



HANSARD

YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

DAILY HANSARD (PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES)

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

HANSARD NO. 181
TUESDAY 01 DECEMBER 2015

DISCLAIMER

Unofficial Hansard

This transcript of Parliamentary proceedings is an unofficial version of the Hansard and may contain inaccuracies. It is hereby published for general purposes only. The final edited version of the Hansard will be published when available and can be obtained from the Assistant Clerk (Editorial).

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



ENGLISH VERSION

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

Clerk of the National Assembly	- Ms B. N. Dithapo
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Dr R.D. Dingalo
Ag. Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Mr S. Chikanda
Senior Assistant Clerk	- Mr M. D. N. Gadibolae
Assistant Clerk (E)	- Mr R. Josiah

CABINET

His Excellency Lt. Gen. Dr. S. K. I. Khama PH, FOM, DCO, DSM, MP.	- President
His Honour M. E. K. Masisi, MP. (Moshupa-Manyana)	- Vice President
Hon. P. Venson-Moitoi, MP. (Serowe South)	- Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Hon. S. Tsogwane, MP. (Boteti North)	- Minister of Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. N. E. Molefhi, MP. (Selebi Phikwe East)	- Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology
Hon. S. Kgathi, MP. (Bobirwa)	- Minister of Defence, Justice and Security
Hon. O. K. Mokaila, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources
Hon. P. M. Maele, MP. (Lerala - Maunatlala)	- Minister of Lands and Housing
Hon. E. J. Batshu, MP. (Nkange)	- Minister of Labour and Home Affairs
Hon. D. K. Makgato, MP. (Sefhare - Ramokgonami)	- Minister of Health
Hon. T. S. Khama, MP. (Serowe West)	- Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism
Hon. V. T. Seretse, MP. (Mmopane - Lentsweletau)	- Minister of Trade and Industry
Hon. O. K. Matambo, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Finance and Development Planning
Hon. T. Mabeo, MP. (Thamaga - Kumakwane)	- Minister of Transport and Communications
Hon. T. Olopeng, MP. (Tonota)	- Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture
Hon. E. M. Molale, MP. (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-Mmankgodi
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

TABLE OF CONTENTS
THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SECOND
SESSION OF ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT
01 DECEMBER 2015

<i>CONTENTS</i>	<i>PAGE (S)</i>
Response to the President's Speech	
<i>Motion (Resumed Debate)</i>	12 - 33
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER	5 - 11
SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	5
TABLING OF PAPERS	
Architects' Registration (Amendment) Act (Date of Commencement Order), 2014.....	11
Engineers Registration (Registration and Practicing Certificate Fees) Regulations, 2015.....	11
Statutory Instrument No. 30 of 2015: Engineers Registration (Registration and Practicing Certificate Fees) Regulations, 2015.....	11
Statutory Instrument No. 87 of 2014: Architects' Registration (Amendment) Act (Date of Commencement) Order, 2014.....	11

Tuesday 1st December, 2015

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the CHAIR)

PRAYERS

* * * *

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE): Order! Order! Honourable Members, we have Leologane Primary School students, from Honourable Kablay's constituency.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)

MADAM SPEAKER: Before I proceed, let me welcome back all those who were away on a trip with Honourable Gaolathe.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

PROGRAMMES IN PLACE TO PROMOTE URBAN TOURISM

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism what programmes are in place to promote Urban Tourism.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, WILDLIFE AND TOURISM (MR T. S. KHAMA): Good afternoon Madam Speaker. The development of the market segment of urban tourism, also referred to as City Tourism is still at an infancy stage. This owes much to the fact that in order for city tourism to thrive, it should of necessity be preceded by some significant investment in the requisite physical infrastructure and readiness of attractions to receive tourists and provide the expected experience.

However, I am pleased to inform this Honourable House that the Botswana Tourism Organisation is working closely with the Department of National Museums and Monuments to rehabilitate and ready some monument and heritage sites in the city to a level suitable for tourist consumption. Among the initiatives under the development are the Bonnington Farm, Gaborone Botanical Gardens as well as other potential attractions such as the Gaborone Game Reserve and the Gaborone Tourism Precinct.

Madam Speaker, it is hoped that through these developments, together with our relentless effort to develop new products and events based on contemporary urban culture will add significantly to the regeneration of the Gaborone City and inject some much needed urban

vibrancy, thereby positioning Gaborone as a competitive urban tourism destination. It goes without saying that over time, similar projects would be undertaken at other urban centres throughout the country. I thank you Madam Speaker.

DR P. BUTALE: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. I just wanted to clarify something, it may sound like a new question but would you mind briefing the House on the Segoditshane River Tourism Project as to whether it is part of that and how far it is.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Madam Speaker. The Segoditshane River is an initiative which my Ministry is currently looking at and we have approached various stakeholders who are prepared to contribute to it at a no cost basis as far as engineering and structuring is concerned. We are also looking at the mall as well, to revive the mall and change the face of the mall and to put a heritage trail around Gaborone. So the answer to your question Honourable Member is that it is a holistic approach and where possible, we will be doing it as one. Thank you very much.

PLANS TO EXPAND THE GHANZI EAST SUB-COUNCIL RURAL ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development whether there are any plans to expand the Ghanzi East Sub-Council Rural Administration Centre; if so, when and how much is the budget.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): Good afternoon Madam Speaker. Let me also greet Leologane Primary School Students together with their teachers. This is one of the areas that I have assignments at.

Madam Speaker, my Ministry has no plans to expand Ghanzi East Sub District Council Rural Administration Centre during NDP 10. During the recent consultations for the project to be included in DDP 8 or NDP 11, there was a proposal to expand the existing offices for the Ghanzi East Sub District

Council. Resources permitting the proposal will be considered together with other competing projects countrywide during DDP 8/NDP 11. Thank you Madam Speaker.

ESTABLISHMENT OF RAMOTSWA SUB-COUNCIL

MR S. O. S. RANTUANA (RAMOTSWA): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

- (i) if he is aware that the South East District Council (SEDC) resolved to establish Ramotswa Sub Council and that its offices be located at Otse; if so,
- (ii) when will the Sub Council be fully operational without rationing staff with the main Council.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): Madam Speaker, I am not aware that the South East District Council (SEDC) resolved to establish a Sub Council at Otse but I am aware that Ramotswa is one of the 19 additional sub districts that were approved by Government to be established throughout NDP 10 and beyond.

- (i) Madam Speaker, due to financial and other resource constraints, the identified and newly established sub-districts are operating their sub districts through rationalising existing resources. Therefore Madam Speaker, even for Ramotswa, I am not able to state with certainty when the sub-district will be fully operational without rationalising staff within the Council. Madam Speaker, rationalisation of staff is inevitable in establishment of sub districts because ideally the district headquarters only remains with policy and strategy while sub districts become responsible for service delivery and operation.
- (ii) It should however be noted that South East District Council has made progress in establishing the Ramotswa Sub District and the following milestones have been achieved;
 - a) All sub district structures (council committees, trade and liquor committees, adjudication committees etcetera) are already in place and they meet as required.
 - b) Rationalisation of staff has already been done and the Senior Assistant Council Secretary has been appointed to head the sub-district
 - c) The Old Rural Administration Centre is currently being used as offices for Ramotswa Sub District. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR RANTUANA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Did the Minister check with the South East District Council on the date of the meeting that resolved that the sub-council be in Otse? Is she also aware that as the sub council is operating within the main council premises, the duties of the main council at the sub council clash and the staff is not really sure whether they belong to the sub council or the main council? Thank you.

MS TSHIRELETSO: Thank you Madam Speaker. I did not ask for any date because nobody asked me to check the dates of the resolution.

On the second one, there is no clash. We have Tsabong Sub District and there is no clash. We have Serowe Sub District Council, Palapye and Maun. We have a lot of them in the country but there is no clash. As long as we know, we have Senior Assistant Council with her staff or his staff. So there is no clash Madam Speaker. Thank you very much.

MR RANTUANA: Supplementary.

MADAM SPEAKER: Let it be the last one.

MR RANTUANA: When it comes to budget allocation Madam Minister, does the sub council clearly have its own funds or it is being budgeted from the main council funds?

MS TSHIRELETSO: The budget is done by Council and then the South East District Council gives its two sub districts (Tlokweng and Ramotswa) funds. So, there are no funds budgeted from the Ministry for a Sub District; only districts budget.

PERMIT TO RECEIVE THE PROFESSIONAL DRIVING PERMIT (PRDP) LICENCES

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Transport and Communications:-

- (i) what informed the decision by Government to give all drivers Professional Driving Permit (PrDP) licenses without following the set procedures for such licenses; and
- (ii) how many drivers received such licenses.

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (MR MABEO): Madam Speaker, Professional Driving Permit (PrDP) is a permit issued in addition to an ordinary driving license to authorize drivers to carry goods or passengers. It is only issued to qualified drivers who have been in possession of a valid driving license for a period of one year or more and it is guided by provisions of the Road Traffic Act.

Before the amendment of the Road Traffic Act Regulations in August 2015, only drivers who met the following requirements were issued PrDP:

Applicants had to be:

- (a) 25 years and above;
- (b) Have been in possession of a valid driving license for at least 2 years;

- (c) Had passed driving examinations that include theory, yard and road tests.
- (d) Had been certified as medically fit by a doctor
- (e) Had a police clearance certificate

However, the minimum age requirement of 25 years and the license validity period of two (2) years proved to be a challenge as most of the qualified drivers were excluded from acquiring PrDP.

Drivers were also subjected to undertake the same examinations when they first acquired a driving license. This was found to be a duplication of processes, costly and inconvenient to customers.

In view of the above challenges, my Ministry reviewed the Road Traffic Act Regulations and the following amendments were approved and implemented in August 2015:

- a) Minimum age to acquire a PrDP was reduced from twenty-five (25) years to twenty-one (21) years;
- b) Validity of license to acquire a PrDP was reduced from two (2) years to one (1) year;
- c) Theory and practical tests were waived.

Madam Speaker, these changes have greatly assisted the public at large especially the tour operators in the Delta who had a lot of challenges in acquiring and renewing permits for their tour guides. It has also created opportunities for youth employment in both public transport and private sector.

- (i) To date there are 19 468 drivers who have been issued with PrDPs since the implementation of the new exemption in August this year. Thank you very much Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. I thank you Madam Speaker, you too Minister. I just want the Minister to explain why they diverted from the arrangement that was there before. Using your common sense do you think if somebody drove for a year it means he/she qualifies to drive a combi or a bus considering the risks associated with driving in our country?

The last one Minister is that are you aware that this has caused problems, the number of taxi drivers has increased and that means supply is higher than demand as more people compete for driving jobs? I thank you.

MR MABEO: I thank you Mr Speaker. I hope that I have tried to explain all the reasons Honourable Nkaigwa. That means those who have been doing those jobs lost them, that might be the case, I am not sure. You

should however know that a number of people came to our offices and that was a sign of high demand that you are talking about. It is not like we did something different from what is happening in other countries, we had benchmarked.

To conclude Honourable Nkaigwa I would like to say we are not doing anything different from what other countries are doing. For instance South Africa and Zambia are doing the same thing. We might be differing with the minimum age required but when we made this decision, our intention was to assist those who could not attain the PrDP's. Honourable Members you have to remember that before we did this, people had parked their vehicles at their homes. Mind you we are talking about transporting people and goods. The accidents are there and they will continue to be there but what we are doing as a Ministry is to see to it that we decrease them. If you can ask the police officers Honourable Nkaigwa, they will tell you that the major cause of these accidents is drunken driving. So pastor you should pray for this nation to reduce drinking alcohol. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STAFF
ACCOMMODATION IN GHANZI TOWNSHIP**

MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH):

asked the Minister of Health:-

- (i) whether she is aware that the Department of Health staff in Ghanzi Township use the old and dilapidated hospital cubicles and wards for their accommodation; if so,
- (ii) how long will they be housed in the old hospital building.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE): Thank you Madam Speaker.

- (i) I am aware that staff of Ghanzi District Health Management Team (DHMT) use old hospital structures for their accommodation in Ghanzi Township. This is a temporary measure to facilitate delivery of services in the Township.
- (ii) My Ministry is in the process of acquiring houses from Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) to alleviate staff accommodation challenges in Ghanzi. The plan is to have these houses occupied by the end of the first quarter of 2016. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR SALAKAE: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, are you aware that I asked the same question last year and you gave me the same response? In addition to that, Honourable

Minister, are you now aware that the situation is now worse because now couples are sharing and worse still other people who are single are not sharing. Those are my two questions.

DR MADIGELE: Madam Speaker, I am not too sure I gave the same answer because this time around maybe I included end of first quarter 2016. I cannot remember exactly what I put in my answer regarding the timeframe. Yes, Madam Speaker, this situation is not desirable that couples are sharing with people who are not married. That is why we are doing all that we can to make sure that the staff in the Ghanzi Township get accommodation as soon as we possibly can. We have just finalised with Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC) regarding the defects in the 30 of the 48 houses that we are purchasing from them and we hope that by early next year, because I understand Ministerial Tender Committee (MTC) is working on payment. By early next year, we should have sorted this problem out including making sure that we reduce as much as we possibly can, the practice where people who are married share houses with other colleagues who are not married. I thank you Madam Speaker.

