



# HANSARD

YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

## DAILY HANSARD (PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES)

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF  
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

HANSARD NO. 181  
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2015

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



ENGLISH VERSION

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER**  
**The Hon. Gladys K. T. Kokorwe MP.**  
**DEPUTY SPEAKER**  
**The Hon. Kagiso P. Molatlhegi, MP Gaborone South**

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Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Dr R.D. Dingalo
Ag. Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Mr S. Chikanda
Senior Assistant Clerk	- Mr M. D. N. Gadibolae
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**CABINET**

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His Honour M. E. K. Masisi, MP. (Moshupa-Manyana)	- Vice President
Hon. P. Venson-Moitoi, MP. (Serowe South)	- Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Hon. S. Tsogwane, MP. (Boteti North)	- Minister of Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. N. E. Molefhi, MP. (Selebi Phikwe East)	- Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology
Hon. S. Kgathi, MP. (Bobirwa)	- Minister of Defence, Justice and Security
Hon. O. K. Mokaila, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources
Hon. P. M. Maele, MP. (Lerala - Maunatlala)	- Minister of Lands and Housing
Hon. E. J. Batshu, MP. (Nkange)	- Minister of Labour and Home Affairs
Hon. D. K. Makgato, MP. (Sefhare - Ramokgonami)	- Minister of Health
Hon. T. S. Khama, MP. (Serowe West)	- Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism
Hon. V. T. Seretse, MP. (Mmopane - Lentsweletau)	- Minister of Trade and Industry
Hon. O. K. Matambo, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Finance and Development Planning
Hon. T. Mabeo, MP. (Thamaga - Kumakwane)	- Minister of Transport and Communications
Hon. T. Olopeng, MP. (Tonota)	- Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture
Hon. E. M. Molale (Specially Elected)	- Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration
Hon. Dr. U. Dow, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Education and Skills Development
Hon. P. P. Ralotsia, MP. (Kanye North)	- Minister of Agriculture
Hon. D. P. Makgalemele, MP (Shoshong)	- Assistant Minister, Presidential Affairs and Public Administration
Hon. K. K. Autlwetse, MP (Serowe North)	- Assistant Minister, Agriculture
Hon. B. M. Tshireletso, MP. (Mahalapye East)	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. F. S. Van Der Westerhuizen, MP. (Kgalagadi South)	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. M. M. Goya, MP. (Palapye)	- Assistant Minister, Education and Skills Development
Hon. F. M. M. Molao, MP (Shashe West)	- Assistant Minister, Education and Skills Development
Hon. Dr. A. Madigele, MP. (Mmathethe - Molapowabojang)	- Assistant Minister, Health
Hon. Sadique Kebonang, MP. (Lobatse)	- Assistant Minister of Trade and Industry

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

<b>Names</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
<b>RULING PARTY (Botswana Democratic Party)</b>	
Hon. S. M. Guma, MP	Tati East
Hon. C. De Graaff, MP	Ghanzi South
Hon. L. Kablay, MP	Letlhakeng - Lephephe
Hon. M. N. Ngaka, MP	Takatokwane
Hon. T. Kwerepe, MP	Ngami
Hon. S. Lelatisitswe, MP	Boteti East
Hon. J. Molefe, MP	Mahalapye West
Hon. K. Markus, MP	Maun East
Hon. K. Mzwini, MP	Mmadinare
Hon. P. Majaga, MP	Nata-Gweta
Hon. M. I. Moswaane, MP	Francistown West
Hon. B. H. Billy, MP	Francistown East
Hon. M. R. Shamukuni, MP	Chobe
Hon. B. G. Butale, MP	Tati West
Hon. I. E. Moipisi, MP	Kgalagadi North

### OPPOSITION

#### (Umbrella for Democratic Change)

Hon. D. G. Boko, MP (Leader of Opposition)	Gaborone Bonnington North
Hon. G. S. M. Mangole, MP	Mochudi West
Hon. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP	Francistown South
Hon. T. Moremi, MP	Maun West
Hon. A. S. Kesupile, MP	Kanye South
Hon. N. Salakae, MP	Ghanzi North
Hon. Maj. Gen. P. Mokgware, MP	Gabane-Mmankodi
Hon. Dr. T. O. M. Mmatli, MP	Molepolole South
Hon. S. Ntlhaile, MP	Jwaneng -Mabutsane
Hon. M. I. Khan, MP	Molepolole North
Hon. H. G. Nkaigwa, MP	Gaborone North
Hon. I. J. Davids, MP	Mochudi East
Hon. S. M. Bathobakae, MP	Tlokweng
Hon. N. N. Gaolathe, MP	Gaborone Bonnington South
Hon. S. Kgoroba, MP	Mogoditshane
Hon. Dr P. Butale, MP	Gaborone Central
Hon Kgosi Lotlamoreng II	Goodhope - Mabule

#### (Botswana Congress Party)

Hon. B. Arone, MP	Okavango
Hon. D. L. Keorapetse, MP	Selebi Phikwe West
Hon. S. O. Rantwana, MP	Ramotswa

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Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2015

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2.00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

\* \* \* \*

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

**MR SPEAKER (MR MOLATLHEGI):** Order! Good afternoon Honourable Members. I believe you are all aware that on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of November a tragedy befell our country. The truck that was transporting Matsha Senior Secondary School students overturned and claimed the lives of seven students, and a large number of other students are currently admitted in hospital. Today, I am pleading with you to pray for those injured students who are still admitted at the hospitals so that God grants them a speedy recovery. I am also calling Batswana to stand with the bereaved families and convey heartfelt condolences to them. At this present moment, I shall ask the Honourable Members to stand up and have a moment of silence for a minute to remember these students, this also applies to our visitors, my apologies.

Silence for approximately 1 minute.

**MR SPEAKER:** May their souls rest in peace.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Amen.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

NUMBER OF WOMEN AND GIRLS  
MURDERED, RAPED AND PHYSICALLY  
ABUSED IN THE LAST THREE YEARS

**MR A. S. KESUPILE (KANYE SOUTH):** asked the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security to state:-

- (i) the number of women and girls murdered, raped and those who suffered other different kinds of physical abuse in the last three (3) years in Botswana;
- (ii) the various Acts available to protect women and girls; and
- (iii) known short-comings of such Acts and whether there is any intention to amend them.

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI):** Mr Speaker,

- (i) The following is the number of cases in which women were murder victims in the last three years; eighty-five (85) cases in 2012, eighty-one (81) cases in 2013 and sixty-nine (69) cases in

2014. During the same period women and girls were rape victims as follows; two thousand and seventy-three (2073) cases in 2012, two thousand and sixty (2060) cases in 2013 and two thousand and thirty-four (2034) cases in 2014.

- (ii) Women and girls suffered different other kinds of physical abuse during the same period as follows: defilement of girls under the age of 16 years, five hundred and thirty-four (534) cases in 2012, five hundred and thirty (530) cases in 2013 and five hundred and thirty-one (531) cases reported in 2014. There were also cases of indecent assault reported as follows; one hundred and forty-one (141) cases in 2012, one hundred and sixty-eight (168) cases in 2013 and one hundred and thirty-eight (138) cases in 2014.
- (iii) Currently, the Statutes in force meant for the protection of women and girls include, Constitution of Botswana, Penal Code, Domestic Violence Act, the Children's Act and the Anti-Human Trafficking Act.
- (iv) There are currently no specific shortcomings identified in these Statutes.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

NUMBER OF CASES BEFORE THE  
INDUSTRIAL COURT

**MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH):** asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state:-

- (i) the number of cases before the Industrial Court; and
- (ii) the length of time it takes for a case to receive audience.

**MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR BATSHU):** Mr Speaker, the number of cases before the Industrial Court as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 is;

- (i) Four thousand, one hundred and fifty two (4152), comprising three thousand, one hundred and thirty eight (3138) in the Gaborone division and one thousand and fourteen (1014) in the Francistown division.
- (ii) Mr Speaker, the Industrial Court's turnaround time is set at twelve (12) months. However, currently the length of time that a case takes to receive audience in Court is on average, one (1) month to three (3) years depending on the peculiar circumstances of each case. The length of time that a case takes is largely influenced by the prescribed periods of processing a case from registration to closure of

pleadings. Another factor that affects the length of time is the backlog that the court is currently addressing. Of significance, is the reduced waiting period from five (5) years in 2013. This reduction is attributed to the introduction of the Judicial Case Management in February 2015. Mr Speaker, further improvements are expected once Parliament passes the Trade Dispute Bill of 2015.

Thank you.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary question. I have two questions Minister. Out of those that you have singled out, which one is the oldest?

My second question is; are you aware Minister that after passing judgement the employers never abide by the court ruling and there is never a follow up to see whether the employee's wishes were met?

**MR BATSHU:** Mr Speaker, here I have four thousand, one hundred and fifty two (4152), The oldest is the 2004 one.

Secondly I have realised that there are cases whereby after the judgement has been made, the employers do not adhere to the court ruling, but when such cases are realised, appropriate measures are taken against those employers. It is therefore important that we increase the numbers of Bailiffs so that they attend to such cases as quickly as possible.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Supplementary question. Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. I just wanted to find out if there are any plans by your government in particular your Ministry to set up an independent commission on conciliation, mediation and arbitration, to try and deal with the backlog and also to try and find out what immediate plans are in place to try and also expedite disposing of these cases?

The second question is a short one on whether there are foreseeable plans to set up a Labour Court of Appeal or Industrial Court of Appeal to also try and mitigate the congestion at the Court of Appeal?

**MR BATSHU:** Thank you Honourable Member. The government is also highly concerned about the large number of backlog cases at the Industrial Court such that some time back as the Minister I even thought of putting in place a contingency plan to try and clear all the backlog cases even if we can employ temporary judges and so on. We even did our financial estimates but in the last meeting that I had with the Industrial Court Judges they promised that rather than employ temporary judges to eliminate the backlog, I should give them time to dispose of the cases using the

available resources. I am grateful that their promise bore fruit after their implementation of the Judicial Case Management programme however I am not happy with the improvement rate. This means that I will revisit my proposal of requesting for funds from the government to engage temporary judges who will clear these cases from there, that is when we can start on a clean slate.

Another thing that I had wanted to undertake is that, if labour offices were given more powers, they could solve most cases before they are taken to the Industrial Court and this could reduce the backlog. That is why through the Trade Dispute Bill of 2015 we want to give powers to the Labour Commissioner so that most cases which pile up there can be solved at the Labour Commissioner or mediators.

The last issue is the Labour Court of Appeal which is in the pipeline but I am not in a position at this point in time to tell this Parliament when it will be introduced. We realise that it would be good for cases to go through the Industrial Court and when they are appealed they should go to the Labour Court of Appeal. At the present moment, they are appealed at the High Court of Botswana. Those plans are underway but I do not have a timeframe as to when they will be implemented. Thank you.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Further supplementary. The Minister indicated that they are going to increase the number of Court Bailiffs, since this is a huge concern, can you give us the timeframe of when this will be done? Furthermore, Minister are you aware that employers are now using the Industrial Court or want that their cases be taken there because they know that it is going to take ages for their cases to be heard? And in the process sometimes the complainant end up passing away or something happening.

**MR BATSHU:** Thank you my colleague. That is the reason why I want the Trade Dispute Bill to be passed urgently because such employers are a concern. So if this Parliament can give the Labour Commissioner more powers most cases can be solved in those offices and employers who have bad attitude in our country can be dealt with accordingly. The timeframe to increase Court Bailiffs; right now we are still at a stage of financial estimates, that is where as the Industrial Court, we go before the committee to request for posts, we are not sure if we will be successful but as soon as we are granted them, we shall pass the budget for salaries then we can start the ball rolling. Thank you.

**UPDATE ON THE DRILLING OF BOREHOLE  
AT MOKUBILO AND METSIAELA/BUUHE  
WARD**

**MR S. LELATISITWE (BOTETI EAST):** asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration if he is aware of any delegation that was formed by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana at his last meeting in Mokubilo village and Metsiaela/Buuhe Ward in Letlhakane respectively, to look for a borehole or water point to be drilled and equipped by Government for livestock watering under the Poverty Eradication Programme; if so:-

- (i) when will the borehole be delivered to the concerned communities as promised by His Excellency the President; and
- (ii) when will feedback meetings be held with the concerned communities to give them updates on the matter.

**Later Date**

#### **LACK OF STAFF HOUSING FOR THE DOCTOR AT SEFHOPHE CLINIC**

**MR K. MZWINILA (MMADINARE):** asked the Minister of Health if she is aware that there is no staff housing for the Doctor at Sefhophe Clinic; if so, what plans are in place to provide adequate staff accommodation for the clinic.

**Later Date**

#### **RATIONALE BEHIND GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO CHANGE AGRICULTURAL LAND TO OTHER FORMS OF LAND USE**

**MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH):** asked the Minister of Lands and Housing to state the rationale behind Government's refusal to change agricultural land to other forms of land use.

**ACTING MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MOLEFHI):** Mr Speaker, the rationale behind government's refusal to change agricultural land to other land uses is to protect encroachment of residential and other uses into agricultural areas which are needed for food production and security.

Botswana has very limited fertile agricultural land. Some of the few pockets of fertile agricultural land are found around towns and major villages. Due to the population growth, different uses are encroaching into agricultural land, particularly arable land. The effect of this is land use conflicts and unsustainable resource management. To address this situation, different Land Boards have previously adopted policies barring change of land use from agricultural to residential or other uses. This has since been endorsed by the recently approved Land Policy, as reflected in paragraph 77 (ii) which states that;

"Title holders will not be allowed to change agricultural landholdings in tribal land to non-agricultural developments".

The Policy also advocates for protection of fertile land through zoning; once zoned change of land use is not allowed.

Mr Speaker, the intention of this policy is not only to protect fertile agricultural land but also to achieve sustainable utilisation of the limited land resource in Botswana.

