



HANSARD

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DAILY HANSARD (PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES)

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



ENGLISH VERSION

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The Hon. Kagiso P. Molatlhegi, MP Gaborone South

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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

Names	Constituency
RULING PARTY (Botswana Democratic Party)	
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 23rd November, 2015

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

* * * *

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

CONNECTION TO THE INTEGRATED SEWER PROJECT

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources in view of the completion of Gaborone Integrated Sewer Project:-

- (i) how many households have been connected to the main sewer line;
- (ii) how many households were expected to be connected; and
- (iii) what could be the delay for failure to connect by some households.

MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA): Good afternoon Mr Speaker.

- (i) To date 2 321 households have been connected to the main sewer line.
- (ii) 8 557 of the serviced Self Help Housing Agency Areas (SHAA) were expected to have been connected.
- (iii) Mr Speaker, I have been informed by Water Utilities Corporation that they have addressed several public meetings with affected residents and preliminary findings on customer feedback points at costs associated with internal plumbing of various houses and or rooms found in each plot before they can connect to the sewer main hindrance delaying customers to connect to the network.

In light of the foregoing in an effort to encourage customers to connect to the main sewer, the Water Utilities Corporation is offering residents an instalment option to pay for the connection fees. The connection is only done upon completion of the instalments. My Ministry does not have any fund to assist the residents. However, my Ministry is aware of a special dispensation from the Home Improvement Loan available to SHAA residents from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development under the various City Councils.

Under this arrangement, SHAA residents can get loans to carry out improvements on their SHAA plots and properties. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister, is it not clear to Government that indeed residents of Gaborone are challenged to find resources for them to actually do proper plumbing in order for connections to be undertaken? Do you not think that as a Ministry you need to create a special fund that can assist residents to connect?

Honourable Minister are you also aware that...

MR SPEAKER: Make your supplementary question brief Honourable Member. Do not turn it into a statement. There are many questions in the Order Paper. Make your supplementary question brief for the sake of progress.

MR NKAIGWA: Mr Speaker, I am going to repeat.

MR SPEAKER: Do not say that. I will make you sit down. Ask your question.

MR NKAIGWA: Are you also aware that despite the 2 000 that you have connected out of 8 000 that are yet to connect, households that have connections are still utilising pit latrines? So, what is your target as a Ministry? When are we going to be seeing eradication of pit latrines in the City? Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister.

MR MOKAILA: Thank you Mr Speaker. If I was in the bad mood, I would say it is a different question, but I am in a good mood. So, I will attempt to answer him.

- (i) We are aware it is a problem. But understand it is not just a problem in Gaborone, it is a problem where there is sewer provided in the connections. As a Ministry we have gone out to look at what will it cost to ensure that everywhere where there is sewage provided, how much will it cost to connect those who are there? It runs into billions.
- (ii) Yes, we are aware. What are they doing to the connection? For instance, in your particular constituencies Gaborone, because of the multiple residencies on plots, that is where the cost comes from. In terms of providing sewage to a single plot, that is not the issue. So, are you asking government to supply or to provide a fund for the individual houses for people where they are aggregating money; do not forget these houses are making money, they are generating revenue. That is the issue. So, Mr Speaker, in short, we do not have a fund to provide for that.

(iii) In summary and closing, Government is looking at what to do for all the areas where there is sewage to ensure that there are connections. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Further supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: The last one. Who blew air into the microphone?

MR NTLHAILE: Thank Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I want the Minister to explain what their initial intentions were when they started budgeting for sewage, was it not to ensure that they will connect the sewage system? What is hindering them from installing the sewage system as planned?

MR MOKAILA: A clear example of not understanding what the problem is Mr Speaker. We have installed the sewage system. The issue is that people are not connecting. I thank you Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Supplementary.

MR SPEAKER: I said it was the last one Honourable Member.

COMPENSATION CASES REFERRED TO THE COMMISSIONER OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION BY THE LETLHAKANE OFFICE

MR S. LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs if he is aware that there are a lot of workers' compensation cases referred to the Commissioner of Workers' Compensation by the Letlhakane office; if so:-

- (i) how many cases are there, and which year were they referred;
- (ii) how many of the beneficiaries are still alive and have not been assisted; and
- (iii) how many of the beneficiaries are reported as deceased and have still not been assisted.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (BATSHU): Mr Speaker,

- (i) Eleven workers compensation cases were referred to the Commissioner for Workers Compensation for Letlhakane District Labour Office in the past five years. Out of the 11 cases referred to;
 - four were received in 2011, out of which two have been settled and appealed to the High Court by claimants.
 - Two cases were received in 2013. Both cases have been settled and closed.

- Four were received in 2014, out of which three have been settled and closed, while one case was sent for reassessment due to aggravation of the injury.
- Lastly, one case was received in October 2015 and it is being processed.

All the claimants in these cases are still alive and they have been assisted and continue to be assisted as reflected above. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, I want the Minister to explain to this House if they are receiving cases only from Letlhakane? Is the Minister in a position to provide this House on an update on the national figures of the people who have not been assisted through Workers' Compensation?

MR BATSHU: No, I have only provided you with Letlhakane cases only because the Honourable Member noticed that question. If the Honourable Member would like to have an update on the national figures, I would be too happy to do that if he can ask a question that requires me to do that. Thank you.

OCCUPATION OF BOTSWANA HOUSING CORPORATION HOUSES IN GHANZI

MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH): asked the Minister of Lands and Housing whether the Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) houses built in Ghanzi have all been occupied; if not, why.

MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE): Mr Speaker, out of the 206 houses built in Ghanzi between 2012 and 2015, a total of 136 are occupied while 70 are not yet occupied.

Mr Speaker, all the houses not occupied have been offered to various Government and private institutions. The reason for non-occupation of these houses is mainly because the payments have not yet been made to conclude transactions while in some cases, it is due to attendance to defects at the end of defects liability period.

I thank you.

MR ARONE: Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Minister, let me give you an example about the houses which were supposed to be occupied by the Ghanzi Primary Hospital staff. I agree with you that there is an issue of payment, but you are in the same government, why are we having workers suffering when the houses have been long completed, over a payment issue? What deters you from negotiating and agreeing with the Ministry of Health?

MR MAELE: Mr Speaker, I think it is unfortunate that the Honourable Member just heard part of my answer and not all of it. I said these houses are not occupied mainly because the payments have not yet been made to conclude transactions while in some cases; it is due to attendance to defects at the end of defects liability period. If I just give an example, Ministry of Health has been given 48 houses and in these 48 houses, there are those that have defects. That is why I am of the view that he was not even listening to the entire response, he only heard the part where I talked about payments, which is not an issue; the issue is defects. I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR SALAKAE: Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker. My question is what could be the cause of these defects and how long are they going to take to normalise these defects?

MR MAELE: Mr Speaker, I do not want to risk explaining the cause of these defects because I think structural engineers would be better placed to understand what the problem is. What I can confirm is that there are defects. I have been instructed Mr Speaker that everything should be complete by end of this year so that people can be allocated these 70 houses that are not occupied. The defects include cracking but I am not a structural engineer, I can only go as far as saying there are defects.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR ARONE: Supplementary. Honourable Minister, are you in a position to tell this House that out of the 48 houses given to the Ministry of Health, how many are occupied?

MR MAELE: Mr Speaker, I am not because the houses that I still have a pending issue with are 88 in total. 10 for instance, have been allocated North Atlantic Oil Botswana, 48 are for Ministry of Health. 30 are for Ministry of Education. So I am not able to tell the actual number of houses that have been allocated Ministry of Health but have defects and also that have not yet been paid. What I can confirm is that Ministry of Health has been allocated 48 houses. If he wants to get a very clear answer in terms of how many have defects and how many have pending payments, I can be able to do that within a day.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

REGISTRATION OF CHURCHES SINCE THE AMENDMENT OF THE SOCIETIES ACT

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

- (i) how many churches have been registered since the amendment of the Societies Act; and
- (ii) whether the Minister is satisfied with the progress so far.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR BATSHU): Mr Speaker, the date of commencement of the recently amended Societies Act No 9 of 2015 has not yet been set pending completion of the establishment of the Advisory and Arbitration Council as well as the review of the Societies Regulations, which are critical to its commencement.

Delay in the commencement was as a result of an error at Section 14 of the amended Act, which prescribed that membership of the Council be drawn from the Non-Governmental Organisations Council instead of registered societies. To correct this, a draft Societies Amendment Bill was presented before Cabinet and approved on the 11th November 2015. Review of Regulations is in progress and at drafting stage.

In the meantime, my Ministry continued to register churches under the old Societies Act. A total of 55 of such churches have been registered since the amendment.

Mr Speaker, on the issues of whether I am satisfied, the implementation of the Act has not yet started and the object of the amendment not yet achieved. Therefore, the progress of implementation cannot be measured as of now.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

ALLOCATION OF HOUSES TO TEACHERS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT

MR A. S. KESUPILE (KANYE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development if he is aware that primary school teachers in the Southern District are often deliberately overlooked when allocation of houses is made, even when the construction of houses was motivated by the need to house them; if so, to state:-

- (i) the total number of housing units required to house all teachers in the Southern District and the portion required to house those in schools in Kanye South Constituency;
- (ii) the number that will be constructed under the 2015/2016 Backlog Eradication Programme in the District; and
- (iii) steps he will take to ensure that teachers are given a fair treatment in the allocation of houses in the District.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): Thank you Mr Speaker.

- (i) There are 1451 teachers in the Southern District of whom 1129 are housed in teachers' quarters. Thus there is a shortfall of 322 housing units in the district. Kanye South Constituency alone has 16 primary schools and out of the 270 teachers in the constituency only 136 are housed in teachers' quarters whilst the remaining 134 are housed in private housing. Therefore out of the 322 housing shortfall, 40 per cent of these teachers come from Kanye South Constituency.
- (ii) There is no housing construction anticipated to take place in Kanye South Constituency during the 2015/2016 financial year under the Backlog Eradication Programme.
- (iii) As Southern District Council has not received reports of mistreatment or unfair allocation in the allocation of teachers' houses, the allocation will continue using the existing housing allocation committees in the respective schools. These allocation procedures are guided by the District Housing Guidelines and General Orders but I will ensure that the procedures are strictly adhered to.

I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister. Are you not considering within your Ministry to introduce a housing subsidy allowance for teachers without accommodation?

MS TSHIRELETSO: Thank you for the question. Subsidies and other policies are considered by government as a whole not me standing here as the Assistant Minister. So I cannot say in certainty that I will consider the housing subsidy because subsidy is a policy initiated by government. So if a question is particularly addressed to me as an individual, it is going to be very difficult for me to respond to it. Thank you very much.

MR KHAN: Further Supplementary. I would like to ask the Honourable Minister a question on what she just said regarding the subsidy. Does the Cabinet not consider such ideas of subsidies through the Ministers themselves presenting the idea to Cabinet and bringing it forward to Parliament?

MS TSHIRELETSO: As I have already explained to Honourable Kesupile, I cannot even if Cabinet has the same proposal, divulge anything from Cabinet that was not in public.

I cannot say Cabinet will consider or will not consider, I have not personally thought about subsidy. Every honourable member is free to bring a motion here to ask government to subsidize, maybe housing for civil servants or whatever. As I have already alluded to, maybe cabinet has decided or not but I cannot say it because there are relevant people to bring that particular policy for Public Service. Thank you very much.

DISPUTES HANDLED BY LETLHAKANE LABOUR OFFICE

MR S. LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs if he is aware that the Letlhakane office does not handle disputes within the thirty(30) days stipulated time in the Act; if so, why and when will this be rectified.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR BATSHU): From January 2015 to date, Letlhakane District Labour Office registered 454 trade disputes. Sixty-eight (68) cases were brought forward from 2014, what it means is that there were 68 cases pending at the close of last year which had to be brought forward to this year, bringing the total number of cases handled to 522.

All the cases registered were attended to within the 30 days stipulated in the Act.

It is important to indicate to this Honourable House that out of these 522 cases, 223 were settled, 67 were referred to the Industrial Court, 79 were dismissed for none-appearance of the claimants or complainants, 17 were referred to the Botswana Police Services for investigations, 16 were withdrawn and 120 are still in the process as we speak.

The 120 pending cases are still and will be handled within the 30 days stipulated in the Act. I thank you Mr Speaker.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES WHO PURSUED ENGINEERING COURSES FROM BOTSWANA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology if he is aware that graduates from Botswana College of Agriculture who pursued engineering courses are denied registration with the Botswana Institute of Engineers; if so, what is being done to assist such graduates to receive recognition.

MR SPEAKER: Where is the Minister?

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

MR SPEAKER: It looks like the Minister is not here. We will pass that question.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PLANNED FOR LETLHAKANE, MOSU, MOKUBILO, KHWEE, MMATSHUMO AND MMEA VILLAGES

MR S. LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

- (i) to apprise the House on development projects which were planned for Letlhakane, Mosu, Mokubilo, Khwee, Mmatshumo and Mmea villages since November 2004 to date (on both the National Development and the District Development Plans concerned);
- (ii) to state the current status of the projects, if any, per village;
- (iii) to state reasons why the projects were never undertaken/executed;
- (iv) whether the projects are no longer necessary;
- (v) when consultation was made with the community on why projects are suspended, cancelled or deferred and when these meetings were held; and
- (vi) how much Government has spent on projects in Boteti East on the same period and projects done.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO):

Thank your Mr Speaker. Planned projects for the mentioned villages include construction of health facilities, government offices, educational facilities, civil servants facilities, equipping of boreholes, storm water drainages, backlog eradication, purchase of bulls and heifers, roads construction, destitute houses, infectious disease control centres and RADP houses, as captured in the DDP 6/NDP 9; DDP 7/NDP 10, from 2004 to date.