CHOPPIES OUTLETS IN BOTSWANA

MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH): asked the Minister of Trade and Industry to state:-

- (i) the number of Choppies outlets in Botswana;
- (ii) the number of buildings Choppies has rented and the number of those directly owned by Choppies; and
- (iii) for those properties rented, the names of owners of the properties.

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MR SERETSE): This is question 127, which is similar to the question that I responded to nine months ago. There is a little variation.

- (i) This time around Madam Speaker; there are seventy-seven (77) Choppies outlets in Botswana
- (ii) Madam Speaker, Choppies has rented all the seventy-seven (77) outlets.
- (iii) However, Madam Speaker, I am constrained to disclose the owners of such buildings, as this information involves third parties and it is subject to confidentiality clauses.

However, what is not confidential will appear in the Annual Report as Choppies is a listed company. Thank you.

MR SALAKAE: Supplementary. Thank you Honourable Minister. Do you not think the reason why you are a bit uncomfortable with sharing with us the names of the people whom Choppies is renting from is because these outlets are mostly owned by a lot of you across the aisle?

MR SERETSE: Madam Speaker, I am so comfortable in responding to these very straightforward questions.

- (i) He asked the number of Choppies outlets in Botswana and I said 77. There is no discomfort, there are 77.
- (ii) The question says, “the number of buildings Choppies has rented and the number of those directly owned by Choppies?” I responded and I said Choppies has rented all the 77. They do not own any. I am very comfortable to say this.

I am saying because of the third party and confidentiality clauses, I am constrained. Then I said because it is a listed company, that information is public, that you can get from the Annual Reports.

MR SALAKAE: Further Supplementary. It is quiet disheartening that an honourable member in a House like Parliament cannot be given such information. The last question Honourable Minister, can you deny or confirm that an outlet in Bobonong that Choppies is renting is being owned by Honourable Kgathi?

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): On point of order. The Honourable Member is out of order for mentioning names of people who are not in the House. Even if they are some in this House that is their own business and personal lives they would not like it to be a topic for an open discussion in Parliament. You can read that information in your own time. He is out of order to even want the names to be mentioned.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Members, you are fully aware that names of people who are not in the House are never mentioned. Even if Honourable Kgathi was present I do not see anything wrong with him having a business such that his name can be mentioned. Let us try to work together. Tomorrow another Member will be mentioning someone else by name as if we are kids.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Supplementary.

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us listen to Honourable Salakae first.

MR SALAKAE: On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker, perhaps since I am one of the new Members

of Parliament and the Honourable Assistant Minister stood on a point of order that it is not allowed to share that kind of information. Let me ask that is it wrong that if one has a business then as Members of Parliament we would like to know what kind of business he runs and the nation wants to know and want declaration of assets, is it wrong as Honourable Tshireletso alludes? If it is legitimate business is it wrong for a Member of Parliament to ask? That is the question.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, I am saying it is wrong to mention the name of another Member of Parliament. It is not wrong to own a business; I think you also own businesses.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, 77 Choppies outlets all over Botswana, what are you doing as a Ministry to protect this Choppies dominance over the small traders all over Botswana? Are you aware that this Choppies dominance all over Botswana has actually closed down the small shops all over the country? Thank you Honourable Minister.

MR SERETSE: Madam Speaker...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen to him Honourable Members.

MR SERETSE: Madam Speaker, I think it is very important that when we respond to the questions that are raised here, we are thorough and very informative, lest we are seen not to be answering and detailed. When you talk about dominance, I do not know whether there is dominance. You can only arrive at the dominance when you have done proper research that will instruct you so. So I would not be able to say there is dominance. Thank you.

UPDATE ON THE NUMBER OF POOR PEOPLE IN BOTSWANA

MR D. L. KEORAPETSE (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST): asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration to update this Honourable House on:-

- (i) the number of poor people in Botswana, in absolute terms, at the conception and/or implementation of the Poverty Eradication Programme;
- (ii) the number of beneficiaries thus far and the nature of benefits of the Programme;
- (iii) the amount spent on the Programme since conception/implementation; and

- (iv) the total number of beneficiaries and the number who graduated from absolute poverty since inception of the Programme.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, in accordance with Botswana Core Welfare Indicators Survey conducted by Statistics Botswana in 2009/2010, Botswana had 374 000 poor people, of whom 120 000 were in abject poverty at inception of the Poverty Eradication Programme. Madam Speaker, to date there are 18 993 beneficiaries whose benefits include; receiving small income generating projects, ability to generate monthly income above the P300 threshold and ability to cater for family needs.

Madam Speaker, the beneficiaries receive packages such as bakeries, tent hire, food catering, textile, backyard gardens, Tswana chickens, small stock, kiosks, leather works, to mention but a few.

Madam Speaker, the amount spent since inception to date, that is up to November 2015, is P566 698 518. The total number of the beneficiaries who received packages under the Poverty Eradication Programme are currently 18 993. Out of this Madam Speaker, projects for 13 409 beneficiaries are operational and generating income above P300 per month. Madam Speaker, in fact 952 of the operational projects are success stories generating more income than originally anticipated or projected in the business plan.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR MASISI): On a point of order. Thank you Madam Speaker, just that the House would be out of order, if you could ask the Honourable Minister to read the first figure again. I think he made an error on the number of the poor when he read it.

MR MAKGALEMELE: In accordance with the Botswana Core Welfare Indicators Survey conducted by Statistic Botswana in 2009/10, Botswana had 374 poor people. Thank you.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary question. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister, why is it that we continue to have poor people being registered as destitute despite this programme?

MR MAKGALEMELE: Madam Speaker, at the moment we have not able to roll-out poverty eradication programmes for all poor people in the country. That is why we are still doing the mobilisation and we are

still doing the assessments. Therefore in view of some of these processes that we have to undertake, certainly poor people if identified as and when identified will be registered.

SHORTAGE OF INSTITUTIONAL HOUSING AT NALEDI SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

MR K. P. MOLATLHEGI (GABORONE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development:-

- (i) whether she is aware of the shortage of institutional housing at Naledi Senior Secondary School;
- (ii) whether there are any plans to assist teachers not allocated institutional housing;
- (iii) to state the timeline for such interventions, if any; and
- (iv) whether she will consider paying housing allowance to those teachers not allocated institutional houses.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Thank you Madam Speaker,

- i) I am aware of the shortage of institutional houses at Naledi Senior Secondary School and I am saying this because the school has a total of staff complement of 172 employees while there are only 83 houses. This comprises of 132 teaching personnel while the remaining 40 are the support staff.
- ii) Madam Speaker, whilst there are currently no plans to construct additional staff houses for the school due to budgetary constraints, we are in the process of re-distributing some recently acquired houses within the South East Region to all affected schools including Naledi Senior Secondary School.
- iii) Madam Speaker, we commit to have re-distributed these houses by 28th February 2016.
- iv) Madam Speaker, there are no plans to pay housing allowance to teachers who are not allocated institutional houses since teachers are governed by the same conditions of service as the rest of the Public Service. As such they are already benefiting from the existing housing allowance that is payable to all Public Service employees.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AT NALEDI SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

MR K. P. MOLATLHEGI (GABORONE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development to state:-

- (i) whether there is any In-Service training for teachers at Naledi Senior Secondary School;
- (ii) the number of teachers who have been trained to date and the timeline for training the remaining teachers; and
- (iii) whether she can provide a training programme for the teachers at this school.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Thank you Madam Speaker, my Ministry has no single In-Service training plan for a specific single institution or school. We do prepare annual in-service training plans for both select teachers and non-teaching staff. The annual plans cater for short, medium and long term in-service training based on the national priorities as informed by the needs of the individual departments within the Ministry. Individual departments, regions and/or schools do however planned for and implement local in-house workshops as part of staff development initiatives.

Madam Speaker, Naledi Senior Secondary School has a total establishment of 132 teachers qualified with a minimum of Bachelor's Degree plus teaching qualification or Bachelor of Education Degree. In-service training thus becomes additional as a staff development programme. Due to funding constraints however, there has not been in any in-service training for teachers at Naledi Senior Secondary School in the past three years. The Ministry continues to request for funding for Teachers In-Service training and should these be provided in our recurrent budget, we will provide such opportunity including Naledi Senior Secondary School teachers.

Madam Speaker, In-Service programmes are based on the needs of the target beneficiaries. These would therefore vary according to the needs of the schools, regions/departments. At national level however, the focus is on teacher competences to facilitate effective learning (pedagogy), assessment, remediation, emotional intelligence, leadership/management skills and strategies, etc.

Thank you.

PLANS TO PURCHASE AN INDUSTRIAL PHOTOCOPIER FOR NALEDI SENIOR SCHOOL

MR K. P. MOLATLHEGI (GABORONE SOUTH): asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development to state:-

- (i) whether she is aware of the continuous breakdown of the photocopying equipment at Naledi Senior Secondary School;
- (ii) whether there are any plans to purchase an industrial photocopier for the school; and
- (iii) the number of incidents where tests and examinations were postponed due to the photocopying machine breakdown.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Thank you Madam Speaker,

- i) I am aware that Naledi Senior Secondary Schools is troubled with their photocopier breaking down time and again. The machine is serviced by ITEC Botswana and I am advised that the breakdowns are consistent with the level of activity of the machine which is not designed to handle such large paper runs.
- ii) Industrial Copiers stationed at Gaborone Senior Secondary School serve a cluster of schools in the Gaborone area, Naledi Secondary School included. We have twenty of these machines across the country to relieve smaller machines in schools and currently have no plans to buy more.
- iii) The school cannot remember an incident when an examination was postponed due to the photocopier malfunctioning but on several occasions has had to seek assistance with copying at Ministry Headquarters and other schools when the industrial machine were not operational.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

ARCHITECTS' REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT (DATE OF COMMENCEMENT ORDER), 2014

(Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology)

ENGINEERS REGISTRATION (REGISTRATION AND PRACTICING CERTIFICATE FEES) REGULATIONS, 2015

(Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology)

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Member, you tabled under which section? Order! I would ask Honourable Member to correct like we did there.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 30 OF 2015: ENGINEERS REGISTRATION (REGISTRATION AND PRACTICING CERTIFICATE FEES) REGULATIONS, 2015.

(Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology)

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 87 OF 2014: ARCHITECTS' REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT (DATE OF COMMENCEMENT) ORDER, 2014.

(Minister of Infrastructure, Science and Technology)

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): On a point of procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. I was saying just for record purposes and to even correct the Hansard, the Minister earlier on tabled the two papers and I think it is on record that he did table those papers although inadvertently they were wrong. But he is now tabling yet another two instruments, why does he not withdraw the earlier tabling then retable these papers afresh? I thank you Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, I am able to expunge them from my office.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Murmuring)...

MADAM SPEAKER: I mean from the Hansard.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: But it does not matter, he can still withdraw. Honourable Minister, withdraw the previous ones. But I can really expunge them.

MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MR MOLEFHI): Madam Speaker, I withdraw the first presentation of Statutory Instrument No. 87 of 2014: Architects' Registration (Amendment) Act (Date of Commencement) Order, 2014. And subsequently Madam Speaker, I also withdraw Statutory Instrument No. 30 of 2015: Engineers Registration (Registration and Practicing Certificate Fees) Regulations, 2015 as presented initially. I thank you.

Initial tabling of papers-withdrawn

**RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S
SPEECH**

Motion

(Resumed Debate)

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, I am informed that when the House adjourned yesterday, Honourable Batshu was on the floor and he was left with 34 minutes 42 seconds.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): On a point of procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. We seek your guidance because during the days you were away on official business, the Speaker came up with a certain tradition. The procedure was that, as he was running the House alone, he would get few minutes to stretch his legs and in the process we also benefited. Are you also going to carry the same tradition or not? I thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: There is a need to stretch the legs. This means that for the period that he will be away we will have a 20 minutes health break. He will be away until the 11th.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR BATSHU): Thank you Madam Speaker. Yesterday before we adjourned, I was still debating the President's Speech. I reminded Parliament that when we met after the 2014 elections, I came here with a mandate.

There is a challenge where I come from, in other words I am in trouble. I had already explained that one of my problems is that I wish to be assisted concerning Tutume village infrastructure. One of them is the new Tutume hospital, not the small cramped one we have.

The fact that the road from Tutume to Maitengwe where there is a border is dilapidated. However it was already designed with 9.9 kilometers that goes through Changate and 6.6 kilometers that goes through Dagwi. When those tenders were supposed to be awarded, we stopped. I said when we removed some, there was one project in the National Development Plan 10 (NDP 10) which Nkange Constituency hoped it will have and that is the Maitengwe Police Station.