I thank you.

**MR NKAIGWA:** Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister. I want to understand why the government has that policy and then, when you have to expand towns and villages you repossess people's farms, which you are disallowing them to change to other forms of land use to sustain themselves?

**MR MOLEFHI:** Thank you. The policy gives the Land Board and the government the powers to make any changes to land use as they deem fit. One of the policies the government adopted is that, rather than expand residential, for example Gaborone as we expanded it to Ledumadumane, Goo Sethebe, Kgaphamadi, the land should be left as communal land but if it is agricultural land it should be left as it is in order to encourage people to venture into urban agriculture. We will ensure that agricultural land especially fertile land is set aside so that we sustain agriculture. Thank you

#### **PROBLEMS OF WATER SUPPLY IN MMATSHUMO VILLAGE**

**MR S. LELATISITWE (BOTETI EAST):** Asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources if he is aware that part of the Mmatshumo village water supply does not go through the village water tank from the borehole; if so:-

- (i) what problem will this pose to individuals drinking this water;
- (ii) how has this affected water bills for individual homesteads;
- (iii) how will the affected individuals be assisted; and
- (iv) when will this anomaly be corrected.

**MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA):** Good afternoon Mr Speaker. I am aware that in Mmatshumo village some of the homesteads are fed directly from the line.

This does not pose problem to the individuals in their homesteads, it does not affect the bills and finally Mr Speaker when as and when we rehabilitate places like Mmatshumo, we will make sure that this situation does not persist. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Supplementary. I just wanted to find out from the Minister that, if people are fed from the source...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ...(Inaudible)...

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Oh! Sorry! Sorry! The Vice President for the advice which...

**MR SPEAKER (MR MOLATLHEGI):** Please speak Setswana Honourable Member.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Yes Sir, I wanted to find out from the Minister that, if people are fed from the source...

**MR SPEAKER:** No, please explain. Did you say fed?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Where the water comes from, from the borehole, how do they determine the cleanliness of the water they are giving to the nation?

**MR MOKAILA:** The water from the borehole is tested Mr Speaker. At the moment since we want to test the water and improve its quality by adding some substances in it, the best thing going forward is to put the water in a tank so that we can do carry out all the necessary processes. Right now as we speak, most of our boreholes were in the state that was mentioned by the Honourable Member, but going forward, that is why the government decided that, Water Utilities should take over because in the past, water was not tested. It just came from the borehole and went straight to the households. Right now we are considering the health of people, we have seen it fit to collect water in the tank so that it can be treated with chlorine to improve its quality. Thank you.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Supplementary.

**MR SPEAKER:** The last one Honourable Member.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I just wanted to find out from the Minister that since the water at Mmatshumo which passes through the class II tank is of low quality, at what level is the quality of the water that comes from the borehole?

**MR MOKAILA:** That is also class II Mr Speaker. The water from the borehole goes straight to the tank and at the moment nothing is being done to the water. That is why I was explaining that, we are going to add chlorinators and other chemicals in future. Thank you.

#### UNDER STAFFED POSTS AT MMADINARE PRIMARY HOSPITAL

**MR K. MZWINILA (MMADINARE):** Asked the Minister of Health if she is aware that the following posts are understaffed or have been vacant for months at Mmadinare Primary Hospital:-

- (i) Eye Nurse;
- (ii) Nurse Midwife;
- (iii) Psychiatric Nurse;
- (iv) Drivers;
- (v) Principal Administration Officer;
- (vi) Revenue Collector; and
- (vii) Radiographer;

if so, what is being done to address the situation.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE):** Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I am aware of shortage of the following cadres at Mmadinare Primary Hospital.

Nurse/Midwives; the current establishment is 20. This particular primary hospital Mr Speaker, needs 26 of Nurse/Midwives hence we have a shortage of six.

With regards to Psychiatric Nurses we currently have one Psychiatric Nurse and we are in short of one. Currently there is an Ophthalmic Nurse which is considered adequate for this primary Hospital.

Mr Speaker, the facility currently has three Ambulance Drivers, in addition an advert for vacant driver positions is currently running and the closing date is the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2015. Regarding the rest of the cadres Mr Speaker, the current establishment has the right numbers of the personnel.

Mr Speaker, the shortage of specialised Nurses such as Midwives, Psychiatric Nurses, Ophthalmic Nurses has been low because of the low numbers of Nurses applying for these specialist programs due to lack of incentives. To address this, my Ministry recently introduced a 10 per cent post basic allowance for Nurses with these particular specialities. In addition, my Ministry is continuously engaging retired Nurses with post basic qualification to address our shortages. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Supplementary.

**MR SPEAKER:** Supplementary Honourable Keorapetse, the last one.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** You want to buy in someone else's issue.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Yes, Mr Speaker, I want to buy in the issue because when they are congested in Mmadinare, they go to Phikwe...

**MR SPEAKER:** Is that the supplementary?

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Laughter)...

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Honourable Minister, I just wanted to find out whether delinking health staff from the major Civil Service would not help in situations that you were talking about that, there are no incentives or they are not enough, if I may put it that way?

**DR MADIGELE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. He thought he was leading me into temptation, but I will just answer him...

**MR SPEAKER:** No, do not allow yourself to be led, it seems you want to allow yourself to be led, just respond to him.

**DR MADIGELE:** Mr Speaker, it is possible that a variety of incentives will help us to retain and recruit staff so I believe that incentivising such as delinking to have a proper pay structure is possible that it can be one of the things that can attract these rare cadres. I thank you Mr Speaker.

#### **POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME BENEFICIARIES IN GABORONE**

**MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH):**  
Asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration:-

- (i) how many people benefited from the Poverty Eradication Programme in Gaborone since inception to date;
- (ii) how many of these beneficiaries are from Gaborone North, Gaborone South, Gaborone Central, Gaborone Bonnington North and Gaborone Bonnington South Constituencies;
- (iii) how many people are currently on the waiting list;
- (iv) how successful is the Programme;
- (v) what is delaying the funding of those who are on the waiting list and when should they expect funding; and
- (vi) how many projects/beneficiaries have closed down and to state the reasons for closure.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE):** Mr Speaker,

- (i) The number of people benefited from the Poverty Eradication Programme in Gaborone since inception to date is 1169.
- (ii) Mr Speaker, people who benefited from the Poverty Eradication Programme since Inception are from the following constituencies:
  - Gaborone North – 244
  - Gaborone South – 498
  - Gaborone Central – 81
  - Gaborone Bonnington North - 189
  - Gaborone Bonnington South – 157
- (iii) Mr Speaker, 3035 beneficiaries are still on the waiting list.
- (iv) 673 projects are operational of which 58 are success stories basically realising profits beyond what was estimated in the business plan.
- (v) Mr Speaker, the current priority for my Ministry is to clear the backlog of beneficiaries awaiting training and projects that have been partially funded. Once the backlog has been cleared Mr Speaker, funds for the new projects will be disbursed.
- (vi) Mr Speaker, 69 projects have closed down and the reasons for closure are as follows and these are not conclusive Mr Speaker:

- Lack of commitment by beneficiaries.
- Ill health and deaths.
- Relocation without notifying the office.
- Misuse of project resources.
- Lack of support from family members as some beneficiaries are intellectually challenged.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Will the Minister appraise us on the amount that was invested in these projects and if it is possible, would he mind to in very simple terms maybe assist us with any returns if any, to match whatever was invested?

**MR MAKGALEMELE:** Mr Speaker, I am unable to provide the information as requested by the Honourable

Member because that was not asked in the original question. But if so wish he can ask the question and information will be duly provided. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**STOCK THEFT CASES REPORTED IN THE VILLAGES OF BOTETI EAST CONSTITUENCY FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS**

**MR S. LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST):** Asked the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security to apprise this Honourable House on:-

- (i) The number of stock theft cases reported in the villages of Boteti East Constituency for the past three (3) years;
- (ii) The manpower deployed in the Stock Theft Unit at Letlhakane Police Station;
- (iii) The number of vehicles attached to the Unit; and
- (iv) Any other challenges experienced by the said Unit.

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI):** Madam Speaker,

- (i) A total of one hundred and forty-two (142) cases of stock theft were reported during the past three years in the Boteti East Constituency of which 55 cases were reported in 2012, 49 cases in 2013, and 38 cases in 2014.

There are four (4) Police Officers deployed in the Stock Theft Unit at Letlhakane Police Station. However, officers deployed under General Duties also deal with cases of stock theft as and when the need arises.

- (ii) Letlhakane Police Station has no vehicles allocated specifically to the Stock Theft Unit. However, all station vehicles are availed to attend to all cases reported including stock theft cases.
- (iii) Challenges faced by the Stock Theft Unit at Letlhakane Police Station include staff, accommodation and transport shortages. It must be noted however, that these problems are not unique to the Letlhakane Police Station but the Botswana Police Service as a whole. As I have pointed out in similar questions to this House the situation will improve as and when resources become available. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**NUMBER OF PSYCHIATRISTS PRACTISING IN ALL THE HOSPITALS IN BOTSWANA**

**MR MZWINILA (MMADINARE):** asked the Minister of Health:-

**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE**

- (i) how many psychiatrists are practising in all the hospitals in Botswana, and what is the patient to psychiatrist ratio;
- (ii) how many Clinical Psychologists are practising in all the hospitals in the country, and what is the patient to clinical psychologist ratio; and

what short, medium and long term plans are in place to increase the number of Psychiatrists and Clinical Psychologists in the hospitals.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE):**

- (i) Mr Speaker, there are ten (10) psychiatrists in the country in four hospitals and the psychiatrist: patient ratio is 0.5:100,000 population
- (ii) There are six (6) clinical psychologists in all the hospitals in Botswana and the clinical psychologist patient ratio is 0.3:100,000 population.
- (iii) The short term plan is to increase the number of psychiatrists and clinical psychologists through recruitment. The long term plan is to review the development strategy and work together with Ministry of Education and skills Development which is responsible for pre-service education to provide increased number of slots for training. We are also in discussions with UB Medical School to introduce post-grad psychiatry training.

**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE**

**UPDATE ON THE CURRENT SITUATION AT MOWANA COPPER MINE**

**MR MAJAGA (NATA/GWETA):** asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources:-

- (i) to apprise this Honourable House on the current situation at Mowana Copper Mine; and
- (ii) if he is aware that with effect from 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015, mine employees have been ordered to cease coming to their workstations.

**MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA):** (i) Mr Speaker, since the economic downturn in 2009, Mowana Copper Mine has been struggling to keep a positive cash flow which prompted government to defer royalties in order to sustain the mining operation and avert closure.

Messina Copper (Botswana) has also been experiencing its own internal operational challenges which included excessive waste stripping in the low copper grade that affected mining performance at their Thakadu Mine.

Operations at Thakadu Mine have been suspended since February 2015 which resulted in limited ore supply to their plant at Mowana and subsequently affected their revenue. This has therefore accumulated cash deficits.

Mowana Copper Mine has been receiving support from its shareholders through funding and guarantees to help them meet liabilities. The mining contractor at Mowana Copper Mining, Diesel Power Limited, suspended operations on 10 October 2015 citing delayed payments as reason to suspend operations.

Mowana Copper Mining submitted a payment plan to Diesel Power Limited, however the plan was rejected and the contractor sought the court intervention to liquidate Messina Copper. Messina Copper was served with court papers on 10 November 2015 and the application shall be heard on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at the High Court.

Messina Copper has notified my Ministry on their intentions to suspend operations at their Mowana Copper Mine in accordance with Section 47 of the Mines and Minerals Act pending the outcome of the court application.

The world copper price is currently at a 6 year low and the last time copper price sat below US\$6,000/tonne or US\$2.72/ pound was in 2009. Currently the world copper price is at \$2.30 per pound whilst during the same period 12 months ago the copper price was \$3.12 per pound; a reduction of \$0.92 per pound, or 29 per cent. Very few marginal mines can survive this downturn, particularly marginal mines such as the Mowana Operation. While this level of copper prices continues to impact on other copper producers such as Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chile, it is still difficult to predict when the rebound in world copper prices shall occur.

Government continues to attempt to save the operation by deferring royalty payments due from the Mowana Copper Mining in order to assist in the company cash flow and shall continue engaging with the company to explore other means of averting closure and job losses.

- (i) My Ministry is aware that Mowana Mine employees were advised of the impending suspension of the operations, however shareholder have indicated on their commitment to support Mowana Copper Mining in order to maintain employment of over 300 direct employees and 200 indirect employees.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Supplementary! I wanted to find out from the Honourable Minister why it seems like we have distanced ourselves from those mines that do not produce diamonds and they have been left to fend for themselves. I am saying this because it appears like it

is easy for foreigners to come and prospect minerals with private companies instead of those that have partnered with the government. Is it not opportune for the government to take over the control of the mines and have significant shares because as it is now it appears the current owners are only interested in getting what they want and leaving? Thank you.

**MR MOKAILA:** Mr Speaker, the Honourable Member may be aware that the government owns some of the mines which are not really doing well for example Botswana Copper nickel Limited (BCL). This is because they produce the same minerals which are of low prices. The main issue is the prices of the minerals and they are the main reason why most private mines shut down. It is not like there are no problems with the diamond sector. Currently the diamond prices are very high and that resulted in low sales and that only proves that buying and selling is controlled by the consumers. It is not like we have abandoned those mines that do not prospect diamonds, in fact I visit them regularly. I did visit the said mine to discuss with the workers and management on how we could ensure that it does not close especially since the issue of low sales is usually temporary and they will rise again. Thank you.

**MR MAJAGA:** Supplementary.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let it be the last one Honourable Majaga.

**MR MAJAGA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Is the Minister aware that other than Diesel Power, there are a number of some sub-contractors who have not been paid for some month on site?