Of the 58 projects planned in the 6 villages, 45 (78 per cent) were completed, 15 in Letlhakane, 6 each in Mokubilo and Mmatshumo, 7 each in Mosu and Khwee and 4 in Mmea. The balance of 13 projects were deferred, 12, twelve in Letlhakane and 1 in Mokubilo.

Mr Speaker, the deferred projects which include construction of Food Relief Services warehouses, primary school ablution blocks, offices, upgrading of health facilities, recreational facilities, roads construction, sewage works, police offices, upgrading of secondary schools and Magistrate Courts could not be implemented during the plan period due to the resources constraints and inadequate capacity on projects implementation.

The deferred projects are still considered necessary and hence will be considered during DDP8/NDP 11, together with other competing priorities and availability of resources. My Ministry through the Central District Development Committee conducted community consultations to provide feedback on the implementation of the plan during the DDP 7 Midterm Review on the 12th and 13th July 2012. For DDP 8 preparations, consultations were held from 22nd -25th September 2015.

The total expenditure of the projects in Boteti East during the plan period is P368, 398, 895.91. I will share the deferred and implementation list of projects with the Honourable Members. I thank you Mr Speaker.

MR ARONE: Honourable Minister, just for appreciation purposes, you mentioned road construction in your answer; I wanted to appreciate if by road construction you were referring to tarring or gravelling?

MS TSHIRELETSO: I do believe that this House is aware that when I talk of roads I am referring to internal roads in major villages, which my department is responsible for. Those are the roads that I referred to but when we talk of construction, we are talking gravelling and tarring, they both fall under construction of roads. Thank you.

CLOSING OF HEALTH POSTS DURING WEEKENDS AT TAMASANE, DILORO, KGAGODI, MOGAPINYANA AND MOGAPI VILLAGES

MR K. MZWINILA (MMADINARE): asked the Minister of Health if she is aware that Tamasane, Diloru and Mogapi Health Posts close during weekends; if so, where are the residents of Tamasane, Diloru, Kgagodi, Mogapinyana and Mogapi villages expected to be attended when the health posts are closed especially as there is no 24 hour clinic covering these major villages.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE): Mr Speaker, I am aware that Tamasane, Diloru, and Mogapi Health Posts are open from 07.30 to 13.00 hours during the weekends. However, currently Tamasane is not operating during the weekends because there is only one nurse in the facility. However, this situation will be normalized on the 8th December 2015 when the second nurse reports back from leave.

Kgagodi and Mogapinyana are served by Maokatumo Clinic which is within 3 kilometres radius. This clinic is open during the week from 07.30 to 16.30 hours and during the weekends between 07.30 and 13.00 hours. Patients that present to these facilities after 13.00 hours are attended to by a nurse-on-call at the facility. Thank You Mr Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. Are we really serious about the health of Batswana? You mentioned that the situation shall normalize in December when the two of them are both on duty, what happens when the two are not well to go to work, what does that mean to the community of Tamasane?

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE): Thank you Mr Speaker. What usually happens when a nurse is on leave, the District Health Management Team (DHMT) has usually paid close attention to the going on and the statistics that emanate from a particular facility. So, it is not like when there is one nurse, it is just fine. The DHMT's are directed to pay close attention to that facility so that if there is any contingency that has to be done, then it is taken appropriately. I thank you Mr Speaker.

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES WHO
PURSUED ENGINEERING COURSES FROM
BOTSWANA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE**

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology if he is aware that graduates from Botswana College of Agriculture who pursued engineering courses are denied registration with the Botswana Institute of Engineers; if so, what is being done to assist such graduates to receive recognition.

Later date

MR SALAKAE: On a point of procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker. I had sought your permission to ask a question for oral answer without notice which permission you granted. I thought the question will appear in today's Order Paper but it is not the case. Can I be made to appreciate why the question is not on the Order Paper today?

MR SPEAKER: You will ask me that question at my office, that is not the procedure. Come to my office I will respond.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 32 OF 2015:
MAINTENANCE OF PRIMARY RESERVES BY
BANKS ORDER, 2015**

(Minister of Finance and Development Planning)

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

(Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources)

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 41 OF
2015: HYPOTHECATION (AUTHORISED
CREDITORS) (AMENDMENT) (NO.2)
REGULATIONS, 2015**

(Minister of Finance and Development Planning)

**WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION ANNUAL
REPORT, 2014/2015**

(Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources)

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, today I have prepared to respond to the question that was once asked by Honourable Mokgware where I promised that I was still researching on it to find out the ruling that was made at that time. The ruling that was made by the Madam Speaker at that time was that the names should not be disclosed in this House.

The second decision was that if there was anybody who was interested in talking about the issue was to do so at the General Assembly. This answer was taken from Hansard No.181, page 12. That is my reference for that response. I believe that I have answered. Then it means you will have to wait for the General Assembly, that is where this issue will be discussed.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: On a point of order. Thank you Honourable Speaker. I do not think it is fair for the Speaker to decide for us, the thing is we were asking about the procedure that was in this House. From there the Vice President started accusing this side of the aisle that we nominated Mr Ntuane. So I think talking about it there we are denying the public the same benefit which the other party had enjoyed, we want that benefit, the VP (Vice President) should just come here and explain why he had to say what he said. I think that is fair to refer this issue where it started, that is in this Parliament. It should end in this Parliament not in the General Assembly. That is all we are requesting from you Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Order! I hear you Honourable Mokgware, but today I was only explaining the decision that was taken. If the ruling was like that, it would not change, that is according to Standing Order 59.1. This is why I am saying if you still want to debate this issue you can do so at the General Assembly and reach an agreement there. It can be corrected if you agree but the ruling is final as per Standing Order 59.1. Therefore we can go there and correct or amend it; however there is nothing that I can change.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: On a point of order. What surprises me is that, that order was not pronounced here. I do not remember that order being pronounced here.

Even if he was saying he has it somewhere, I never heard him say we will discuss it at the General Assembly. He never said that at all.

MR SPEAKER: Order. Honourable Members, the reason I asked you to give me time is that I have the Hansard for Friday 13th November on page 12, Hansard 181. Please when we go for the General Assembly, come with this Hansard, that is the only thing I can do for now.

MR KHAN: Point of order Mr Speaker. Thank you. I hear you and humbly request you to do the same. What I fail to understand is that, I do agree with you that Madam Speaker made a ruling we all abide by as this House that it shall be discussed at the General Assembly. My issue is that subsequent to that, the Leader of the House whom we should respect went to the media. Right now the public thinks that Opposition is mischievous. Those are the words he used. So Mr Speaker how do you expect us to respect this House if our seniors whom we should learn from are being mischievous then you get out of order in trying to rectify the situation which you should be rectifying?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: No, that is no procedural. After the other Member speaks, I answer him, in fact after this I am going to allow for two more Members only. Honourable Khan, that is why I am saying that this issue was answered here and you were advised that if you do not like the ruling it can further be discussed at the General Assembly. That is why I am saying...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Our name is defamed.

MR SPEAKER: Do not do that Honourable Khan.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: It is defamed Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Do not do that Honourable Member.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: No, this is serious.

MR SPEAKER: Order Honourable Member.

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

MR SPEAKER: Order, Honourable Khan, order. Do not do that. So this is as far as I will go on this matter. You are now getting out of order if you now start talking whilst I am standing. I am not going to take any more point of orders. We will discuss it at the General Assembly, so that if you shout at me I can be able to do the same. You are now getting out of order.

DR P. BUTALE: On a point of order Mr Speaker.

Thank you very much Mr Speaker. Let me perhaps remind that you seem to be talking about the contention we had with the decision of disclosing or not disclosing the names. The issue at hand is an issue that happened subsequent to that which is where His Honour the Vice President then got the information of who nominated the other two gentlemen. So I think this matter you are seized with now is not that one that the Speaker made a ruling on. It is an issue that since we agreed that the names will not be disclosed, where did His Honour the Vice President get hold of those names? If you gossip about Parliament we should know so that we see how to tackle the matter.

MR SPEAKER: Order. That is the same thing, I do not know how you want to differentiate it. We are talking about names of people who nominate Honourable Members on the floor. The fact that one disclosed somewhere still falls in the same issue. That is why I am saying we shall discuss it at the General Assembly not in here.

MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE): On a point of order Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, as far as I understand the Standing Order, the ruling of the Speaker is final. The Speaker's ruling is such that we will go and discuss this matter at the General Assembly. I think the issue subsequent to that, that there were issues disclosed outside Parliament does not mean that they can be discussed in Parliament. We will go to the General Assembly, if the General Assembly resolves that we will discuss those issues in Parliament then we will come here. For now I do not think we should turn against the ruling made by Madam Speaker previously and discuss issues which are incongruous. Mr Speaker, I want us to endorse the ruling that we will discuss at General Assembly, that will be the deciding factor.

MR SPEAKER: Order Honourable Members. I have now closed this matter. I have closed it because you are now going to start quarrelling and offending each other. Order, Honourable Members. Honourable Mokgware, order. I am standing to say I am closing this matter; we shall discuss it at the General Assembly. We have business to attend to in front of us. I have given you alternatives as what to do; I do not believe that we should be quarrelling over this matter. I even understood Honourable Khan's statement, which we shall discuss at the General Assembly; where we shall all be and see how to solve these issues. Let there be peace in this House and proceed.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: It will never be.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Division.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let us continue.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Mr Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: I am calling for a division.

MR SPEAKER: I said no more discussions regarding this issue, I have closed it. We will discuss it at the General Assembly. No order, no procedure on it. Closed.

MR ARONE: The Minister of Lands and Housing did not tell the truth, we need to correct him.

MR SPEAKER: No, Honourable Arone. No. Clerk!

MR MANGOLE: Please, point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Do not discuss that issue Honourable Mangole.

MR MANGOLE: Why should I not discuss this issue Mr Speaker? Ah!

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

RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

Motion

(Resumed debate)

MR SPEAKER: When we adjourned on Friday, Honourable Konstantinos Markus was on the floor he had 10 minutes 11 seconds left. Honourable Markus the floor is yours.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: He is not here.

MR SPEAKER: If he is not here, the floor is open.

MR NTLHAILE: On a point of order Mr Speaker. Thank you Mr Speaker. We are concerned and we want to raise our concern right here in Parliament. We are concerned about the way you treat us Mr Speaker, there seem to be a tendency that any issues which you realise that they put your party in a bad light you deny us an opportunity to discuss them in Parliament. You prefer that we go and discuss matters arising in Parliament at the General Assembly- at Zola. Mr Speaker be careful of this matter. You are supposed to be neutral where you are, but you are not doing that Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Order. I have heard you Honourable Ntlhaile. I thought you were going to ask about the State of the Nation Address, I heard you, sit down. Let us proceed.

RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH Motion (Resumed debate)

MR NTLHAILE: You are treating us unfairly Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Ntlhaile sit down.

MR NTLHAILE: You are not treating us well Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Please sit down Honourable Ntlhaile, I am in a very good mood today, I do not want to argue with you. Please sit down Honourable Member.

MR NTLHAILE: No, change that kind of administration Mr Speaker, we did not come here to play, we have come to speak our issues out in Parliament.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile sit down.

MR NTLHAILE: We have come to state our issues in Parliament...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile sit down...

MR NTLHAILE: You have started this habit Mr Speaker, and that is not good.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile, sit down! Today I do not want to argue with you. In fact I am in a very good mood, so please...

MR NTLHAILE: I do not need your good mood; we do not need your good mood.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile sit down. You will soon find yourself in trouble; you will soon be in trouble.

MR NTLHAILE: No, you are not addressing us properly Mr Speaker, what trouble are you talking about?

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile! Honourable Ntlhaile order!

MR NTLHAILE: You are not addressing us properly Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile you cannot do that Honourable Member when I am calling you to order, do not do that Honourable Member, like...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ...(murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Look, Honourable Ntlhaile, Order!

HONOURABLE MEMBERS:...(murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Ntlhaile

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ...(murmurs)...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Member, order! Keep quiet and sit there, and listen. I do not know whom you are arguing with. I do not want to argue with anyone. Let us proceed, Honourable Phenyo Butale the floor is yours.

DR P. BUTALE (GABORONE CENTRAL): Thank you Mr Speaker, Honourable Ntlhaile cease fire, we are aware of the challenges that we face and indeed Batswana know the kind of government that we have to deal with on a daily basis. I was shocked today when I saw a newspaper with a big picture of children transported to a funeral or to funerals of their fellow students who died in a truck accident they were transported in a truck. How arrogant, insensitive can people be. That is why I am saying to my colleague cease fire, it has escalated to an extent where people have no feelings, whatsoever.

Let me start by extending my heartfelt condolences to the families of these children that passed away in a tragic accident that could and should have been avoided. I think that we listened last week to the Honourable Minister in the Presidency telling us that there is some Policy that outlaws or even recommends that children should be transported in buses instead of trucks. Unfortunately he could not direct us to a Policy; we asked whether this is a Presidential Directive, whether this is a Policy...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification!