We experienced challenges when it was due to be constructed. I once told this House that Tutume Police station has been overtaken by events and it can no longer hold the capacity of the constituency. I even mentioned that it will be one of the projects that I make a follow up on. One of the things that I also highlighted is the Tutume-Goshwe road, it needs to be tarred. I also talked about phase 2 of the sewage system and lastly the fact

that the constituency has grown to a level where it needs to be watered from the Ntimbale dam. I am presenting these issues to parliament because His Excellency the President talked of the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) and Nkange constituency is very much hopeful that we will equally gain from this programme. We just hope the ESP will cater for us as well, and the constituency has been lagging behind on issues of development due to circumstances that we are aware of. We just hope that the programme could start at Nkange constituency since other constituencies benefited, with that we welcome ESP in the Nkange constituency. I would also want to applaud the Botswana Democratic Party government for having found it fit to keep money in reserves when the economy was still booming in order to cater for emergency situations. This is the money that was used in 2008 when the world experienced an economic downturn and Botswana is the only state which did not retrench its workforce, instead we did not increase their salaries but the entire public maintained their jobs. I therefore applaud the government for that vision to reserve some money for these kind of situations, it has come in handy and even those who opposed the initiative could see that it has benefited the country. We all know that there is high unemployment rate in Botswana but Botswana are going to benefit from the ESP, it is true we wanted to address unemployment when we were campaigning and now we are trying to do that through the ESP. if I may give an example, one of my responsibilities is to establish the number of the number of jobs which will be created and the number of people needed to do those jobs. Currently I have three ministries who have made requests; Ministry of Health, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and Ministry of Education and Skills Development, I foresee that in the next three years this would have created up to thirty thousand jobs; just a little over thirty eight thousand employment opportunities. This would be for artisans and general labourers. Therefore my responsibility is to establish those which need us to import labour so that regional immigration selection boards are guided when people make requests. And where we do not need to import labour we need to keep and secure these opportunities.

Another thing that concerns me is that in advertisements for drivers post, vacancies would require 10 to 15 years' experience, we have since realised that those kind of advertisements close out some of the applicants. When we look at university graduates, they should get the experience on the job. That is why going forward I will request those who are coming up with those requirements to embrace all applicants. I take it that as we are going the ESP way, the business community will be there and they will be able to gain something from

there. But as they gain something, the minimum wages stipulated by the law should be adhered to as well, and we should not only stick to the set amount of set wages, we should consider paying them reasonable wages. I want to implore all of us that as we will be embarking on constructing classrooms, clinics and staff houses, those who have done brick laying should come forth, and that those who have brick laying companies should as well be serious so that we use their bricks as locals because most of the ESP jobs are those of construction. I take this time to encourage Botswana to take those businesses, think the informal sector will benefit as well, the hawkers whom we always see around, they will benefit as well.

I would like to request the Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning to waive some of the penalties charged to the local company owners who default on paying tax. I must applaud you for waiving some of the penalties because some of them are really ignorant. They need to be assisted because at times they have a challenge when they have to tender for other jobs while they still owe some money despite penalties being waived. If there is anything that could be done to assist those people, please let us do that, may be there could be a payment plan so that they are able to benefit from the ESP.

At the Construction Industry Trust Fund (CITF) and Madirelo Training and Testing Centre, we shall be waiting for those who might need semi skills on different construction activities so that they are prepared to partake in the jobs created through the ESP. I want to move on to Security Mr Speaker. I want to applaud the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), Botswana Police Service and Directorate on Intelligence and Security (DIS), as well as the Immigration department. There is nothing as good as the nation feeling safe whenever they are. We have to applaud these different security forces and also applaud Botswana for assisting the security departments to maintain peace in the republic. Peace is the most key aspect in a country, I am supposed to implore everyone to maintain peace in the Republic.

When we talk about Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) maybe I should indicate that at the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs the Immigration Department has given us permission to turn our systems and make them automated even those which were manual like work permits. We have been funded to document these using Information Technology (IT) for better service delivery. We have to improve the service at the border gates so that people do not take forever in long queues. Currently we hear complaints that the service in South African Border is quicker compared to the one in Botswana but

we know that it is because of the resources that they have. I am grateful that through ESP we are going to be funded to purchase such resources at the border gates.

Still on the issue of peace, when our neighbouring countries were fighting for freedom, the likes of South Africa, Zimbabwe and others it was not the intention of the then ruling Botswana Democratic Party to allow these people to find refuge in our country. We did not want them to attack their opponents from our country. The reason why we did all that was because we knew that even if these people could come looking for their people; we were not in a position to fight back to protect ourselves and the nation of Botswana. We should prevent this from happening; we should never allow refugees in our country who will start causing problems with the people in their countries. If they do that; it is possible that they can be followed here and Botswana would never have peace again.

We still remember the June 14 raid, the South African refugees were followed here and two of our people were killed. So in future we have to protect this peace by making sure that whoever comes here does not cause trouble in his/her country and come here. Nobody who relates with dangerous groups should be allowed in this country as they could put this country in danger.

I would therefore like to thank this Parliament for coming up with the Immigration law that gives the President the power to immediately deport whoever that he feels threatens the peace of this country. This was done to avoid being involved in conflicts between any group or country by allowing an individual to come and stay in our country.

I am also glad that our Immigration law only permits people who promise to abide by the Botswana laws into this country. If anybody was charged with crime and he comes here, he is taken to prison immediately without an option of fine. As soon as that person ends his/her sentence we automatically ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to declare him a prohibited immigrant. That is the law. I would like to indicate that this law was established by the Members of Parliament the main aim being to protect our country. We only have to welcome investors who are willing to respect the laws of this country.

Very soon I will be coming to this Parliament to propose that we loosen our immigration laws a bit to lure investors into our country and to be able to assist them as quickly as possible.

Still on that one, I would like to correct something. Last time in his speech the leader of Opposition stated

that we offer permits to our friends. He was actually addressing me saying we should not do that. It was unfortunate because we are not supposed to undermine things like that. In the Immigrations, there are Boards that offer people permits, they are called Regional Immigrants Selection Boards. They are currently eight. There are two in Gaborone, the other one is in Lobatse, Selibe Phikwe, Serowe, Francistown, Chobe and Maun; that is where people apply for permits. So the law says if permits are not approved they can meet with the Minister. The people who form these boards are there in the policy, the Chairperson is the District commissioner and the Assistant Chairperson is the Officer in Charge (OC) in that District. Those are the people who give out the permits.

So it was irresponsible as far as I am concerned for Honourable Boko to have said the permits are given to our friends. I would also like to say...

MR KGOROBA: On a point of clarification Madam Speaker. Thank you Madam Speaker. I agree with you Honourable Member that in your department you may be making sure that friendship does not work, but the problem is that the issue of permits does not affect your ministry only. Can you assure us that you are certain that in other Ministries that is not the case? I trust that since you are the overseer in your Minister that might not be the case.

MR BATSHU: I thank you Honourable Member. The procedure is straight and forward, the permits are issued at one place. I know that you are worried about what happens in our back office because before the application goes to the Immigration, it has to be assessed. I sometimes hear you saying that. The permits are issued at one place and we are not supposed to accuse the officers who do this work and say they give the permits to their friends.

Before I can stop talking about defence one thing that has really worried me that I think the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security must look into is the backlog of cases in our courts, morespecially livestock theft. In future they should maybe hire temporary magistrates and temporary judges so that we finish these cases. You find that the witnesses end up dying waiting for the cases. Sometime the exhibits are lost too.

The other thing that I want to talk about is road safety. I want to show my dissatisfaction about something and request that we look into it. Gaborone city has turned into a cattle post. As a developing country and at the level we are at, this should be not the case. So this situation should be addressed whether by the Local Government and Rural Development or Gaborone City

Council. It is not good that while you are in the mall, you see a cow crossing the road. This situation should be controlled and we should come up with strategies to take these cows back to the farms. There are accidents where vehicles crashed on cows in the middle of the mall. This is not something we should allow as a country therefore we request that the Gaborone City Council should address this matter quickly.

MS BATHOBAKAE: Elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Batshu on that subject of livestock which are all over the town, since these cows are from Tlokweng and Kweneng, do you not think it will be easier to put up a fence which will divide Tlokweng and Gaborone to prohibit the cows from crossing to Gaborone.

MADAM SPEAKER: Okay that is not an elucidation.

MR BATSHU: I agree; in fact anything which can prevent the cattle from crossing over to the town is good.

Another thing, a few days back I was driving from here to Maitengwe; my home village and between Rasesa and Dibete I counted up to five dead cows by the roadside in just one day. So this does not reflect well on road safety. When vehicles crash into cows, people die in some accidents and usually these areas are fenced, this is something we should improve. Honourable Members I have said this Ikalanga saying before that *shweleloviya phuka ye buchanga* meaning developments are not stagnant. We have put up a fence but if another problem arises as we see cattle still being on the road, we should come up with another strategy to solve this problem to remove these cattle so that when we drive there are no obstacles.

Another thing regarding Transport is bush clearance in our roads, it needs to be addressed, we should not find overgrown trees by the roadside which obstructs the view as one is driving.

Food security issue; I would like to commend the Ministry of Trade and Industry that one of our Special Economic Zones (SEZ) is Pandamatenga which will be our food basket. I would like them to treat it as one of the priorities because food security is very important to any nation so I plead that they address it. Whilst on this subject I recently had a discussion with some Members indicating that in the new road National Development Plan there should a road from Maitengwe passing through Nata gate to Manjerengwe and Sepako. This road can help in future when we want to travel to Pandamatenga which is our food basket and very soon it will be a town I think we will purchase tractors and parts there.

I also want to indicate through Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD), my concern is that wildlife are terrorising us at the fields. So going forth the Ministry of Agriculture should work together to address this issue with the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism. The main thing is that we have already divided our country in Wildlife Management Areas so let us try to move our wildlife away from the fields. Right now there is no use, we give people the seeds to plough, after that the elephants eat those yields, this is something which even if we started ISPAAD with the intention to improve people's lives...

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MR RALOTSI): Clarification. I am happy about Honourable Batshu's debate but since it is clear how the Ministry of Agriculture is being proficient, the fields do not go to the wildlife it is the other way round. Therefore why not talk to the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism and stop involving Ministry of Agriculture, control your wildlife's movement and keep them away from the fields.

MR BATSHU: No, if you think it is okay for wildlife to be eating the yields and want to exclude yourself from this issue it is not right my colleague. We need to discuss these things...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR BATSHU: I am no longer yielding. I refuse...

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

MR BATSHU: Oh! What were you saying? I did not see it was...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Just ignore them.

MR BATSHU: Foot and Mouth; this disease is an epidemic but I am grateful for the efforts which are undertaken. I think if we can work together with the Ministry of Agriculture to undertake these efforts the disease will reduce, we need to cooperate as a nation. These issues of cordon fences; the Ministry of Agriculture should ensure that they are in a good condition all the time so there can be more effective.

Labour; it was the Botswana Democratic Party government which in 1978, some 37 years ago went to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to request for membership in order for the employee and employer's rights to be practised in our country.

Trade Unions Act was enacted by this government as way of encouraging their establishment in our country

so that they can represent the worker's rights. My concern is that in these Trade Unions there are many complaints by the members of Trade Unions regarding the performance of their leadership. The answer to this is actually very brief, the leadership of any trade union is elected by the members therefore if they are failing to execute their duties there can be a re-election; that is the practice in place. Therefore we need to remind the Trade Unions that they have to abide by the Act; if they elect a committee member and they are not satisfied with his performance they have the power to vote that individual out of the office rather than being afraid and now try to seek the Ministry's assistance.

We are grateful that the passenger train is coming back in a short period of time, we were always complaining about it while I was still with my colleague Mr Molebatsi. We were always complaining about it because up north our people mainly use it as a source of transportation. That train must come back. The safety or concerns about the rail road should be attended to so that Batswana and other consumers can trust its safety. Let me advise that there should be stations in places like Rasesa so that the train can pass through and also pick people from Kgale. The train should also have a station from Lobatse to Gaborone so that it can reduce congestion...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Even in Moshupa.

MR BATSHU: Even in Moshupa if at all the railway line will end up there. I am about to conclude my debate. I would like to commend the Public service in this country because the country has developed to this standard because of the public servants who worked hard and who are still working hard. I urge them to continue doing so and that they should not be involved in politics. When they vote they have a right to vote whoever they want but they should perform their duty first. We should also ensure that we protect the public servants as politicians instead of getting them into the troubles that we cannot get them out of. Let us advise them accordingly.

I would also like to comment on the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture and state that there is no smoke without fire. There are some complaints that there could be corruption or maladministration happening within the Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) programme. It is alleged that an individual can sell the same goats to more than one person because there is no monitoring. I believe that an audit of all the projects that we have will be conducted and make sure that we improve your monitoring tools in order to ensure that people do not do anything that is not allowed.