**MR MOKAILA:** I am very aware Mr Speaker. The Diesel Power is the largest owed, the rest compared to Diesel Power are very insignificant, but I am sure they will be dealt with. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Supplementary Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** I had stated that it would be the last one Honourable Moswaane. Let us continue .

## TABLING OF PAPERS

### STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 13 OF 2014: GHAGHOO DIAMOND AKA GOPE EXPLORATION COMPANY MINING LEASE NO. 2010/57 PRECIOUS STONES SECURITY AREA ORDER, 2014.

(Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources)

Later Date.

**BOTSWANA POWER CORPORATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31ST MARCH, 2015.**

(Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources)

**Later Date.**

**STATEMENT**

**MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MOLALE):**

Mr Speaker, let me take this opportunity to brief this Honourable House on the tragedy that occurred last Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015 involving students of Matsha Senior Secondary School. Whereas it was my intention to provide details of the accident at this stage, it will not be possible because investigations are still ongoing. These investigations will include why a truck was used in this instance because the standing policy of Government is to transport students in buses and trucks can only be used in roads that cannot carry buses. The investigation will therefore leave no stone unturned.

Mr Speaker, about a kilometre west of Dutlwe village, at around 14:00hrs, the truck was involved in an accident where five students, unfortunately passed-on on the spot while two others were certified dead upon arrival at Takatokwane clinic. The rest sustained injuries of varying severity.

Mr Speaker, as of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015, that is yesterday, a total of 109 students, as well as the driver and his assistant remain admitted at Scottish Livingstone Hospital, Princess Marina Hospital, Bokamoso Private Hospital and Gaborone Private Hospital. Three students were attended to at Letlhakeng clinic and discharged. Four students had earlier disembarked at Tshwaane before the accident occurred. A follow-up health programme including psycho-social support and rehabilitation has been put in place for all the students even those that were not in the truck at the time of the accident but had earlier been in the truck.

Mr Speaker, immediately on receipt of information on the accident, a multi-disciplinary team was mobilised and dispatched to the scene. Further to that, response teams came in to reinforce the evacuation process and these were from:

- Lobatse District Health Management Team
- Botswana Defence force
- Botswana Police Service
- Princess Marina Hospital
- Emergency Medical Services
- Med Rescue International

- Boitekanelo Emergency Rescue
- Motor Vehicle Accident Fund

Mr Speaker, parents of the deceased children have been informed, while those whose children are admitted at the hospitals I mentioned earlier, have been assisted and will continue to be assisted with transport to visit their children. In addition, some parents whose children are admitted have been provided with accommodation more especially in Gaborone. Government went on to provide basic amenities to the affected students and their families, with further support coming from the private sector and members of the public.

Mr Speaker, His Honour the Vice President accompanied by some Cabinet Ministers visited the hospitalised over the weekend to give his commiserations. He also spoke to parents and family members assuring them of Government's support during these difficult times.

Mr Speaker, given the magnitude and severity of the accident, Government has decided to cover funeral expenses and to provide the necessary psycho-social support to all the affected families.

Mr Speaker, I further wish to inform this Honourable House that in response to His Excellency the President's plea for support, the Banking Association of Botswana has opened an account at Stanbic Bank for contributions by members of the public. The Association will also contribute seed money into the account. Details of the account will be made known to the public before end of business today.

Mr Speaker, there have also been an outpouring of support and donations in kind from the public and private entities. Additional support can therefore be forwarded to the Disaster Management Office at the Office of the President or the District Commissioner's office in Molepolole whose contact numbers are:

Disaster Management Office: 0800 600 130 (Toll free)  
3905909

District Commissioners Office: 5910246/5906034

Mr Speaker, I wish to thank my colleagues, Honourable Ministers who were out there to assist in the evacuation, relief and they are about to commence rehabilitation. In particular, I would like to thank Honourable Ngaka Ngaka whose guidance at the scene of the accident was immense. I would also like to thank Honourable Mohammed Khan for his support at the time patients were received at the Scottish Livingstone Hospital.

Mr Speaker, our hearts go out to the bereaved families and further wish those injured a speedy recovery. We

would also want to plead with all Members in this House and other citizens of this country to be cautious in making statements that can create additional injury and harm, psychologically and otherwise to the students and the families affected. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Honourable Minister. Order! Order! In accordance with Standing Order 41.3, I will allow short questions for purposes of elucidation and not another statement. Those who are standing while I am on the floor, will get an opportunity only at the end.

**MR KABLAY:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I wanted to ask the Minister if the Kweneng District Council does not have a bus which could have avoided this tragedy.

**MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MOLALE):** Mr Speaker, I am informed that the Kweneng District Council has a bus and a mini-bus, but at the time they were engaged elsewhere to undertake other trips for other groups of people. I must hasten to say that even if they did not have a bus, there is funding available to provide for hiring of buses from the private sector for the purpose. Thank you.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister, the inference from your statement is that this is an isolated incident in which clear government policy was violated. I would like to know from you what form that policy is? Is it a directive? Is a savingram? What form is it in?

Also to find out from you if you are not aware that students are transported in open trucks; that it is a practice that is known in this country? Also to understand whether you are aware or not that this has been happening, and this is not an isolated incident?

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. This may not be an isolated incident. With due respect, I was not casting any inference upon anything. All I am saying is that this matter is still under investigation, and all details that are necessary to help stamp this problem in the gut will be considered at the time.

I will also want to state that this policy of transporting students in buses is in written form to the extent that even in this House a question was asked by Honourable Makgalemele and was responded to by Honourable Rakhudu at the time. It was very clear that all that are involved have been informed that students should be transported in buses. There will be exceptions to the rule where buses cannot traverse the terrain. It is only in those exceptional cases where the policy states that trucks should be used. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**HONOURABLE KEORAPETSE:** Procedure.

**MR SPEAKER:** You cannot stand on a point of procedure when you actually want to ask a question.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** On a point of procedure. It is a procedure Mr Speaker. I want to understand from the Minister whether he is saying that this policy is in written form, but I want to understand that, is it a codified policy that has been passed by this Parliament? He needs to clarify because he cannot just say is in a written form.

**MR SPEAKER:** That is why I was saying you cannot stand on a point of procedure when you actually seek clarification because point of procedure is when you are asking the Chair about any procedure of the House. If you need clarification, you just stand on point of clarification directed to the Minister then that is when you can take the floor. So, if you stand on procedure and yet you ask me a question, I will not be able to respond.

**MS BATHOBAKAE:** Honourable Minister, I would like to enquire from you the capacity that the truck is allowed to carry, because it seem this truck was carrying a lot of students? I thank you.

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Those are the things that we are still trying to determine to find out under the investigation that I did allude to earlier. I am not privy to the size or the capacity of the truck. Those investigations will reveal that. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR MAJAGA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Before I ask a question, let me thank you for the words you delivered to us. Since the date of school vacation was known to the school management, was it impossible to secure buses from Central Transport Organisation (CTO) to transport these students?

Furthermore, how many assistants did the driver have to help him manage this huge number of students in case anything happens.

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Indeed, as I said earlier, there is money available to hire buses from private sector. So, if at the time when the students needed to be transported from Kang to Letlhakeng and there was no bus available in the Kweneng District Council, one would have thought that this money would have been used to get the buses to transport such students. We are trying to find out and without any malice, we are trying to get to the bottom of this thing because it is something that has actually hurt all of us, and we would wish that we will be given the opportunity to do exactly that. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**MR MZWINILA:** Thank you Honourable Speaker. I would like to thank Honourable Minister. I have one quick question. Given the magnitude of the disaster that has happened, would Honourable Minister consider recommending a national day of mourning in line with the impact that the tragedy has hurt on the nation? That is just a quick question.

The second and last question is that, has the Honourable Minister's Ministry, because I assume he is a coordinating Minister, learnt anything in terms of emergency response or how to coordinate a national tragedy emergency response from this incident going forward? I thank you.

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. What was your first question?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Inaudible)...

**MR MOLALE:** Mr Speaker, I am not feeling well, I have a terrible flu. Yes, that national day of mourning will be considered and we will come back to the Honourable House with the response with regards to that.

What we have learned with regards to national response is that, at all times there must be a functioning command centre that can be contacted as when the need arises. These are some of the things that we are trying to get to the bottom because a command centre is a sign of preparedness to say in the event a disaster occurs, how do we go about it. I must hasten to say that the Sectorial Command Centre was up and running and it immediately mobilised. That is why the evacuation was so effective and the learning from that also is that the Health Sector response in as far as this emergency is concern, they are up to the mark. They did do an immense job and they did exceptionally well for which they should be applauded. As I said in my statement they did not only come from the centre here they came from even other district as far as Southern District, Kgalagadi District in time to help, unfortunately it relays a lost but the response was good. This is a positive learning that, always being prepared should help reduce the number of fatalities as in this case. So I must applaud the sectorial response with regard to that.

Regarding the issue of the day of mourning, as we are considering that, we are also planning a memorial service which will be attended even by His Excellency the President. That information will also be communicated to all of you Honourable Members. I thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am taking the last one sir.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Good afternoon and thank you Honourable Minister. I have two questions Mr Speaker. The first one...

**MR KGOROBA:** On a point of procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, this is a national disaster and you cannot come and restrict us in this Honourable House as to how far we can contribute towards the discussion of this matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! You are out of order Honourable Kgoroba. I have made a ruling, Honourable Mokgware is the last one. Please take the floor.

**MAJ GEN. MOKGWARE:** Thank you Honourable Minister. You are not settled Honourable Minister. If you have said that something is a policy, it is not enough, tell us the directive number so that we are satisfied. Let us be clear if this document is a policy or not. When you just say, it is not a policy, you are not being realistic. Please be specific

The second question is that, I heard you mention that we should not do anything without the consent of children. I want to know whether you are reprimanding those who take photos with these children and post them on Facebook, violating the Children's Act, without the consent of the parents. The International Children's Act does not allow for photos of children to be posted on Facebook without the permission of their parents. Thank you.

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I am not aware of the International Children's Act, I do not know what it means but we have a Children's Act in this country, which is very clear as to what the rights and privileges of a child are. I am quite aware of the sensitivities, and therefore there is no person who can take a photo with a child who is in a critical condition.

Even yesterday when we were at some of the private hospitals, there were instances where camera people were not allowed in, given the seriousness of the suffering that the children were in. This is in consonance with the Children's Act of Botswana.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of procedure. The procedure that I seek Mr Speaker is, what can we do to this Honourable Member who is insisting that nobody took selfies with these kids when we know that His Honour the Vice President did the same and posted on Facebook, and yet the Minister is denying what the world saw?

**MR MOLALE:** Maybe I should speak in the vernacular Mr Speaker; the Children's Act protects the children when it comes to these kind of issues. That is why the media was prohibited from entering at the hospitals to avoid them taking photos of the critical students. I do not know whether or not I did not respond to the question.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MR MOLALE:** He took photos with the children who are not in a critical condition. We went to the hospital with His Honour the Vice President. I do not know where you were in this whole issue when you just want to derail us ... (interruptions)... hold on Mr Speaker, let me tell these people!

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Laughter)...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Molale, order! Honourable Members, the reason why I do not want you to dwell on one issue is the fact that, it always ends up like this. Honourable Minister, please continue and refrain from addressing side remarks.

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker for that counselling. As for those selfies, I take it that I have responded to it. When it comes ...

**MAG. GEN. MOKGWARE:** On a point of procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker. I am talking about what I saw on Facebook, his Honour the Vice President taking selfies with the children. I want you to tell us whether that is right or wrong. It is not right for him to go about in circles. It is like he wants to fix something that is not there. I want him to confirm whether this is right or wrong

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Please give the Honourable Minister the floor to respond

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Mokgware, His Honour the Vice President is a public figure and where we were, we were allowed to take pictures, but we have no control over people posting those pictures on Facebook, except to say that...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of order. Mr Speaker, Honourable Molale is reluctant to respond and it is deliberate. Please ask him to respond to what is being asked. No one posted those photos, His Honour the Vice President posted those photos and wrote a caption under the photos he was posting.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Mmolotsi and other Honourable Members, Honourable Molale is responding. There is a difference between a Member not responding and when that particular Member responds but you do not agree with him. Therefore he is concluding his response, I am looking at the time. I want us to continue with today's business

**MR MOLALE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. It is not the Vice President's fault for people to have posted those photos on Facebook.

Two; when the Vice President has been granted permission to take photos by the parents and the students because he visited them...

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! There is noise Honourable Salakae, order! Continue Honourable Minister.

**MR MOLALE:** Mr Speaker, my wish is for Members to not trivialise this matter. I conclude therefore by saying...

**MR MOSWAANE:** On a point of order. You will forgive me, we have fatalities and people are laughing in this House. They ask childish questions. I do not think we are serious and this discussion should stop, they will celebrate outside not in this House

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Moswaane you are out of order, Honourable Butale stop making noise, you are all out of order even those of you who are talking when the Minister is on the floor. I would like the Minister to conclude his response so that we continue.

**MR MOLALE:** I thank you Mr Speaker. I have mentioned in my statement Mr Speaker that those students had injuries of varying intensity. There were those who were happy to see the Vice President and even asked to take pictures with him as they did not sustain serious injuries and that is not a problem. There is no violation of any Act because having a picture with a leader of this country is something that in this instance you would say and be understood by these people as comforting and is something that shows how much this Government cares.

The first one about directives and Standing Orders, Mr Speaker I have requested that we should not trivialise this thing. If there is anybody who doubts that this Government would say things and not even put them on record somewhere, I wonder what they take us for. I totally abhor this statement that we did not state the directive number and all that, the important thing is the statement which says, we have had that policy directive even here in Parliament we answered it. Mr Rakhudu responded saying that policy exists and I do not know why at that time they did not ask for the directive number. Right now that thing is in place and this is why in our statement we are saying that we are still investigating.