DR P. BUTALE: I have just started Honourable Minister, so I think we could not even get information on what form is this Policy, but I really feel we need to be much more serious than that. I also wanted to in the same token condemn what I believe cannot go unchallenged and it should be condemned and rejected with the content it deserves, the assaults on our Councilor in the Kweneng District Council by a fellow Councilor, who happens to be from the ruling party. Assaulted simply because of asking a question on what were our children doing in a truck in the first place. I think that as a nation we need to reject that kind of violence.

Before I get to my issues I also wanted to talk about my general commentary on the issues of democracy in this nation, issues of Parliament as we know it. Before I forget Honourable Lotlaamoreng I welcome you to this House, I welcome you knowing very well that in 2010 His Excellency the President welcomed Honourable Molao with applaud and spoke about the need for us to respect the will of the people...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Where were you?

DR P. BUTALE: It is written, you thought once it is said it is lost...(laughter)... You know he said we should respect the will of the people and then conveniently in

2015 there is a new Member of Parliament the President does not seem to see it fit to respect the will of Barolong who brought you here. Unfortunately there is nothing you can do about it. We shall continue to triumph going forward, any other bye-election, we will take it. I also wanted to comment briefly on another process that was occasioned by your triumph Honourable Lotlaamoreng, you know you complicated matters such that we had to bring back a man who previously had shown and written that he does not want to be a Member of this House. He was brought back here and I think we need to speak very strongly against the process that brought him back and what transpired on that day. Honourable Speaker, allow me to say this, that the process that brought Honourable Molale into this Parliament was fraudulent. The laws of this country which is the Constitution under Clause 4 tells us very clearly that elected Members of Parliament are the only ones who can nominate candidates for specially elected MPs. When we asked to be told the names of the people who nominated the other two candidates, the Parliamentary Counsel told us that the law is silent and I want to differ that the law is not silent, it is implicit. How are we going to know that the people who nominated are indeed elected Members of Parliament, when we are not told who they are? I think it defies logic that we can continue on such a reasoning when the law is very very clear that it should be elected MPs. So I think we are sitting with a Member of Parliament, I want to put it very blatantly that I believe that he is here through a process that is illegal.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction Mr Speaker!

DR P. BUTALE: I really want to give you, but I suspect you will not correct anything.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction.

DR P. BUTALE: Okay.

MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE): Mr Speaker, let me correct something since the Parliamentary Counsel (PC) cannot speak for himself, what I know is that the PC was answering a question which said, "is it possible that if someone who was once a Member of Parliament, could be reinstated?" That was the question he was responding to. This one which Honourable Butale is talking about, no we will not be telling the truth, even if we can go and get the Hansard we will see that he was responding to the one which said could someone be reinstated. He even quoted a section which pointed out that someone could be reinstated. Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Well, you see this is the reason why I did not want to waste my time, because honestly we were speaking disclosure of names of those who

nominated. Well I think Honourable Speaker these are the challenges that we are faced with. I challenge you to go and get the Hansard and you will correct yourself on that one. I wanted to first of all talk about my expectation of what is called a State of the Nation Address and I think that State of the Nation Address for me is a very, very important means through which government has to account to Parliament. I believe that if you have the same understanding or expectation of the State of the Nation Address, then you will agree with me that this is not a place for us to then simply announce new expenditure avenues every year, the next year we are announcing another venture to go squander public funds but we never account for the money that we took.

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

DR P. BUTALE: Yes, I think if I were to sum up the State of the Nation Address over the years, would say that it is just an announcement for how much we squandered and we are never told exactly what we got out of it. I think that is a major weakness.

I think the State of the Nation Address as I see it broadly has a major weakness; a major weakness in that it does not clearly articulate what the target is. If we say employment creation for example, what is the target that we want to achieve in terms of employment creation? I think we need to move away from reporting what I would call outputs and talk about outcomes. If you tell me that CEDA financed a certain number of people, it is something that money can buy but the interest of Members of Parliament of this House is value for money. What are we getting out of that quantum of money that we have invested? So instead of the President telling us every day and every year how much is going to be taken from us, for a change, just tell us what you got last year and what you intended to achieve,. Tell us how much you achieved and give us the reasons for the failures if any. Then proceed to give us an account of how you are going to correct the situation so that you can grow revenues. I think that is a simple expectation that I have of the State of the Nation Address because as we speak, I do not know what to say to the people of Gaborone Central; the many young people that I meet every day who are unemployed. The State of the Nation Address paints a very rosy picture of employment creation and of money being thrown around, but the issue is are we reducing unemployment. When you talk about money that is being given by CEDA for example, you are saying that this many applicants were funded, that is an output. The question is, are we getting more entrepreneurial as a society? That is what I want to hear. That is what is lacking in our State of the Nation Address.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Pheny Butale, please wait a moment. Honourable Molao what is the problem?

DR P. BUTALE: Honourable Speaker, I said this last time that the conduct of our Government these days is that of a small intellect becoming even smaller, where you have Government that overlooks better capable people for people like Honourable Molao who do not appreciate even very basic things. I am talking about output and outcome and the Honourable Member says he does not understand me. How low can one get? Honestly, I shall not be responsible for such mediocrity. It is not my problem. We need to be very serious about...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Butale, he has understood you it enough. Please continue with the debate...

DR P. BUTALE: So generally Mr Speaker, I wanted to make this point that I think the major weakness that I see with our reporting; with our State of the Nation Address is this fact that we keep being given outputs. Well, it shows that you are trying to do something but I think what would help is for us to then get outcomes. I think that is one thing that one expected to see when in 2008 the Government introduced the Integrated Result Based Management (IRBM). One thought that we will get more up to date data in terms of Government, in terms of trying to see exactly where we are, what we are performing.

Another thing that I wanted to talk about which I think is a serious problem is that since 2008 one would have thought the introduction of the IRBM would have helped the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to continue being the custodian of our development. This Ministry is called Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. Now we see centralisation in the Office of the President. Now you find the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning being a spectator where they should be leading. That is why the Honourable Minister seems to be clueless on the infamous ESP. I will talk about it later; remind me if I forget because I need to talk about it. This is what I call the blunder to end all blunders. Those of you who remember Margret Thatcher's Poltex would know why I call it blunder to end all blunders because if ESP like Honourable Buti Billy spoke last time is allowed to continue, it will break this economy, it will bring this economy to its knees because it is just a reckless policy.

I think that this deviation from our tradition where the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning are the ones that spearhead development and expenditure of our country, the fact that there has to be a link between our budgetary efforts and human resource systems so that we then have a timely quality information in terms of what are we doing right. How are we doing in terms of reducing poverty for example? I ask because at the moment we have so many programmes that have

been introduced by the Office of the President. They are disconnected, every one of them is being done in isolation of the others, and today you introduce what you call Tirelo Sechaba, next is the Boot Camp, and so on. So there is no integration, we are spending money in isolation and every year we come to Parliament as if to boast to Batswana as to how much we are going to take and squander and come back for more. So I think we need to go back to what we did right which was to ensure that the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning is the custodian. That is why we had a tradition of the Vice President of this country becoming Minister of Finance; it is because we knew that we have to have this linked; the finance, budgeting and implementation. Now you have at the Office of the President, project introduction, implementation and monitoring all housed in the same office. We have the DCEC and everything coming together. So I think we have a recipe for disaster. I think we need to get back as we implement the IRBM that was introduced in 2008, we need to get back to these basics.

MR MMOLOTSI: On a point of clarification. Honourable Butale was talking about the past when Vice Presidents were also made Finance Ministers. What I want him to elucidate to us is whether he thinks even right now the quality of personnel that we have at that level can actually assist in that direction?

DR P. BUTALE (GABORONE CENTRAL): I wish I had better words to describe the current situation. But you know Honourable Kgathi was here last week, and I forgot Honourable Speaker to thank you for the comedy central that we benefited from last week, it was very good, that with all the problems that this country is facing, we still have people who are very happy like Honourable Kgathi, who can even put up such a performance. I really think that under the circumstances of unemployment, spiralling out of control, poverty, I think I really was impressed at his...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Butale, what are you thanking me for?

DR P. BUTALE: I thank you because we did not have money to pay for comedy but fortunately we got free comedy in this House.

MR SPEAKER: I am saying what are you thanking me for?

DR. P. BUTALE: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I thought you would be happy with the commendation because you do not get many from this side of the House. So, I think you know, Honourable Mmolotsi it is that kind of situation that we are faced with.

I wanted to get to the issue closely linked to what I said earlier on; which is accountability. I want to speak on the issue of accountability, and what I think is the major weakness of President Khama and his regime. First of all I need to make it very clear that I think it is an insult to Members of Parliament that are elected and voted by the people, to come here and listen to the President for so many hours, and the President cannot even come to listen to the Leader of Opposition and respond. I think this is one thing that I find unacceptable, and I think going forward I believe that we need to make it very clear to the President that if he thinks it is important for us to be sitting here and endure what I believe is a series of public policy disasters that he announces every year, he needs to come back and get feedback from Members of Parliament, that is how democracy works. He is not even elected directly by the people, so he needs to come to Parliament. I really feel that he needs to be told this Honourable Speaker.

The President in 2010 talked about, if you allow me to quote Honourable Speaker, in Paragraph 3, "Our overarching development goal remains the transformation of Botswana into a high income economy that ensures the well-being of all Batswana." This is what the President set out to do during his term. Look at all his State of the Nation Addresses including the latest, the President does not see it fit to now take the nation into confidence to say these are the lofty ideals that we set for ourselves, this is the target that we set for ourselves, and this is what we achieved towards that.

The President as we know, he just mentions things, throws things at the public, but never comes back to tell us are we close to a high income economy as he promised, because this is what he set for himself. If not, then he needs to humble himself and come and tell us that I have been a total failure, and that is accountability, that is what State of the Nation Address should be about. The P320 billion that the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was talking about, that was spent over the years, we need then to see if it was directed at achieving this, have we achieved this, are we close to achieving. That is the biggest problem, that is why I keep saying this President, all he does, year in and year out is to come to Parliament, announce new endeavours, new expenditure avenues, but there is no accountability.

MR MOSWAANE: Clarification. I wanted to ask Honourable Dr Butale if he is aware that since 2008 up to this date we experienced economic recession which halted numerous intentions of this country.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Sit down.

MR MOSWAANE: No, it is my question Honourable Nkaigwa, I do not know what is wrong with you.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... Laughter...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Order!

DR P. BUTALE: I was quoting a speech, State of the Nation Address of 2010 Honourable Member. So, I think simple arithmetic would show that 2010 would have come after 2008. So, I would go that far in as far as answering you.

I also wanted to quote from the same speech Honourable Speaker as I elucidate on the point of accountability, and borrow from the President's own words, if you allow me.

MR SPEAKER: Which year was that speech made?

DR P. BUTALE: 2010.

MR SPEAKER: Okay, go ahead and quote.

DR P. BUTALE: It is 8th November 2010 Mr Speaker, it is titled "Delivering People Centred Development." In the seventh paragraph titled "The People's Mandate," the President says, "in its delivery, Government continues to be guided by the principles of democracy, development, dignity and discipline. As a democratic state, disciplined by public accountability, we are entrusted to develop our nation in a manner that enhances our collective dignity." The key word there is public accountability. We sit here today after making major investments as a nation, Morupule B comes to mind, but we still have shortage of electricity. We sit here today after being promised that Morupule B's target is to even have more than enough electricity so that we can export, but that is not the situation. We are having power cuts instead.

We are sitting here today after investing heavily in dams in the north and investing in a pipeline from the north to the south, while there is water in the north, there is no water in the south. There is no explanation, there is no accountability, yet the President speaks so well of public accountability. And I wonder what kind of a government is this that keeps announcing that we shall take your money, you Batswana and go and use it, but we shall not come back and tell you how much we achieved with it. I do not know what the President meant when he spoke about public accountability. Today we have areas in our country that have gone for three weeks, still counting, with no water, and I am tempted to say Mr Speaker that I have been vindicated. When I spoke about this issue here, I was told I should not use words such as crisis. It is not a crisis. It is not a crisis because it is being attended to. I was even bundled out of this House, simply...

MR SPEAKER: Do not go into that issue.

DR P. BUTALE: I wanted to say Mr Speaker that you might as well check with your security guards because you might need them when I speak about this issue.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Butale, calm down and present your debate. Stop getting your emotions worked up over the past issues.

DR P. BUTALE: Well, I was simply cautioning Mr Speaker, that you might need the use of the personnel at your disposal because I hear that is what the law gives to you or bequest you. I am speaking about things that I believe any President who has any respect for democracy and public accountability should account for. Three weeks, four weeks, months going without water and nobody says anything about it, and when we say that let us account for the resources that have been poured into this area, we are told statements like "we are not rain makers."

I have searched; I have a very photographic memory. I have searched through my memory to look for a more suitable way to describe this kind of behaviour by a government; it is irresponsible, irresponsible abdication of duty. How do you take public funds, go and spend them and say...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Butale, there is a point of order by Honourable Moswaane.

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order. I think Honourable Butale is misleading this House and he is out of order to say that our government is neglecting. There are reports that are in the government media, everywhere to update Batswana on what is happening currently. That is accounting to Batswana. He cannot just be left to say nothing is being done and irresponsible, referring to the President. I think he must be cautioned about that.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Member, if you rise on a point of order, I am supposed to comment, but I am not supposed to do it on this one because I am not part of your debate. So, you can only stand on point of clarification, corrections and elucidations, so debate excluding me on point of order and point of procedure. I am here to ensure that the Honourable member is not out of order and if he does, it is my responsibility to call him back to order. But I am not part of your debate.

