



# HANSARD

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## DAILY HANSARD (PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES)

THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF  
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

HANSARD NO. 182  
THURSDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2016

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



ENGLISH VERSION

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

|                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
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| Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly | - Dr R.D. Dingalo       |
| Ag. Learned Parliamentary Counsel     | - Mr S. Chikanda        |
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| Assistant Clerk (E)                   | - Mr R. Josiah          |

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| His Excellency Lt. Gen. Dr. S. K. I. Khama PH, FOM,<br>DCO, DSM, MP. | - President   |
| His Honour M. E. K. Masisi, MP. (Moshupa-Manyana)                    | - Vice President  |
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| Hon. S. Tsogwane, MP. (Boteti North)                                 | - Minister of Local Government and Rural<br>Development                 |
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| Hon. S. Kgathi, MP. (Bobirwa)  | - Minister of Defence, Justice and Security                             |
| Hon. O. K. Mokaila, MP. (Specially Elected)                          | - Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water<br>Resources                   |
| Hon. P. M. Maele, MP. (Lerala - Maunatlala)                          | - Minister of Lands and Housing   |
| Hon. E. J. Batshu, MP. (Nkange)                                      | - Minister of Labour and Home Affairs                                   |
| Hon. D. K. Makgato, MP. (Sefhare - Ramokgonami)                      | - Minister of Health  |
| Hon. T. S. Khama, MP. (Serowe West)                                  | - Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism                         |
| Hon. V. T. Seretse, MP. (Mmopane - Lentsweletau)                     | - Minister of Trade and Industry  |
| Hon. O. K. Matambo, MP. (Specially Elected)                          | - Minister of Finance and Development Planning                          |
| Hon. T. Mabeo, MP. (Thamaga - Kumakwane)                             | - Minister of Transport and Communications                              |
| Hon. T. Olopeng, MP. (Tonota)  | - Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture                                  |
| Hon. E. M. Molale (Specially Elected)                                | - Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public<br>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<br>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<br>Development         |
| Hon. F. S. Van Der Westerhuizen, MP. (Kgalagadi South)               | - Assistant Minister, Local Government and Rural<br>Development         |
| Hon. M. M. Goya, MP. (Palapye)                                       | - Assistant Minister, Education and Skills<br>Development               |
| Hon. F. M. M. Molao, MP (Shashe West)                                | - Assistant Minister, Education and Skills<br>Development               |
| Hon. Dr. A. Madigele, MP. (Mmathethe - Molapowabojang)               | - Assistant Minister, Health  |
| Hon. Sadique Kebonang, MP. (Lobatse)                                 | - Assistant Minister of Trade and Industry                              |

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

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

### OPPOSITION

#### (Umbrella for Democratic Change)

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

#### (Botswana Congress Party)

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

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND**  
**SESSION OF ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT**  
**04 FEBRUARY 2016**

| <b>CONTENTS</b>  | <b>PAGE (S)</b> |
|--|-----------------|
| Appropriation (2016/2017) Bill, 2016 (No. 1 Of 2016)<br><i>Second Reading (Resumed Debate)</i> .....                 | 11 - 35         |
| <b>QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER</b> .....   | 5 - 10          |
| <b>TABLING OF PAPERS</b>   |                 |
| Statutory Instrument No. 101 Of 2015:<br>Nurses And Midwives (Education) Regulations, 2015.....                      | 11              |
| Statutory Instrument No. 24 Of 2014:<br>Botswana – Guernsey Taxation Exchange Agreement Order, 2014.....             | 11              |
| Statutory Instrument No. 105 Of 2015:<br>Drugs And Related Substances (Amendment Of Schedule) Regulations, 2015..... | 11              |

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2.00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

\* \* \* \*

**MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE):** Good afternoon Honourable Members let us start with the questions.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

TARRING OF INTERNAL ROADS IN  
FRANCISTOWN

**MR W. B. MMOLOTSI (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** Asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

- (i) If he is aware that some internal roads were left out when other roads were being tarred in Francistown; if so,
- (ii) When are such roads likely to be tarred?

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO):** Good afternoon Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Mmolotsi. My Ministry is aware that some internal roads were left out when other roads were being tarred in Francistown. My Ministry through Francistown City Council will consider including the proposal for upgrading of internal gravel roads to bitumen standards alongside other priorities during the on-going preparations for National Development Plan (NDP) 11, DDP 8 and UDP 4. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Minister, since these roads have been in this deplorable condition for such a long time, especially in the city, do you not think it would be advisable for us to consider them under the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP)?