When I started my debate I thanked God that we have Opposition parties in our country ever since independence because some Members from the Opposition really give valuable advice. I did explain that there is no sport which can be nice without spectators and critics. We therefore should acknowledge that this is democracy and this strengthens democracy. I want to tell you that a friend of mine from Lesotho told me the other day that I should advise Botswana not to get lost like Basotho did. He says that a coalition government is difficult and that is what led to the problems in Lesotho. He suggested that if the Botswana National Front (BNF) is strong enough, it should stand for elections as an entity and win them; if the Botswana Movement for Democracy (BMD) is strong enough, it should stand for elections and win them and lead. If the Botswana Congress Party (BCP) is serious enough as a registered political party in this country, it should stand on its own and run the country on its own. The same applies to the Botswana People's Party; it can stand on its own if it is a strong party that can rule the country.

I thought I should conclude with the message from Lesotho that Botswana should not be enticed by any coalition party because there is no truth in that. There is nowhere in the world where a coalition government has ever worked. Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR NGAKA (TAKATOKWANE): Thank you Mr Speaker for giving me the opportunity to say my bit on the State of the nation address. It is my first time to debate ever since this Parliament meeting began since I was running around with other government issues.

If someone performs their job well it does not come as a surprise to see them being elected many times because it shows the strength they have. I would like to commend Honourable Molale for being able to make it back to the House and for the BDP Members of Parliament to welcome you back in unity because they appreciate your skills. Last year I advised a new Member in this House and told them that they should not unpack their luggage yet because they would not be staying for too long. The said individual felt offended by that and my words became a reality because they did not make it back here. I therefore would like to inform Kgosi Lotlamoreng that I welcome you to the House but you should not unpack your bags yet because in 2019 you will not make it back here since Barolong will need your services more back there. Nevertheless, I still welcome you to this blessed House.

Lastly I should thank the President of this country for this good speech that has value and promise. I should thank him because it shows that we have a real leader and not a poet who comes here to speak big English words

to impress those who know English well or those who know poetry. Our President talks about developments and the lives of Botswana and not to impress those who like English. I should thank the President for those words that have substance. If I do not talk about my constituency I would not have done what the people sent me here for. It would appear like I do not listen to their concerns and I would be just like those ones I defeated at the elections. That is one thing that makes me have this kind of attitude towards my constituency. I will talk to different Ministries because if we can pay attention my area, it is the one that has been hard hit by poverty. When we talk of the areas where poverty is most prevalent, we are talking about areas like Takatokwane; Letlhakeng-Lephephe; and Kweneng West.

I should indicate that Botswana usually reside where they originated and they gather whatever they have in their place of origin be it in the east or west of this country or wherever. That dictates how people in that area perceive life and their challenges. When people make their requests to the government they make them looking at their area. It might be that the request could be affecting the whole country at that time but the point is they would be making it for their area. I am talking about the people of Motokwe, Khekhenye, and Tshwaane who are squeezed by boundaries, the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) on one side and Bangwaketse border on the other. They have agricultural places, both for ploughing and rearing livestock. They are therefore making this request to the government, when the President was there, they pleaded with the President and said, "President, we are cramped. We cannot even stretch, consider our situation Sir." The President considered their plea and the situation improved considerably. He gave a Directive that the Wildlife Management Area between Khekhenye and Tshwaane should be given to them which was 71 066 hectares. This land was given to the residents of Motokwe, Tshwaane and Khekhenye, to demarcate farm plots for game farming and to also keep cattle because they were restricted by wildlife.

I am suspicious about this issue because now when the farms are demarcated, we are told they are going to be gazetted and then advertised. Who raised a plea that they are cramped? Is it the residents of Nshakazhogwe or Boteti? No, it was the residents of that area. Let me request that when these farms are being tendered for, the people who raised that plea, who are the residents of that area, should be considered and given land because they are the ones who pleaded that they have nowhere to keep their livestock. Now if we allocate the people from Nshakazhogwe, Francistown, Kanye, the plea of the residents of my areas in Motokwe, Tshwaane and Khekhenye, would not have been answered. My request

therefore is that Land Board should look intently into this matter during farm plots allocation.

The second issue is that there is KW2 which is 409 720 hectares just next to KW6 and it is also a Wildlife Management Area. In case, these farms are allocated to all Batswana yet the plea was raised by the residents of Motokwe. I request Government and the Minister to ask the Department of Wildlife to de-zone KW2 which is 409 720 hectares. In de-zoning that other area, it should not be demarcated into farm plots but an open communal area for the residents of this area, the very ones who are cramped so that they may have a space to engage in farming. If we failed with KW6, KW2 is available, let us take it so that they may be able to plant and rear livestock through programs such as Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD) and Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID). Those people do not have space for farming. I was starting with the issue of land and I believe that even though is not around, my request will reach him.

The second thing that I request still on the issue of land in my area is that I have a settlement called Kgaresebotswana. It has not been turned into a village. What surprised me is that when settlements were being incorporated to the respective villages, it was not taken into consideration. I knocked several times on Ministers' offices to say you have omitted others. How can such a sizeable number of people be mistakenly omitted? Another puzzling thing about this settlement is that some have certificates which show that Land Board allocated them land around 1980 but now they are an unrecognised settlement. Maybe the Ministries of Local Government and Lands and Housing should look into this because they have certificates to prove that they have been allocated plots in the 1980s yet they are told it is an unrecognised settlement. Are we helping these people? They should assess it because it does not recognise the lives of Batswana who are there and the government should rise and assist these people. The moment it still remains an unrecognised settlement means that no developments will be carried out there. It is going to be difficult for the government to take developments to these people yet they have certificates from the Land Board.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): Clarification. Madam Speaker, my colleague brought this issue to us saying that Council took a decision to incorporate them into another village. We agreed with him that because it is a Council issue, we work with the Council. I must assure him that we are following it and he cannot be crying like someone

who does not know. He should keep meeting us or he can come tomorrow so that we may sort out that issue. Thank you.

MR NGAKA: Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me commend the follow up of this issue. It is just that when you are in need of something, even when you are promised assistance, you keep asking on the progress. Not because you do not believe that you will be helped, it is just that it is a matter that troubles you greatly or it troubles other people as well. However, I am grateful Minister that you have shown that it is on your table or you are assessing it.

We have the Ministry of Health. Madam Speaker, I promised to describe my area as it is and not the way. I will not hastily describe it; I want to describe it just as it is in the time you have given me. If I derail somehow, reprimand me by saying, "Ngaka, you are going astray." Takatokwane Constituency has more than 24 000 people, with 14 health posts and one clinic. We have one doctor at the clinic responsible also for all the 14 health posts. 14 health posts, 1 doctor in Takatokwane and Takatokwane clinic operates 24 hours. This means that the doctor should be nearby because that clinic has a maternity ward. The Ministry of Health should look into this. I have heard that some contracts are nearing expiry and they are leaving. You should be prepared at all times so that when one doctor's contract expires, you have one to replace him or her to curb unnecessary gaps.

That is not all Madam Speaker, the whole of this week at Khudumelapye clinic, parents were left dumbfounded. There are three nurses there; two were on a leave and another one went to the hospital and the clinic was left with no health practitioner for several days. Maybe that is just mismanagement of the workers there. How does the supervisor manage those employees or those public workers so that they may not all go. If they all leave, only the cleaners are left and the patients end up calling the Member of Parliament and say, "Honourable, we are at the clinic and there is no one here." Maybe that one is a management area requiring the Ministry of Health to attend to it and ensure that the nurses do not all leave at once, there should be some who remain.

Minister, I have a single concern on Health. Administration of health in my constituency was done in Molepolole because Molepolole is now our "Johannesburg". All administration, including payments was run at Scottish Livingstone in Molepolole. But since August, that was when everything was transferred to Letlhakeng Rural Administration Centre (RAC). We have a problem there, we have a backlog of payments of nurses, drivers and night-watchmen and to date those people have not been paid. When we try to follow it

up we are being told that casualty returns were only submitted in August and that they have not been attended to. Honourable Minister please look into it because it appears people are being owed for quite a longer period of time.

I have long raised a concern that there is no hospital in my constituency, the nearest hospital is at Jwaneng, 60 kilometres from Magagarapa, from the main line of my constituency. Motokwe, Khekhenye and Tsetseng residents are referred to Hukuntsi hospital. Another nearest hospital is Scottish Livingstone in Molepolole, please look into that, having to travel more than 150 kilometres in order to reach a hospital then a patient is referred to Princess Marina Hospital after that. My concern is that when relatives take a patient to a particular hospital, they may not have relatives there where they could sleep over. There is no where they could sleep and assist in nursing the patient. If I had a hospital in my constituency Honourable Member, it was going to be easy to assist nurses with the nursing of patients. Or better still if they were referred to either Gaborone or Molepolole, it could be better because it is a shorter distance and chances are their relatives or children are based in those areas and it could assist the situation.

Honourable Minister please look into it because when I try to follow up the issue of construction of three health posts, I do not get a clear response, no one seems to own up that.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE): On a point of elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me tell the Honourable Member that District Management Health Team (DHMT) does not apply to his constituency. We are currently working on a rationalisation plan to try and rectify DMHT as well as cutting the distances travelled. Thank you.

MR NGAKA: Let me thank the Minister for that elucidation. Time is not on our side, please speed up that arrangement. Let me move on. These 14 health posts refer all their patients to Molepolole. My concern is; way back when a patient was referred, they were transported by an ambulance and they could travel with auxiliary staff member. Honourable Minister that is not the case as of now. A patient is just taken by a mere driver to a hospital and then when they reach Princes Marina Hospital, the driver just pulls off and sits in the ambulance since it is not their duty to attend to patients or to hand patients over to Princess Marina staff. I think there should be support staff who travels with patients and is going to handle all the logistics regarding the referred patient. If a patient has an emergency before arrival, there should be someone to assist them, how

could a driver assist while he is driving at the same time? Please look into this Honourable Minister, it is not right, it puts people's lives in danger.

If I do not talk about Kaudwane road, I will be making a huge mistake. Honourable Minister, I have many roads which need maintenance. The Salajwe/Takatokwane road is sandy and needs gravel, Motokwe/Tsetseng road needs gravel as well, Salajwe/Sorilatholo road, Sorilatholo/Khudumelapye, Metsibotlhoko/Khudumelapye, Jwaneng /Magagarapa among other roads. From all these roads, I request mainly the Letlhakeng/Kaudwane road...

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

MR NGAKA: Honourable Minister, you can shelve other roads I am not so selfish but I am only requesting for one road to be maintained; the Letlhakeng/Kaudwane road. If you could assist me with the maintenance of this road then you would have attended to my greatest concern. I ran short of words when in one of the Kgotla meetings at Salajwe, where one elder requested if it were possible to channel funds which were geared towards Ipelegeng and Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) to the maintenance of the road. This showed great concern from the community.

I also have a concern regarding the water situation in my constituency. Mr Speaker, our water contains lime and my request is for water treatment plants to be constructed in that area. Since the Jwaneng mine treats its water from Magagarapa, the government could as well seek assistance in this regard. Even though health officials advise that lime is good for digestion, I have made enquiries on that and I am not going to dwell much on it. I am requesting for water treatment plants. Khudumelapye village does not have water at all, the borehole pumps one cubic per day, translating to 1 000 litres per day. For it to reach that, the engine should run 24 hours. I have long requested the Minister of Minerals, Water and Energy Resources to assist the situation. The surprising thing is that in Malwelwe, 30 kilometres from Khudumelapye, there are boreholes watering Molepolole, Thamaga and Mmankodi, I then wonder how come the water from Malwelwe is distributed to Thamaga while Khudumelapye is just 30 kilometres away, where a pipe could just be connected to the Malwelwe borehole and water the Khudumelapye residents. That is something that should be considered as well. You will have to pardon me, I am going to talk about my constituency as it is, and I will not leave anything because some of the things are disheartening. There is a new school at Letlhakeng. We used to have Mphuthe Community Junior Secondary School and then a new one was built, the main issue was that the old

school was cracking. Then a decision was taken to build a new school, with what? It should be a complete school with hostels. All went well and it was constructed, after that those students who are supported by the council were accommodated in that dilapidated school. The reason why we wanted the new school to be built was so that the old one could be destroyed. At first it was owned by the Central Government and then the Council after it accommodated its children.

So now the Council is saying if they accommodate any other child who is not under their responsibility, they will have to pay. Really! But then where are the hostels for Mphuthe School; we could be using them to accommodate these children not for them to sleep in dilapidated buildings. Will the building not fall on them? Those are some of the things that the Minister of Education should consider.

Another concern is the students who stay at the old Mphuthe hostels. They walk more than a kilometre everyday going to a new school. The question is who takes care of boarding students between the two schools? My plea is that new hostels must be built in Mphuthe because that school is falling. It now seems like we do not like our children if we accommodate them in those buildings. Due to this problem, students commute from Sesung, Metsibothoko and Ditshegwane going to school at Letlhakeng. In the afternoon they are transported by a bus to their homes. Guess what, the issue is that they are more than 200 in that bus, Minister that is overloading, let it transport a controllable number.