DR P. BUTALE: I think I need to demystify this and you know, Honourable Moswaane seems to think like many does here, that when you speak about the President and the things that he fails to do, then you need to be censored. You will not succeed. I believe in democracy and tenants of democracy, and chief among

those is accountability. I believe that this President is not a ceremonial President; he is an Executive President with godly powers if you like. If he is going to come here and tell us how much he is going to take, we are going to want him to account on what he did with that money, what he achieved with that money. Honourable Moswaane speaks about accountability; I think we need protection from this because we cannot allow this...

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order. Mr Speaker, government departments through Ministries are accounting to Public Accounts Committee (PAC). Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Moswaane, you are abusing that point of order, please desist from that. If you want to interrupt, stand on point of clarification or correction. Do not use point of order for that. Moreover, Honourable Haskins Nkaigwa, stop cheering the Honourable Member on the floor because I can hear that you are pleased with what he is saying, but that does not give you the green light to make noise. Just cheer in your hearts if you like what he is saying.

DR P. BUTALE: Thank you very much. You know, mischief-making has been institutionalised. Now people can simply do some mischief making, knowing very well that is now part of our institutions. I want to stress that point as I leave it, that I have heard before in this House when Honourable Members made comments about the President, and I heard comments to the effect that it might as well be wrong and even illegal to hold a view. I think that is wrong and it will be very bad for our democracy. I happen to hold a view and this view is that this President has failed this nation. That is my view. If it is a sin to say it Honourable Moswaane, on the rebound you seem to think everything said on the negative about the President is wrong, you will have to live with that, because my view is that this President has failed this nation, he fails repeatedly to account for the money that he takes from Batswana.

I wanted to talk about the President...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: The President has not taken money from Batswana.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Moswaane, you do that one more time I am going to send you out of this House. Do that one more time.

DR P. BUTALE: That is what we are used to. I wanted to quickly run through the issue of the need for us to address the challenges that our people...

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

MR MAKGALEMELE: On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Member, you keep mentioning that the President does not account. My understanding is that we do have for example, the Auditor General who basically audits and we also have Public Accounts Committee of Parliament. Therefore, the Public Accounts Committee is in a position to scrutinise government spending. I think that is one of the safety nets that we have in place.

DR P. BUTALE: I think sometimes it is always best to sit down and look honourable.

I wanted to talk about the poverty that I see in my constituency. I know that we have been given statistics here that we have these thousands of people that have been assisted but we do not see it. Right now Honourable Members of Parliament for Gaborone Constituencies will tell you, we have heard last year in October, social workers were made to run around and assess countless people to apply for this poverty eradication. To date, nothing has been done. The last time I heard, my Councillors were telling me it has been shortlisted to 4, 000 but only 200 are going to be assisted. These people have been waiting, some of them waiting since 2012 and 2010 but we still have Honourable Kgathi in a jovial mood and telling us that we have some reason to dance. In my constituency I do not see any of those.

You know, be true to this government, you make pronouncements; you self-congratulate yourselves instead of self-critique. You tell us that there is this new thing, disability thing, and every day I meet very helpless people who come to my constituency, they are living with disabilities and they have been turned down because they are told this is for people literally cannot do anything for themselves. How do you come to that conclusion when a mother tells you that I cannot work because I have to look after this mentally disabled child, who cannot even bath themselves and feed themselves, but apparently, the government policy it that, it is only for those who cannot do anything for themselves. How is this going to help our people? This is the problem we have because Mr Speaker sometimes I feel ... (interruption)...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction Mr Speaker.

DR P. BUTALE: Well, I wish I could but my time has been wasted too many times. I think we need to proceed, you need to go and find out that particular policy whether this is the right explanation or not. Our people are turned back, and I am telling with authority that I have numerous people in my constituency office, who are now told, 'go back, because we are waiting for the hopeless situation.' Because your policies are all over the place, there is no

interrelatedness and interconnectedness. These people then fall through the gaps yet you think you are doing very well as a government.

I also wanted to speak about the issues around youth empowerment. I come from a constituency with a lot of young people, who say to me 'please go and tell these people that we may be poor materially but we are not poor mentally. We have ideas. Stop telling us to go and get goats. We have ideas that we want people to assist us realise.'

I spoke last time Honourable Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture about Amartya Sen. Amartya Sen is an author who writes about development. He says development has to be about capacitation. Capacitate our people to achieve their dreams.

Last time I spoke here and I told you about a case I had in my constituency where a poor person was forced to take a tuck-shop. And he said, 'I did not want a tuck-shop' and out of desperation, he got it and sold it. They wanted to incarcerate him, I said, you see you are part of the problem. This person may have done wrong but he never wanted this thing. So we need to change our limited understanding of development so that we can accommodate our young people. Our young people have a lot of ideas around issues of creative industries. What are we doing Honourable Minister about that?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction.

DR P. BUTALE: You will correct when you get to speak. The reason why I do not even want to give you that correction is that when you correct you would say things that are not in line with what I am saying.

This is the problem of your government, you say one thing, and you abandon it you go to another thing. Right now I just remembered the President spoke last time about six hubs that were going to be the ones that drive employment creation. Where are the hubs Honourable Molale? How many jobs have they created?

I think it would be very helpful...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Butale, please address me and stop addressing them.

DR P. BUTALE: Yes. I was just giving an example of the six hubs issue that we were once told about as one of the many that the President throws at us as a way of getting some finance. Where are the hubs now? How are they related to the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP)? It is something that I think we need to look at and help this current government.

I wanted to talk about very briefly as I draw to a conclusion, the absolute silence by the President on the

National Vision 2016. I think it is amazing that a nation can direct so many resources to a Vision and the leader of that nation, when you are left with only months to get in the 2016, he says nothing. He sees it not fit for him to take us in to confidence as to what have we achieved in terms of the milestones. When I thought about this lack of appraisal on what we have achieved, I thought about... but he did not even say anything about Agenda 2063. Then I counselled myself, if he cannot about vision 2016, how can he talk about Agenda 2063 which is an African Agenda because clearly there is no vision.

Agenda 2063 which is an African Agenda would assist us as a country to realise what are the opportunities on the African economy. What can we do? What can we export? When we talk about ESP for example, I said I would return to it, the blunder to end all blunders. When we talk about the ESP, one would have thought that we will think about the skills that are in short supply in this region and then look at these skills and say we are going to be the next suppliers of this particular skill, by this year we need to have these many children with these skills, looking at the Agenda 2063. Where do we feature?

Like the former President said, we have an inward looking regime that thinks that we can keep throwing money at the problems and expect a better result. I think that is a very serious problem that I see.

I wanted to also talk very quickly about what I believe is very fundamental and it would be very wrong for me to have not talked about it; which is the freedoms that we should be enjoying in this country as a democracy. I want as the Leader of Opposition and others have done, to thank and congratulate the independent press for their role in this democracy. They are doing very well and I know they are paying a price for being so brave. I know you in government that you are doing the advertising ban. You think we do not know. That is very wrong. It is even criminal in a democracy to think that you can even just stifle debate, tell people what do write and not what to write.

I also wonder what I am saying because when we were speaking about the death of Matsha students, the same government wanted to prescribe to us how to mourn.

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

DR P. BUTALE: Because when you mourn in this way you are less patriotic, when you mourn this way you are more patriotic. The next thing the following day on Monday you see a paper with children going to the same funerals transported in a truck, when you said there is a policy which says that has been outlawed.

I think we need to also speak very strongly against the illegal deportation of people who have short residence in this country. This government has gone to the... you know, I do not know how to describe it.

I have read about numerous cases of court orders that have been issued that say, do not deport these people like the Ugandans Honourable Batshu. The government just goes ahead and deports. If the government itself does not respect the rule of law, what do we expect of the general citizens? I mean if we have courts and the Court Order says, do not deport certain people and you go ahead and deport them, that is a serious sign of a banana republic. We need to speak very strongly against it.

We cannot allow this because I meet a lot of business people who have invested in this Republic, who are so unsure of their next day. They do not know whether their investments are safe because tomorrow they might be told to go out at the insistence of the Minister or the President. I think that is very wrong. I think the fact that the President speaks about the rule of law, speaks about the judiciary and does not speak about the judicial crisis; I think that is serious abdication of duty. He needs to speak about these things to show that he really believes and adheres to tenets of democracy. I think we have a serious problem in this country.

As I conclude and speak about the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP), I want to echo the words of my colleagues that the ESP is a blunder to end all blunders. I am grateful that Honourable Matambo explained it. I am sure that the excitement and the hullabaloo that then preceded his explanation would now end. This is because we were told now that the ESP is going to be a panacea and is going to even finance the formation of Sub-Districts. That was now getting out of hand.

I think Honourable Speaker; I will end here and say we need more accountability from this government. We need more targets from this government. We need a reporting that speaks about outcomes not output because we can then talk about productivity services...

MR SPEAKER: Your time is up Honourable Member.

MR KHAN (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): Thank you for giving me this opportunity Mr Speaker to respond to the State of the Nation Address today. I would like to start by showing concern on the State of the Nation Address given by His Excellency Dr Khama. I want to also announce to this House and to this nation through Parliament that I do respect His Excellency as a President of the Republic. I may have reservations which I shall present to Parliament today in my talk.

I want to also ascertain to this House that I am not an enemy of the Republic. I am a democratic person at heart. I believe in the principles of social democracy and when I speak, I speak genuinely from the bottom of my heart to not get any type of fame or get any type of popularity from what I say, but to bring about a harmonisation of thought towards a common purpose of wanting to develop our nation into a first class country in terms of provision to the people of this country from the wealth of this country.

The way we do it, the methods we come about may differ from what the other side of the aisle may think is in the best interest of the people. From this side, I would assure you that we have discussed many times before. We have had workshops and seminars many times to discuss the problems of this country and to see how best, what approach can be used to try and improve the living standards of our people.

As a true politician, a genuine politician and I am not undermining anybody else's integrity in terms of the political standing or the ability, but in my own personal capacity, I sincerely do believe that this country can definitely be the best country in many aspects if we do things right. I do believe that His Excellency, my brother, should have been here. So what I would do is imagine that he is sitting in that chair over there Mr Speaker and address my talk to him. I believe he should have been listening to our input on what he feels he presented as the State of the Nation Address. I do also believe that he himself did not write the Speech of the State of the Nation Address. I do believe that it was written for him and that he just pronounced it to Parliament. I may be proven wrong, but it would be for him His Excellency, who I love so much to tell me if he wrote that Speech himself. I do not believe that he can come into a debate with either me or any one regarding the State of the Nation Address because he did not prepare it. Therefore, I am saddened by the fact that he is not here when we are talking about some serious issues on reforms of bringing about change to this country.

Why am I saying this? Let me give a bit of background as to why I said what I just said. Since 2008, the education results have been declining and nobody in this House from both sides of the aisle can deny the fact that the education results have been pathetic, pathetic, pathetic in the past six years. If you look at the pattern, Standard 7, Form 3 Junior Certificate results and the Form 5 Botswana General Certificate in Secondary Education (BGCSE) results for the past six years have shown that there is a constant decline. I have done some research on that. I believe Honourable Makgato that you would agree with me that the education results have been

declining over the past six years since His Excellency Dr Khama took over in 2008.

You would also agree with me that unemployment has increased and not declined since His Excellency has taken over. A lot that have been said from all the negatives that we see in our country; plot allocations and hundreds of thousands in backlog, we find the economy has declined, terribly so over the past number of years whilst we see and we are told in this House the excuses that we were in recession. We had global recession and therefore it has adversely affected our country and therefore that is the reasoning behind our economic decline. However, when we benchmark with countries around us and the manner in which they handle their economy and we also listen, give ear to top business people in our country, you will find that countries such as Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia have improved. We even had a stage where during the recession period, Rwanda was a very good example of a growing, strong economy and I do not know why Botswana with all its wealth and with a minor population of two million comparatively with other countries around us in Africa, could not handle such a minute problem that could not have affected us that drastic.

I believe that the management failed us, failed this country, failed Botswana and should own up and say yes, we did fail you and we need to correct things. Do you know why I mention that since His Excellency Dr Khama came into power has failed this country or brought us into such a serious situation, it is because you cannot ask a mechanic to go and become a doctor at the hospital. You cannot say to a mechanic, 'you fix cars, we know but it does not matter, just go to the hospital and be a doctor and attend to patients there'. This is what we did; this is what the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) has done to this country without any feelings at all, any emotions whatsoever. The BDP has failed us by putting Ian Khama Seretse Khama as a President of this country because he is not a politician and then you give him highest office, he said it himself. There is a Setswana saying that, '*kgomo e tshwarwa ka kgole, motho o tshwarwa ka lefoko*'.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: *Ka lenaka.*

MR KHAN: *Ka lenaka kana kgole, others say kgole, others say lenaka so in Bobirwa they say lenaka.* My point Mr Speaker and to His Excellency my imaginary Excellency who is sitting there listening to me, who should have been here Honourable Makgato, he should be listening to this, he himself said, 'I am not a politician', why did we then as Botswana allow him to be the President, sit in the highest political office of this country? Take a mechanic, put him in a hospital and

make him a doctor, it is stupidity at its best, I am sorry to say so. I have no hard feelings about what you have done because when you look at what Botswana Democratic Party stands for, just to give you a little bit of further background as to why I speak the way I do because some of you might want to know that, let me bring it up and make it clear to you. When the BDP, which forms the Government today says, 'Tsholetsa Domkrag', they talk about *Dom*, meaning stupid in Afrikaans, translated *seeleele* in Setswana and *krag* meaning power in English and *maatla* in Setswana, so what are you saying? If you translate *Tsholetsa Domkrag* properly in Setswana you are saying '*Tsholetsa seeleele se se maatla*', meaning 'lift up stupid power.'

