for citizenship of foreign nationals married in Botswana; and
 - (iii) if there are any plans to assist foreign nationals married in Botswana for a continuous period of five (5) years or more to obtain Botswana citizenship.
9. **MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to apprise this Honourable House on the persistent issue of food shortages plaguing most schools across the country and to specifically state main causes and immediate steps being taken to address the situation. (454)
10. **MR. K. S. GARE, MP. (MOSHUPA – MANYANA):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to provide a detailed plan of the maintenance of the following roads while awaiting for their upgrade to bitumen standard: (457)
- (i) Mosepele - Seherelela Road;
 - (ii) Sesung - Seherelela Road;
 - (iii) Moshupa - Tshwaane - Ralekgetho - Pitseng - Naledi Road; and
 - (iv) Tshweneyagae - Kgomokasitwa - Ntlhantlhe Road.

TABLING OF A PAPER

- Botswana Savings Bank Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025.

(Minister of Finance)

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

SECOND READING

1445 - 1800

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| 1. Forest and Range Resources Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 12 of 2025) | An Act to provide for the establishment of the Department of Forestry and Range Resources, the institutional and regulatory |
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framework for sustainable management of forest and range resources, and to provide for matters incidental or connected therewith.

(Published on 20th June, 2025)

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

(Resumed Debate)

2. Conventional Arms Control Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 13 of 2025) An Act to provide for the establishment of the National Conventional Arms Control Authority and the National Conventional Arms Control Committee as part of the national system for the control of international trade in conventional arms; to regulate the authorisation, transfer, transit, and brokering of conventional arms; to promote transparency and responsible trade in conventional arms; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

(Published on 27th June, 2025)

(Minister for State President)

COMMITTEE STAGE

- Community Based Natural Resources Management Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 11 of 2025) An Act to provide for the implementation of the Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) approach for the sustainable use of natural resources including cultural heritage by communities, and for matters connected or incidental thereto.

(Published on 13th June, 2025)

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

AMENDMENTS

1. The Bill is amended at **Clause 2** appearing at page **B. 239** under definition of "Community Based Organisation" by substituting for the words "general public or a category of individuals" appearing therein, the word "community".

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

2. The Bill is amended at **Clause 18(1)** appearing on page **B. 244** –
- a.* in paragraph (a) by substituting for that paragraph, the following new paragraph –

- (a)* four members from Community Based Organisation"; and
- b.* in paragraph (b) by substituting for the word "five" appearing therein, the word "four".

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

3. The Bill is amended at **Clause 18.1 (a)** by replacing the words "two members" with "five members".

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

4. The Bill is amended at **Clause 18.1 (b)** by replacing the words "five members" with "two members".

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

5. The Bill is amended at **Clause 18.2** by replacing the word "Minister" with the word "board".

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

6. The Bill is amended in **Clause 20** appearing at page **B.245**, by substituting for subclause (2) appearing therein, the following new subclause -

"(2) "The Board of a Community Based Organisation shall, in consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee, appoint a general manager to run the affairs of the Community Based Organisation.".

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

7. The Bill is amended at **Clause 21** appearing at page **B.245** –

a. in subclause (1)(c) by substituting for the words "Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education" appearing therein, the words "Junior Certificate";

b. by substituting for subclause (2), the following new subclause –

"(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(c), a Community Based Organisation may recommend to the Director for endorsement, a person to be a Board member of the Community Based Organisation."; and

c. by substituting for subclause (5), the following new subclause –

"(5) A member of the National Assembly, Councilor, *Kgosi*, a chairperson of a village development committee or a ward development committee shall be an *ex-officio* member of the Board of a Community Based Organisation and shall have no voting rights.".

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

8. The Bill is amended at **Clause 22** appearing at page **B. 246** by deleting subclause (5), appearing therein.

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

9. The Bill is amended at **Clause 22(1) (b)** by replacing the words "10 years" with "5 years".

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

10. The Bill is amended at **Clause 23(2)** appearing on page **B.247**, by adding immediately after the word "proceedings" the following words, "in the interest of the public to do so."

(Mr. K. K. Kapinga, MP. – Okavango West)

11. It is proposed that **Clause 23(2)** be amended to include "in the public interest". The new formulation will then read "Any person under subsection (1) to whom confidential information is revealed, shall not disclose that information to any other person unless, he or she is required to do so in terms of any written law, for purposes of any judicial proceedings or if it is in the public interest to do so."

It has always been deemed pardonable, if a whistle blower reveals confidential information in order to protect the public interest even if it is not pursuant to any specific provision of the law or in the process of any judicial proceedings. The only precondition is that disclosure of the information should be aimed at protecting a particular public interest.

(Mr. K. K. Kapinga, MP. – Okavango West)

12. The Bill is amended at **Clause 25** appearing on page **B.248**, by deleting subparagraphs "g,h,i,j,k and l" appearing therein.

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

13. It is proposed that that paragraphs (g) to (l) of **Clause 25** be deleted. The justification is that all the functions listed and intended to be conferred on the Technical Advisory Committees belong to the trust itself. Any transfer of such functions will be a usurpation of the primary responsibility of the community.

(Mr. K. K. Kapinga, MP. – Okavango West)

14. The Bill is amended at **Clause 29** by substituting for subclause (5) appearing at page **B. 250**, the following new subclause –

“(5) Where it is determined that there is misappropriation of the funds of a Community Based Organisation, the Community Based Organisation shall, with the guidance of the Technical Advisory Committee, open a temporary holding bank account for depository and holding of all investment monies and assets of the Community Based Organisation and the District Commissioner shall authorise for the release of the funds.”.

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

15. The Bill is amended at **Clause 29(5)** appearing on page **B.250**, by deleting these subsequent words “and the District Commissioner shall be designated as the principal signatory to the account” appearing therein.

(Mr. K. K. Kapinga, MP. – Okavango West)

16. It is proposed that **Clause 29(5)** be amended to delete any reference to the District Commissioner being designated as the principal signatory to the CBO bank account. The TAC should only facilitate the CBO in opening of Bank Accounts and leave the management thereof to the trusts. TAC should be overseers of the activities of the CBO's and when they become aware of any impropriety, they should kickstart the accountability process.

(Mr. K. K. Kapinga, MP. – Okavango West)

17. The Bill is amended at **Clause 35** appearing at page **B. 252** by inserting the following new proviso under subclause (3) –

“Provided that the trust property of the Community Based Organisation registered under the Trust Property Control Act or any other body shall vest in the Community Based Organisation and continue to be administered and disposed by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this Act.”

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)