Still talking about education, I would not be fair if I cannot appreciate what my government did in my constituency after what happened. I was there asking for every assistance and everything was provided. The ambulances, health workers and others, even after the accident the government was really supportive. As we speak, yesterday the parents of the deceased and injured students were taken by the counsellors to the scene. Tomorrow they will be with the students, counselling is in progress, not forgetting help from the government to the parents.

I would like to thank the Minister of Education for that school and say I trust that in February the form 4's will be starting their classes there. Next year our children will attend school staying near their parents.

I have a problem with the Ministry of Agriculture. We have Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) programme; on top of that we have intergrated farming. These two do not link; LIMID is independent, intergrated farming too. LIMID refuses to help those who deal with intergrated farming. Minister I urge you to consider these things. We are not

boosting the integrated farming; therefore we need other programmes to boost it. You should look into it Minister and see how you can assist us.

I would like to thank the President for coming up with the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). I want to remind Honourable Batshu that ESP is going to create employment for most people and this is the responsibility of your office. We are going to have more jobs, roads and buildings. Therefore your office should be ready for that.

I have a concern that if the people who worked at the school that I have been talking about go to labour to report the company owners, those who are reported do not turn up. Why can the law not force the company owner to avail himself? You therefore have to be ready for such cases as the people who are going to work in the construction companies will come in numbers to complain.

Maybe I should talk about the service level agreement you are having in the border equipments; Information Technology (IT) equipments. It is not the first time I am proposing that there be the transfer of the skills. We spend a lot of money renting the equipments that scan the passports at the borders. It is really expensive and maybe you should consider proposing that the suppliers train our officers so that in future we can use them ourselves. The problem is that your Ministry ends up requesting for supplementary budget wanting to pay for the maintenance of this equipment. You should look into it Minister so that it does not cause dent to the government.

I have a problem with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. When the Ministry of Agriculture finance farmers with Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agriculture Development (ISPAAD), the livestock destroys the harvest. It then becomes difficult for the courts to take action against the owner of the livestock. Then it means the funds that are used to sponsor ISPAAD do not bear any fruits as the harvest is eaten by livestock.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): On a point of elucidation. I thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to say Honourable Lotlaamoreng you will recall that we once talked about this issue at Ntlo ya Dikgosi. We then handed it over to Dikgosi who said they will go and consult their tribes. There was no standard sentence; everyone sentenced the way he wanted. We therefore believe that there should be a policy but for now it is still in the hands of Dikgosi. After that we will then come up with a policy.

MR NGAKA: Let me thank you for that response Minister. I understand. I was grateful for the internal roads in Letlhakeng, I thank you for the great effort that you did in the Letlhakeng roads. However I still believe that something is still behind, the bus rank, why is that so? Letlhakeng serves as an entrance point for all villages in the Takatokwane constituency. It means the 14 villages I am talking about even Kang at Honourable Moipisi's constituency they pass through Letlhakeng. Therefore you will find that there are many people who use public transport in Letlhakeng. So Minister consider that. We do not have to look for space, since Letlhakeng is one of the first villages to have a roundabout in Botswana, at that roundabout there is a huge space next to it and it is suitable for the bus rank, we do not have to go look for a space elsewhere.

Another issue in the Local Government Ministry is that we have a service centre; three service centres have been established in my constituency, one is at Motokwe, the other is at Takatokwane, the other at Salajwe but the only one which is working is the one at Takatokwane but it is understaffed. So Minister, assess that issue and talk to the relevant stakeholders about shortage of staff so that it can be increased in order to provide services to the people.

My last request is addressed to the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources. I have six villages which do not have electricity connection completely; surprisingly others are not that far from the electricity poles, villages like Metsibotlhoko, Sesung is 7 kilometers from Metsibotlhoko but Sesung has electricity and Metsibotlhoko does not. Villages like Khekhenye, it is 5 kilometers from Motokwe, Motokwe has electricity, Khekhenye does not have. Since the Minister once promised me that he is connecting electricity zone by zone, he should not forget me next year; he should connect electricity to other villages too.

The Trans Kalahari Railway Line; he should hasten this one because the only thing remaining is the contractors, there is one company which once visited the area called Walk About; they held meetings in the villages saying that they have discovered coal in Takatokwane and want to establish a mine. Therefore they have a proposal to establish a coal mine at Takatokwane because the Trans Kalahari will pass through Takatokwane. The Minister should hasten it because my constituents are already expecting the mine which will be established there mainly because they are going to find jobs without having to work far from home; they can also be like other people who do not work far from their villages. It should not be a different issue when we discuss it in future.

To tell the truth, if we have the Trans Kalahari Railway Line which I believe will turn somewhere and pass through the whole area since the railroad is going to Namibia, the road is already there which reach Morwamosu. The Minister should assess it and talk to the relevant stakeholders to ensure that there is progress. We should not just talk about something then there are no results. Madam Speaker, my debate was not long, that briefly concludes it. Thank you.

MR NTLHAILE (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me take this opportunity to first thank my constituents at my constituency of Jwaneng-Mabutsane and highlight my concerns about the tragedy which has befallen them; when other villages were blessed with rainfalls, the Jwaneng-Mabutsane constituency experienced strong winds.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Let us stop right there on the strong winds, we will proceed after. Honourable Members, we will go for a 20 minutes break but please by 16:20 pm let us come back and proceed with Honourable Ntlhaile's debate.

**PROCEEDINGS SUSPENDED FOR
APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES**

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Ntlhaile, you still have a lot of time left, 44 minutes 24 seconds.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I was talking about the tragic events of Jwaneng-Mabutsane constituency in relation to the recent strong winds, they are completely homeless but the government is so slow to attend to such cases. I do not know what the problem is regarding this issue because in other remote areas the government has a quick programme in place to assist when such tragic incidents occur, why is it taking a long time to provide assistance at Jwaneng-Mabutsane? This is a very dangerous practice in people's lives, in the democracy...

MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI): On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker, I came late as I excused myself but I heard reports that there were some untrue facts said about me here. Therefore I wanted clarification as to whether it is allowed to mention the name of the person who is absent, more especially when it was just nonsensical and untrue facts?

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! I know that you excused yourself Honourable Member but we spoke on your behalf. We rebuked that kind of behavior. Now you are out of order because that is not the focus of Honourable Ntlhaile's debate.

MR NTLHAILE: Such behaviors are shocking and unfair to us, that when an area is faced by challenges and there is no arrangement for assistance. Whilst we know very well that there are services in that area we can end up having a car come as far as Gaborone to get equipment. When that happens you wonder where the people who need that help are at that time. These are things that are not proper and there should not still be happening in this era. The other thing that is really surprising Mr Speaker is that the BDP has run out of ideas to the point where even when people are going through challenges they make a mockery out of it and start campaigning. Mr Speaker I left here the other day in a rush to assess the situation when the storm had destroyed people's houses. Some people took pictures of the scene and gave them to opponents of mine who lost the elections only to see the individual covered by the television talking about that situation. Meanwhile there was no television that covered me during that time, at least for me to express my sympathies. This shows that the ruling party has run out of ideas and they are holding on to everything they can including making a show of the situation that happened in the Jwaneng-Mabutsane area despite the fact that people were hurting. I want to inform them that the programme that you are coming with is going to fail and I know that the television station and the radio station belong to the BDP, it controls them. Our people are denied the chance to see us on television but the opportunity is given to someone who was defeated in the elections and who does not even represent the constituency. The person was not even at the constituency when that happened and this is a clear sign that that the ruling party has run out of ideas. We want to ascertain it to you that we are taking over governance in 2019; we are going to defeat you. You can monopolize the television and radios all you like but the truth of the matter is that we are going to defeat you effortlessly. I defeated you in Goodhope the other time...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ... (Laughter!)... You really defeated him.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker, I wanted to advise although I am not very sure if it is procedural. It is the norm that in this House when someone asks for correction, especially that we want people outside to receive the correct information from Honourable Members, one is expected to yield so that we can hear it. I do not want to speak for them but they are refuting what is being said by the Honourable Member and they have indicated that the man who was interviewed was actually present. I therefore wanted to get clarity on the procedure in this instance.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! I did not hear anybody asking for a correction, I heard those who wanted clarifications. So the correction normally comes from the relevant Minister wanting to correct what is being said. I usually encourage the member on the floor to give the Minister under review a chance but as for a point of clarification one may yield or they may not. I did not hear him.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wanted to emphasise that time has run out for people to start to hold on to what is gone. The Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has arrived and even if you can take...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Whom did you say you defeated?

MR NTLHAILE: ... (Laughter!)... You know him that was in Goodhope.

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

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I wanted to emphasise that point...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker, as well as the Honourable Member; we know that he is speaking an acceptable Setswana word being "ja", which literally translates into "eat." For him to say that is our language but I can see that the way he is using the word the inferred meaning is to trivialise this House because it can mean many other things and so I am appealing you to make a ruling that this word should not be used in this House. I do not find it appropriate because we are using it in a belittling way and to mock others and so on and I do not agree with that.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members what we do sometimes is to abuse words as you could see the way people were laughing. Even though it is an acceptable Setswana word, we are adults and you know what you have been doing. You have been abusing that word and so I respectfully ask that we refrain from abusing such Setswana words.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I do not know what the Members are thinking and I am not thinking what you are thinking Madam Speaker, and the rest of the other Members. The Honourable Member and I had an exchange of words where I stated that we defeated the BDP and he said that it was not so and I stated to him that I defeated him. I do not know what you are thinking Madam Speaker but I was not thinking about such things being implied. Madam Speaker I should welcome Honourable Kgosikgolo of Barolong and commend him for the way he performed in the bye election that was

shocking and where he made history. The history that was made was that we defeated a strong ruling party that was using government resources. I had gone all out and Kgosikgolo won the elections. I want to thank him that he is here and thank the people of Goodhope-Mabule constituency who played a role in not affiliating themselves with one of the cruel leaders who have contributed to the poverty situation in this country. Those ones who are responsible for such huge gaps in the economy of this country and so this is historical for our country. We should thank the people of Goodhope who have been oppressed for a long time and finally decided in 2015 that they are removing the BDP from the Goodhope-Mabule constituency.

I should also say that Honourable Molale who was brought back to this House through shocking ways and ways that show that a country has disregarded the proper way of democracy. We are therefore saying to the Kgosikgolo that he has made history because it was our first time to witness a Minister or a Member of Parliament denouncing their post and immediately be reappointed to the post of Minister. These things are new to politics of Africa. We are not surprised because leaders such as these ones who believe that they are the only ones with good ideas, they do not listen to the advices of others, took this decision. I believe that the man who took this decision heard the message loud and clear, Barolong told him, no sir, we know that the President will vote you to Parliament again, now we are sending Kgosikgolo through the system of democracy.

Though we welcome him, we must show our concerns that, no, these are some of the things which are not good in a democratic government. They are not good and we are appealing and we will continue saying that, the ruling party is doing things in a crooked manner. It is a party that does not want to do things in public when it comes to elections. We challenge you that if the BDP government loves peace like they claim, yet they cannot thank the opposition parties which make this peace possible. In other countries when things like this happen; where elections are stolen by using government's funds, stolen by the ruling party because it uses government resources to campaign...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MR NTLHAILE: ...parties in other countries end up taking over government despite the elections. BDP should now come to the realisation that...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile...

MR NTLHAILE: They are intimidating because it is not order, they are playing.

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order. Madam Speaker, I do not think it is in order for Honourable Ntlhaile who knows the right usage of words to say the ruling party is stealing. He is out of order. Unless he can produce proof, otherwise he needs to withdraw those words. He is saying the ruling party is stealing and it uses the government resources to steal. He should produce evidence or else withdraw this word.

MADAM SPEAKER: I wanted to confirm first if he indeed said it steals. Did he say it steals? We can check in the Hansard. If he said it is stealing, that is wrong, so please just debate but do not say it steals because you will be forced to produce evidence.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: I did not hear him.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, we are challenging the ruling party to review the Electoral Act. Madam Speaker, we have long appealed as opposition, that if the ruling party has no fears that the government can change...

MR MOSWAANE: On a point of order Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, according to procedure, he has to explain whether he agrees or what. You should not say you will go and check when he did not deny. We are supposed to find evidence when he has denied because this man is using unsavoury words saying that the ruling party is stealing. He should not continue without having withdrawn this statement.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile, unfortunately even clerks in front of me did not hear you. I want to know if you said it steals. We can check in the Hansard like I said.

MR NTLHAILE: There is procedure and I believe we can continue Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Wait, I said, did you say that?

MR NTLHAILE: I am continuing Madam Speaker. You have confirmed that those who are recording said I did not say...

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Sit down. Honourable Member, I wanted to hear from you whether you said it steals, did you use that word? Yes or no. Again, do not hurry to rise while I am still standing.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I believe that I have not said anything out of order and I did not insult anyone. If there is any doubt, you can check if indeed I said those words. I believe that I have not said anything similar to what is said by Honourable.