**DR BUTALE:** Procedure. Thank you very much Mr Speaker. I have been trying to exercise a lot of restraint and I wish the Minister could just tell us what thing you are talking about, what is the policy, when did it kick in and why are we still having trucks transporting students? That is all we ask, so stop shouting at us, we are simply asking questions that people who sent us would want us to ask.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Butale, please use acceptable words when talking to others. You cannot say he is shouting at you. I know it is an English word but in Setswana it would be offensive to use it. I would not take kindly to the use of such words and you know what I am capable of doing. Honourable please conclude your answer.

**MR MOLALE:** In my statement I said, the standing policy of Government is to transport students in buses that is a policy which exists.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, discussion on the statement has conclude, so we are continuing with today's business.

### **RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH**

#### **Motion**

(Resumed debate)

**MR KHAN:** Point of order. Mr Speaker thank you very much. I have been standing up a couple of times trying to get your attention so that I can correct Honourable Molale because I was at the scene. Honourable Ngaka Ngaka was not here at the time when Honourable Molale made the statement but let me bring to the attention of this House that he wrongly informed this House, the record needs to be set straight in order for us to be able to make proper policies and guide the Disaster Management System in our country which is lacking so greatly. We could have saved lives, yes, and let me explain why, there were two people who died on the spot that were taken to Takatokwane, and those deceased were subsequently taken to Scottish Livingstone Hospital, 5 people died at Letlhakeng clinic because of the delay in which the injured were carried from the scene. The first ambulance arrived at the scene at 4:30...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Be brief and conclude.

**MR KHAN:** The helicopter arrived at 6:00 p.m. and the incident occurred at 2:00 p.m. that information is relevant for us as legislatives to be able to correct things so that in future we do not have these unnecessary delays and loss of lives, we could have possibly saved more lives had we been there on time. The helicopter only carried 3 at 6:00 p.m. to Bokamoso, the others were taken to Letlhakeng and apparently died at Letlhakeng and were carried from Letlhakeng to Scottish later that night.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of correction.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...murmurs...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order Honourable Members, switch off the microphones please. I am not going to allow you to discuss this issue again because the Minister has made a statement and the Members of Parliament have got different information from what the Minister presented. You know what to do. The other advice is that you have various tools at your disposal to continue with this issue, either by questions, motions, Minister's question time and other means available. If there is any other thing that you need to correct, you could use those tools but I will not prolong today's discussion on this.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Honourable Khan needs to be corrected.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** What are you correcting?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** We also want to correct.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** You have made a ruling Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! I do not know what you are on about, I said no corrections, we have concluded that issue. If you want to correct something, you know what to do, you have got Standing Orders that you could use, and you have got questions, motions, Ministers question time and all that everything at your disposal. Clerk I said you should read out the motion,

**CLERK:** ...(Inaudible)...

**MR SPEAKER:** You did? Ok sorry.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR SPEAKER:** I am standing, I said I am continuing. Wait for me to sit down and say whatever you want to say. Honourable Members, the debate on the motion that we the National Assembly of Botswana here assembled respond to the President's speech continues. Last week Thursday when we adjourned, Honourable Moswaane was on the floor, he had 42 minutes 24 seconds. Last time when I was representing Gaborone South Constituency I heard Madam Speaker telling Honourable Moswaane that when he takes the floor today he should withdraw the words that he uttered about the opposition. I am giving you that opportunity Honourable Member to withdraw and proceed with your debate, you still have ample time.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** On a point of order. Thank you Honourable Speaker. Last Friday when we started I asked about the Vice President's statement when you were on the Speaker's chair and you responded by saying that, we cannot discuss it as the Member was

not around. I was saying, since the Vice President stated that the Opposition is the one that nominated Mr Ntuane where did he get that information from, because you said it is not possible to disclose those who nominated Mr Botsalo Ntuane and Mr Saleshando? So I thought, since he is here, before Honourable Moswaane is given the floor, we could close the matter. He should answer as to where he got the name from.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! I am fully informed about Honourable Moswaane's issue and Madam Speaker has instructed me to make sure I close the matter. I am not aware of this one. So Madam Clerk, PC, you are listening from here you are going to look for the Hansard with such conversation so that I can look at it. If it calls for amendment we can do so. I have my own view point regarding this issue; I do not want to be derailed. Let us proceed with the matter at hand.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, this was a very short issue which we could quickly explain to you and close it; Madam Speaker refused with the names of those who nominated Mr Saleshando and Mr Ntuane.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Mmolotsi, do not repeat what Honourable Mokgware said. I said I do not understand that issue, I am going to look for the Hansard and read it first. I want to inform myself then I will take action on it. I do not need to be informed; I do not trust you, especially you.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Mr Speaker I heard Madam Speaker saying that she is going to find out if I said something out of order. I simply said that when we took independence, it was dark in Africa, those of us who were growing up in that era are fully aware of this, we were naked then, we did not right and wrong but God helped us to see the light now we know how to pray.

**MR NKAIGWA:** On a point of procedure, Mr Speaker.

**MR MOSWAANE:** That is my main message, I am not disputing your take on the nakedness, we were naked and had absolutely nothing.

**MR SPEAKER:** Resume your seat Honourable Member, that is a point of procedure.

**MR NKAIGWA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I think you made it very clear Mr Speaker that you have wanted the Honourable Member to withdraw a statement that he made when he made a conclusion when he was deliberating on the State of the Nation of Address, so he is not doing that.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Moswaane understood

me quite well, he is following in your footsteps, I ordered you to withdraw so that others can understand your view point. That is what he is doing. Listen to him.

**MR MOSWAANE:** I strongly believe that we were absolutely naked in 1966. We were in a vacuum of poverty, lack of education and tribalism but we saw the new dawn as the clever party led us into the light, right now we know how to pray. We are fully covered, even if you try to come up with tactics we can see right through you.

**MR MOREMI:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker. Since Honourable Moswaane is using the word naked in a different context, can those words. with your order be expunged for the sake of progress.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Moswaane did not say naked in any sense, he simply said some members in this House were naked, so he was given the floor to explain. He said "some" he was making a general statement to all Members of Parliament, including himself, so he was called to explain what being naked means and this is exactly what he is doing. Let us allow him to proceed, let us listen to him, we will be enlightened as he explains further, do not interrupt him. We are derailing him.

**MR MOSWAANE:** May the Almighty God be with this House. Let me first send out my deepest condolences to area the accident occurred in. That was a tragic turn of events but only God knows. Let those children's souls rest in peace. People from the North asked me to inform you that they are also in deep sorrow.

With regard to the issue I talked about yesterday, I would like to thank the Government of Botswana which since 1966 fought poverty, crime, diseases and provided Botswana with education, light, health, protection all the time. That is the road paved from 1966 to date. That is why I am grateful, if it were not for this Government, we will not be here.

Mr Speaker, I am saying this looking at our history; for the past five years, Botswana have been asked to vote. Every year Minister of Finance and Development Planning presents the budget in Parliament to show our financial situation and in all the eleven Parliaments it showed that we are on track, we care for the lives of Botswana and we account for our actions as Government. So I think as Parliament these are the things we need to be aware of and understand because the developments in this country can even be seen by the blind.

Mr Speaker, if in Parliament we have come to sabotage each other by going out one by one, there is no Member

of opposition who is going to be able to talk, we will leave you here. You should watch your actions; I know what is happening there. It happened again on Friday, you are repeating that incident by leaving Parliament to collapse quorum.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Moswaane, when you are on the floor you deliberate on the issue, do not be bothered by the Honourable Members leaving, I am responsible for ensuring that you are 21 in this House, you just proceed.

**MR MOSWAANE:** One can quickly comment on the decorum of Parliament because we are serious here but I heard you Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Sit down, there is a point of order.

**MR MOREMI:** Mr Speaker, perhaps after this you can guide Honourable Moswaane as to why he has a problem with members on this side of the aisle, a few days back he called us names. Right now when he starts hardly five minutes into his deliberation he wants to call us those names again. I do not know what we have done to him. Can he just deliberate on his issue and leave us out of it.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Moswaane, take heed of that request, stop provoking others and focus on the State of the Nation.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Yes, I heard you Mr Speaker and I understand. The main issue is to comment on the State of the Nation Address. Personally I have heard and understood the President's deliberation and we take heed because ever since he was the President in 2008 amidst all the challenges such as recession, we still managed to stay above water as Batswana, we never drowned because of such leadership.

Botswana is a country which has many challenges regarding democracy but in terms of finances the President and his cabinet lead us well. I want to highlight that although we are progressing well we do have challenges Mr Speaker.

I want us to focus on our departments and check whether we are progressing as well as we should.

Even though I have complaints, I also want to say colleagues; I want to thank the Government of this country. We were complaining in the last State of the Nation Address which was presented by the President in December, about lack of employment, but now an answer has been provided; we shall have a programme which is called Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). This programme will revive the economy and addresses the current situation and address the unemployment

which is prevalent among the young people, women and whoever it is that seeks a better economy or livelihood. Let us be grateful because the Government is paying attention to this, and they are implementing what the President said; he said the Government would simplify certain procedures so that it would be easy to manage things.

I remember the situation very well when Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Board (PPADB) comes to mind because in their processes in the past months, they could take about six to 12 months without responding to one's application. Some of the services which will improve is that within 14 days, one would be able to get assistance on getting a license. These are the processes which will be simplified for people to get assistance. I believe the PPADB tendering system would just be the way it is, it should not be side lined. This is the right procedure which we have agreed on as a country or nation of Botswana.

We should pay attention to the challenges encountered by constituencies due to projects which have long been halted since National Development Plan 9 (NDP 9) even reaching NDP 10. It is evident that they were important to Batswana living in Francistown, I am requesting the Government to focus very much on these things.

In Francistown Mr Speaker, we have land which could yield about 20 000 plots for Batswana, but due to shortage of funds at the moment, that land is not being used. It is just idle and waiting for a time when we shall get assistance. I just wanted to say on that note, as the Government of Botswana; since it is being said there is no land everywhere, is it not time yet to get the funds and service the land on the northern side because we have land? That would create employment and bring developments, industries would be created. 20 000 residential plots and 5 000 industrial and commercial plots would enable the Government to create employment at a high rate Mr Speaker. This is one of the issues that I am requesting Parliament to consider very much, and the Government should consider this to assist the city of Francistown.

Mr Speaker, on the issue of citizen empowerment, I still have a challenge Sir, because at the moment we are still struggling. Our visitors seem to be rejoicing when the time to benefit comes. I wanted our economy to be a bit slanted, I want it to lean a bit more towards Batswana; but mostly when I talk about citizen empowerment, I believe it would be citizen empowerment if a Motswana can employ a foreigner. I believe it would be the case if in the existing companies, Batswana would own 51 per cent and then the foreigners would come in with 49, that is when we would come close. Most of the times

we just bother ourselves because even if we come with different programmes, since they have suppliers from outside the country, what is called sole distributorship. Whatever you buy, you will always be higher on prices. Therefore, if we do not come under their wing, we are just going to watch them run the economy. They should also be cautious because when the nation revolts, we are going to have them leaving in numbers because they will no longer be wanted here. For us to have peace, we should benefit together as Batswana and foreigners, eating from one table. This is what I am requesting. I am confident in this because the leader of this programme or the leader of this country cares about Batswana.

The other issue which I almost forgot, I talked about it last time, is that when it comes to doing business with Government, most Batswana win tenders but there is always a challenge with regard to funds to buy the supplies. Could it be possible for a Motswana who won a tender to ask for a pre-payment from the Ministry that they are supplying. They could say since I buy the goods for this much from such and such a place, let us agree that since my profit is this much, we make a direct payment to the supplier. I think this arrangement would elevate Batswana. If this issue is difficult, maybe it should be stated properly so that I let it rest because I talked about it in the last State of the Nation Address, but I have not seen any change with regard to it.

When it comes to issues affecting women, I would like to commend Honourable Batshu for the way he responded. I read my statement one by one, and I heard properly that at the moment women are going to be involved in economic empowerment projects or programs, individually or the way the person prefers. They can increase their numbers the way they please. I want to commend you for this arrangement Honourable Minister because at the moment most women are living in poverty. Even we see them in town, most of the time they look good, but they are poor.

There is another issue which I want the Honourable Minister to look at on the new guidelines. I thought you are on the right track but you made a mistake and I will ask for a correction. You said a woman who qualifies to be in this programme should be earning P500. That is a mistake because an employee who earns P900 in this country should qualify for this empowerment programme as well.

The youth policy says any youth who earns P2500 is under employed, and they qualify for the programme. My suggestion is that the Minister should consider allowing women who earn P2500 and below to qualify to enrol for this programme, provided they leave their current jobs to be self-employed. Being self-employed is better, even

if it means getting an opportunity to be given P100 000, P200 000, P300 000; one could do something with this money. Now if we put it at the Ipelegeng rate of P500, we would not have changed anything. Mr Speaker, I am requesting that that point should be corrected so that the economy of this country could improve because when it is on the hands of women, it would be much better. This is one of the issues which could help us to progress very well, and develop this economy.

The other issue Honourable Minister is with regard to the youth; but before I talk about the youth, let me inform you Mr Speaker that women wait for two years to apply for the Economic Empowerment Scheme. I want the Minister to realise that if one applies and waits for two years, that is waiting for death not a program. I want the two years, the five months and six months to be reduced to three months solid. Even the Ministry should be reviewed, whether the employees are enough to assist the women in the constituencies. I spent a lot of time at the head office in Francistown and I came to the conclusion that when it comes to issues of Economic Empowerment Scheme, there is a need to have officers who are specifically focused on this job, to ensure that the projects for women are done well. Most of these projects Honourable Minister are funded after one year, having written many follow up letters, and this is an issue which needs to be corrected Honourable Minister.

