

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**(MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2024)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**1400 – 1445**

- 1. MR. D. TSHERE, MP. (MAHALAPYE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security to apprise this Honourable House on the status of crime in Mahalapye for the past five (5) years and to further state: **(424)**
- (i) how many criminal activities were recorded in terms of rape, murder, house breaking, common nuisance, burglary and livestock theft in the past five (5) years;
  - (ii) at (i) above, how many have been convicted by courts of law;
  - (iii) comparatively, whether criminal activities have increased or decreased in the past five (5) years;
  - (iv) to demonstrate by number the answer at (iii) above;
  - (v) how many butcheries were closed because their proceeds were linked to livestock theft;
  - (vi) how many butchers were convicted in Mahalapye in the past five (5) years for stock theft;
  - (vii) whether his Ministry once commented that the people of Mahalapye should prepare to eat only vegetables because most of the butcheries will close due to stock theft; and
  - (viii) whether, in his view, the statement at (vii) above was prejudicial to the people of Mahalapye and has negatively affected Mahalapye business confidence.
- 2. MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works whether his Ministry does not consider it necessary to amend Section 111 of the Public Procurement Act of 2021, which currently prohibits Public Officers and Employees of Public Bodies and their immediate family members from participating as bidders in any public procurement, specifically to exempt renting of houses to Government by public officers and to state: **(425)**

- (i) given the current housing shortages and the increasing demand for affordable housing solutions, what alternative measures does the Ministry propose to support public officers and their families in securing housing without undermining the principles of the Public Procurement Act;
- (ii) what impact this law has on the success of schemes such as the Government Employment Motor Vehicle Advance Scheme (GEMVAS) and Self Help Housing Agency (SHHA), which encourage public officers to build houses; and
- (iii) what commitments were made at the Housing Pitso held in 2023 to address the current housing shortages and what progress has been made on their implementation to address the housing shortage in Botswana.

**3. MR. M. I. MOSWAANE, MP. (FRANCISTOWN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to brief this Honourable House: **(315)**

- (i) on the legal frameworks and statutes guiding transportation of goods by foreign operators from Botswana to other countries, in particular Zimbabwe;
- (ii) if he is aware that private Zimbabwean transport operators are taking goods from Botswana to Zimbabwe which fuels lack of business opportunities for Botswana;
- (iii) if he is aware that his Ministry has directed that the above practice must stop but to date it is still happening despite the fact that the department of transport and road safety knows about it;
- (iv) on how many foreigners were caught from 2020 to 2023, crossing or conducting businesses at ungazetted point of entry into Botswana; and
- (v) what are the remedial actions in place to stop the practice and when will it be stopped.

**4. MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Justice: **(391)**

- (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 is at odds, undermines and minimises the struggles of African National Congress (ANC) in fighting for justice in South Africa;

- (ii) whether this does not reflect negatively towards the geopolitics of our neighbouring countries who share the same pain; especially South Africa, a friendly neighbouring country;
- (iii) how much has been paid to date for his services;
- (iv) if he is still being paid by the State or owed and if so how much;
- (v) to state the number of times His Excellency the President, Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi met Gerrie Nel;
- (vi) why it was necessary for Gerrie Nel to have a sit-down with His Excellency the President Masisi since the Butterfly case was wholly initiated by law enforcement agencies without external influence from the Executive as per the State's claim;
- (vii) Bank of Botswana Management provided the State with an affidavit that clearly denied the theory that money was stolen under their watch and supervision. Why did the State distance itself from that affidavit; never acknowledged its existence, never disclosed it to Botswana or even used it to avoid prosecuting an innocent person;
- (viii) the High Court ordered that, Jako Hubona be charged with perjury for manufacturing evidence on behalf of the State. How many years are left before this matter can be brought before the court as per the Prescriptions Act. If the matter is not filed yet, can the Minister update this Honourable House when the State is intending to do so and why at that particular time;
- (ix) how many times did Jako Hubona meet His Excellency the President Masisi; to brief him about the Butterfly Case;
- (x) with Hubona's skillset of fabrication and manufacturing evidence, harm and injury was caused on the accused. Has the State apologised or compensated the accused person for the fabrication he did, if not why not;
- (xi) what action has been taken against other individuals who participated at various capacities in helping Hubona in the name of the State in the fabrication of evidence;
- (xii) did the State establish whether the accused person was working alone or not when money went missing at Bank of Botswana. If the accused person had partners, how many Bank of Botswana employees were charged for and if not, why were they not charged;

- (xiii) since Bank of Botswana holds annual Cabinet briefings and the incident of stolen money occurred in 2008, does His Excellency the President or anyone in Cabinet remember being briefed about the missing money; if there is someone, who is it and what they remember;
- (xiv) if His Excellency the President and Cabinet do not remember being told about the missing money, did the State seek explanation from Bank of Botswana for such misleading reports that led to an innocent person being falsely accused. If no investigation was done, why not.