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

MR KHAN: All you are saying is, lift up stupid power, what are you really saying, and this is what you show to us, you put a person into position of political power who says I am not a politician and you put him in the highest office, come on, you had so many people, Honourable Batshu is there...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Procedure. Mr Speaker. Can you kindly call this House to order because if the Honourable Member is debating State of the Nation, he is actually sowing words of hate because if we can stand now and say some words, this House will be out of order. He is sowing of words of hate which will in turn make us hate him whereas we love him. Do you want us to start hating you because you talk to us in an offensive manner? That is our humble request.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Goya, I hear you. The House is in order; I am listening to Honourable Khan. I told you that I am not getting involved in your debate but I will in a case where one insults others. I am not sure as to whether you disagree with how he defined Domkrag or you do not agree with his explanation. I want you to be specific, do not say you hate him, tell him what Domkrag means, make him understand perhaps he does not know. If you cannot correct him, I cannot call him to order. Honourable Khan, debate on the State of the Nation and leave Domkrag alone, stop harassing it.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Honourable Goya. What hurts is that you were not protecting me recently when I was being brutally attacked, you just kept quiet. So now it seems like I am following in his footsteps as I learned from him, he has been in the House for a long time whilst I am still new, I am using the same words he used on me. I learn from you Honourable Members, I respect you so much and treat you with you great respect.

Mr Speaker, to explain the background or the backdrop of my feelings, of my presentation today regarding the State of the Nation Address, we need to understand that, let me get out of that one because it hurts people, let me go to the other one which is the flag also, even the flag of our ruling party has so many factors that sometimes it becomes a little bit difficult to understand.

We know that the BDP was formed by five white men in the Tuli Block Democratic Party, it started off as such, we know the history of BDP.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Really?

MR KHAN: Go and read the history of the Botswana Democratic Party.

What I am saying is that I know for a fact that five white men started this particular Tuli Block Democratic Party and then changed subsequently to Bechuanaland Democratic Party and then became Botswana Democratic Party. I have read about it, that is why I am where I am. Mr Speaker, the point I am making is that, even the flag, I asked some BDP members also to change it so that we as Batswana are proud of ourselves in order for us to be proud of ourselves, as Batswana. At one stage we were even called 'lazy' by the second President of this country, former His Excellency Sir Ketumile Masire, our father who actually said 'Batswana are lazy' regarding the Chinese issue and when he said that my question was, 'is he not Motswana as well, why would he say Batswana are lazy, he is also lazy, this is what I told Batswana then and I am saying it now to you, Batswana must not look down upon themselves and that is why I am requesting in this House that the BDP goes and views its...

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a point of order. Thank Honourable Speaker, thank you Honourable colleague. I think this House is out of order. We never mention people who are not in this House to defend themselves. Honourable Member is saying Sir Masire made a statement that Batswana are lazy, we do not know in which context he was saying that statement and the reason behind it, he is not even quoting. Sir Masire is not here to defend himself so that is not the procedure of this House. He should withdraw those words or produce some evidence that indeed Sir Masire is lazy and he said Batswana are lazy.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Khan, what were you quoting those words from?

MR KHAN: Let me explain it clearly, when there was the issue of the Chinese contractor, Honourable Makgato if you can listen, you can appreciate what I was trying to say, with due respect to Sir Masire, I called him our

father and I do respect him. He knows it, we meet a lot. But the point I am making is that he mentioned this during the time when we had an issue with Chinese contractors. The Chinese contractors seem to be given most of the contracts and Batswana were up in arms as to why we are not given contracts. He was relating to the fact that the Chinese are quite active and they finish their projects quickly, unlike Batswana contractors. So in response to that, that is when he mentioned that Batswana are lazy.

Let me continue with my statement Mr Speaker.

MS MAKGATO: On a point of order Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Khan to avoid a lot of orders, do this; the reason why I was asking what your source is, I want you to give Members a guide as to where they could find this to confirm whether what you are saying is true. If you continue they are going to ask whether what you are saying is true. If you cannot remember your source, withdraw that statement and continue, but if you can remember tell them.

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker let me do this, I heard it on radio, but for the sake of progress, let me withdraw that statement so that I can continue with the State of the Nation. His Excellency...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Khan please wait a moment, Honourable Goya please go back to your seat. You are distracting me and I do not hear the Honourable Member debating. Please just go back to your seat and go and keep quiet alone there. Continue Honourable Khan.

MR KHAN: His Excellency Dr Khama the State of the Nation Address that you have given to us is lacking greatly, because you have not actually given us the State of the Nation you have just given us an animal, like I would quote "Dr Ndaba", I will call him Dr Ndaba because doctorates now just fly around, Honourable Ndaba who mentioned to this house that, 'we do not know what type of animal the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) is'. It is a fact because when the Honourable Minister explained to us about what ESP was all about, it did not seem that there was anything different from the norm and the norm is for government to provide...

MR SPEAKER: Order. Honourable Khan, just a minute, sorry for disturbance. Honourable Butale, even if you were asking me to call the police, you cannot show me your back. Please go back to your seat. Honourable Khan, please continue, sorry for that.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. The animal that is ESP is just another name given to something called

hope. All we are getting is that the monies are going to be utilised in the normal fashion when we have our normal annual budgets for development and other expenditures to try and develop the people of this country. So there is no real difference between ESP and the normal processes that we have.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of clarification Mr Speaker.

MR KHAN: Honourable Kgathi, you will forgive me, let me just continue I have been disturbed too much and I have been taken out of my talk.

Honourable Members we must realise that, you know just to give you an idea, a certain Mr Tshabalala asked me a question and he said to me, "What do you think about the ESP or about the State of the Nation Address?" So I gave him a little background of what I thought. Then he asked me this question, "What do you think you are going to do about the reality of things?" So I said to him if only the BDP government realised or that reality existed, then something can be done. If only...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Khan, stop right there. At this particular juncture I will now evoke Standing Order 26.2 and stop the debates for 20 minutes. All of us should be here at 16:20 p.m., no one should go.

**PROCEEDINGS SUSPENDED FOR
APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES**

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members. Honourable Moipisi can you not hear me, and that is because of Honourable Goya. Honourable Khan, continue with your debate. You are left with 25 minutes 49 seconds.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. It is too little a time that has been given to us MPs to actually fully explain our position regarding the State of the Nation. I want to talk to His Excellency. I am a bit worried because Honourable Makgato brought up the point of order that we should not speak about someone who is not here. Now we are talking about His Excellency all the time, because we are responding to his address and then it seems like we are all out of order. Anyway since you allow that part to be overlooked Mr Speaker we will just continue because that is the BDP way of doing things.

In any case Mr Speaker, on a very serious note, we as Opposition for very many years have been speaking about these monies, the foreign reserves or trying to bring in monies to assist us, even those years back then, to say that we need money even though at that time we did not have the type of economic recession that we went through globally which should not have affected us that

much. We were speaking about bringing in monies from the reserves as one way of trying to resolve some of the issues. The point is not whether or not you are injecting the money into the economy; it is how we are doing it. It is not how much you put in out there; it is how we utilise it to the best of the circumstances so that we benefit fully from the funds that are utilised. Looking at it on the face of things I would say that we are trying to fill a leaking bucket. We have a leaking bucket and we need to first patch the bucket. We have got to block the holes; we have to fix our systems.

We have some very good people in this country. We have good people in this country that can do better for this country. I do not have a problem saying so and so, but I am not going to mention names, there are some individuals, even from the other side of the aisle that I can point and say this person seems to be hands on, this person seems glued up, wanting to bring change for this country, this person loves their country, this person is committed to the country. You know what I do not like is cosmetic approach. We have what we call a cosmetic approach. We have to be genuine with ourselves in order to do best for our country. If we are unable to perform a duty, if we are unable to deliver and we know our capacity is weak we should step down and allow someone else to do better than what we can. If we find ourselves not being able to come up to the standard it is no shame to stand down, in fact we would salute people like that, who stand down and say we are unable to carry out that particular task in that particular position. What apparently happens in this country is everybody seems to be power hungry, running for the positions and unable to deliver, especially with the BDP Government.

MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI): On a point of clarification Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member. I have been outside; maybe you have already talked about this issue that was relayed to me. Earlier on I received a call regarding the Molepolole police station and the heavy traffic. I told them that their Honourable Member will probably be debating this afternoon and he might talk about such issues...

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

MR KGATHI: I wanted to request the Honourable Member to speed it up so that I can be able to respond.

MR KHAN: Thank you Honourable Shaw Kgathi. You are known as a clown. I take it that the said individual already knows that you were not being serious because I have held Kgotla meetings in my constituency and I informed them that I have requested for a police station from the Minister.

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

MR KHAN: I know that he is like that. Mr Speaker you can see for yourself what I mean. What I am trying to say is he just vindicated me; right now he has vindicated my position that some of us are not genuine about the problems that are bedeviling our country. We take things very simplistically when we have such high responsibility and Batswana are looking at us and saying, when are we going to have our dream, when are we going to be somebody in our country. Look at our country, when the President announces in this House and he says that in the 2013/2014 budget period, we raked in an amount of P1, 5 billion in the alcohol levy, it tells us as Batswana and as legislators that Batswana are drinking too much in our country and we need to do something about it. The alcohol levy system which His Excellency had introduced in order to reduce the consumption of alcohol has failed. That project of increasing the alcohol levy is a failure and we should admit that it is a failure. You know why, because just recently in His Excellency's latest statement, he said to us in the State of the Nation Address that the alcohol levy has gone up to P1, 8 billion. Now look at the figures, do the math; that is the tax of alcohol that is being sold in bars, Liquoramas, bottle stores and liquor restaurants only. What about the alcohol that is being sold in the homes, how much alcohol consumption is there? I am sure if there is an index on how much alcohol is consumed by Batswana, you would find that it is a serious issue. Talk about it, about your people and what is happening to them. So Honourable Kgathi should be more serious instead of joking and jumping around entertaining us. He should focus on core issues. Yes, Molepolole does not have a police station and yes, I have asked the Minister to give us the police station. I had asked and we want it. Honourable Vincent Seretse is also mentioning to this Honourable House that we want a police station. The problem is we are what, the third largest populated village...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Number one.

MR KHAN: Populated area rather, number one in terms of villages and number three in the populated areas. We have Gaborone, Francistown then we have Molepolole, number one populated village there but the least developed comparatively. As I know it Honourable Shaw Kgathi, even His Excellency knows that we have this problem and he should be focusing on the developments in Molepolole. We do not have a sewerage system and we do not have a police station, which you are refusing to give me because I come from the opposition. You are refusing to give me a police station in Molepolole because you even mentioned to me outside, I can tell this House honorably and honestly,

not like you, I will tell them that you actually refused saying, 'no, if we are to build you a police station, you are going to take credit for it, we are not going to build you one.

My issue is that this Honourable House must realize that we are in serious problems and we have to discuss them as men and women of integrity. We have to focus Honourable Shaw Kgathi on the real problems of this country, reality. We have to wake up and face this reality. The challenges we are facing; on the one hand, we have a Government that is saying that they are going to inject money through Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) and is unable to correct itself to fix the loopholes, the corruption that goes on.

Many of us are asking the questions, how much of that money is going to go into the pockets of certain individuals from this very House? How much of that money is going to go to the BDP coffers through commissions. These are questions that are being asked. We are nervous about P15 billion being injected under the ESP Mr Speaker, and then most of it probably ends up wasted in either individual's pockets or the BDP...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction!

MR KHAN: There are no corrections to be made. I am clear on this, I am not saying it is so, I am saying these are questions being asked by Batswana out there and we need to understand that it is the fear of knowledge...

HONORUABLE MEMBER: ...(Murmurs)...

MR KHAN: Is the fear of knowledge...

HONORUABLE MEMBER: ...(Murmurs)...

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker, they are disturbing me ...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! I cannot hear what he is saying, Honourable Makgato I cannot hear him!

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker my issue is that at the end of the day we need...

MR KGATHI: Procedure. Mr Speaker, Honourable Khan wants us to believe that people call him on a daily basis to discuss issues affecting Molepolole but he does not want to believe us when we tell him that people enquire about the bad traffic in Molepolole. I ask that you call this House to order and advise on how we have to debate.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Kgathi, that is not a point of procedure.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. You know Mr Speaker, this is the problem when people call on

procedure and there is no procedure that has been violated because we are not serious...

MR LELATISITSWE: Procedure. Mr Speaker, I have been listening to Honourable Khan intently and I heard him mention that P15 billion has been budgeted for ESP, I wonder which Parliament passed that budget.