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** The ESP is continuing, maybe it can be considered, I do not know because the Councils were giving us their priorities of the projects that were deferred during the NDP 10, DDP 8 and UDP 4. I do not know whether they will consider it or not but it is there in the plan. Thank you Madam Speaker.

UPDATE ON TEMPORARY TEACHERS IN  
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN  
GHANZI AND K GALAGADI DISTRICTS

**MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH):** Asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development

whether there are still temporary teachers in primary, junior and senior secondary schools; if so, to state:-

- (i) The number of temporary teachers in primary and secondary schools in the Ghanzi and Kgalagadi Districts;
- (ii) If they are qualified or without qualification; and
- (iii) The reasons for having temporary teachers when there is an oversupply of teachers in Botswana.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND  
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA):

Good afternoon Madam Speaker, sorry for coming a little bit late. My Ministry continues to employ temporary teachers in our districts. Currently we have 43 primary and 27 secondary school temporary teachers in Ghanzi District and we have 94 primary and 45 secondary temporary teachers in the Kgalagadi District. These are all qualified teachers except two who are offering Physics and two who are offering Business Studies which remain scarce in the field. Some of these temporary teachers have been recruited to cover for officers who are away on leave such as maternity or further studies. Others have been recruited to augment teachers in schools where a number of classes have increased. For the Ministry to employ additional teachers on permanent basis, we have engaged DPSM to create jobs. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR SALAKAE:** Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker Honourable Minister, let me ask you this again as I did not seem to understand you. Are you saying out of all those temporary teachers, only two do not have qualifications? If that is what you said, then that is not true. Please explain to me why there are four unqualified teachers in one school in Qabo which have four temporary teachers and three permanent- sub.

**MR GOYA:** Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, you should have used that specific information to ask your question, the information that I said is coming from the region, it is the information I have been given regarding the situation in Ghanzi. I will go back to the school that Honourable Minister mentioned and investigate about the issue and later give him feedback. Thank you.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Minister, are you aware that there are qualified Chemistry teachers who are appointed on temporary basis and yet there are vacancies for Chemistry teachers in the schools?

**MR GOYA:** No, I am not aware Madam Speaker. What I am aware of is that, we generally have shortage of Chemistry and Physics teachers but if a qualified teacher

gets available we usually hire them immediately. Thank you.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, I understand what you are saying, but why should the government continue on having temporary teachers when we have fully qualified teachers roaming the streets?

Secondly, do you not see that the employment of temporary teachers is almost like exploitation because they do not get the benefits like fully employed people?

**MR GOYA:** Honourable Minister, in the body of my response, I clearly mentioned that the reason why we are continuing recruiting temporary teachers is to stand in, in case where the other teachers are away on leaves such as maternity and study leaves. That is why we engage temporary teachers, other than that we hire teachers on a permanent basis. Thank you Madam Speaker.

#### RECOGNITION OF LOBUTSE SETTLEMENT

**MR A. S. KESUPILE (KANYE SOUTH):** Asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

(i) if he is aware that residents of Lobutse have been pleading for years for recognition of their settlement and requesting for services such as a two teacher school, a Village Development Committee (VDC) or Sub VDC, regular visits by the Social and Community Development Officers and other extension workers, so that they benefit from different Government schemes and programmes; if so,

(ii) To state the plan for the general development of Lobutse and provision of daily services.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Kesupile. Madam Speaker, I am aware that residents of Lobutse have requested that their settlement be recognised. However, after assessment of all settlements in Southern District, the Southern District Council has recommended to my Ministry that the settlement should not be recognised and that its status as an agricultural area be maintained. After further consultations and discussions with the district, the Cabinet in July 2013 directed that Lobutse be incorporated in Lefhoko.

Madam Speaker, it should be noted that Lobutse is approximately 7 kilometres from both Lefhoko and Tsonyane and its population was 142 according to 2011 Population Census. In line with the National Settlement Policy of 2004, a normal settlement is recognised with a

population of 500, while RAD settlement is recognised with a population of 250.

On the basis of the above, Lobutse does not qualify to be recognised independently. Currently residents of Lobutse form part of Lefhoko Village Development Committee and Lobutse has 36 Ipelegeng beneficiaries and a social worker based at Tsonyane who provide social services to Lobutse residents. There is also an agricultural storeroom and a drift fence constructed through Ipelegeng as the main activity at the area is farming.