Mr Speaker, coming back to the youth, I am still 'crying.' The Government of this country has given out millions and millions of funds to address issues of poverty for youth, but there is some slowness which is not allowed in the Government of Botswana. We should address this matter because this is a hindering factor on the growth of the economy of this country.

Mr Speaker, from this year 2015 they wait for 12 months before they can get a response. The Ministry of Youth says they respond to the applications from youth on a monthly basis, and they are thinking of doing it quarterly, but they already have a backlog dating from February; they have not responded to the applications yet. This shows me that the economy cannot grow if every project will have to wait for six months. I am against this thing Mr Speaker because if you apply at private banks for a loan, within seven days you are given a response. More than 7000 people are assisted for that matter. Now at the Ministry of Youth, 100 youths can go up to a year without being assisted. We should arise and correct this thing because it will not assist our economy as most of the youth are unemployed, and this programme was aimed at taking the youth off the streets. The most painful situation is when you appeal the project. You will have to wait for 12 months. If you apply, you will be told to reapply and the waiting period is 12 months

also. If this situation persists, we will not move forward therefore let us try to see what we can do about it.

Another issue that I mentioned is that the P450 000 allocated to the youth industry should not only be given to youth who are in groups. Maybe we could allow a situation where if one, two or three youths could be granted P100 000, P200 00 and P300 000 respectively. They could be allowed to take up this programme despite their number as long as they can show what they can do. I know that the Minister says there is a job creation initiative which is not under the youth industry. This funds allocation should be reviewed and amended so that it may match the current situation where the Botswana Democratic Party (Domkrag) Government wants to assist the people on that situation. That is my request to the Minister that it is fitting as leaders of the BDP to debate this situation so that we may improve our system of doing things and give Batswana what we promised them.

Still on the issue of youth, there is a new development which calls for every youth who wants the youth forms to come with a certificate to show which qualifications he or she possesses. No, Honourable Members, let us give them the forms to fill and when he or she returns them, we then assess the application and see if that individual is suitable for that project. We then give him or her an interview and that is when we can reject that person. It is wrong to refuse to give the forms to youth who knows that despite her or his lack of qualifications, she or he can carry out practical work. I want us to look at it from that angle Honourable Members so that our country may develop. This is because right now a youth cannot get any assistance without producing a certificate; he or she will be sent home if there is no certificate. This young person goes back home with a very heavy heart.

Another issue in Francistown is that the youth who want to engage in hair salons and catering businesses are no longer being assisted even after producing evidence that they have asked to cater for certain firms. In some instances you will find that most of the hair salons in Francistown are owned by foreigners. Now the youth are forced to engage in a 'rent a chair' type of business thus profiting foreigners' salons. Mr Speaker, I have investigated this issue, there is no study carried out to show that we hinder the youth to get their hair salon businesses.

Right now even if you encourage a young person to engage in a mobile kitchen, the Francistown Youth Office still refuses to assist. My request is that let us try by all means to assist the youth of this country given the current unstable state of our economy.

Another issue is of mines. Although you say the economy has gone down and trading in mines has also plummeted due to the world economy I have a feeling that we are being swindled when it comes to mines because the security is not as tight as those in the diamond mines.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you my colleague. Before you conclude on the issue of the youth and go on to that of minerals, you were saying that before the youth are issued with the forms, they are first asked to present their qualifications. I was wondering Honourable Member if you are not aware of what they consider, for an example, if you request for goats project there should be supporting evidence that you qualify for that project and you have the expertise to manage it. It does not serve as punishment to the youth but rather to gauge whether the young person has the right qualification.

**MR MOSWAANE:** I hear you Honourable Minister. My point is, let us consider this from all angles; if I come with a reference of a boiler maker, I should get assistance and if another comes with reference that he or she has been herding livestock at Honourable Makgalemele's farm, he or she must be assisted too. That individual should be taken for the three weeks course on that project. If they stop you from getting the form, eventually it will come back to bite the Government Honourable Members. It will hinder the Government from assisting the youth because most of them are shy, they are mobilised, they have a lot of excuses and this should be something that is taken into consideration before decisions to hinder them are made. That was my request Honourable Member. I know that when you say you want to go and run a toilet paper business, we want to know where you acquired that skill, how and when but let the taking of forms and researching about that form not be tied to being asked anything. Of course you can be questioned but minimally, that was what I was explaining sir.

In terms of minerals, I learnt from the De Beers mine. We have what is called high security, no entry. The production of the diamonds is monitored to say how many were produced that day. However, I suspect that concerning gold and copper, tonnes and tonnes can be transported to foreign countries without our knowledge. I am saying I suspect. I am saying if they dig more than the size of Gaborone and afterwards claim that the business has collapsed, why did they continue digging? They cannot claim that the business has collapsed given the evidence of that big hole rather it means they have taken everything and left. Minister, I was saying let us be cautious of these people because they are foreigners

and can use high handed (selfish) means to access these minerals. I am not aware as to who monitors production of diamonds and copper in Botswana Government. I am very suspicious as the Member of Parliament because Francistown is dependent on the mines, the owners are very rich, yet they have liquidated their firms citing bankruptcy. At the end of the day it is evident that they have used the wealth of this country to enrich themselves without any consideration.

I want to commend this country on education. I know that there are loads of challenges. The reason why I commend our education is that it continues to admit every Omang bearing child. Our education is what can be termed as cost recovery measures; the government is not measuring its cost.

Today when you go to private schools, in a year you pay P20 000 for secondary education but in Botswana you pay P450. Making it a possibility to educate the children of this country shows consideration on the part of the Government. The situation where the Government does not measure the costs it incurs on education shows how esteemed our education is above all else.

The University of Botswana and other universities pay tuition for students. In other countries students pay to study, it is vice versa. In South Africa, parents pay the Government, in Botswana, Government pays the people to study. We should take note of this Government which cares about life, that while reading in class I am assured that by month end I get an allowance which I am told is more than Choppies' pay. I believe that this is a situation that shows our seriousness about Botswana. The lot has now fallen to us to talk to our public workers that let us all unite in the issue of education, because after all we have to develop as a nation despite the current low salaries.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of clarification. Honourable Member, are you aware that the allowances given to students are loans that they will eventually have to pay back?

**MR MOSWAANE:** Honourable Wynter Mmolotsi, Out of the million that has been funded, only 10 per cent has repaid and you are one of those people who have not repaid. Currently it has shown in our budget that we spend a lot of money at the Ministry of Education, Health and Transport and Communications. I therefore want to direct this question to the Minister of Education to say how did we go from P1.900 to P1.400?

Honourable Members if you take 100 thousand students who were funded by the Government and you deduct P500 from their salaries, if you multiply that P500 by 100 and divide by 1.400, it will pay for 30 per cent of

the students; the same students who might go on strike wanting to know why their money is short. I therefore want the Minister to confidently explain that we did this to enable children to go for training in large numbers. I have been to the University of Botswana, they are happy with the system, their query was that they were not told that they are trained because of the P500 that was deducted from other students.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Honourable Members, the buildings of some schools such as Mogoditshane, Nata and Kasane are of good quality. If you see them you would think that it is the University of Botswana eventhough it is a secondary school. It is a sign of seriousness by the Government of Botswana under the leadership of Botswana Democratic Party.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Point of procedure.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Our plan has been that we are going to build good schools that will suit the children of today.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Mr Speaker I believe that Honourable Moswaane has come up with a formula, that according to him, yields 30 per cent as the answer, and he is proposing that the money should be deducted from P1.900 to get the P500, he talked about the formula that ended up giving him 30 per cent, we do not get it. We do not understand therefore we were thinking that he could help us understand this formula.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (inaudible)...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Man of selfies.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Let him sit down.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** No, they stopped the clock. I wanted him to clarify that formula so that we...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No, he is not saying anything.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Plus the formula and how much he got.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Mmolotsi, you were listening to Honourable Moswaane and called for Point of Clarification where you did not understand so that he explains, Honourable Moswaane you too should clarify. As for me, you cannot ask me questions. You cannot call for procedure if you need answers, by so doing you will be directing the question at me and I do not have the answers, that man, Honourable Moswaane has. Call for clarification, he will explain.

**MR MOSWAANE:** No, I am the only one who came up with this formula in Botswana, so I do not understand his problem because he is a teacher therefore he can do the calculations, this is plus or minus. I am not going to repeat just for four per cent or two per cent difference, I have explained. You will refer to the Hansard Honourable Mmolotsi.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** Procedure. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I understand the Honourable Member when he is trying to explain the formula that can be used for the payments from P1.9 to P1.4...

**MR MOSWAANE:** Is that the procedure?

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** No, Honourable Member I wanted to indicate that, that is not the official answer from the Ministry of Education, that answered the question which asked why the allowances were deducted. So does that mean you differ with the Minister's version which stated that there is shortage of funds hence the movement from P1.900 to P1.400? We should understand that one, maybe it is the new one.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Elucidation.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Hold it right there Honourable Members. I am pleading to you to use Standing Order 53 which talks about interruption in Parliament. When you call for Point of Order or Procedure, you are directing the questions to me and I do not have the power to answer, it is not my issue, it is yours. If you want him to clarify, you stand on a Point of clarification and if you are correcting you call for Point of Correction. Do not include me in your debates.

**MR MOSWAANE:** No, when the Minister of Education started doing these calculations, I was still a Member of Council and it was reported to me that the economy of this country has gone down and most children had to be taken for training. As a Botswana leader, I understood that if you do not have enough funds, you can divide the amount that you already have. That is the procedure, the Minister said nothing different really, she said, "let us get ready my children, the economy has depreciated, your younger siblings have arrived and there are no funds, however we have to increase the number of..." I am therefore saying we should continue explaining this point.

Minister, I also want to talk about public service issues and believe we have taken long to come up with improvements for this sector. It is evident though that after taking people for training and developing them, they come across challenges and they expect our intervention. We are glad that the conflict between DPSM and the workers is over.

We hear that usually when there is a Bargaining Council meeting, some officials go there with pending decisions and that delays the progress. My advice therefore is that if you go there to negotiate, go there with confidence and final decisions. There is no need to go for a meeting and keep consulting on the sides though you are expected to make decisions. Some people think that consultation means you are consulting the President and this is why people are so angry at him. I would therefore like to advise that the DPSM must be given the powers to negotiate without any consultations on the sides.

I would like to commend the Minister that the Government of Botswana increased the salaries with six per cent; however I would have appreciated more if it could have been 10. We all know that the situation does not allow but let us try to reach 10 considering the situation that we are currently faced with. We should discuss this considering the lives of Public servants outside, things are tough even for the Members of Parliament in the constituencies. I therefore suggest that we should come up with good programmes that can improve our economy and salaries for public servants.

The other one Minister, you will pardon me Mr Speaker because I want the Ministers to understand what I am saying. At the Ministry of Local Government we have appointed so many people under the informal sector and they are not happy. They have a problem with their leadership; they are treated differently depending on the party that their leaders are affiliated to at that time. I think we need to empower them like Parliament and have a strong policy which will fully protect them.

I would like us to look at this situation and see what we can do for the people; I think the answer to that is to give them the Government which assist; our shortcomings will be addressed later on. Even the public servants should be given rightful answers because "yes" and "no" answers are not explanatory. In most cases "no" is not coupled with any reason, when we say "no" let us kindly try be all means to explain why, so that our people can have peace of mind.

From the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs; it seems like there are many employment opportunities Minister, nowadays they do not need to be fired. Private Companies can fire anytime. So let us enforce laws which are strong; any persons found guilty will be charged his salary multiplied by six because he did that on purpose.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Inaudible)...

**MR MOSWAANE:** Yes because nowadays no procedure is followed when firing someone. I request that this labour law if the employer if found guilty and

was even aware of his wrongdoing then a stiffer charge should be enforced upon him. Nowadays they have no regard for the law and they have reached a point where they are aware that a case can take three to four years and during that period he would not be paying anything. It is a situation in which if you want to fire someone you can do so because you know that Industrial Court has no power.

Honourable Minister, Industrial Court is going to make people to lose hope, it does not have any powers, even if a judgment can be passed, it is difficult for the employee to be paid what is due to him. That same employee has to spend money which is not even there to hire Deputy Sheriffs to make follow up on his payment from the contractor or whoever then ends up giving up. We have to look into this so that our people can have that level of trust in this Government of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), they should know that in most cases their concerns are taken care of, this is an issue which needs to be thoroughly addressed.

Another issue I would like to talk about as I conclude my deliberation is that we should look at the A1 Honourable Members, it too crowded and causes a lot of accidents, it should be developed and dual carriageway should be installed.

The city of Francistown has abundant land some of it needs to be reserved and purchase farms surrounding the city.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Moswaane can you explain what A1 means, there is a maize meal by that name.

**MR MOSWAANE:** The A1 road. The A1 road is very important in the lives of Batswana. If you are to use it for travel, you have to first consult the pastor and the traditional doctor to pray for your travelling mercies, it is too crowded. Let us consider installing a dual carriageway from here to Francistown. I know that the budget does not allow but let us start with at least 100 kilometres until we finish it, this is something which can help us in future Honourable Members.

The last one is poverty eradication; of which there are also a number of complaints. I am not too sure if the employees are satisfied but I have a report Mr Speaker which states that the Social Workers are not happy with some conditions at work as a result the underprivileged suffer. Can the Minister go and investigate what might cause this disgruntlement. They seem to be unhappy and the customers suffer. This dissatisfaction should be investigated to see if the conditions of service of Social Workers are good. They have stated that they stay close to 20 years in the same post, there are only two

Directors in Francistown City Council, the rest of the officers occupy the same post. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Moswaane, you have finished already? Order! Honourable Members at this juncture, I shall suspend the Parliament for 20 minutes so that you may take a break. 1620 pm you should all be back so that we can proceed with our deliberations.