Madam Speaker, I was still speaking on the system of running elections, that the ruling party is afraid of being ousted, it is not letting go of power because it refuses to change the Electoral Act. We said a fund should be established that will help to balance the way political parties campaign. What is happening now is that, BDP is not letting go of power, they control the radios and television. When the time for elections comes, the Ministers use official vehicles to campaign. This shows how the ruling party is refusing to step down from government.

This BDP government has agreed with Southern African Development Community (SADC) that they will work together to improve the running of elections in Southern Africa. It is surprising however that at the moment the BDP is disregarding SADC Protocol...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of procedure.

MR NTLHAILE: ...that there should be all party funding.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of procedure Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Point of procedure Honourable Ntlhaile means that you should sit down.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): Madam Speaker, I think if we can allow the Honourable Member to continue in the manner that he is right now, we will be rendering this House to be out of procedure. He must give examples of Ministers who used government vehicles to go and campaign. He must tell us who they are because it is not allowed for Ministers to campaign using government vehicles other than those permitted by law like the Head of State and maybe his Vice. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: Of course Honourable Member, I hear you. Honourable Ntlhaile, sometimes we really have to make a distinction that there is an Honourable House like Parliament and then there is the freedom square. Some things should be reserved for the freedom square because there is no one who can ask anything there. Now please, try by all means to stay on course and debate the way you are supposed to. Desist from being partisan.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Otherwise as per the request, you will have to say that, when I say they campaign using government vehicles, I am referring to so and so, so that we may now solve it and find out and confirm if it is true that the person used the vehicle to campaign.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: On a point of procedure Madam Speaker. Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I hear you clearly Madam Speaker but if we are going to follow the context of literal explanations like the Honourable Members are saying, then there are not going to be any other discussions. The context of campaigning has a number of meanings and it is an expression which we can arrive at looking at various events. So if we are going to take a line pointed out by the Honourable Minister that side, it means that we are not going to say anything because Setswana as we know it has its own way of expression. If the minister has gone for a Kgotla meeting at around 9 O'clock in a particular area during the campaign period, and then at around 2 O'clock they decide to go somewhere using a government vehicle, I might as well think that the minister is campaigning using a government vehicle. If they are saying that we would not actually debate anything else.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Major General Mokgware, there is a lot to debate in response to the State of the Nation Address. There are items there but if you are talking of Ministers campaigning using government vehicles, then you have to state the names of those people so that we agree or deny it. Just say the name of the person.

MR NTLHAILE (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Good hope-Mabule constituency; during the campaign period we saw Cabinet Ministers addressing Kgotla meetings in a campaign setup. We thought that that... ..interruptions... was a campaigning environment. That is why we were surprised because the very same Ministers joined campaigns immediately after holding the Kgotla meetings. This is the context within which I am discussing this matter. So I do not understand what all this hullabaloo is all about.

MADAM SPEAKER: We wanted their names

MR SALAKAE: Elucidation. Let me assist you Honourable Member because you are on the right track. I am very much aware that on the other aisle, they want us to say the names of people because they are in conflict with them. We all knew that during Parliament sitting, the newspapers continued to post that Honourable Eric Molale is busy with B something clinics, therefore during mornings...

MR MOSWAANE: Procedure. Madam Speaker, we are waiting for Honourable Ntlhaile to conclude and then you make a ruling on it. He should not be assisted by any Member.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please continue Honourable Salakae, Honourable Ntlhaile was responding.

MR SALAKAE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I was saying during the day of the campaign the Honourable Minister Eric Molale will wear two different hats; in the morning he will be the Minister. In the afternoon he will now be a candidate using a vehicle that he will have used in the morning, in the afternoon to campaign.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! It becomes difficult because I do not have any evidence ...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, I do not have any evidence as to whether he was using a government vehicle at rallies, so let us proceed

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker... you are abusing point of order comrade.

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order. Honourable Speaker, if you do not have any evidence, then you force the speaker to reverse the statement or withdraw or to retract his words. That is the only thing you can do because he is bringing in unconfirmed reports to this House and it is not allowed. What you can do is to rule that the statement be withdrawn because there is no evidence, that is the only ruling that will stand in this House. He is not supposed to continue talking about unconfirmed reports tarnishing someone's name in this House

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order! Point of order!

MADAM SPEAKER: No, wait! I do not know about those unconfirmed reports, but what I know as the Speaker here...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, I still maintain that I do not know those unconfirmed reports. But like he has stated the name, if anyone of you could deny that then I do not know what to say. I was not there, I am not a politician. So I may not know the truth of the matter. That is why I am leaving it, only if one of the Cabinet Ministers could dispute his statement. Proceed Honourable Ntlhaile.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wanted to say that the ruling party is not transparent in doing things. Transparency is one of the objectives that the nation expects the President of the republic to uphold. Even though his Excellency the President has powers to...

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Moswaane I have made a ruling on that matter.

MR MOSWAANE: Another point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: What for? Say it!

MR MOSWAANE: Madam Speaker, I request the guidance of the Parliamentary Counsel on this matter of procedure, as to whether it is procedural for you to say you do not have evidence. Should we just allow the Member to give unconfirmed reports, maybe the PC could guide us on that matter so that we do not come in conflict with you Madam Speaker because at some point you seem to be biased, you are scared of the Opposition.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Moswaane take your seat!

MR MOSWAANE: Madam Speaker, you are scared of the Opposition.

MADAM SPEAKER: Take your seat!

MR MOSWAANE: You are scared of the opposition!

MADAM SPEAKER: I said take your seat, Honourable Moswaane, this should be the last time! Proceed Honourable Ntlhaile

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker...

MR ARONE: Point of order. Madam Speaker, we cannot just allow Honourable Moswaane abusing the Speakership. Let him withdraw his statement. He is imputing improper motives and he is castigating your work, Madam Speaker. He is not supposed to help you out. The Speaker's ruling in this House is final, let him withdraw his statement.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! He is Honourable Moswaane, so proceed Honourable Member.

MR NTLHAILE: I was still trying to show how undemocratic the ruling party is and not letting go of governance. It is important for us to show Batswana the kind of problem we are facing. This is a party which does not allow for democracy, the democracy for all parties to be funded during campaigns because democracy is expensive.

It does not come cheap and we must fund, finance democracy so that it grows. It is still surprising for one party to still believe that even after 50 years of leadership, it can monopolise government resources, radios as well as television stations. This is one of the concerns. Southern African Development Community (SADC) protocol allows for all political party leadership to have security towards general elections. We therefore

see the ruling party monopolising this provision as well, it abuses resources, abuses security resources and ends up intimidating leaders of the Opposition parties to a point where those leaders end up having to go through some unexplained security challenges because of the ruling party. Nevertheless there is an arrangement by the ruling party that it monopolises and controls all the intelligence equipment. They should implement the Southern African Development Community Protocol the way it is. They should extend that protection to all leaders of opposition parties, but they are not doing that. This is dangerous play by the ruling party. This is how the “Domkrag” (Botswana Democratic Party) government wants to remain in power at all costs, because they are manipulating the voting system so that it favours them. They are making it such that it protects their interests so that they forever remain in power. This system whereby after voters reject candidates like the likes of Hardrock and then the ruling party ushers them back into parliament, is a violation of human rights Madam Speaker.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):

On a point of procedure. We are saying even if the Honourable Member harbours such hatred; he should assist us so that this House is run efficiently. There are people who he is referring to as Hardrock, we do not know what he is talking about.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Tsogwane, who is Hardrock? Personally I do not know.

MR TSOGWANE: Madam Speaker, it is the context in which he is using the word, he is saying there are people who have been rejected by people and have been brought in this house, such as Hardrock. So who is Hardrock who has been rejected by people and has been brought in this House? I think we should be attentive to the kind of language that this man is using.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes sit down, I am still standing. Honourable Ntlhaile, we are not at a freedom square, but I think I know who you might be referring to when you say those who lost elections. Now, please, try to speak in appropriate manner, like an Honourable Member of this parliament.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. This is a flawed system Madam Speaker. It is a system that shows that the ruling party is trying all it can to bring back to Parliament people who have lost elections and rejected by people. I Madam Speaker, will never endorse any member who has been rejected by people and brought back through the back door. I cannot endorse such a system. I wanted to just touch on that.

Now I want to touch on the issue of Economic Stimulus Package (ESP). Before I get into that Madam Speaker, I have to point out that it is embarrassing that at this point in time, a time of democracy, we find that the president is giving a state of the nation address on how far we have come and after doing that he disappears from Parliament. Before I came here, I always heard that the President does not attend parliamentary proceedings, and I got to see it first hand. I do not know if the President is trying to show the public that indeed you did not vote him into power. Now he does not even take his speech seriously. What I can tell Batswana is that, here is a President who takes you for granted. The people are debating the State of the Nation Address (SONA) through Members of Parliament (MPs). We are an embodiment of the voters out there. Now the fact that the President is shunning his own speech indicates that he is not doing anything for Botswana. I am thankful for the fact that, the president does not care about this country despite this state of the nation address. This is why as the opposition we are not surprised that after the state of the nation address, the president is nowhere to be found. We do not know if he is at Mosu or wherever, we do not Madam Speaker. Maybe you can help us Madam Speaker because he is one of us, he is the President of this country, when we talk about the problems in this country, he should be here with us.

When it comes to ESP, we believe “Domkrag” made an error; there is nothing that they have done. This was confirmed by the Minister of Finance, Honourable Matambo, by saying he does not understand why there is a lot of noise about this. Let me assure Batswana that there is no way that after 49 years of “Domkrag” being in power and having approved a budget of P50 billion budget, they tell us about ESP, and claim it is going to perform miracles, no. “Domkrag” has failed in 49 years, now there is no truth that ESP will help Batswana; that it will address concerns that Batswana have been having. This is cowardice on the part of the ruling party. You were trying to buy the 2019 elections, but Batswana have realised that, it will not be possible because now Batswana are aware and the evidence is there.

The other evidence Madam Speaker is that when the ESP is finally implemented, Batswana should re-examine “Domkrag” as a party. This party is dividing the public. The way “Domkrag” is running the economy, they are dividing the nation into the haves and have not. This is what is happening. This is why poverty keeps on growing. We see economic discrepancies continuing. The number of people unemployed is growing. This is because “Domkrag” is focusing on growing the economy through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). I want to show here that, that will not be possible because

FDI is not the sole solution to problems besieging this country. Foreign Direct Investment is just one way of globalising; we have not been benefiting from diamonds in Botswana, so let the local companies compete with FDI. Globalisation which is a programme that “Domkrag” came up with even though they do not know anything about it. They are just praising FDI without understanding it, it means that the wage bill should be cut and the government should decentralise. It basically means that out of the 130 000 public servants the government has to come up with a strategy every year to progressively downsize the public service. So Madam Speaker, tell me where poverty elevation and decentralising comes from, if it does not come from this FDI? Decentralisation is the strategy of...

MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE): Clarification. Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you my colleague. Madam Speaker sometimes I do not know what to say. The statement of my colleague just now, negates the very same thing which is advocated for by their President. If you read 25, their President says exactly what is our objective...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Read it.

MR MAELE: No, you will read it yourself. Read paragraph 25 and see how it disputes your statement. You are talking about something different. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NTLHAILE: Yes, you are just impatient my colleague, I will get back to you. FDI...there is not even one country which has built the economy through FDI. I would like to challenge my colleague to give me one country which practised FDI and said it is the way to go...no, wait. What we are proposing is that this FDI can only work if we have an interventionist state whereby the government no longer assumes the responsibility of driving the economy. When we talk about big projects in Botswana, when we talk about industries so that we can have a government...

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): Procedure. Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Madam Speaker, I wonder if we are still in order, when one debates, they are given an option to use the language you want. I do not understand exactly the language the Honourable Member is using in his debate. I just want you to enlighten me as to what language he is using or it is just simple code switching?

MADAM SPEAKER: Comply with Standing Order 15, he was just code switching, it is not that bad. Proceed Honourable Member.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I wanted to lay out that issue that, the government of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) believes that FDI can be effective only when the state does not decentralise as much as we see the government of Botswana Democratic Party doing. The Botswana Democratic Party is decentralising but it was voted by Botswana, they say that the government should assume responsibility of creating job opportunities, education, healthcare but right now the Botswana Democratic Party is privatising. In other words she is saying Botswana might as well forget about it come 2019 since they are tired, 49 years they have been trying to create jobs but they are failing.

That is the reason I am saying, FDI is not the solution to the problems of the country. Let me give an example of Japan, before it reached its current level, as one of the developed countries, the government was controlling big banks which financed the establishment of industries but now in our country we do not have even one single industry. The most surprising factor is we are privatising. Therefore Madam Speaker such practise will never take Botswana anywhere, we will never develop, FDI has failed in the past 49 years. We called it a lot of terms like Structural Adjustment Programme, after the countries lost confidence in it; we changed the term to Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes which was driven by the Millennium Development Goals. Botswana Democratic Party members, you are now running around saying you are coming with Sustainable Development Goals yet you are failing to explain to Botswana what Millennium Development Goal achieved.

