

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER            P A P E R**

**(TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 2025)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**1400 – 1445**

1. **DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (TSWAPONG SOUTH):** To ask the Minister for State President if he is aware that under the previous administration the Ombudsman found that the state media coverage of political parties disproportionately favoured the ruling party and to state whether the situation has changed and in the spirit of inclusivity and equity he should state: **(339)**
  - (i) the number of persons representing civic organisations and opposition political parties interviewed by state media especially Btv in response to the 2025/2026 Budget Speech;
  - (ii) the number of Union Leaders interviewed by state media especially Btv concerning the 2025/2026 Budget Speech;
  - (iii) the number of persons with disability interviewed by the state media especially Btv over the 2025/2026 Budget Speech;
  - (iv) the number of young people interviewed by state media especially Btv over the 2025/2026 Budget Speech; and
  - (v) when the state media will become a public broadcaster to ensure editorial independence.
2. **MR. S. O. MAPULANGA, MP. (CHOBE):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism to state: **(340)**
  - (i) the original total area of the Chobe Game Reserve at inception in 1960/61;
  - (ii) changes in the total area from 1968 when it was transformed from a game reserve into a national park;
  - (iii) any subsequent changes to the total area of Chobe National Park from 1968 to date, and when those changes were effected and why;
  - (iv) when Wildlife Management Areas were introduced in the Chobe District and what the justification for their introduction was;

- (v) when the concept of wild animal corridors was implemented in the Chobe District and why these corridors lead to communal lands; and
  - (vi) whether he is not aware that the animal corridors that lead to communal lands have led to the escalation of human-wildlife conflict, loss of valuable human life, destruction of property and escalation of poverty.
3. **MR. K. K. KAPINGA, MP. (OKAVANGO WEST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to give this Honourable House an update on progress made in the project to refurbish the A33 road from Gumare to Mohembo; especially the Sepopa/Mohembo section which appears to have failed to take off successfully. (78)
4. **MR. G. LEKAU, MP. (MOGODITSHANE WEST):** To ask the Minister for State President to state: (285)
- (i) what action he will take in relation to the prevailing institutional culture among disciplined forces where there is reluctance to attend to reported incidents concerning their members, protecting each other and encouraging reconciliation of the affected parties even though there is always possibilities of incidents recurring;
  - (ii) plans in place to address rampant Gender Based Violence (GBV) incidents within disciplined forces;
  - (iii) plans in place to address bullying and ill treatment of junior officers by senior officers in the disciplined forces; and
  - (iv) if it is not opportune to establish independent bodies to deal with incidents of ill treatment.
5. **DR. U. DOW, MP. (KGATLENG WEST):** To ask the Minister of Health to state: (341)
- (i) how much the Botswana Government has paid to Cuba for Cuban health care workers for the last ten (10) years;
  - (ii) how much the Botswana Government has to pay to each health care worker per month;
  - (iii) what benefits are provided to each health care worker;
  - (iv) how long the current agreement still has to run; and
  - (v) whether he has plans to continue with the current arrangement or whether he plans to address the shortage of health care professionals in some other way.
6. **MR. M. MOALOSI, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Sports and Arts: (342)
- (i) when his Ministry intends to fully resume school sports and co-curricular activities which have been on hold since 2019;

- (ii) what measures are being taken to address the welfare concerns of teachers who serve as coaches, ensuring that they are motivated and adequately supported to manage school sports programmes effectively;
  - (iii) to provide clarity on the utilisation of the P55 million allocated to school sports last year and why sports activities were not implemented despite this funding; and
  - (iv) if he will consider reallocation of the school sports budget back to the Ministry of Child welfare and Basic Education, where teacher coaches are employed to ensure better coordination, accountability and inclusivity in this programme.
7. **MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST):** To ask the Minister of Communications and Innovation to provide an update on progress of the e-Mobility Programme, particularly regarding current developments and future plans for its expansion in Botswana. (343)
8. **MR. P. M. SEGOKGO, MP. (TLOKWENG):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement: (344)
- (i) if he is aware that sewerage manholes in Tlokweng are old and need maintenance; and
  - (ii) if in his budget he cannot help Tlokweng residents by maintaining the manholes.
9. **MR. L. BARONGWANG, MP. (MOGODITSHANE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship whether the Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) made any new financial investment deals in the past five (5) years excluding the already existing projects, e.g. Lobatse Clay Works, Milkafric, Lobatse Leather Park etc. and if any, he should state: (345)
- (i) the various projects and the sectors involved;
  - (ii) the total amount invested in each project;
  - (iii) the level of citizen participation (citizen inclusion) in the various projects;
  - (iv) the number of jobs/employment created; and
  - (v) the performance of these businesses.
10. **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.
11. **MR. J. J. FRENZEL, MP. (SHASHE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Health (347) when Borolong Clinic will start operating a 24-hour facility taking into consideration the population size of Borolong and its catchment areas.
12. **MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare (348) and Basic Education if she is aware of lack of books in schools particularly Tshesebe schools and measures in place to normalise the situation.

#### **NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**HRS/MINS**

#### **SECOND READING**

**1445 – 1800**

- Wildlife Conservation and National Park (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 8 of 2025)      An Act to amend the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act.

(Published on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025)

(Minister of Environment and Tourism)

(Resumed Debate)

#### **COMMITTEE STAGE**

- Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF) (Loan Authorisation) Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 7 of 2025)      An Act to authorise the raising, by the Government, of a loan from the Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund for purposes of financing the budget.

(Published on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025)

(Minister of Finance)

#### **MOTIONS**

#### **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)

**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 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**

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 humanitarily 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)