The incorporation of Lobutse and Lefhoko means that developments and services for Lobutse will be planned as part of Lefhoko village and District Development Plan 8 Projects for Lobutse will be considered under Lefhoko. Currently an incorporation layout plan is still being prepared by Southern District Council and it is expected to be complete by end of May 2016. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR NTLHAILE:** Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Minister do you not see the need to review the National Settlement Policy in order for the settlements to have access to the services that they need?

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** I thank you. I believe that the settlements were recognised from long back even the ones with a lesser number of under 250 people. Those at the District informed us that people decided to stay at Lobutse solely because those are their lands and cattle posts. As a ministry we did not look at it that way. We looked at 142 and believed that they needed help. We went back to them and proposed that since the number is between Tsonyane and Lefhoko it means it should fall under Lefhoko. The motive was to decrease the number of settlements like you have been suggesting. We want power, schools and everything. At the end if we are going to increase their number, we are not going to be able to manage them.

We have not planned for many villages, just like we did in 2013, if the settlements are next to each other we form one area in case they extend, Lefhoko will extend to Lobutse.

We have not thought of changing the Settlement policy because we feel it might complicate things for us if we want to start the developments. Maybe if we could have merged some settlements we would have managed. So the settlements that are normally affected by poverty are the ones that are five kilometres or four kilometres apart. Which means if those people could have merged the developments would have reached them quickly. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**TIME TAKEN TO PAY TEACHERS TERMINAL BENEFITS AT THE END OF THEIR CONTRACTS**

**MR W. B. MMOLOTSI (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development:-

- (i) how long it takes to pay teachers terminal benefits at the end of their contract; and
- (ii) if she is aware that the teachers whose contracts ended as far back as August 2014 have not been paid their terminal benefits; if so, why.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, according to the set public service standards, payment of terminal benefits for all employees in the public service including teachers is 66 working days upon expiry of their contracts.

I am aware that some of the teachers whose contracts ended as far back as August 2014 have not been paid their terminal benefits. And to be precise, out of a total of 1322 teachers whose contracts ended from August 2014, my Ministry has managed to pay 86 per cent of them being 1134. The remaining 188 Madam Speaker, we are working down the clock to pay them and anticipate to have paid them by the end of February 2016.

Madam Speaker, it is however regrettable that my Ministry has not been able to meet these standards especially in the recent years. Due to the fact that for the same period, the Ministry had to pay severance benefits for the 3014 temporary teachers who were engaged for two to three years since 2012 following the decision to upgrade qualification of the same number of teachers to meet international standards.

Just to be noted, the payments of severance benefits for these temporary teachers increased the daily workload of responsible employees which included; terminations for contracts of officers, retirements, resignations, dismissals and death. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Minister, is it true that the people who pay the temporary teachers have duties that they do on daily basis which is their core responsibility and as a result you do not allow them to work overtime to finish this work?

Secondly, do you think it is proper for somebody to work for more than 12 months without being paid? As a Ministry how do you expect that person to survive in that situation?

**MR GOYA:** I thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker we are working tirelessly to address the case

that Honourable Mmolotsi is talking about. It is true that the people who are doing this job have their core duties that they are doing however; we have tried by all means to speed up these payments. We have even requested for some officers from other departments to come and assist in doing this work. I even went to an extent of calling a staff meeting to stress the importance of speeding these payments.

I talked to the Permanent Secretary that we source the funds to pay the people who are doing this job so that they work overtime during weekends. I even offered to avail myself during the weekends to see to it that this work is done. This is a long process because the paper has to go through a number of officers first for it to reach the paying officer. So far we have really done a great job and we are left with only 188 which we trust will be finished by the end of the month. I thank you.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Minister, since it is very clear that there is acute shortage of manpower in your Ministry, why do you not employ people on a full time basis, who will resolve this problem once and for all?

**MR GOYA:** Madam Speaker, when I spoke earlier I indicated that there are reasons that caused that backlog. It was caused by the fact that we had hired a large number of temporary teachers whose contracts ended at the same time with the normal ones. This is why we have this backlog. Other than that, after finishing this work, moreso that the numbers of temporary teachers have gone down, we are not going to have a lot of work that will force us to increase manpower. I thank you.