MR SPEAKER: That was not violation of procedure but rather it was a correction or clarification.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. I will ignore those who do not want to understand what I am saying. Mr Speaker, the thoughts that I bring to this House are not my own, they are formulated and formulated by extensive consultation with various sectors that make up the community in Molepolole. We talk on national problems such as the water for instance and what I have learnt is that we have not said much about resolving the water crisis. For instance, it was sad for me to go to a Kgotla meeting in Molepolole and see Metsimothabe river flowing. The problem that I saw before me was the water flowing and when I looked at that water flowing in Metsimothabe River, I said 'Limpopo River' because that is where that water was going. The Bokaa Dam is just a very small pond and I asked myself as to why this BDP Government failed to make a bigger dam at Bokaa because the biggest river we have in the south of this country is Metsimothabe. Millions of cubic of litres just pass through that river and if you google...

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

MR KHAN: I do not sit there counting the liters that pass. I wish I could. If you google earth through internet Mr Speaker, try and see the border between Botswana and Limpopo River, you will find that on the South African side it is very green and on this side it is dull. What I have learnt just recently is that we do not even have water rights to use the water from that river that is flowing by.

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

MR KHAN: I am informed by farmers from that area that they are not given rights to use water from that river, we should correct those types of things. If it is not true, then we should tell those people to use the water from that river so that we can at least have irrigation farming so that we can have green site to our side as well and produce our own vegetables.

The water from Metsimothabe is feeding us through South Africa. The cabbages are planted there, and the orange trees are planted there, and we buy back and the water is just flowing to us. We should have had a huge dam at Bokaa had we then when it was built Mr Speaker,

had a vision for the future knowing that Gaborone is expanding quite fast. We should have extended the Bokaa Dam because at that time there were only farms in that area, there were not much development as such. And we could have compensated and made a huge dam, and today we would not be crying like we are crying because what we have heard is that 'we do not have powers to make it rain', that is true, God gives us. But God gives us the water, and then we let it go and then we complain again. Then we say let us pray again for more rain. Even in winter we want to pray for rain because we failed ourselves. Batswana, I am pleading with you my seniors, in terms of power, you are senior to us and you are ruling this country; BDP government. I am begging you as a Motswana citizen to wake up to the realities and fix the problems. We cannot continue the way we are and have people making continuous jokes here in this House. We came here and it seems like I am wasting my time Mr Speaker because we try and advise on what we can do better to try and improve our system so that we can have better quality of life.

Let me quickly turn to Molepolole; my village which is falling apart because of the poor planning by the BDP government and the BDP representation in Parliament before me. Mr Speaker, I am now turning to my seniors, my Ministers and begging for help. I am crying for my people at Molepolole, they are suffering. I keep telling them that I plead to the Ministers for assistance. I wish I could literally do so but I do not, I have asked even my Vice President to help me in this effort to develop Molepolole because politically we have to understand the population is what demands development, and we have buildings, police stations. Shaw Kgathi should be shameful of himself, by now he should have given us a police station a time long ago. We have buildings from the colonial era so to speak; very old buildings as police stations, pathetic state of affairs. We do not have proper policing; we do not have police vehicles. Every now and then when we call for police assistance from the police office, we will find that they do not have vehicles, there are no resources. And when we talk to the Minister outside, the Ministers take it very lightly; they do not assist us in wanting to develop because we come from the opposition party, which is not proper. I think we should be assisted because we are helping the nation, and we will give that honour to the Ministers to come and commission those particular developments, and speak and say to them that the BDP government has brought you this, but bring those things to us, we need them at Molepolole, we are suffering.

We have a problem with the education sector; Honourable Goya is here; the Assistant Minister of Education, he will listen. Kgari Sechele was number 28 out of 32

senior secondary schools in the country in 2013. We had Members of Parliament from the BDP who did not even go there and find out from the management of the Senior Secondary School as to what was the problem, why did we come out number 28. An old school of that nature has been there, established for so long; why did we come out number 28. They did not do consultation.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR KHAN: No clarification Honourable Kgathi, we will do it outside.

The point I am making here Mr Speaker is that the Kgari Sechele Senior Secondary School in 2014 subsequently also came out number 28 out of 32 senior secondary schools. My children in Molepolole do not have a future because the government will not be able to sponsor them to continue in tertiary education except under the new one which has come to do technical courses. The dreams that they had are smashed, literally smashed and no one seem to care about it.

Kgari Sechele Senior Secondary School is even named after our chief, and we have such a situation where former BDP MPs, two strong members who did nothing about it to fix the problem.

Today we talk about the health sector; we talk about the Scottish Livingstone Hospital. We ask the Minister for assistance and the Minister stood up and she did rightfully so, she stood up and sent money. She says here is the money to buy the blankets and the sheets, not giving it to me, giving it to the hospital so that they buy. To-date, this is almost one year gone, there are no sheets; there is no blanket in Scottish Livingstone Hospital. The mattress are already tattered, they are torn, they are finished, there is hardly any pyjamas for our patients in there, and we have such a beautiful building, Kgosi Tawana you should see the hospital; it is a marvel to look at but hopeless inside. This is because there is a problem ...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR KHAN: I will sort the clarification with you afterwards.

Here is my point, listen to me carefully Honourable Ministers; your problem is management.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): On a point of procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker. I just wanted us to make sure that we guard against going against the procedures of this House. The Honourable Member holding the floor has done it about twice; when other Members are asking for clarification he is saying

we will sort it outside. I do not think this is the procedure of this House. If you yield you yield, if you do not, you do not sort anything outside. I thank you.

LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MASISI): Further procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker, let me add a word to supplement that. I think it would be in keeping with our procedure while not deviating from the tenor of the debate by the Honourable Member.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Mr Speaker.

MR MASISI: You are totally out of order. It will be advisable for Honourable Members to maintain our procedure of at least allowing the relevant Minister. If something is said concerning a ministry headed by a particular Minister, if that Minister seeks clarification, please as is being procedural, we have been encouraging that people yield for those. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I always remind you that if someone seeks clarification and you do not want to yield, continue with your debate and do not respond to him or her. Anything taken outside will have no relevance to what was debated here. Again, I have been encouraging you to yield for clarifications and elucidations during debates so that your debates may not bore you and you may all participate.

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker, what I was trying to bring, if the ...

MR MMOLOTSI: On a point of order. Mr Speaker, I was saying maybe you could explain the situation which took place there. Honourable Tsogwane rose on a point of procedure, and Honourable Masisi also did the same; I do not know whether it was order of procedure. So, I just wanted to find out whether that thing was right or we were supposed to allow Honourable Khan to stand up and then allow Honourable Masisi's order because I have never seen them moving in succession the way it happened now. I do not know whether it was order or procedure. So I just wanted to find out whether that thing was right or we were supposed to allow Honourable Khan to stand up and then allow Honourable Masisi's order, because I have never seen them moving in succession the way it happened now.

MR SPEAKER: No, there is nothing wrong with that; procedure and further procedure is basically to emphasise the same thing, it is okay.

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker, if the Ministers would have allowed me to continue, I would have come to this part which I am going to say now. Where there have problems is the management, they have to fix and plug

the management, because even if we bring the ESP, if your management is not proper under your Ministry, it is not going to help this country. We are going to have continuous problems in delivery and implementation. I am begging you Honourable Ministers that I am not blaming you and I am not pointing blame at any individual. I am blaming the manner in which you operate; you do not know where your problems are. Fix those problems, let us patch the holes, plug the holes in order for us to fill the bucket. Otherwise we are going to fail as we have done in the past and Batswana are languishing in poverty. More and more Batswana, the number of Batswana in poverty is increasing in our country. Why? We are failing them; the delivery system is not working and the management system is failing us. You may desire to bring about the reforms and the changes that are much needed by our country, but if the Ministers do not fix the root cause of these problems, your management, we will be in a position of failure.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR KHAN: I am not yielding. The point I am trying to make Honourable Members is that with a mutual effort, we can all bring the reforms that we need for this country. Let us listen to each other; the Mother of the House has said that before. The Honourable Vice President has also reiterated on the same, the President said it in his State of the Nation Address. But it cannot work because there is a political element in it. We are divided by politics so harshly in this country that we just see each other as enemies. Why are we doing that? Why should we have that? What we should do, we should...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Tell them.

DR P. BUTALE: Elucidation. You are on the right Honourable Member, it takes us back to the issue aforementioned the other day when we were viewed as undisciplined just because we were asking about the students who perished in a car accident. Those issues centres around what you are talking about right now.

MR KHAN: Honourable Speaker, we have very few seconds left, but ... (interruption)... of my whole talk is based on two facts;

- (i) We have a problem with the fact that we gave a non-politician the highest position to be a President. That was a mistake that we made as Batswana and we should accept it however, since it is there, what we should do now is wake up truly to the realities of the situation because our neighbouring countries are giving us a serious competition. In terms of education results Honourable Vice President, we have failed our children in the past seven to eight years already by declining results.

I have mentioned that before, you were not in the House, we have to attend to that seriously because it is a crisis.

- (ii) The water situation, I think we should revisit the issue of the Congo plan of bringing water from the Congo, the four countries together; Angola, Namibia, Botswana and South Africa, because Congo has a lot of water and continuous supply. We cannot rely on rainfall and you must remember, even borehole water requires recharging. So if we do not have the rainfall, we are going to have the problem of water continuously. There is no development without water that we can have. I was asked officially to go to Salajwe for the funeral, and be part of that, which I agreed to. I got up at 3 a.m. to take a bath so that we can leave at 4 a.m. I found there was no water. What was I supposed to do? I took the five litres of water that I bought as drinking water and tried to bath with that Honourable Batshu. It is such a serious problem.

You talk about internet, you talk in the House. You do not walk the talk. You talk about fixing roads, making major roads, you cannot even fix the robots. Fix the robots first in Mogoditshane, fix the robots in Tlokweng. Let me finish, I am saying to you, right now you talk about internet connection, you talk about fast internet connection, I am supposed to research and come to this House researched, and there is no internet connection in the flats. Why not? As Members of Parliament we should, we do not even have a telephone line for God's sake in our flats there.

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

MR KHAN: I do not have Honourable Batshu. I am telling you from experience, I stay there. Mr Speaker, we cannot go anywhere if we do not fix the smaller things. The bigger things will look after themselves if we look after the smaller things. So let us fix the robots in Tlokweng and in Mogoditshane, let us bring the police station...

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

MR KHAN: Stop making noise Shaw Kgathi. If you bring the police station to Molepolole, then I can respect you and salute you. Bring my sewerage system, Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) cannot build the houses, 200 houses, they have been given a plot and they cannot build those houses. Honourable Batshu you know what they tell me, they tell me that they cannot build the houses because the sewerage system is not in place. When I ask Honourable Mokaila, he says your sewerage system will be done by 2021; I will be dead

by then. There are no BHC houses that are coming up in my area. Molepolole is neglected. I am asking my Honourable Ministers and my Vice President with due respect, please help Bakwena so that we can be able to drive this country forward. I thank you.

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MR SERETSE): Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me take this opportunity as well to contribute to the debates. Indeed I am very excited that I am having this opportunity to speak after His Excellency has given a very, very strong message, comprehensive presentation, clear presentation, taking time to make sure that he covers all the bases, so that Batswana can understand exactly where he is leading this country. I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate his Excellency for having been honoured by the University in Korea, as now he is a Doctor. I really appreciate what Honourable Kesupile articulated. He presented a clear message which we understand as Batswana. He was talking about our cultural values which we appreciate, where recognition is given and we celebrate it. He was very, very clear despite the fact that, he was in the other side of the aisle, when he said, "I appreciate, I recognise and I congratulate that the international university has recognised one of our own, we must celebrate such because it is a representation of what we stand for."

Many people in different spheres, at different levels are appreciated and when they are appreciated, let us go back to our roots as Batswana to give accolades where it is due, let us not be petty and jealous. We should refrain from that because that cuts across our political divide. If a member such as Mr Khan is recognised for his humanitarian efforts by an international renowned institution, let us be happy. He is one of our own, this is critical. The discourse in this country is taking a totally different path. We read articles where ordinary Batswana are asking what we are becoming? What is this nation coming into where we are not able even to recognise things that must bring us together? Imagine a tragedy, the Matsha tragedy. This is the time where we must disrobe our colours and cry as one because it is a tragedy that bacons that we become who we are Batswana, and whenever there is a tragedy we stick together, alluding to the Setswana saying *'fifing go tshwaranwa ka dikobo'*.

If indeed there are other things that can be discussed, we give time so that we can talk about those issues when things have cooled down. The posture in such a situation does not reflect who we are and I know in this House across divide if we were to pick those whose are in the discourse of basically losing our very being, they will be very few. When they sit on their own around the table at dinner, they become exactly who we expect them to be.

But to try to create a different image for political gain or political mileage or for whatever that you believe if you take that course it moves you somewhere, sometimes you print yourself and you get printed to know that this one I think have lost the very Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) of who we are as Batswana.

I just want to caution our own folk that when a national tragedy or all things that require that we must be united, we must be because this is our country, both of us. It is not a country belonging to a certain party, it is our country. I just wanted to pass that point.