**PROCEEDING SUSPENDED FOR 20 MINUTES**

**MR SPEAKER:** Let us all be seated Honourable Members. Honourable Majaga, call them back and tell that our break time is over we now have to proceed.

**MR KESUPILE (KANYE SOUTH):** Thank you Mr Speaker. I stand to briefly comment on the President's State of the Nation Address and let me thank him for addressing the nation about its state of affairs as it is the norm. Let me also thank the Leader of Opposition in Parliament Honourable Duma Boko. Honourable Duma Boko is the President of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), the President with vision. I asked him to hit hard and slow because ESP and 2019 require a full attention so that the Members of the Botswana Democratic Party have no defence mechanisms to use. Our intention Mother of the House is so that they cannot escape.

We already congratulated you Mother of the House on your honorary award and still on the subject let me congratulate the President on his honorary award. An honorary award is huge and it encompasses many accomplishments more especially desired ones. Some of us who have not be bestowed such honours, those which bring stature with them, we will just be called "Honourable" and that would be it. I believe we are actually Honourable, not because we run short of being Honourable. I believe the President is worthy of that honour, and we are worthy of ours too. When one is given an honour it means they should do many things. One of the things, which I hope the President will do in the near future, is the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) before it comes, he should realise that the Southern District and Kanye are trailing behind with regard to developments.

Right now we hear that a programme which fills me with fear is coming. I suspect members of the Botswana Democratic Party (Domkrag) are already prepared. Each one of them has included what they want in the ESP. We do not belong to the former conference; we do not know what the ESP is bringing. I suspect the Southern District is not going to come out with anything in the ESP. For one to realise that they are not going to benefit anything...

**MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE):** On a point of clarification. I wanted to find out from the Honourable member if an area called Mheelo is not under his constituency? I think he will talk at length with regard to this issue because I remember very well; minimal servicing in Mheelo, in his constituency is included. So I wanted him to confirm that point, and not continue with it because some of the things that he is not aware of... (interruption)...

**MR KESUPILE:** I do not know what you will be doing in Mheelo because what I am trying to say is that I have not read about the ESP, it means the Honourable Member has already read about it. That is what I was saying that it means everybody is ready with their package, whilst some of us do not know what is in the bag. They should just listen to what is going to happen. We have long talked about roads, that the Selokolela road...

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker, and the Honourable Colleague. Before the Honourable Member concludes that point where he was talking about the importance of honorary awards, what you are saying, do you mean you are rebuking those who were demeaning the honorary award which was given the President? I want you to confirm that.

**MR KESUPILE:** Thank you Honourable Member. I am not here to condemn. I was only saying we are aware of these awards, and they are important, they play their role in an individual and in society. It is not the first award; there are many awards which have been given to various people. Mother of the House was given an award, Mr Kedikilwe was also given an award, and we congratulated them.

Before I was derailed from my debate, we have long been lamenting about the Selokolela road, passing through Gasita up to Lerolwane, saying the road should be tarred. We have been lamenting about the Mosepele road passing through Seherelela, Tsonyane, Lobutse up to Lehoko and Maokane. We have long cried about Lotlhakane East road passing through Majeatau, Pelotshetlha up to Mmathethe. We have long lamented about the Gamoswaana road passing through Magotlhwane up to Ntlhantlhe. Before we can even get a response, there comes a programme which we do not know which kgotla it was discussed at, with which people. Instead of taking those funds and constructing roads the funds are taken and it said they are expanding the Thamaga road. They expanded that road up to Jwaneng. These are the funds required to expand the roads in the Southern District and they are wasted, they make small roads and we are told they are expanding

the roads. You wonder whose wish that is because there was no a kgotla meeting anywhere, nor a Motion to that effect. We are suspicious of this ESP.

There is nothing which is being said about building new secondary schools, but when you take the constituency that I belong to, it is well known that eight villages need a junior secondary school. The children from the villages of Lehoko, Lobutse, Dintsana, Tsonyane, Seherelela, Betesankwe and Sesu, attend junior Secondary Schools in Maokane. Their parents drive frequently to that place. I do not like what happened to our children when they overturned in a truck, because this thing is increasing. Failing to build junior secondary schools close to the villages they come from shows us that we are in trouble. The said ESP, is to build 1153 classrooms in primary and secondary schools; this makes one wonder that since the Southern District is always forgotten, deliberately; how many are going to be built in the Southern District out of the 1153? If we get one, we would be very lucky. This is a very low number; it shows that it is only enough for the members of the Botswana Democratic Party as they were asking for themselves at the conference they attended.

When it comes to housing; it has been said 5885 houses will be built for primary and secondary; and these are numbers which are only enough for members of the ruling party, these are the numbers which took them to the conference. For some of us who are still waiting, there is nothing which will be done.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. Even though the Honourable Member is debating very well, he is not telling the nation the truth. Mr Speaker, these numbers have been put looking at the shortage of housing for teachers the country over. We are not only looking at the members of the ruling party. I am asking him not to mislead the nation of Botswana. Thank you.

**MR KESUPILE:** Thank you Honourable Minister. You have a lot of fear, but I would like to say relax, do not panic. Remember that you are in Government, ESP was created by you, and you are the one who knows what is included in the package. Remember that you are the one who requested the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP), remember that you are the one who knows what is in it; I do not know what it entails. The schools in the southern region have indicated that maintenance is not satisfactorily carried out and you do not seem to realise that schools in this region need to be maintained. If you take for an example the flats for teachers, water from the top floor flows to the baths of the lower floors. Why should the teacher who stays on the ground floor

bath with dirty water? Why should that teacher flush the toilet with water from the top floor? This really shows that maintaining teachers' houses and other structures that they use is not a priority.

This ESP is going to benefit other constituencies, and I bet, the Southern region is not going to benefit in any way. From way back, it has shown that the southern region has been left out, Kanye region has been left out. So I cannot be told to expect that something will happen this time around. No, I am making reference to the situation that has been prevailing and right now, I cannot be deceived by anyone before I see what the ESP has.

The Education sector is still going to experience some challenges, unless it is true that the ESP will focus on it. If you take a school like Mookami, sports teachers will always tell students that "if there could be a proper pitch, this could be the situation". There are no pitches. Teachers are put on a terrain and expected to teach students and prepare them to be able to take examinations at the end of the year. Honourable Mokaila did not give us electricity through his rural electrification project, but he electrified other villages. That is why I still say this ESP does not have anything about electricity for Lefhoko, Lobutse and Seherelela villages.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of correction Mr Speaker.

**MR KESUPILE:** Why are you scared because I have not seen it?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No, I am not afraid.

**MR KESUPILE:** There is nothing for Tsonyane, Betesankwe, Selokolela and Dintsaneng...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Kesupile, wait. Honourable Tshireletso you are saying "point of order, correction, point of order," I do not know what you want.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO):** I said point of order Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Did you not say correction?

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** I said point of order Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Point of order you are asking me, proceed Honourable Minister.

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** Yes, I am asking you. I did not know if a point of order is a question. Imputing improper motives on someone who cannot answer is out

of order. I was in this very parliament with Honourable Kesupile when villages in Honourable Mokaila's former constituency were electrified at the time when Mr Kedikilwe was the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources not Honourable Mokaila. I wanted to say the Honourable Member is out of order because he is imputing improper motives on Honourable Mokaila.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! No, he is not out of order, Honourable Mokaila is here, he is the one who could have said "correction" and explained what happened then to Honourable Kesupile. So, if he keeps quiet, it means that Honourable Kesupile is telling the truth. Let him speak for himself.

**MR KESUPILE:** Minister, if the electricity produced from coal and water is failing to reach the villages that I have been naming; can you not at least connect solar electricity to those areas? We should remember that electricity is not only required in big villages, it is also needed in those small villages because we have civil servants there. The Remote Area Service Allowance (RASA) that they get does not compensate for this lack of electricity. They need to refrigerate their food, they need to drink cold water, they need to drink cold soft drinks and in some instances, some are transferred from one place to another still in remote areas yet there is a ...(interruptions)...is there someone talking behind me?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Yes, clarification.

**MR KESUPILE:** No, I do not want to take clarifications because my time is running out. You will help me during your turn Honourable Member.

ESP; the problem is that I am talking about the ESP that I do not know. I want to know if this ESP has a hospital because we have long talked about a hospital in Kanye and some of the people who talked about it have even passed on, but we are still talking about it even right now. I thought that when people complain of something or show that they need something, the answer should be to grant them their wish. People from other places where hospitals were built did not request for longer periods like us.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR KESUPILE:** Are you repeating that?

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI):** On a point of clarification. Thank you very much Honourable Member. I have been listening to you as you narrate sadly how your constituency is left behind in terms of developments. Our duty as Members of Parliament from different constituencies is to come and represent our

constituencies and request for developments on their behalf. So, Honourable Member, given your complaints, are you implying that the Member of Parliament for this constituency is weak or he cannot convey the needs of the people of this constituency properly?

**MR KESUPILE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. You are right; I am showing you how obstinate and insensible to the needs of the people the BDP is, despite always telling people how attentive and compassionate they are. Compassion is very far from them.

I repeat that I believe even this ESP has not addressed the complaints that I have been raising. I am here with Honourable Members and their complaints are minimal, so I think they know that the ESP has heeded the complaints in their constituencies.

The people are happy and they cannot wait for the programme to be launched and we will start complaining that they have taken everything.

You should know that we still want the stadium Honourable Mathambo. I know you can be kind my friend that you sometimes avail the funds to us. Maybe one of the days you should visit Kanye and you will find that the plot is there, we are only waiting for the Government to start. For our youth to watch games they have to travel to Gaborone, Francistown and Molepolole. Those who are in the Southern region of Botswana always find it difficult to get opportunities in big projects.

Nowadays we are told that Francistown is the home of the Zebras, and we too want Kanye to be the home of the national netball team. We also want to have a huge share in whatever that would be giving us.

If you look at Honourable Kgathi, you will realise that he is happy, you should know that he is going to benefit from ESP. Kgosi you should expect nothing in your constituency even in Honourable Ntlhaile's there is absolutely nothing. Everything new in the South region will be found in Moshupa only.

This issue of water shortage was done deliberately by Botswana Democratic Party. They knew that there was going to be water shortage and when the elections were near they started some projects in Serowe, Palapye and Kanye that died a silent death. They only did that to buy elections because they realised that if they could have gone for the elections in that situation, they were going to lose.

Now every misfortune is the responsibility of Water Utilities Corporation. The company that has every skill in water has been given the old infrastructure.

We are told that the reason why there is water shortage is because the pipes and taps are old. They knew from the beginning that this problem is going to be there. Let us refrain from putting the blame on Water Utilities; we should blame the Government squarely on the face. Honourable Mokaila should be answerable to everything.

They did this intentionally so that the Water Utilities could stop providing water for the cattle. As we speak our livestock is roaming all over because there is no water. The cattle are dying, we have a challenge. 2019 should come already; we are going to win over Botswana Democratic Party. Not only in the Southern region, in the Northern, Eastern and Western regions of Botswana too until Honourable Boko becomes the president. We will take some of you to fill up other posts and I know the ones that we are going to take.

This programme of giving the Disabled citizens P300 though we are talking about people who are profoundly disabled, is not right. My take on this one is that this programme is useless because UNESCO has long proposed for Disability allowance after the caretakers, Disability Organisations, the doctors who deal with the Disabled and different politicians including the members of the Botswana Democratic Party had requested for it.

As for this one that we are giving out as if it is some sort of sympathy; I say no. This is just to delay our mission to have a proper policy for the Disabled. If you give the Disabled P300.00, how about the care-taker?

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI):** On a point of clarification Mr Speaker. I thank you Honourable Member. The bulk of these policies and programmes that you are talking about were made when you were still a member of Botswana Democratic Party. We are currently at implementation stage. I therefore wanted you to be clear as to whether you are going against your initial initiative.

**MR KESUPILE:** I thank you Mr Speaker. That is a thing of the past. In this era, there is need for a policy. Now the Honourable Member wants me to tell him how come he is where he is right now. I do not want to go there because you were a civil servant and there was a vacancy at the constituency and we put you there...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Say it! Say it!

**MR KESUPILE:** No, I do not want to get you into trouble.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Laughter!)

**MR KESUPILE:** I do not want to talk about the paraffin that we used to buy; I do not want to get you into trouble.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** The contributions that we made.

**MR KESUPILE:** I do not want to talk about the contributions that we made for you to be where you are. You are inviting trouble...

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Laughter!)

**MR KESUPILE:** I do not know if you would be able to stomach it.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR KESUPILE:** I am usually a quiet person. That is not your issue Makgalemele. You were not yet here, so do not try to approach difficult issues that way. There was nothing like that. No! All we were saying was that people with disabilities should go to school; they should work and be protected from various things. The only important thing that I can tell the Minister whom I suspect is readying to bring a policy is that the policy is long overdue. It is long overdue. Otherwise we will always say, it is better when we do it this way', no we want the policy; a policy which will describe what we mean by a person with disability, a policy which will state the rights of people with disabilities with regards to their jobs and accommodation. We want a policy which will compel the government to do something to ensure that people with disabilities who can work get jobs and how much allowance is given to those who cannot work. No, not P300, really? Honourable Kgathi, think again, P300? I want to put you in a situation whereby you are a person with disability and Honourable Mathambo is your caretaker, pushing and turning you...

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Laughter!)

**MR KESUPILE:** And you are given P300, yet he is always there doing everything for you. What will he do with this P300? Let us get serious. I am not talking to Members of Parliament in the opposition; I am talking to Members of Parliament of the ruling party, who have all the resources, who if they like, if they like...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR KESUPILE:** They can bring a policy that protects and dignifies people with disabilities in a glance. That is if they like.

**MR SPEAKER (MR MOLATLHEGI):** Why are you standing madam?

**MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** Clarification. If you were not the speaker, I would say

you are teasing me, but I cannot. Thank you Honourable Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I am a little bit confused. Is the Honourable Member saying Mr Mathambo was turning with Mr Kgathi?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No, he has not said that.