That is why I am saying, FDI is not a new programme it is something which you have been giving different names but it has completely failed to solve the problems, it can only be effective if it is driven by the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) because we assume that the state should become the leader and ensure that industries are established. There is not even a single foreign company which can come and develop us when we do not take the responsibility to ensure that our country sets up industries so that in future when we tell the youth that the government has now set up industries and we want partnerships in order for you to have shares there could be industries in place. It is the role of the state to do that. We believe that the private sector will also play a role rather than now changing and decentralising, and denouncing the responsibility the nation has bestowed upon us. I wanted to discuss that one Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, let me indicate that the President has talked about the water strategies in Botswana. We had high expectations that the President will come up with the solution on how to supply water to Botswana rather than strategies. For example Madam Speaker, the

Minister of Water Energy and Mineral Resources could be here today but he is not. Right now at the Jwaneng-Mabutsane there is a serious crisis. A village such as Mahotshwane....Minister through this Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) which you believe has funds, I plead that you go to Mahotshwane and assist those people because they are Batswana just like any other. They need water so that their village can develop. So such things Madam Speaker if it is indeed true that ESP will solve problems it should start at Mahotshwane, Minister Mokaila should go to Mahotshwane.

Madam Speaker let me indicate that Jwaneng has a crisis, right now we are talking about democracy but there are some children who are refugees in their own country all thanks to the Ministry of Honourable Batshu. I am talking about children aged five years others are eight years old, they do not have any form of identity to prove that they are Batswana. They are at Jwaneng as we speak. The problem Madam Speaker is that they are Batswana in Botswana, they have rights but right now the Botswana Democratic Party government does not have any heart; children are dying at Jwaneng. We have already lost three children at Jwaneng who do not have anywhere to stay, nothing to eat and absolutely nothing to survive on and yet we say that we have a democracy. I should urge you all to be aware that there is a crisis in Jwaneng. This government has failed to assist children who stay at a place where the diamonds of this country are produced.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a point of clarification. Thank you Honourable Speaker. Thank you colleague for yielding. I think it will help if indeed if you genuinely want us to assist you if you could inform us of what killed the children so that we know how to assist.

MR NTLHAILE: I am inviting you to come to Jwaneng Honourable Minister because this issue exists and you are well aware of it. Can I continue Madam Speaker?

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

MR NTLHAILE: I can even take you to Jwaneng tomorrow to witness the problems that I am talking about. This issue has long been discussed and Madam Speaker these are the issues that we always talk about. The Social workers rejected these children and said, they cannot assist them as long as they are in an area that is un-gazetted. I therefore do not understand what the Minister is talking about when she says that she does not know anything about these children. These are the children whom Public officers write reports... .. (Interruptions)... I do not understand what the Minister is talking about. Madam Speaker...

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a point of order. Madam Speaker, thank you very much. I think the House is out of order because we ask questions for clarity so that we can be able to perform our duties. When the Honourable Member refuses to tell us the cause of the death of these children so that we can assist him and then turns around and says that we know what it is, it means he is no serious.

MADAM SPEAKER: He says in the evening. Order! ... (Laughter)... Order! Honourable Members, please listen. I will not comment on the evening invitations. I want you to know that when you talk of deaths you are talking about serious things and so if those children are indeed dead you have to treat the issue with seriousness. Some things do not even need to be mentioned in Parliament, you could have just gone to the relevant Minister.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. We can make that arrangement. Madam Speaker, those children were killed by cold and hunger.

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you have proof?

MR NTLHAILE: Yes we do have proof. We will bring it. There are organisations that have tried to come up with ways to source money from the BDP government. This is a cruel government. Honourable Makgato from the Ministry of Health these three children...

MADAM SPEAKER: Listen, somebody is calling out for procedure.

MR B. BUTALE: On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker Honourable Ntlhaile is making some very serious and damning accusation that children have died from hunger in Botswana and we cannot just let it to go like that Madam Speaker. He has to furnish us with the evidence that he speaks of, tell us how many of those children have died of hunger? Where they died of hunger and those who died of hypothermia that is the term the doctors use I think, and where they died? If he does not do that, he should be forced to withdraw this lie Madam Speaker. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile, I asked you if you have proof earlier on because you are talking about death and that is something serious and that should be given attention. If it is indeed true that children passed away from starvation in a country that has got social workers and you wait to raise the issue in Parliament it is only best to produce proof or else withdraw those words if there is no truth to them.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. The children died Madam Speaker in this country. They died of starvation, cold and thirst in Jwaneng. I stick to my words.

MADAM SPEAKER: I said provide their names.

MR NTLHAILE: I stick to my words and I invite this Parliament tomorrow, even now to go to Jwaneng.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Member, I did not say that you should invite them. I only said that you should furnish us with the names of the deceased so that we could continue.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, what is the matter? He is saying it in Parliament. How come he cannot say the names since we want proof?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of procedure.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Salakae, you cannot stand on a point of procedure when I just fished talking. I am waiting for Honourable Salakae to respond.

MR SALAKAE: Me?

MADAM SPEAKER: Oh! I am sorry. ...*(Laughter)*... Honourable Ntlhaile.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I stand resolute in what I said. Whether I produce the names in Parliament or not at this time but what I said does not change.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile, we are saying that you are talking about a serious issue, do you understand? You cannot bring up such an issue in passing. You have to state who died and what the causes were. If you cannot do that then withdraw your words until you provide proof. This is a very scary issue, I wonder if it does not scare you.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, you cannot threaten me, and I stick to my words.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Ntlhaile...

MR NTLHAILE: I am not going to reveal those names here.

MADAM SPEAKER: I am on my feet. Honourable Ntlhaile, I am only explaining to you and I am not refuting what you said. If there is any truth to it then come out with it since you brought up the issue in this House. State those children who died of starvation so that we can continue. We need to know that the issue you are raising has got proof or if it does not then withdraw those words and continue with the debate. I am begging you and I do not want you to point fingers at me. What did you say? Do not point a finger at me, do you understand? When you do that...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: No, I will not let it rest. You have a tendency of provoking people and then you say we should let the issue go. We will not let it go. Do you hear me?

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. The names are there but I will not provide them today. I ask that you give me a chance to submit them at a later stage if you need them.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO): On a point of order. Madam Speaker, yesterday there was an accident in Mahalapye, and I know the names of those people. You cannot talk about the death of someone you do not know. We do not want the names to be submitted tomorrow, we want them now. Where did those three people die? Where are the death certificates? Who are they? You are saying that the government has neglected people. We want the death certificate and their names. There is no way you cannot know their names. This is a serious issue. They will report it in Parliament.

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

MS TSHIRELETSO: This is serious. We can talk about death and we stand on a moment of silence.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of procedure.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please wait! I am on my feet but you keep calling out points of order and procedure. Honourable Ntlhaile, you have raised a sensitive issue. It would be better if you withdraw for now if you cannot give us names so that you can bring them at a later stage. Batswana are listening Honourable Ntlhaile. All they know is that you said three people died. That is why this issue needs to be validated by evidence.

MR SALAKAE: On a point of procedure.

MADAM SPEAKER: Switch off that microphone Honourable Salakae, I am talking to Honourable Ntlhaile. Death is a very sensitive issue, answer me.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I explained that there are problems in Jwaneng of children who have been deprived and I have pointed out that these children are refugees today. They are unknown in their country and the Minister is refusing to give them certificates showing that...

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Ntlhaile, sit down for a while. Your time is almost up. This is a very serious matter and now you say these children are refugees. Do you say that because they do not possess

papers or Omang because I do not know what you mean when you say refugees? The problem is, you did not end there, you said they are dead.

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

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, I am pleading with you to withdraw. That is my ruling.

MR NTLHAILE: Madam Speaker, I withdraw because I will bring the papers. I will produce evidence in Parliament. This issue is not going down the drain. I will bring evidence in this Parliament. I am withdrawing but I will bring it to this Parliament. You are not running away from this matter.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of procedure Madam Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, Honourable Ntlhaile has withdrawn his words Honourable Members.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of procedure Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Which one because we have finished?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Of the very same issue being discussed. Although we are new...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mokgware, he and I have finished. We have made a ruling, we agreed that he should withdraw or are you asking on another one?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: No, it is fine. I wanted to ask on a point of procedure Madam Speaker that, here are the Standing Orders and I will request the Parliamentary Counsel to read what the Standing Order says. Is the Standing Order saying...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: ...Inaudible...

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Madam, may I please finish my statement. I want to know the content of the Standing Order, is it saying names should not be mentioned in Parliament but only mentioned when they are dead. I was requesting him with all due respect to explain on its limit.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, Honourable Mokgware, we are done with that issue. We told you that death is a sensitive matter. You cannot come and report people's death in Parliament before you report their death to the relevant authorities. That is why we were saying, their names must be mentioned but then again we are done

with this issue. The owner said, he is withdrawing for now. If he however later on brings the evidence, I will tell this Honourable House that we asked Honourable Member to withdraw but he was telling the truth as there is evidence. I will bring it here. He can bring it to my office, there is no problem.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: On a point of procedure.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Madam Speaker, how will the future be for me who does not know, I do not want to do the same mistake as him. It is just that...

MADAM SPEAKER: I did not point you, sit down and I did not say you should not read the Standing Orders, now it is Honourable Salakae's turn but he will have to be brief.

MR SALAKAE: On a point of procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. Some of us who are new are lost because this issue is being concluded in a way that I do not agree with, that my colleague should go and bring names. I thought maybe Madam Speaker would have asked Honourable if the children have been buried. We should not rush to get names here in Parliament without knowing if the parents have been informed. So since they like death, they will keep saying the names should be brought here. I wanted to know if the parents have been informed, or all we are concerned about is bringing names. That was my question Honourable Members.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Salakae, you are not serious. Honourable Ntlhaile, he is wasting your time just continue.

MR NTLHAILE: Yes, Madam Speaker, the ruling party has a problem especially in labour related matters. There is no order. The ruling party hates workers. Right now when we look at International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) report, it shows that the government of Botswana hates workers a lot. We hear reports mostly made by the Minister that, no, the government works well with workers. We find those reports to be untrue, because the 2014 report shows that Botswana is on the fourth position on a scale of one to five, which shows that workers are oppressed. The labour laws are dangerous. That is why the government is able to make unilateral decisions in collective bargaining. In addition, the President just goes to Dikgotla instead of addressing the workers first, the very complainants whom decisions are being made for. This is one of the examples.

Let me give an example; in Jwaneng, there is a problem of workers who have long lost their jobs. They have been appealing from 2010 up to today and the Minister's office knows about this issue, that they were not compensated in terms of the workman's compensation.

We now want to caution Botswana that the government of Botswana is very dangerous to the workers.

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND HOME AFFAIRS (MR BATSHU): On a point of correction. I was saying instead of my colleague just talking because he is enjoying himself, he should tell us the people who appealed to me, who by now have not been assisted, because as far as I am concerned I assisted all of them.

MR NTLHAILE: There are many workers, especially those from Jwaneng mine. They are many whose issues are still pending. These people have worked for Debswana mine for a very long time, creating wealth for this country and today the government is ignoring them. I was now saying, the arrangement which I am...

MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI): On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker, I beg the indulgence of the Parliamentary Counsel to probably assist us in issues debated by our colleagues because for the past two weeks, Honourable Colleagues have been debating using words which are bordering on hate speech, to a point where a member concludes by saying the government hates Botswana. Is this not bordering on hate speech, to an extent that at the end when propaganda is propelled, eventually somebody out there will end up thinking that the debate is a hate speech?

These kind of statements have been presented in other Parliaments but they were looked at because we are not supposed to promote hatred through hate speech, we are leaders when we are in Parliament. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE): I want to add on to what you just said Honourable Minister, that we should all take responsibility. I have been following the Hansard and I have picked that members have a tendency of using hate speech. Let us all take responsibility and refrain from that, otherwise the communities out there would think that we are promoting tribalism. Let us refrain from tribalism utterances.

MR ARONE: On a point of procedure: Thank you Madam Speaker just in the same wave length, even though I concur with Honourable Kgathi but we all know Madam Speaker in this country, people were dismissed from their jobs during the nationwide strike, and they had pending loans to which they had to sell their homes to clear them. Those people have come to this parliament a number of times. This is what all members know.

During the taking over of brigades by the government, people lost their jobs without considering the fact that they have loans. Currently they do not own anything to

their names because they had to sell their homes to pay off those loans. Madam Speaker, if these people are the ones saying that they are being hated, is it wrong for them to voice their concerns?

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us not talk hatred. If proper channels were not followed, let us be clear that procedure was not followed and not talk hatred.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. In this middle income country, we find that we have high mortality rate of up to 2500 of children under five years. According to the 2012 statistics, we have mortality rate standing at 2577, deny that Honourable Minister and give us the proper statistics because you have been denying this.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a Point of Correction. Madam Speaker, there is a way in which we quote statistics to me to say 2500 children are dead and you do not tell me over what period out of how many, when? You might be talking the statistics from 1966, you must be specific about these statistics. If he cannot be specific he must withdraw them, because he is misleading the nation.