The speech was full of different issues that we must talk about. There is a programme that came about, the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). One of the things that surprise me is that when it was mentioned, the veracity of attacking the programme at the same levels... I do not know what it is. The attack is such that you would think somebody knows what is talking about. After 30 minutes in the debate, he says "I do not know what this thing is." You ask yourself that how you can be so clear, lose it in attacking something you do not even know? It is amazing that somebody in this House representing people would be able to say there is a programme called ESP; a programme in simple terms that says the economy is where it is, we want to stimulate it. Somebody says "no, that it is not it. It cannot be. I do not support this." The concept of stimulating the economy is very basic across the world. It happens. But for someone in our own Republic to believe that he is leaving in bubble that he will be able to say for us as Batswana it will not work. It is just mindboggling.

If it was for me, I would sit and ask questions where questions are not coming, I would sit and wait for the reality and the implementation of what is being planned, because when you do, you are able to say I did raise the issue, you are able to say this and this. We know as history would say that the implementation, the execution might not be strong and we are saying in this situation we are insuring that we are betting up the implementation, we are making sure that yes, how do we beef the implementation?

I will come to the programme that I believe strongly will change the lives of Batswana under the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD). First, as a Minister of Trade and Industry, I went to Cabinet and convinced them that, it is important that as a nation we industrialise. That is what I did. I said, to industrialise means we must be able to do and manufacture things from home. The import bill stands at almost 70 billion. That it is to say, the imports we get from outside the country as Botswana. Out of that import bill of almost 70 billion, I am saying that there are opportunities for Batswana to

do so many things. Take the military police uniform, the fruits that you talked of, the furniture and everything you can think of and I said, you must listen very carefully, "please Cabinet allow me to be very clear that everything that you procure that is made in Botswana, as government, parastatals and Local Authorities, procure it in Botswana." I did not stop that far, I went further. I said, I will give you the import list of the things that we buy from outside. I will advertise it. I will make sure you know that we want furniture, cement and everything that you can think of. Develop this, manufacture this. The budget is there. It is not over the budget, we procure them every year.

Now you say, how are we going to do that when we talk about things probably not being done? I said okay, who will have to strengthen the system? I will make sure that I identify Ministries with the highest procurement budgets. Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Health, and probably Defence, Justice and Security as an example have the highest procurement budgets. I have to date as part of this programme that we are talking about, increased the resources at EDD by 20 and by the 1st of April, I am deploying them directly to the Ministries that are procuring to ensure that indeed when we say we must buy locally produced and what is done in this country is done.

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

MR SERETSE: April next year Sir to make sure that it is done. I am saying should you want to buy what is not produced here, make sure that you talk to your Permanent Secretaries (PS) and Ministries that indeed if you decide that you are going to buy sunflower oil from South Africa you have made sure that you cannot find it. Everybody in this House must be commissar; an intelligent man who makes sure that he will question whether the items are procured in Botswana. We must, all of us, not only my 20 people, if there is a tender that comes from Joe Block or anywhere be able to report to me monthly on their procurement status. I do not want situations where they just procure a few items and then tell me that they are complying with EDD. I need your support to make sure that indeed through the EDD, we are diversifying this economy. This is an example of what we are doing.

MR MOREMI: On a point of clarification. Thank you Minister Seretse. With that local procurement, would you be averse to having a one stop qualification process, maybe it could be Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS), rather than for one to first qualify for Economic Diversification Drive (EDD) because that form is very intimidating? It is not easy for most Botswana. If BOBS can certify that whatever that one is doing is in a certain

standard, then they procure, because if there are two forms they become difficult for Botswana. It is EDD this side and then standards on the other and ends up failing to apply for the tender that they want.

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MR SERETSE): Thank you very much for that. The BOBS standards and the EDD are totally different. But you bring me to a very important point when I talk about local procurement. There are three criteria that we are looking at. That the quality should be right and BOBS is our local organisation that checks quality. Two; the price must be right. It should not be unreasonable because you are doing it locally. Three; the capacity to make sure that you are able to supply what is expected of you. However, the point you have raised, I can only go and try to establish if indeed that has a problem that will intimidate those who want to supply because one of my role is to do exactly that. To establish and check if indeed as you have indicated, there is something that warrants that the facilitation is not as efficient as it should be.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SERETSE: You know I have been here for quite some time and I understand exactly how purposeful debate can be, and I do not want to be side tracked. I am "Joshua" I can read your mind, I can predict what question Honourable Butale is going to ask, also what Honourable Haskins could ask, I know he is going to beat about the bush and lead me astray. Let me continue...

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

MR SERETSE: I mean it is the manner in which we see you as you present. So, even sometimes when you are just as ordinary as a good man going to ask a fair question, I remember how you dribbled Kgathi because he can be very furious sometimes. So when you reply him, sometimes we feel when it is your turn you are going to do the same.

DR P. BUTALE: On a point of clarification. It is a very, very short one; I just wanted when you were speaking about the EDD, for you to share with us, maybe it is clear to have the target, what you are aiming at. Also maybe to comment on the reporting of government, whether it would not be helpful to report on outcomes instead of output that we procured from this number of people, maybe focus on the outcomes.

MR SERETSE: Thank you very much. When it comes to EDD; in the first place I indicated that we want to industrialise. We want to see Botswana creating businesses for themselves and hiring people. At the same time when we are doing so, we have an institution called Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency

(CEDA). CEDA offers funding at 7.5 per cent compared to other institutions. That in itself is giving a Motswana an advantage of being able to do a business that would give returns. These are the things that are practical that are existing.

The import lists that I talked about; we are saying we are not only talking about these import lists, we are also saying we are facilitating by creating a funding that if for instance, you pick all these and you right-size yourself in terms of the ability of size, you definitely would get money at CEDA.

So, there is a programme that is very clear that we can change this economy. I just wanted to clear...

MR NKAIGWA: On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. I just want to appreciate from your speech; is it anything new to this government to industrialise? What is it that you are going to be doing differently from what you have done in the past with regards to the Financial Assistance Policy (FAP) and the Small and Medium Micro Enterprises (SMMEs)? How are you going to be addressing the challenges that you have faced as a country with regards to manufacturing in terms of the raw materials, the capital cost, electricity and water? And how would you also deal with the lack of skills in our own nation when it comes to manufacturing? Thank you.

MR SERETSE: Thank you very much. I think it is a fair question. In the first place let me explain that in the past we had different institutions and we learnt from them. If you take FAP for instance, grants were used during that time and the responsibility of free money is totally different than the money that we have to pay back, where you are expected to have equity and where you are expected to take responsibility. That in itself, we believe it does cause the business person to be disciplined because they do not want to lose their money.

Two; we cannot run away from industrialisation, even at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) level; we have a programme where effectively we are dealing with industrialisation of the region. When we discuss at the SADC level, we then appreciate that we are at different levels as different countries and we are trying to harmonise so that all of us we must move in the same growth path. As an example; when you go to South Africa, they produce a lot of vehicles that are very expensive, Mercedes and the like. When they do, there are other elements, for instance; the chairs are manufactured using special leather. We are discussing at that level that in terms of the value chain, you cannot do everything as our neighbour that you would start from

this and this. We should be able for certain elements to be done in different countries so that we seem to grow at the same path.

To give you an example; in Botswana because some of these things you might not know; have got two huge plants that are producing harnesses for the most expensive vehicles like the Mercedes. If you go to Gaborone South you will be surprised and be very happy to see the number of Batswana at work, doing things that sometimes if you can go there, you will be surprised to see how the car is manufactured. All these things are such that, it is the connection and the harmony that we are dealing with. The project is such that we will have more companies coming that way.

Right now as I speak to you, with the essence that we talk about that we want import substitution. There is this type of salt that we are told is too good called Cerebos or something like that. It is now packaged in Botswana and quite a number of people now are hired. When I go to Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC), it is now getting inquiries, many of them because of the position that we have taken as the government that we want things to be done locally. They are asking questions that, we want to come to the country, we want to produce in your country, and we believe that the trajectory is there.

We need to be solid, we need to support each other...

MR LELATISITWE: On a point of clarification.

MR SPEAKER: Why are you sitting down Honourable Seretse?

MR LELATISITWE: On a point of clarification.

MR SERETSE: I should continue it seems Mr Speaker did not hear you. The Economic Stimulus Package Program gives us an opportunity like never before. It talks about tourism which employs a lot of people from construction, waiters, to guides and it is an opportunity for everybody to participate. We are saying as Batswana, we must take up these opportunities. The Government can only create these opportunities and we have to take them and when we do, we will be able to support our own people.

MR MOSWAANE: On a point of order. Honourable Speaker it seems like this House is out of order. Honourable Lelatisitswe has long sought clarification, the Minister even yielded and he was not given that chance.

MR SPEAKER: There is no order in there.

MRSERETSE: Thank you Mr Speaker. The programme

also speaks to infrastructure development, it speaks of building roads and classrooms and when it comes to infrastructure, we know it has forward linkages. It talks about construction of houses. When you construct a house, naturally, it is not an empty house it means somebody is going to buy furniture and do something, the linkages are there. What is critical is that, it is a program that would target the whole of this Republic, not a situation where you might have an unbalanced situation, where the classrooms are only being built in a particular area because the backlog is across the country as a whole. We believe that the construction companies in Maun and Bobonong, you name it...

MR LELATISITSWE: On a point of clarification. Thank you Honourable Minister, thank you Mr Speaker. I am listening attentively to Honourable Minister I am of the idea of industrialisation. On the concept of EDD, I wanted to know if the Minister does not see any problem with the EDD policy, are we going to see maybe a Bill because with these policy issues, it seems like the procurement officers do not take them seriously.

The other issue is harmonisation of LAPAD and the PPADB, are we going to see something of that sort, these two procurement policies being harmonised? I thank you.

MR SERETSE: Thank you very much. I am not aware that our good civil service does not take policies seriously. I believe they do and I see it through the reporting system that they provide. But the point that I mentioned earlier is that, the compliance that they give me to date is when they are procuring small things. That is why we are adding new people from the division to go and make sure that when you say you procure locally, it is so significant that nobody can doubt it.

I was having a conversation with somebody and he was asking why some people are not supporting something so good, that every Motswana should be supporting especially at the Ministerial tender committees. I said, I do not think there is anybody who happens to be a Motswana, who loves this country whom when I say procure locally, can stand up and say I would rather go and buy outside. We move from that good strong believe that this is our country, we love it and we will do everything to make sure that we support our own industries and I am saying to buttress that, I am going to send people who will be coming from my division to go to these ministries, to make sure that, if Botswana Defence Force (BDF) for instance have a procurement of 50 million or whatever, at the end of the year, they must be able to say this 100 million was spent in the Republic because there is a concern that has been raised before that indeed money is spent outside, so these are the opportunities that we are looking at.

I also want to talk about the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) so that we can understand exactly what they are, what you would be able to see and indeed even the time frame. We passed the Bill in this Parliament and therefore I want to believe that all of us understand exactly what is expected of the Special Economic Zones. They are 8 as you know and it does not stop us in the future to have new zones being developed. We have Gaborone; 414 hectares of land which is basically a multiple SEZ which means it will have a lot of things that are happening there, not specialised per say.

In these zones we expect to facilitate companies that are local and companies that are coming from outside with provision of some incentives to make sure that they produce what can be consumed locally and for export. Where we are, we identified 3 to start with. The Gaborone one and the Pandamatenga, that is where the food buckets is; where we want to go and support agriculture and make sure that the farmers out there are producing with such quantities that they would be able to feed this country.

If you go there today as we have been there, we have met farmers and they have told us what they would love to see. We would like to increase silos, we would like to have pre-schools for our children. All these things are what we are looking at, that we would wish to see because they are basically saying if we had all these things in this area, it will facilitate us to grow and make sure that our harvest is increased, that is the one that we are dealing with.

The second one is the financial zone in Gaborone and already in terms of application, we have already identified and BOCCRA has already said, I will facilitate in terms of the bandwidth. Already companies that are there...(interruption)... who sought clarification? You just came in.

MR ARONE: On a point of clarification. Thank you Honourable Minister. I just came in but I am listening attentively, just a quick one. You are talking about Pandamatenga as a food basket, are you aware or familiar with the first Manifesto of the Botswana Democratic Party? Now you, almost 50 years later you are saying you have identified, can you not see that you are late and this is what led to the poverty that we are struggling with?

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MR SERETSE): I think when you talk about late; it is quite interesting because in terms of the marathon of the parties that run to try to govern, they would have long given up because we consider them being very late, because for 50 years they have been trying. Let me turn

to the constituency and appeal to Minister Mokaila, at Mmopane, we are dying of thirst Sir and I am happy that with this thirst which is killing us, at least on two occasions, you reached the constituency in Mmopane and talked to Bakwena. You explained the water situation to them, and you did not just stop there...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Member you have been debating in English, please continue in that language.

MR SERETSE: Thank you. I was talking about my constituency, but since they know English I will use it Sir. You did not only address the people in Mmopane, you went as far as to increase the number of jojos so that they are able to get water. You have explained in full the water plan, the water that will be coming from the North, because water is so important, as we appreciate your plans, we still call you Sir, to do the best at least to make sure that the availability of water is there. Honourable Mabeo, the Lentsweletau-Molepolole road, I believe Honourable Khan is with me on this one, that is true; and the police station in Lentsweletau. It is a very, very short road Sir, about 26 kilometres...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: And a stadium.

MR SERETSE: No, I do not want a stadium; I believe you would be able to do something about it. Let me also thank the Zion church by coming to our rescue by providing us with a clinic, where we had a very small clinic which already had serious challenges, but this church recognised the importance of playing a role, I thank them. Honourable Goya please thank Bishop Lekganyane, Honourable Goya, for having done that. I want to talk about the Mahetlwe-Molepolole road. Sir I also want this road to be graded. If you could do that, you would have helped me a great deal.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Member, you were speaking in English, continue using it.