**MS MAKGATO:** Or did I not hear properly?

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes Honourable Member, you did not hear properly. He will clarify to you.

**MR KESUPILE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I do not mean that Mr Mathambo was turning, I was giving an example of the sad situation that I find myself in. In other words, I could have given an example about myself being Honourable Kgathi's caretaker, doing everything for him.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Laughter!)

**MR KESUPILE:** Any he gets an allowance of P300. The common notion is that as the caretaker of a person with disability who cannot do anything for himself/herself, I am almost like that person. So, if Honourable Kgathi says P300, how do I survive?

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Murmurs)...

**MR KESUPILE:** Yes, who do I turn to, more so that he is saying this P300 is the beginning? He says after some time and that period is not even stated. It will be improved after some time, what will improve?

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE):** Elucidation. I thank you Mr Speaker. I wanted to tell the Honourable Member that people with disabilities have many privileges. Actually, the operating platform is that people with disabilities should benefit from all the available services, be it education, health etc. and in some instances, when I take an example of job seeking; when a person with disability is seeking for a job and competing with a person with no disability, being at the same level of experience and education, preference is given to a person with disability.

The P300 was specifically meant for those people with disabilities who are unable to access government programmes. But further to that, caretakers are able to benefit from programmes such as Poverty Eradication because they are given those programmes bearing in mind that they are going to take care of people with disabilities. Therefore, a lot has been done and a lot will continue to be done. So it is not only P300 Sir.

**MR KESUPILE:** I thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Makgalemele is far from understanding the state of

people with disabilities. He is far if he can still tell me that the caretakers get something at Ipelegeng, he is far from understanding their situation. It also implies that your officials are doing contrary to what you are saying because they want someone who cannot do anything for oneself. Those are the people they give that P300. As for people with disabilities benefitting from other programmes, you are lost Honourable Member. You are completely lost. You should understand people with disabilities well and understand that most of the programmes that you have do not in way benefit people with disabilities. We seem to be...

**MR MOREMI:** Elucidation. Adding to that Honourable Kesupile, for a caretaker to leave a person with disability to go and cut grass under the Poverty Eradication programme, it means the caretaker should tie that person to a pole so that the person with disability does not go anywhere in the absence of the caretaker. I am not just saying this sarcastically, it is something that I see in my constituency.

**MR KESUPILE:** I thank you Mr Speaker. I believe Honourable Makgalemele gets how difficult that situation is. Like he indicated that people with disabilities have needs, there are those who may want to get married. There are some who may want their houses to be cleaned. There are those who may want to be employed by government and not to be told to go and find what they can do. Mr Speaker, I wanted to request the Minister that when he brings this policy which is said to be on the way, which is said to be a review of the old one, I am not hopeful that something better is going to come out of this because the old one failed to accomplish what it was supposed to accomplish. I do not know how the new one which is not relying on any law going to accomplish which the old one failed to accomplish? With those remarks Mr Speaker, let me end there.

**MR LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST):** Thank you Mr Speaker that your eye managed to spot me among the many Members of Parliament who wish to comment in the President's State of the nation Address. Briefly, since I am a short person by nature, I will not speak for long.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Yours is short.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** My speech is short Minister Mabeo.

Mr Speaker, first of all I want to thank the President as it is a norm that around this time he would address us and give us an update with regard to the state of the nation. This is a very important practice. All the things he talked about, he said very good things which are happening in

the country. In brief, I will try to address those that are connected to my constituency of Boteti East because other Members of Parliament will also talk about those which are related to their constituencies.

In the President's speech there are things he pointed out that the government holds in high esteem; those which have to do with Bogosi, tribal issues. Honourable Members, this is one of the issues which trouble me as a Member of Parliament for Boteti East. Currently, we have seen many Dikgosi diverting to politics because their status is not right. I am looking at the salary status, their office accommodation or space; they are not taken care of at all. These are some of the things which are troubling me very much, therefore it is imperative that the government must try by all means to develop Bogosi because this is an institution which is upholding or taking care of the villages where we come from.

Mr Speaker it is very important that our Dikgosi should have offices, and I believe the relevant Ministry which is Local Government knows that there was once an issue which even went to the courts where this issue was talked about. A judgment was even issued that this tribal arm of Local Government should be developed, that they should have a scheme of service which might elevate them to a certain position. This is something which really causes concern, and if it goes further we should be careful. Honourable Members, I was just saying that one in passing.

Now I want to look at the constituency that I am coming from, Boteti East. I sometimes make a comparison that although I am here wearing a suit, my father back at home is maybe just eating plain porridge. I want to point out that the Boteti constituency that I come from, since time immemorial has been upholding the economy of this nation. I am saying this because in 2009 there was a recession, I managed to go around Botswana and I realised that we in Boteti were affected the most because when the companies left, people's houses were only occupied by owls. This showed me that the government has to change direction and ensure that the areas surrounded by mines like Boteti East are taken care of in a certain way; developments should be done there.

As we speak, our constituency is plagued by relocations, we are shifting on a daily basis making way for mines, parks; and this thing in the end lands people in poverty regardless of the fact that mines are there. This shows that now we require a policy direction or a law which depicts that areas which are surrounded by mines should be taken care of, they should be developed.

It is very sad when you go around a village like Letlhakane at night and see people walking in darkness,

but when you walk around in other places at around 10 p.m. and 12 midnight people would be sleeping, donkeys would be roaming the streets which are lit. In Letlhakane we walk in darkness, when people go to work they are raped in that darkness, they are robbed in the process of serving this country. This thing is really troubling the people of Boteti, that at this particular time we are still in such darkness; a big village like Letlhakane which is surrounded by mines, there are still no roads because the roads are sandy, and they cannot be traversed. This is a policy which the government has to change.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of clarification. Honourable Member, since these problems are caused by the Botswana Democratic Party, do you not think you are equally wrong to have played a role in getting it elected and eventually winning elections?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you my former colleague. I believe this Botswana Democratic Party is a party you grew up in, and you learnt politics from it. I was therefore saying the time has come that a constituency like Boteti which has been taking care of the country, and grew to its current stature; I take it that when you raise your children, there comes a time when you now realise that your children have grown, you now have to commend yourself. Now for us in Boteti or Letlhakane you will find out that there is a situation which causes concern, people are going to work in darkness. We need street lights as a matter of urgency.

I am very happy that it is said that funds are going to be taken from the foreign reserves. Maybe I should point out to Honourable Kesupile that I also do not know what the stimulus package has in store for us; I am just like you that side. It is still an issue of Cabinet Ministers. I wish in the stimulus there would be electrification of Letlhakane village as an matter of urgency because this is a situation which causes concern, that as a Member of Parliament moving around the constituency, all the time you are asked about such issues. This is a recurring issue which is talked about at every kgotla meeting.

The other thing is that in the Boteti constituency, when I talk about Letlhakane village there is no Minister who comes to Letlhakane without the residents talking about a hospital and this issue dates from way back, and it is also bothering us in the village. We also ask ourselves so many questions which require answers. Honourable Members, this is the time; people in my constituency always come to my office bringing issues like these, which I have been bringing to Parliament as relayed to me.

Internal roads are necessary because if you look at the number of vehicles in that village, they are many. In

some villages they have tarred roads despite the fact that there are vehicles in those villages only during the Christmas holidays when the children go to the villages, the ones from Letlhakane. That is a worrying situation.

I heard in the President speech that alcohol levy amassed a lot of funds. Honourable Members, Letlhakane and Jwaneng are areas where alcohol is consumed at a high rate and it is important that from that alcohol levy, maybe a rehabilitation centre can be built in Letlhakane. That place...

**DR P. BUTALE:** Elucidation. Thank you my colleague, thank you Mr Speaker. You were explaining that alcohol consumption is high in your constituency; does that not contravene what the President was saying that there is a reduction in alcohol consumption?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. The Member of Parliament for Gaborone Central, Honourable Pheno Butale is raising a controversial issue which I do not want to comment on. He is fully aware that people are paid well at the mines and the rate of alcohol consumption is high. That is why I am saying maybe part of those funds could be used for something that will teach people the importance of taking care of their relatives and families because families are being torn apart. Those are the issues that we receive on a daily basis. It is an issue of concern in my area.

We are also concerned about relocations. I have always heard of those in my constituency. The State of the Nation Address talked about land allocation. My constituency is also faced with this crisis as most people go there with the hope that they will find land. The numbers are very high. It is therefore important to use this quota system in Letlhakane where a portion of land is set aside for the indigenous people as is the case with villages closer to towns. I believe that Letlhakane should also have a quota system so that they may get an opportunity to get land in their indigenous place.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ...(Inaudible)...

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Opportunity or chance is just the same Honourable Member according to my primary school knowledge. Furthermore, one of my main concerns which I believe will also serve as an advice is that the time has now come to abolish the system of sub-districts in Botswana. I do not support a sub-district and I do not know what makes it subordinate. I do not think this issue of sub-district is working for us more especially some of us who falls under the Central District. Boteti alone, from one corner to the other is 621 km, which is an equivalent of some districts this side yet it is a sub-district. This therefore affects the way we allocate developments. You find that some of us in our

constituencies are suffering because we have to request for services somewhere else. I do not see the importance of sub-districts. Sometimes even when you ask at the Council why there is no window pane in a classroom, you will be told to call the Central District at Serowe. These things are worrisome. I think the time has now come to phase out all sub-districts and transform them into full districts which will now have full responsibility not the one which has to borrow powers elsewhere. This is a serious concern especially in my constituency.

The Boteti East Constituency which I am representing has squatters especially in Letlhakane where Basarwa have moved from farms. As we are aware that these people used to live in the bush, now they are there and are surrounding Letlhakane village. There are a lot of squatters and we know very well that Letlhakane is a planning area. Let me say it is important that through this affirmative action, a portion of land should be scouted for this people so that they may be allocated it legally because in most cases you find that they do not have identity cards. These are the people that even if you tell them that they have to apply for land at land board, they do not understand what you are talking about. This situation requires a reaction from the government in terms of allocating them land so that the village may develop according to plan. When we talk about the movement of these people from the farms, we also find them in villages like Mmea and Khwee which...

**MR MOREMI:** Clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. I am concerned when the Member says these people apply for land at land board, I know that is the right procedure. However, if they are there and they are not aware of that procedure, why does the land board not give them the plots that they are already occupying?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Paramount Chief of Batawana, Honourable Moremi. You are echoing my sentiments because these people go there every day and the public workers in Letlhakane are doing their best yet the situation is not improving. That is why I am saying the government should deploy a vigorous exercise...

**MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE):** Mr Speaker, thank you Sir. Thank you my colleague. My colleague called me to Letlhakane to come and appreciate the situation at Metsiaela, in Phase I, I think there are about four settlements in Letlhakane and I responded by saying he can also see that the yards are facing different directions and if they are going to be regularised, it will require careful planning so that the gates may face the same direction and have roads in between. I am now surprised because it seems like he is now of the view that they should be regularised in the situation that they are currently in. Some have

allocated themselves plots measuring 20 by 20, others 10 by 15. Mapping should be carried out anew and I explained this to him because we went around these squatter settlements together. So, I was saying maybe he should remember what we discussed regarding that issue. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Honourable Maele. Maybe you did not hear me properly. In short Honourable Members, there are squatters in Letlhakane...

**MR MOREMI:** Point of order. Thank you Mr Speaker. I was wondering if it is appropriate to refer to those communities as squatter settlements because they have long been there. Their gates may not be facing the same direction but for them to end up being called squatters I think it is not in order Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Moremi, I remember that earlier on, I said you should learn to read Standing Order 53.1 thoroughly; it will remind you when to use point of order, point of procedure, point of clarification, elucidation, correction. You cannot ask me questions; you can only refer questions to the Honourable Member on the floor. What you are asking is not a point of order. Point of order should be in relation to the rules of the procedure in this House. You can only ask using a point of clarification and correction.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I thank you Mr Speaker. I would like to say those people were not found there and this issue is not new; it is from way back when Honourable Maele was not in that office. It is a burning issue and I request that we attend to it quickly. These people migrate from the farms and if you go to these 'squatters', you will find sad conditions because these are the people whom we expect to be taken care of by the government.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Lelatisitswe, in Setswana they are called *maipayafela* (meaning squatters).

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Yes Sir. Okay squatters.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Inaudible)...

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Yes Mr Speaker, they are squatters. We should consider their background, they are from the farms and they do not have any educational background. That is a challenge and this is why I am proposing that the government should hasten to look into such issues. It has come to a point whereby they are affected by diseases such as Tuberculosis (TB) and they are not controllable. Their living conditions are not conducive at all, 15 people would be staying in a shack. This situation causes concern and there is need for them to be allocated plots.

In this constituency as I have already stated, I heard the President in his state of the nation address saying they are going to construct roads through the Stimulus package. That is a good initiative because our constituency has got bad roads and last time when I was watching television, I heard the Minister of Agriculture Mr Mabeo saying...

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ... (Inaudible)...

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Sorry, sorry. Let me correct, I mean Honourable Patrick Ralotsia saying they are going to start projects in areas where there is Agriculture through the Stimulus package. I was impressed and thought maybe they could work hand in hand with Honourable Mabeo and construct the Khwee road which is 60 kilometres long. Where this road ends, there are farms that supply the Botswana Meat Commission. If roads can be tarred, the stimulus package would have benefited us a lot more especially the farmers in that area. It is currently difficult for a person who runs a farming business commuting from Letlhakane to use such roads. I am therefore pleading them to work together in improving the Khwee road.

I am glad that we passed the Special Economic Zone. It is such a good thing and I hope they will advise them on this one if that authority will be attended to quickly because it is a farming zone. People grow crops and rear hybrid cattle there and they cannot go for a day without water. I believe that the owners who are here know that they never rest; they drive all night every Friday.

This collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture and Transport and Communications could help the people of Khwee which is a RADs settlement. The people staying there used to survive through bow and arrow, killing animals. The government decided to bring them to Khwee where they could take care of them and there are also challenges in the RADs hostels. They are times when the electricity is cut off in these hostels. We should look into these issues and wonder why our sleeping times in towns are not monitored. They then seem like prisoners. It is the responsibility of the government to provide services for these people. These situations cause concern.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Mokgware if you need clarification, say it once and we would hear you.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. I thought the machine was out of order. I hear what you are saying when you talk about RADs, I however want you to explain what that means.

**MR SPEAKER:** Respond to Honourable Mokgware you will attend to Honourable Mmolotsi later.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I thank you Maj. Gen. Pius Mokgware of the UDC. Maybe you can assist me with the explanation of the acronym RADs because you are the University of Botswana lecturer so maybe you are better placed to explain. I am concerned about the situation at the RADs hostels...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point clarification. Maybe the Honourable Member should explain because it seems like he is concerned about the RADs hostels. He should explain if he is not concerned about the Mosu School which is old, in which there is a particular classroom that has a fan; it has been moving for years and it never stops throughout the seasons. Do you know about this fan Honourable Member?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I thank you Honourable Members. I am concerned about this whole situation Honourable Mmolotsi, that fan too. I am worried about it because in winter it becomes a problem. It is there in Mosu and I know it. I am aware that you frequent that area and you are better placed to answer that one.

I was still talking about the RADs hostel that...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I will yield later on Honourable, you can see that time is not on my side.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No, you did not answer the first one.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Mokgware, you are out of order. Honourable Lelatisitswe, Honourable Mokgware asked what you mean by RADs.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Remote Area Dwellers. Thank you Honourable Mokgware, you will learn more during the course of Parliament. I take it that Local Government personnel are here, they will give you lessons. In most instances when you have been in the army you might not know some of these things.

When we talk about...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of order. Mr Speaker, I think Honourable Lelatisitswe is imputing improper motives on people who were at the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), and it is not only Honourable Mokgware, even the President of this Republic was from the BDF.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! No, Honourable Lelatisitswe is talking to Honourable Mokgware. He called him by name, he is specifically addressing him. Stop including people who are not in the House in your issues Honourable Mmolotsi.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I was very grateful when I heard the President talking about the seriousness of the government of the Botswana Democratic Party, in creating job opportunities for Batswana; I would like to add to this statement. Furthermore, I personally I think it is important that this P100 000 youth grant can be used to invest in industrial shares, where we can build industries for the youth so that they can kick-start their businesses with that P100 000 until they are stable. It is a huge concern that in most cases we give them this money but their projects never succeed.

Through the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC), I think it is important for the government to be steadfast and introduce things such as tax incentives. If there is a foreign company which can employ 500 Batswana, we can reduce tax as an incentive to hire these Batswana and in so doing there is what we call skills transfer. Or perhaps we can build these companies factories according to their specification. Or perhaps promise them that if the company employs a certain number of Batswana, they will be exempted from the water and electricity bills. Such incentives can form permanent employment opportunities for Batswana. These are incentives which the Botswana Democratic Party has to adopt and implement.

I also heard the President in his address say that through this Stimulus programme there is going to be by-passes which are going to reduce traffic in towns.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Do you know that programme?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I read about it somewhere. Honourable Members some congestions can be viewed in this manner; when you are about to enter Mmatshumo village after passing Letlhakane, there is a road which can reduce congestion to Francistown, perhaps there could be a tarred road connecting Mmatshumo-Letlhakane and Nata, that can reduce congestion on the Francistown road. Vehicles can branch off at Palapye and pass through Letlhakane up to Makgadikgadi and join the road at Nata and perhaps they can find accommodation there. We recently visited the place and I must say it is indeed a tourist attraction. This road can also improve our tourism industry at the Makgadikgadi. If the road can start from Nata to Mmatshumo through Letlhakane and leave out Francistown by-pass I think it can help.

I am thankful that as Parliament, we all agreed to upgrade the Botswana College of Agriculture. It is a great initiative for some of us who come from areas which rely on agriculture, we are grateful for it. It is an initiative we are eagerly waiting for its implementation.

With regards to the Bill which talked about tax; this might address our complaints, those of us in the mining towns. Perhaps this 20 per cent of revenue which is supposed to be taxed can go towards the development of our villages. I think this Bill was passed by us here Minister Maele, I think you know it, the Income (Amendment) Bill, if not we will refer you to the Hansards.

About water Honourable Members; Letlhakane village is facing the same water crisis as Gaborone. We hope that in this Stimulus this situation will improve for the better; roads will be constructed and water be distributed. That village is growing very fast. I think some Ministers who visit the village only use the tarred road. I sometimes attempt to take the Ministers on a tour around the village and they are always surprised to see how big the village is. There is water crisis and I am always complaining at the Water Utilities, but I hope that this Stimulus will address this crisis.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** It is happens across the whole country.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Okay Honourable, you will get the chance to speak for your constituency my brother in law...

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Lelatisitswe, you are addressing me, there is no brother in law in this House.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. In our Boteti East constituency, we have a very concerning situation of livestock which is killed by wild animals and the arrears are huge. I am appealing to the Minister of Tourism to try and get something from the Stimulus so that people can be compensated. This issue is of great concern.

On health issues, I indicated that we are concerned about the hospital in our constituency. There is need to upgrade clinics in villages such as Khwee, Mmea, Mokubilo, Mosu and so on.

**MR KESUPILE:** On a point of clarification. Honourable Member, let me understand what you are saying, did you say the Stimulus Package is also going to pay compensations?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** I thank you former member of the BDP Honourable Kesupile. You heard me very well Sir because in our area there is a situation which... I take it that this stimulus is the issue of tourism. If you do not pay you will end up losing the wildlife or predators which you want the tourists to come and see. I do not want the cattle owners to end up killing the predators which Honourable Khama wants to bring tourists to our country so that you in the Ngwaketse area would have

a hospital built for you, so that you do not just see it in other places.

**MR SALAKAE:** On a point of clarification. Thank you Master of Ceremony.

**MR SPEAKER:** Whose ceremony?

**MR SALAKAE:** The Speaker. I tried to contain this Mr Speaker. I understand there is a fan in Mosu, it keeps running during winter and summer; jokes aside, I want to find out from you Honourable Member, are you failing to switch off this fan, unless there is something which has to do with traditional beliefs. Just a simple fan! Why can it not be taken to other classes? I was just asking, no joke intended; does it still run in winter when the students are in the classroom, or are these daily issues found in Mosu?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. To respond to Honourable Salakae, the person who knows better is Honourable Wynter Mmolotsi. He spends most of his time that side; I believe he can answer you better. We will talk about it outside. Mr Speaker...

**MR MMOLOTSI:** On a point of order. Mr Speaker, Honourable Lelatisitswe should not impute improper motives on me, I do not stay there. They are the ones who stay there. One day when I was working there before I even came to this Parliament, I had an opportunity to see that fan and I was told it had been like that for some time. I asked him the other time, "Honourable Colleague, where is that fan?" and he said it is still running...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Mmolotsi, you are out of order. I told you to familiarise yourself with Standing Order 53.1; what you are saying is a correction.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I believe we have talked about land issues in Boteti East between the people and the mines...

**MR KEORAPETSE:** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Member I just wanted to ask you about issues which are of concern in other constituencies, I am just wondering if in your constituency they are also there; issues such as the fact that if predators kill people's livestock, there is a difference in compensation depending on which predator it was, do you know of such complaints in your constituency? The death of an animal is still death, and it does not matter what killed it.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Honourable Dithapelo Keorapetse. That is a policy which was agreed in Parliament and there is no way we can change it. I think it is the same across the country that if your

animal was killed by a hyena or a lion, it is not the same. That is how it is, it a policy in Botswana.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** ...(Murmurs)...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Stop shouting at each other in Parliament. Honourable Lelatisitswe, you are left with 5 minutes.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Mr Speaker, let me thank the President very much that in Botswana children are continuing to be taken to school in large numbers. Recently when I was looking at these issues of education, when I read the papers I was shocked Mr Speaker, just after the President spoke of the "Target 20 000," when I took the newspapers, I found an article saying there are some schools which have already been selected that students are going to be enrolled in and I asked myself many questions whether children in our constituencies will manage since they are very far. I wondered if the committee that the President said was going to be coordinating the Stimulus Programme has already been established. This situation troubled me very much, I was wondering that even before a week elapses we are seeing in the papers that some universities have now been selected, and when I look at them I wondered if a child in my constituency in Khwee, Mmea, is going to benefit. This situation troubled me very much. I believe it will be looked into and that a short period has been set which is from November up to December and I was wondering if people are aware of that.

The other point which is bothering me is that, even though I have not seen the Stimulus, it is going to be administered by public servants, and I wondered if really we have heeded their calls because if someone is driving something yet they are disgruntled, it is likely to fail. They might end up sabotaging the intentions of government. It is necessary that...

**DR P. BUTALE:** Elucidation. Thank you Honourable Member. You are debating very well. As the Leader of Opposition was saying, if they would be allowed to make businesses as well as driving this thing which is foreign to you, do you not think there is going to be a lot of problems?

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you Honourable Member for Gaborone Central. Honourable Member...

**MR MOREMI:** On point of order. Thank you Mr Speaker. I just wanted to ask about this point of imputing improper motives; does it only refer to someone here in Parliament. I hear the Honourable Member saying the civil servants can sabotage Stimulus, is it right to point a finger at someone who is not here?

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Moremi, familiarise yourself with Standing Order 53.1. Do not ask me

such questions; the person on the floor is over there. Honourable Member on the floor, please desist from talking about people who are not here, address the issue on the floor; leave the civil servants alone.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Thank you, I was just trying to give an example; sometimes we need to point these things out before so that when they happen or if there is anyone who is thinking of doing such things, they should know their position. That is what I am simply saying that the Stimulus is going to be driven by civil servants; therefore if they are not happy, I am looking at their remuneration and accommodation. When we talk about how they live, some of them are going to be covered by Stimulus, and we might end up being in a worrisome situation. So, I was just giving that as an advice that, we should seriously take these things into account. We should not just take them for granted and assume that everything will be smooth sailing. These are issues that we need to touch on as leaders. With regards to roads, I will indicate that in my constituency we have Mosu/ Mmatshumo road, and in the history of Boteti, Mmatshumo is an old village. So, it is really perturbing that, a village that carries special history, like being the place of origin for the President does not have good roads even up to date.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Inaudible)...

**MR LELATISITSWE:** Yes, the President originates from Mmatshumo village if you did not know. So, it is really a concern that even at this time, villages which are very old still do not have good roads.

Honourable Members sometimes when we talk about police stations...

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Members, there is a lot of noise I do not know what is happening.

**MR LELATISITSWE:** These are situations which are a concern because we also want Honourable Minister Kgathi to build a Police Station in our constituency. Police station and district headquarters are in the same office in Botswana. Another thing is that, Special Constables are more in number as compared to Police officers and that is an issue of concern which needs to be addressed promptly. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**MR BILLY (FRANCISTOWN EAST):** Thank you Mr Speaker, I actually stood so that I can be the first to speak in tomorrow's debate. I would like to thank the President for his speech. When you read it you will realise that, most of the issues he mentioned were in our 2013 party manifesto when we were campaigning for the 2014 elections.

These issues were; job creation, provision of quality education and good health, improvement of people's lives and poverty eradication. We also talked about Agriculture and if you look at the college which we have transformed into a university, we were following our 2013 manifesto which I believe, if we continue to follow and have good cooperation, will bring an improvement in our economy. Mr Speaker, I must caution that if we are not careful, this ESP could either break or build us. We should at the end of the day not find this ESP being just song without being implemented accordingly. We are all representing different political parties and our responsibility is to be at the forefront in ensuring that ESP is implemented accordingly.

We have to look at these issues Mr Speaker. First and foremost, we have to find out whether services are fairly distributed. We should also look at ourselves and see whether...

**MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (MR MABEO):** On a point of clarification Mr Speaker. Thank you Mr Speaker, I heard the Honourable Member saying this ESP can break us, so I wanted him to explain whether he is referring to us this side or those on the other side of the aisle? Thank you your Honour.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Billy, if you want to yield for clarifications or corrections it is entirely upon you Sir.

**MR BILLY:** Yes Sir. Thank you, I had written in English so I wanted equivalence in Setswana. To build us, I am referring to the country in terms of the economy. To break the nation in terms of economy. Why am I saying these words? It is because ESP is focusing on funds from our foreign reserves.

**MR NTLHAILE:** On a point of clarification Mr Speaker. Thank you Mr Speaker. You are on the right track my colleague. Does your concern that you might break, have anything to do with what you did last time regarding the awarding of tenders, that tenderpreneurs should align themselves? Can that break you?

**MR BILLY:** I believe Honourable Ntlhaile did not understand me well; I was referring to the country's economy that we can make or break it. That is what I meant that we should implement ESP accordingly because we are talking about funds from our foreign reserves which were saved for emergencies. It is true that for it to be a success we should decentralise.

**MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** On a point of elucidation Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Speaker. Thank you Honourable colleague. I would

request that in your debate you state that you do not know where tenders were awarded. Maybe he is the one who can tell us who he was allocating those tenders with and where.

**MR BILLY:** No, I did not answer the one on tenders Honourable Member because I do not really take it to be serious. So, I am deliberately ignoring it. The main thing is that we should be very careful about that. We should try to...

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Billy. "We should be careful about that". You will continue tomorrow Honourable Member. As it is now 6 o'clock, I shall call upon the leader of the House to move an adjournment.

**MOTION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MASISI):** Mr Speaker Sir, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Tuesday 17 November, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

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