**5. MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to update this Honourable House on the number of foreigners working and doing business in the country and to further state and explain: **(422)**

- (i) the number of foreigners by industry who are employed in Botswana;
- (ii) qualifications of foreigners working in the country in Accounting, Medical, Engineering, Law, Academia and other professions;
- (iii) the longest time a foreigner has worked in the country and the profession concerned; and
- (iv) if she is aware of complaints by Accountants in the retail and manufacturing sectors who are ill-treated in favour of foreigners who are better paid and given managerial Accounting positions.

**6. MR. T. MANGWEGAPE-HEALY, MP. (GABORONE CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to brief this Honourable House on the Debswana Cut-3 and 9 projects; and further state: **(427)**

- (i) the scope of works and project costs;
- (ii) the citizen economic empowerment programmes and other value chains for the benefit of Botswana;
- (iii) lessons learned from Cut-8 in terms of project management and economic opportunities; and
- (iv) the Diamond Facets 2023 had a pitch contest for young people to bring their ideation to fruition through prize money and resources that were won, kindly elucidate on this exciting development for our young people and how those who missed can prepare for future such events;

- (v) what other opportunities especially for young people can be anticipated given the announcements recently made on the De Beers/GOB deal.
- 7. MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Entrepreneurship to apprise this Honourable House on the uptake of Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) in the Ghanzi South Constituency and to further state: **(428)**
- (i) the number of companies that have been funded and in which sectors since the announcement of the new CEDA guidelines; and
  - (ii) when the requirement for the Ranch Ecology Site Assessment Report was implemented and which department or agency was tasked with the compilation of this report.
- 8. MR. S. J. BROOKS, MP. (KGALAGADI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Agriculture to provide insight on the commencement of the Meat Industry Regulatory Authority (MIRA) Act indicating the following: **(429)**
- (i) the date of commencement; and
  - (ii) the benefits expected from the implementation of the act especially on the local meat industry.
- 9. MR. F. T. LEUWE, MP. (TAKATOKWANE):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security when the long promised Police Offices will be built in the following villages: **(431)**
- (a) Motokwe;
  - (b) Salajwe;
  - (c) Dutlwe; and
  - (d) Khudumelapye.
- 10. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry to apprise Parliament on the current status of manufacturing in Botswana, the steps being taken to bolster this vital sector and the impact on reducing the import bill for commodities that are now produced locally, over the past three years, additionally: **(433)**
- (i) how do the new procurement policies and laws support local manufacturers, especially citizens;
  - (ii) provide an overview of the sectors that have shown significant growth in terms of manufacturing;

- (iii) what is the cumulative Government spending to support manufacturers over the period;
- (iv) provide an outline of the incentives enjoyed by companies in the SPEDU area; and
- (v) statistics on the number of jobs created by manufacturers in Botswana over the past two years.

**11. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry to state when he intends to open the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) Office in Selibe Phikwe. **(434)**

**12. MR. W. B. MMOLOTSI, MP. (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Agriculture whether the key functions of the Agriculture office in Francistown have been moved to Masunga; and if so:

- (i) where will the farmers who reside in Francistown and surrounding areas get services; and
- (ii) how many officers have already been transferred and how many are remaining in Francistown.

**MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT – DEFINITE  
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

- “That this Honourable House requests Government to allow the Independent Electoral Commission to issue an electronic version of the 2024 General Elections Voters Roll to all registered political parties and candidates and other legally recognised groups and persons pursuant to the set precedent, tradition and the Electoral Act.”

(Mr. D. Tshere, MP. Mahalapye – West)

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

**HRS/MINS**

**MOTIONS**

**1445 – 1800**

**RELOCATION OF CLINICS TO THE MINISTRY OF  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

1. “That this Honourable House requests Government to relocate clinics to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.”

(Mr. F. T. Leuwe, MP. – Takatokwane)

(Resumed Debate)

**SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE  
BILLING SYSTEM AT WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION (WUC)**

2. "That this Honourable House resolves to setup a Special Select Committee as per the Standing Order to investigate on the water billing system at Water Utilities Corporation."

