

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(MONDAY 12TH AUGUST, 2024)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

- 1. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism: **(349)**

 - (i) to state the number of farmers who have successfully managed to introduce game animals in their small holding farms;
 - (ii) to quantify the level of economic benefit to the farmers; and
 - (iii) if the Government intends to assist potential small holdings game farmers in the development of such farms as well as capture and stocking.

- 2. MR. K. K. KAPINGA, MP. (OKAVANGO):** To ask the Minister of Justice whether he is aware that it takes an inordinately long time for records of proceedings to be transcribed by the lower courts of law for transmission to the appellate courts and that this delay occasions considerable prejudice to appellants, for example, those whose applications for bail pending appeal have to remain pending for a long time due to unavailability of a transcribed record of proceedings; if so: **(351)**

 - (i) what measures are, or are to be put in place to ensure the swift transcription of records of proceedings; and
 - (ii) to state the estimated cost of procuring a stenography machine for all courts of law.

- 3. MR. W. B. MMOLOTSI, MP. (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to state: **(328)**

 - (i) when the passenger train is likely to resume operation;
 - (ii) how long it has been suspended; and
 - (iii) whether the coaches are still in good condition.

- 4. MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (NGAMI):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to brief this Honourable House on the state of preparedness regarding the implementation of the Outcome Based Education (OBE) System in Colleges of Education and to further state: **(341)**
- (i) how many college lecturers have been fully trained on OBE and when this was done;
 - (ii) when last the curriculum for Colleges of Education was reviewed to align it with the OBE curriculum requirements; if not, how OBE is expected to be effectively implemented in Colleges of Education; and
 - (iii) if there are any plans to consult key strategic partners such as Educator Trade Unions on the implementation of the OBE.
- 5. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Finance to apprise this Honourable House on the role of Asset Management firms in supporting local businesses in terms of investment and capital raising and the potential regulatory measures being explored to stimulate Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) growth; in particular: **(319)**
- (i) over the past three (3) years, how much capital have Asset Managers invested in local businesses with an annual turnover of less than P50 million each year;
 - (ii) for the same period, disclose the number of local businesses with less than P50 million in annual turnover that Asset Managers have rejected as investment opportunities each year;
 - (iii) has the Government considered implementing a regulatory requirement specifying a certain portion of investments to be directed towards Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Botswana; if not, what are the reasons behind the decision;
 - (iv) elaborate on the potential benefits to Botswana's economy and business development, particularly for SMEs, if such regulatory requirement was to be implemented.
- 6. MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to update this Honourable House on whether Government seeks to buy a stake in HB Antwerp and to explain how this decision was taken including who took it, how much stake will be acquired, what is the cost, when the due diligence was done and where that report can be found and if this is the same report which informed the decision, including the company which did the due diligence; the Minister should state and explain: **(333)**

- (i) when this company was established, where it is registered, what it trades in and where it has traded;
- (ii) the current market value of HB Antwerp; and
- (iii) through which entity, Okavango Diamond Company (ODC) or Minerals Development Company Botswana (MDCB) or Botswana Development Corporation (BDC), Government is taking up stake in this company.

7. MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry to state: **(325)**

- (i) progress on the large-scale tobacco company licensed in October 2020, specifically regarding its projected investment of P10 million and anticipated employment of 20 people;
- (ii) the types of products or services produced by the two (2) licensed tobacco companies in Gaborone and any relevant regulations or quality standards they must adhere to;
- (iii) measures or incentives in place to attract and support the growth of the tobacco and alcohol manufacturing industries in Botswana and how his Ministry ensures responsible manufacturing practices including health and safety standards;
- (iv) the licensing process and requirements for retail liquor businesses including the different types of licenses and any specific criteria or regulations they must meet;
- (v) measures or support his Ministry provides to ensure responsible alcohol sales and consumption in Botswana especially with regard to public health and safety in light of the significant number of employees in the liquor retail businesses; and
- (vi) plans or initiatives to further develop and diversify the tobacco and alcohol manufacturing sectors in Botswana and how his Ministry monitors the impact of these industries on the economy and society.

8. MR. S. N. MOABI, MP. (TATI WEST): To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry if he has plans to institute a buy Botswana initiative which will enable access to the public (Government) markets through listing of locally manufactured products and brands in Invitation To Tender (ITTs) before procuring imported goods. **(324)**

9. MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH): To ask the Minister for State President to state: **(350)**

- (i) if he is aware of the disgruntlement, resentment and frustration suffered by the staff of the Department of National Library Services who have been in the same salary scale (C1) for five (5), ten (10) and fifteen (15) years;
- (ii) the total number of Library staff who have not been promoted for the past five (5), ten (10) and fifteen (15) years (D4, D3, D2, D1, etc.);
- (iii) their levels of qualification (Certificate, Diploma and Degree levels); and
- (iv) the reasons for their non-progression, if any.

10. MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH): To ask the Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology to provide an update on the implementation of the SmartBots Village Connectivity project in Ghanzi District settlements, specifically addressing: **(353)**

- (i) the specific objectives and key components of the project;
- (ii) any challenges or obstacles faced in the execution of the project;
- (iii) the anticipated timelines for completion and activation of the SmartBots Village Connectivity in all settlements in Ghanzi District;
- (iv) the measures in place for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the project in improving access to communication services; and
- (v) whether he is aware of concerns by residents of Ghanzi settlements regarding the quality of cell phone network reception and radio signal and the steps being taken to address these issues.

11. MR. P. P. P. MOATLHODI, MP. (TONOTA): To ask the Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology if there are any plans to build a new Post Office in or around Tonota Constituency; and if not why, given that villages in the vicinity of constituency have grown extensively. **(354)**

• **STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

HRS/MINS

PRESENTATION OF GOVERNMENT BILLS

1445 – 1800

1. National Registration (Amendment) (NO. 2) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 25 of 2024) An Act to amend the National Registration Act.
(Published on 1st August, 2024)
(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)
2. Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 26 of 2024) An Act to amend the Citizenship Act.
(Published on 1st August, 2024)
(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)
3. Births and Deaths Registration Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 24 of 2024) An Act to re-enact the Births and Deaths Registration Act with amendments to regulate the registration of births, still-births and deaths; and for matters connected thereto.
(Published on 1st August, 2024)
(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)
4. Deputy Sheriffs Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 22 of 2024) An Act to provide for the appointment, supervision, monitoring and regulation of the conduct of Deputy Sheriffs, the establishment of a Board and a Fidelity Fund for Deputy Sheriffs, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
(Published on 30th July, 2024)
(Minister of Justice)
5. High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 21 of 2024) An Act to amend the High Court Act.
(Published on 30th July, 2024)
(Minister of Justice)

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

SECOND READING

1. Data Protection Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 19 of 2024) An Act to make provision for the continuation of the Information and Data Protection Commission; to regulate the protection of personal data and to ensure that the privacy of individuals in relation to their personal data is maintained; and to provide for all matters incidental thereto.

(Published on 26th July, 2024)

(Minister for State President)

(Resumed Debate)

2. Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 2 of 2024) An Act to amend the Citizenship Act.

(Published on 23rd February, 2024)

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

(Resumed Debate)

COMMITTEE STAGE

- Access to Information Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 15 of 2024) An Act to provide for the right of members of the public to access information in the possession of public authorities.

(Published on 26th July, 2024)

(Minister for State President)