MR NTLHAILE: Yes! United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) statistics, period 2008-2012 under 5 mortality rate, I do not know what surprises you because the report is here, the statistics...

MADAM SPEAKER: What it is, a report?

MR NTLHAILE: Yes, a report.

MS MAKGATO: On a Point Of Order. Madam Speaker, I would not deny that we do have under 5 mortality, it is a fact we do, every country does but what is important is for the colleague to state them correctly and tell us what the source is, UNICEF is not a source. So that I can go and reference and then we can tell this nation the correct statistics as they are. For you to just state that 2500 children died, you are not telling us the facts that we can take in this House. You should not misconstrue the figures.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of correction. I am speaking as a Statistician now.

MADAM SPEAKER: Just wait, Honourable Ntlhaile I wanted to know the article which you are quoting from so that we note it as well and we can read it for ourselves as well. If it is a report please explain that.

MR NTLHAILE: Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker I explained that the source for these statistics is the UNICEF report of 2012, and this report covers the period from 2008 to 2012. I take it that I have explained

that. I was talking about the under five years mortality rate and it should not surprise people how those children died. The infant mortality rate is also high...

MADAM SPEAKER: Your time is up sir.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): Thank you Madam Speaker. I want to start by welcoming Honourable Lotlamoreng II and Honourable Molale to this August House. I want to also to congratulate His Excellency the President of this great country for delivering a very good, thought provoking message. A speech that challenges us Madam Speaker to develop some strategic plans that can help us develop our respective constituencies.

Madam Speaker I want, as part of my introduction, to respond to some accessions that were presented to this House by Honourable Nkaigwa when he sort of down played the Honorary PHD that was awarded to His Excellency the President, Leut. Gen. Seretse Khama Ian Khama. I want to state Madam Speaker that the Honorary PHD was awarded by the University of Konkuk of South Korea.

This particular University Madam Speaker was founded in 1946 and it has awarded various people such awards. Amongst the people who have been bestowed with that award is the Former President of Korea American Community and renowned business man Chris Nam. The University Madam Speaker has 12 graduates schools as indicated established in 1946, 16 colleges, 86 departments across sectors, 33 Research Institutes, so without doubt Madam Speaker this is a renowned University and therefore we should not have any single major of doubt when our President has been awarded.

Most importantly Madam Speaker it has to be appreciated that honorary degrees are actually bestowed to individuals by academic institutions. People who know, who basically deserves to be awarded, in Botswana there are many other people who have been awarded such PHDs. Therefore Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate His Excellency for this award, it is not his award, it is an award that he earned, it has been bestowed on him because he deserves it and it is on our behalf as a nation. Madam Speaker, as I have already indicated, the 2015 State of the Nation Address presents immense opportunities, very thought provoking and therefore the assignment for us Madam Speaker is to unpack this speech and identify those opportunities that certainly can help us develop our respective constituencies. As I was going through the speech Madam Speaker, I was trying to identify the challenges and the problems that have been presented to me as the

area Member of Parliament for Shoshong and I was also trying to identify various countless opportunities that has been presented by this State of the Nation Address. Before I go into some of the opportunities as presented, I want to highlight two issues. First Madam Speaker, I think we have to appreciate that we do have drought in this country and I want to thank Government that, in realising that the country is faced with drought, quite a good number of measures were actually put into place, mostly directed to supporting the agricultural sector. I want to encourage the Minister of Agriculture, together with other relevant departments, to do further assessments on the extent to which this drought has affected this country. In my constituency, we have been adversely affected by this drought to a point that we do not know whether we are going to have any meaningful harvest during the 2014/2015 ploughing season.

Madam Speaker, I also want to indicate that Shoshong as a village, is the oldest village in Gammangwato and my people have asked me to communicate to this Honourable House, especially to the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism, to the effect that since Shoshong gave birth to villages such as Pilikwe, Palapye and Serowe, they want our village to be recognised as a historical heritage site so that we can benefit from tourism and eco-tourism. In most specific terms Madam Speaker, there is a proposal that we must develop a tourism trail map, this tourism trail map and we are not only looking at places only in our constituency. It can for example include places such as the Tropic of Capricorn, Botswana Railways headquarters, which has a very strong history of railways in Botswana, the hills of Mmutlane, Shoshong and Kalamare, old Shoshong, Marele Heritage Site in Kodibeleng and a couple of other heritage sites. We believe that this can help a lot in terms of redirecting tourism so that we can benefit from the tourism growth. At Paragraph 30, His Excellency stipulates in very clear terms opportunities as presented by the tourism and how the sector is going to be growing Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, my constituents have also asked me to communicate their concern that whilst they appreciate that the development of Shoshong as a sub district has been approved as part of National Development Plan 10 (NDP 10), they are however worried by the delay in the implementation of this particular plan. Madam Speaker, they have therefore asked me to urge this Honourable House to implement a motion that was approved during the Tenth Parliament that called the Government to fast track the implementation or the setting up of sub districts in our country. We believe that Madam Speaker this motion is very important since it will go a long way in helping the economic growth of our constituency and therefore enhance services across our constituency.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):

Clarification. Madam Speaker, I think at this point I need to make a clarification on this issue of the establishment of sub districts. Indeed there are a number of sub districts which were recommended and were supposed to be established, unfortunately the same situation which we have talked about of economic downfall really constrained us and we were not able to go ahead with that plan. So, instead we are bringing services through service centres for now, not sub districts. I thank you.

MR MAKGALEMELE: Thank you Honourable Minister. Notwithstanding, we want that sub district. During the course of the debates when that particular motion was approved, strategic ideas were presented to this Honourable House, so just refer to that Hansard Mr Minister and implement that motion.

Madam Speaker, we do have water crisis but we are encouraged at Paragraph 59 of the State of the Nation Address, the President explicitly details what this Government is going to do in terms of dealing with water crisis and therefore we remain hopeful that once the interventions as presented at Paragraph 59 are implemented, it will help us go a long way in solving the water crisis in our constituency.

Madam Speaker, we do have challenges relating to limited jobs in our constituency but when you go through the speech at Paragraph 25 and 26, there is a clear cut message in terms of how for example the Economic Diversification Drive Policy has performed and how it is going to be taken to the next level in terms of creating more jobs, diversifying the economy and boosting the manufacturing industry. We are convinced Madam Speaker that our strategy of attracting investors to our constituency should be able to benefit from such proposals as presented by His Excellency.

Madam Speaker, we do have challenges of limited internal roads in our constituency especially in the main village of Shoshong but we are also encouraged that in the same speech Madam Speaker, His Excellency talks to various innovations including the Kgalagadi Sand Blocks at Paragraph 121. We believe that this proposal, as presented by His Excellency, once it is replicated to the rest of the country, we should be able to benefit in that some of the internal roads could be built from these Kgalagadi Sand Blocks. Madam Speaker, we do have challenges as well on roads linking various villages, for example, the road linking Mosolotshane and Moralane, the road linking Dibete, Poloka, Mokgenene and Otse and these are production zones. But as I indicated earlier on, we believe that more creative interventions as presented in the speech, should be able to help this country develop

some of these roads through interventions such as the Kgalagadi Sand Blocks through the process of building roads through interlocking bricks.

Madam Speaker, we do have challenges relating to youth and women unemployment but at Paragraph 117, His Excellency talks to various interventions aimed at broadening economic empowerment schemes for women. For example Madam Speaker, there is a provision that now a woman can qualify for a grant of up to a P100, 000.00. All that she needs is to come up with a convincing business plan. But not only that, women, obviously a combination of men and women, minimum of 10, they can qualify as a cooperative and they can be accorded P500, 000.00 and above. These are clear cut interventions that show that we are committed to dealing with challenges facing women and young people.

On young people Madam Speaker, there is a provision for example in His Excellency's speech that the 15 percent youth reservation in construction will remain will be promoted more aggressively. I think that is another opportunity where young people for example can register companies; they can form themselves into construction companies and be able to benefit even from the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). The ESP, the construction component of it because it aims at broadening the business portfolio in construction. That is an additional business for young people who have traditionally benefitted over the last couple of years from this 15 percent reservation.

Not only that Madam Speaker, the President talks to tender reservation for the youth in business at Paragraph 153 of the State of the Nation Address. So my argument this evening is that, the State of the Nation Address as presented by His Excellency does present enormous opportunities for us as Members of Parliament to interrogate and come up with bread and butter opportunities that to us and our people can actually roll out. I for example have taken a decision that I will form a committee of experts to help me interrogate the 2015 State of the Nation Address and come up with, as I indicated a couple of seconds back, bread and butter opportunities as presented by this speech.

Madam Speaker, as I move towards the end of my presentation because I am not going to be in tomorrow and Thursday and I risk not getting a slot on Monday I just want to address myself to the following: I have already talked about the need for us to implement that particular motion that talked about setting up of sub-districts, but at a much broader level Madam Speaker I want to argue that you must look at our various motions that have been adopted by this Honourable House and

help that those motions be implemented because from those motions there comes a lot of ideas that can help drive this country forward.

I also want to propose that the issue of policy implementation must be a must for all of us. The 2015 State of the Nation Address talks to opportunities as presented by the ESP, but even without ESP we have adequate policies in this country that should be able to create jobs, that should help us build the economic base of our people but the challenge at the end of the day has always been poor implementation of our policies. And some people who are short-sighted have a tendency to only blame Government for poor implementation of policies. Policies once approved are there for every citizen to take advantage of those policies. They are there for politicians to go all out and teach people, capacitate people, about those policies. They are there for all the political representatives to come up with strategic plans with their constituents in terms of how they can benefit from those policies and programmes.

Madam Speaker, I also want to propose that there be some reforms on Ipelegeng. I still feel that when people have gathered to work under Ipelegeng we could introduce some form of capacity building so that once they graduate out of the Ipelegeng programme for that particular month they can maybe go out Madam Speaker and form themselves into cooperatives. For example out of the 20 days we can reserve say 3 or 4 days to capacity building. One of the days they can be taught about Government policies and programmes. One of the days they can be taught about different formations, be it cooperatives, be it companies so that they can graduate out of Ipelegeng.

Madam Speaker, we still have a challenge of poverty in this country. My Ministry has rolled out a total of 45 business programmes under the poverty eradication programme but we are not saying the 45 are a panacea towards eradicating poverty in Botswana. We are looking at other programmes. Education Madam Speaker is very central in eradicating poverty. Therefore I want to urge everybody that as we are looking at various ways of eradicating poverty we must know that education is very crucial to eradicating poverty in this country.

Madam Speaker, those of us who are Christians there is the second commandment which says "love thy neighbour as you love yourself." I am convinced that if we can have more and more people implementing that commandment to love thy neighbour, if we can have more and more families looking after families that are hard hit by poverty, we can literally eradicate poverty even without the assistance of Government. And therefore I want to urge Honourable Members

because I know that many of you indeed are Christians and do read the Bible, to go out and encourage your constituents that let us implement this commandment to love thy neighbour as you love yourself.

Finally, Madam Speaker, we do have a problem in Botswana with regards to social media and I think it is an issue that we should discuss. I believe it is one of the factors which might divide us as a nation. We have to see how best we can help this nation in order to benefit more from social media so that it does not break and divide us as a society. There are many examples as you know. A few days ago the parents heard about their children's passing through social media. There are lots of truths which are established through social media. Some countries Madam Speaker have even stopped social media because they believe that it divides them. I am not suggesting that we should stop social media but I am saying, we should build it in a manner that it builds this country, it helps us to develop; it unifies us as a country. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Makgalemele. What are you doing? You like teasing people. No, you should not be doing that especially as Father of the House. Honourable Members, as it is now 6 o'clock I will ask the very one who was standing while I was standing, Father of the House, to move adjournment.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, on that note I appreciate that a second can make a difference but in any case, let me move at this juncture that this House do now adjourn.

Question put and agreed to.

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

HANSARD RECORDERS

Mr. T. Gaodumelwe, Mr T. Monakwe

HANSARD REPORTERS

Ms T. Rantsebele, Mr M. Buti, Ms N. Selebogo, Ms A. Ramadi, Ms D. Thibedi,
Ms D. Pheko, Ms G. Baotsi, Ms N. Mokoka, Ms B. Pinaemang

HANSARD EDITORS

Ms W. Mbeha, Ms K. Alepeng, Ms C. Chonga, Mr K. Goeme,
Ms G. Phatedi, Ms B. Malokwane, Mr A. Mokopakgosi, Ms O. Nkatswe

HANSARD TRANSLATORS

Ms B. Ntsetsang, Mr T. Rajane, Ms M. Sekao, Ms M. Rabotsima, Ms B. Mosinyi, Ms V. Nkwane,
Ms K. Nyanga, Ms N Kerobale, Ms K. Ben, Ms M. Kagiso, Ms B. Dintwa

LAYOUT DESIGNERS

Mr B. B. Khumanego, Mr D. T. Batshegi