(Mr. O. Ramogapi, MP. – Palapye)

(Resumed Debate)

**DECLARATION OF GABORONE MAIN MALL  
A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE**

3. "That this Honourable House requests Government to declare Gaborone Main Mall as part of Special Economic Zone geared towards the creative sector and entertainment hub."

(Mr. T. Mangwegape-Healy, MP. – Gaborone Central)

(Resumed Debate)

**INCENTIVES FOR LONG SERVING CIVIL SERVANTS**

4. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce an incentives programme for long serving civil servants to incentivise them to take early retirement and make way for younger, more able-bodied graduates with the right skill sets and qualifications so that they get an opportunity for employment in Government."

(Mr. B. Mathoothe, MP. – Serowe North)

**INTRODUCTION OF A POLICY THAT COMPELS SUPERMARKETS TO SUB  
CONTRACT THEIR IN-HOUSE BUTCHERIES AND BAKERIES**

5. "That this Honourable House requests Government to come up with a policy that compels supermarkets to sub-contract their in-house butcheries and bakeries to 100% citizen owned businesses in which the supermarket owners are not shareholders as a way of making up for mainstay businesses such as bakeries and general dealers which have generally closed down due to being outmuscled by supermarkets."

(Mr. M. Balopi, MP. – Gaborone North)

**INTRODUCTION OF A RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME**

6. "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. – Ngami)

**AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT**

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to amend the Public Health Act in order to give the Director of Health Services powers to be able to contain and control the outbreak and spread of any disease without the need for His Excellency the President to rule by decree in a protracted State of Emergency."

(Mr. L. Lesedi, MP. – Serowe South)

**DESIGNATING MAUN A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE**

8. "That this Honourable House resolves that Maun be designated a Special Economic Zone for tourism."

(Mr. D. Saleshando, MP. – Maun West)

**REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL SELF DRIVE CUSTOMERS**

9. "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)

**GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE ALLOCATION OF PLOTS**

10. "That this Honourable House requests Government to expedite the allocation of plots earmarked for Self Help Housing Agency (SHAA) Project and business in Sowa Town."

(Mr. P. Majaga, MP. – Nata-Gweta)

**REVIEW OF SPEDU INCENTIVES**

11. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider reviewing SPEDU incentives to boost domestic and foreign investment."

(Mr. D. L. Keorapetse, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

**GOVERNMENT TO EVOLVE A COMPREHENSIVE RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION STRATEGY**

12. "That this Honourable House requests Government to expeditiously evolve a comprehensive rural industrialisation strategy with clear resource allocations and timelines to address unemployment and poverty in rural areas."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobonong)



### **INSTALLATION OF BACKUP GENERATORS**

13. "That this Honourable House requests Government to install backup generators in all Government clinics in the Takatokwane Constituency as a matter of urgency."

(Mr. F. T. Leuwe, MP. – Takatokwane)

### **QUOTA FOR LAND ALLOCATION TO CHURCHES**

14. "That this Honourable House requests Government to set a quota of at least 30 percent for land allocation to churches on advertised plots and further demarcate plots to be specifically allocated to churches only."

(Mr. O. Ramogapi, MP. – Palapye)

### **BANNING OF NON-ESSENTIAL PLASTICS**

15. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider banning the use of non-essential plastics."

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

### **CREATION OF A CITY/TOWN IN THE NORTH WEST REGION**

16. "That this Honourable House requests Government to create a city/town in the North West Region given that the North West Region is underdeveloped, but it could be the hub of tourism with a city/town that fits a tourism hub status in terms of infrastructural development and services. This is the Region which is home to Okavango River, Thamalakane River, Lake Ngami and a wide range of flora and fauna. Creation of a tourism city in this Region would not only put the country in a better position to exploit the rich natural resources found in the Region and to create jobs, but also because the country is ready for an additional city to alleviate crowding in the existing towns and cities."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Ngami)

### **AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ACT**

17. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending the Public Holidays Act so that it reads "if a public holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the Monday becomes a public holiday" as opposed to reading "if the public holidays listed fall on a Sunday then the Monday shall be a public holiday" as it has now become common that if a holiday falls on a Saturday then the next Monday is declared a public holiday at short notice and this disrupts planning and is bad for business."

(Mr. L. Lesedi, MP. – Serowe South)