MR SERETSE: Allow me also Sir as I am coming to conclude, to recognise and appreciate His Excellency's report when he talked about *Magosi*. We respect our Chiefs and it was quite interesting because our founding fathers, the founding fathers of this party respected and even today we respect the Chiefs. Opposition in some quotas believes that they can buy the Chiefs; that they cannot, that they will never. They belong to all of us, our Dikgosi are ours, so it backs the point that I started with, that we as the political leadership, if we can go about trying to create a situation where the very people that unify us, I am referring to people like Lotlaamoreng and Tawana, who unite us as a nation...

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

MR SERETSE: Thank you very much for advising me Sir, Kgosi Tawana and Kgosi Lotlaamoreng, because that you cannot take away from them, it is a fact. I am a Motswana from Kweneng and I will always accord the due respect to try and create a situation where as a political party that I love Dikgosi more than the next party, that is a dead end, that as a strategy, drop it now, I am advising you.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SERETSE: You are like Haskins I will not yield to you. I have forgotten an issue which is burning in my constituency, in Lentsweletau, the clinic. Listen to me Madam, the clinic in Lentsweletau is quite old, it was built many years back and I hope that you will consider it in your plans and I would appreciate it if you would consider it in your plans. I want to conclude by appealing to all of us, that as we sell and promote this package Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) across ...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SERETSE: No Kgosi, I am not going to yield to you, I observed him when we were together in Maun. As we go and sell this package, allow me to say this, let us not do as we always do when we go to the elections, as opposition saying Ipelegeng is not good, and then at seven in the morning I meet you at Ipelegeng saying, "We are with you in this," let us be honest in these programmes. Ipelegeng is very, very important and across the divide we have seen its importance. When we come to Parliament we did not degenerate these programme, when we go outside, we do not...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR SERETSE: No, I am not yielding, but he is good man who has taught me one or two things in politics even when he is that side, but I will not mention what he taught me, but it was very vital, I am talking about Honourable Mmolotsi.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: This sly person?

MR SERETSE: To me he is not cunning; he is a good man because he is a Motswana. When he sees you falling into a well he would not push you like Haskins. He upholds you, because he knows...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: How are you addressing the Pastor?

MR SERETSE: No, this is a different kind of Pastor; he knows the importance of the fact that at the end of it all *re* Batswana. I therefore appeal to all of us that let us give this programme a chance, if you are a doubting Thomas, just keep quiet so that when the time comes

you will say "I told you so" not to condemn, degenerate and say the programme will not work when it has not even started. Mr Speaker, I want to pause right here. Thank you so much.

MR MOLEFE (MAHALAPYE WEST): Thank you Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to comment on the speech which was presented by the President in this House, giving the State of the Nation Address; the current status and where it is headed, as well as other things which should be done to improve the lives of people. Mr Speaker I should first welcome Honourable Molale and Honourable Lotlamoreng to the 11th Parliament. I should also start my debate and differ with those of the opposition whose duty is only to oppose what is being said. They have been opposing since 1966 and I believe that in the next year some of them will be perfect when it comes to opposing.

Mr Speaker we do acknowledge that there has been a change in the weather patterns and last year we realised a decline in harvests. This is a bothersome issue and it continues to grow posing challenges within the agricultural sector. It poses a challenge to an industry that makes it possible for the country to get food at even reasonable prices. We should advise the government to put programmes in place in order to ensure that Botswana always have enough food.

Before I continue I should react to the point that was raised by Honourable Khan that the government should correct certain things as soon as possible and I wanted to inform the Honourable Member that the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) led government has had to deal with issues of drought before. This is a futuristic government that has got plans and programmes in place. It is a government that has its own way of running the country and things are not just done haphazardly. All that the Honourable Member has raised as ways that government could run things are things that the government already has planned for.

I would now like to get to the speech by the President. He touched on the issue of unemployment. In the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) manifesto, we indicated that job creation is one of the top most goals that the government is focused on.. We were informed about the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD) that the government has begun and which has created employment. We were informed that it would be reinforced with the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) that would be implemented through different government departments. We are very grateful for that. Mr Speaker we agree that the EDD is necessary and it is what we need and as it will be run concurrently with ESP the government should use it to create jobs...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I cannot hear Honourable Molefhe.

MR MOLEFE: ... to buy goods that are produced locally or what is referred to as public procurement that is done in government offices to try and create employment for Batswana. In the Mahalapye constituency that I represent there are youth who have already benefited through the EDD programme where departments like the council bought their goods. Going forward we request that when public procurement is carried out they should be considered as the Minister explained. That will ensure that there is job creation through the EDD and youth will be able to grow such that when the ESP comes to an end they would be able to sustain the businesses and even create more jobs and grow the local economies. I am therefore appealing to the different stakeholders like the civic leaders, unions and private companies to support the government in its endeavours to stimulate the economy.

Mr Speaker when it comes to the issue of land use Parliament enacted a law that targeted land use. I request that Parliament should relook into this law to ensure that the private companies can be able to place themselves and ensure that business is there and that the law does not have many requirements that can end up discouraging people from asking for plots. In my Constituency Mr Speaker there are those companies or Batswana who had been allocated plots that have not been serviced before the enactment of this law. They therefore have no electricity, no roads and no running water system. I therefore request that through the ESP the provision of such services should be a priority for those plots so that the owners can be able to develop them. The owners should be able to utilise them if they are business plots so that they can benefit from the programme.

Considering the tourism sector Mr Speaker, it is true that the industry brings in profits for this country and it has made it well known. We have a few things in my constituency that we feel can be used to attract tourists to our area. We request that through the ESP programme infrastructure like bridges in platjan should be upgraded...

MR NKAIGWA: On a point of order Mr Speaker. Thank you Mr Speaker. KI am really concerned Mr Speaker, I am trying to listen to the Honourable Member but there is just a lot of noise in the House. No one is sitting on their chair; it is like we are in a conference. I am wondering why it is like we do not take the Honourable Member seriously when he is representing his area.

MR SPEAKER: That is the problem I am faced with; you have been conferencing with Honourable Mokgware

as well. Honourable members please minimize your noise. When you consult please be discrete.

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Mr Speaker. I request the government to upgrade the Parris Halt road, which passes through Makwate and joins Machaneng through to Mahalapye and tar it as it is one of the roads that can be used by tourists as a short cut from South Africa to Kasane and Maun. Currently the tourists are using Martin's Drift border post whereas that border post is mostly used by traders of big trucks and it forces the tourists to go as far as Beitbridge at Zibambwe. As Mahalapye constituents, this thing denies us an opportunity to have tourists passing through our village to get accommodation, fuel, do banking transactions and buy anything that we will be selling in Mahalapye.

Mr Speaker, this House is privy to the fact that Mahalapye is an urban area. Therefore we could manage to benefit something from the tourism sector as tourists pass through our village en route the West of this country.

We were also updated on the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) programme. Let me say that it is a special programme indeed as its results are visible. It can manage to increase food security and growth in the agriculture sector in different ways in Botswana. In Mahalapye we have reserves or what is termed Agricultural Reserves in mapping area. We request the government to allow the utilization of areas like Morale Pastures which have been set aside and not used through this Economic Stimulus Package (ESP). We request to utilize them because they are quite a distance from Mahalapye River and therefore we can manage to have projects.

Mr Speaker, Agriculture is one Ministry which has numerous departments which are functional. We therefore request an Agricultural Service Centre in Mahalapye because there are departments such as Research, Animal Husbandry and Forestry. These are spacious offices which can assist us in all the services related to agriculture.

Mr Speaker, let me talk about Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) programme. LIMID programme is working very well in my area and does what is intended which is to take Botswana out of poverty and give them dignity to rear livestock.

The farmers who supply their small livestock to this programme are not paid on time. This therefore discourages farmers from supplying goats to the people involved in this programme the way it was supposed to be. We request the Minister of Agriculture to have payments decentralized to sub district level because currently all the payments from Mahalapye are sent to Gaborone and they take long to be processed and to be

sent back. If we adopt that system, most farmers will have interest in supplying their small livestock to further this programme all the time.

Still on the LIMID programme, Youth Development Fund (YDF) and Gender Affairs, the prices vary so much so that a farmer finds it better to give his or her goats to Gender Affairs or YDF programme because LIMID wants to get a single goat at P700. If the government could look into having a standard price of goats, farmers will be encouraged to supply their goats so that Botswana may benefit from the programme as is intended.

Let me mention that still on the office of agriculture, there is a challenge of shortage of computers in Mahalapye. They still use a lot of paper which can be seen everywhere; on the floor and on table tops. There is a possibility that if an applicant comes in, they can be told that they are still in search of those forms. If however, the officers get connected to technology through ICT, they can be able to assist people faster all the time and Botswana will then benefit from the programmes they have applied for.

The Ministry of Minerals, Water and Energy Resources issues out Trade License to some applicants but others are referred to councils, Ministry of Environment and Tourism or Ministry of Trade and Industry. In my Constituency, most of the time, the contractors who have been issued with mining licenses have conflicts with farmers as to where they are supposed to mine sand. The cooperation in areas like Mmadiphetlha, Kainangwe River and Patikwane, is sour and I would like to encourage all the stakeholders from the Ministry of Environment and Councils to review the licenses given to people to ensure that the designated areas are not used by the residents there to develop their lives in various ways.

I am saying this because in areas like Patikwane, you find that a contractor has been given a sand mining license in the same river where farmers have been given permission to draw water through the use of their engines, to water their small livestock they have been given by LIMID programme. At the end, there is a misunderstanding with the contractor saying 'this is where I am mining sand' and the farmer says 'that is where I water my livestock'. Mr Speaker, as a way forward, I would encourage that these situations be rectified and reviewed so that there may be cooperation and we will see a farmer developing and the contractor also growing in his or her business.

Mr Speaker, in Mahalapye we have a challenge of lack of roads. We have the A1 road which passes through our

village and B45 which leads to Shoshong. Mahalapye as I have said that it is an urban area, we need internal roads so that the business that we are talking about under the ESP programme can manage to grow and even our economy in the village may grow so that the traders may trade without fear that when the rains come they will damage their businesses due to lack of roads. We therefore implore the government to hasten to construct internal roads or street roads in Mahalapye.

Those roads have been linked to the bus rank. Mahalapye is in the middle of several villages; it is surrounded by nine villages to be precise. The people in these nine villages come to Mahalapye to establish business, to connect and go to other areas and to apply for different government programmes. However, due to lack of infrastructure like roads no bus rank, it becomes a challenge for them to travel between these villages to take the services to them. Therefore, we request that through the ESP programme, our village be considered to have tarred road and bus rank because it will also upgrade the status of the village to a town.

MR MMOLOTSI: On a point of clarification. Honourable Member, we have noted the presentation that was done by the Minister of Finance and Development Planning yesterday concerning the ESP programme, are you aware that it will only be for projects from the National Development Plan (NDP) 10, no new project will be catered for?

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Mr Speaker and Honourable Mmolotsi. There is a connection in what I have just stated and the plan. As I have already stated, the government of the day, coordinates projects in plans. Currently, Mr Speaker, there is a project that was done in 2008 called the Mahalapye Water Storm Drain Master Plan. It is a project which encompasses roads, street lights and the sewerage system. We are therefore requesting government to include such project under this programme which was never implemented due to lack of funds. I thank you.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a point of elucidation. Thank you Honourable colleague. Thank you Honourable Speaker. Recently when the Minister of Finance and Development Planning was briefing this House, he told us that all the plans that are in the ESP are those that would have been in NDP 10 and some that could be coming out of NDP 11. Therefore, the fact that, you are asking for whatever it is that you wish to be put in the ESP will not be contravening anything or contrary to anything because it can be accommodated. If it was from NDP 10, it can easily be accommodated if it is put under NDP 11. So what you are saying is just normal for a Member of Parliament (MP) who

understands that ESP is a programme that is there to stimulate the economy, unlike some other people from the other side, especially Honourable Mmolotsi.

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Mr Speaker. Like I have already said, it will not be contravening anything, I thank the Honourable Minister for having clarified that point Mr Speaker. Moving on Mr Speaker, transport and communications; the government has said that it has done a lot in terms of developing, maintaining as well as networking different regions through this roads initiative. I have already talked about internal roads in my area, they will assist in developing the economy of the constituency, for a business transaction to run, there has to be a transaction between two people who exchange items businesswise. By so doing we will be developing the economy.

Mr Speaker we were also informed that the passenger will be brought back to operation and as the people from Mahalapye we are proud of the achievement and we are especially blessed that the government has chosen Mahalapye to be the Botswana Railways headquarters. We welcome this development and we see it as bringing good things and will also grow our area. We request that since the head office is in Mahalapye there should also be a modern railway terminal station that has restaurants and is also secure. The small scale business people should also be allowed to conduct their business there. The banks could also install their Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and there could also be retail convenience shops. That can make our area to go back to the standard that it was well known for back in the day when trains were first introduced in our country. That could also give Batswana who are interested in the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD) programme a chance to submit their requests at the Railways department so that they can be allocated space to trade and as a result grow our economy.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Molefhe! Please stop your debate at that point, you even remind me of the old days.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

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

Question put **and agreed to.**

The House accordingly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Tuesday 24th November, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

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