**MR MOSWAANE:** Supplementary. Minister, from the response that you have been giving do you not realise that the officers working for accounts in revenue offices say they are not being paid scarce skill allowance so the quality of the work will be compromised because you are refusing to pay them scarce skill allowance. Is the Minister aware of this since it spreads across all the Ministries, they can sometimes claim that GABS system is down the whole afternoon whereas it is functioning. So are you aware of this. Lastly is the Minister aware that 3 000 can be paid within 30 days if there is proper service delivery.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you my colleague. Scarce skill issue Madam Speaker, I am aware that there are complaints among the employees who hold accounts degrees and are not paid scarce skill allowance. This was caused by the fact that for example some employees who had a degree in accounting were paid scarce skill

using the funds which could be paid diploma holders. Madam Speaker we addressed this issue in partnership with Department of Public Service Management (DPSM), we came with the solution, savingram was circulated indicating that people should be paid scarce skill allowance. These are ongoing calculations; they are being paid scarce skill as I speak.

When my colleague alludes that the payment can be done in 30 days, the workload as I was putting it is that we pay the teachers whose contracts ended, who were permanent and who were on temporary basis, their payments were very high. If you were to combine that workload you cannot complete it within 30 days as my colleague alludes, it is an impossible mission.

#### **CONNECTION OF WATER TO HOMESTEADS IN CENTRAL KALAHARI GAME RESERVE**

**MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH):** asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources:-

- (i) whether there are any plans to connect water to homesteads in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve; if so,
- (ii) when will the project commence.

**MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA):** Thank you Madam Speaker. My apologies Madam Speaker my officers were not aware that this question is not ours it is for the Local Government because Water Utilities is not responsible for Remote Area Dwellers.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. Honourable Salakae, it means the Clerks will liaise with the PS. It is unfortunate that they are just seeing it now; they should always be vigilant and advise us well in time.

**MR SALAKAE:** Point of procedure Madam Speaker. I thought we once discussed it with the Minister although it was informal, that you had an answer?

**MR MOKAILA:** He is turning against me Madam Speaker. I explained to him while we were outside that I have an answer that as the Water Utilities Corporation we have no plans to provide water to Remote Area Dwellers I would transfer the question to Local Government, they will answer it. So I basically thought we have closed this matter outside Honourable Member. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, that is clear.

#### **SUPPLY OF NURSES UNIFORM AT NYANGABWE**

**MR W. B. MMOLOTSI (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** asked the Minister of Health:-

- (i) whether it is compulsory for nurses to wear uniform at work; and
- (ii) when nurses at Nyangabwe Referral Hospital were last supplied with uniform.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR MADIGELE):** Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, it is compulsory for nurses to wear uniform at work.

Madam Speaker, nurses at Nyangabwe hospital were last issued with uniform in 2014.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Supplementary. Can the Minister clarify as to where he got the information from because according to the reports nurses at Nyangabwe have more than three years without wearing the uniform henceforth they are currently contacting tailors to make their uniforms because they have nothing to wear? So where did you get that information, did you verify it before answering Minister?

**DR MADIGELE:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I got this information from Nyangabwe Referral Hospital Madam Speaker. I asked them when was the last time they issued the uniform, they said 2014, they even provided statistics of people who were provided with uniforms that time. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Further supplementary. Minister did they not inform you about the case of one nurse who came to work wearing a white shirt with no badges because when it was tailor made he could not make a space for those badges, he was even in trouble because of that and his reasoning was that it has been three years and his uniform is worn out. Are you not aware of that case?

**DR MADIGELE:** Madam Speaker, I am not aware of such an unfortunate case but the nurse's uniform is guided by the Nursing and Midwifery Council by their laws which stipulate how badges should be arranged. The issue of uniforms also bothers us as the Ministry. What we have done so far is that beginning of 2015 we talked with the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS), to assist us in standardising the nurse's uniform and protective clothing of other employees working in the Ministry. In March 2015 we got the response which served as a guiding tool for the nurse's uniform. It is at the evaluation stage as we speak, a tender is about to be dispatched and uniform made as per BOBS standards.

**MR KEORAPETSE:** Further supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. How many times should the nurses be provided with uniform and he is sure that Nyangabwe nurses were provided with uniform at the time he stipulated? If it is every year or every six months, was that the case at Nyangabwe?

**DR MADIGELE:** Madam Speaker, at first uniform was being issued in staggered fashion due to shortage of funds which means uniform was provided perhaps after year or maybe two. But with the new guidelines, especially that they stipulated material which is used and the standards we hope that going forward, the availability of uniform will improve looking at the fact that as we speak about the evaluation stage of the tender we have already sourced funds which can fund the uniforms people need. I thank you Madam Speaker.

#### **REFURBISHMENT OF GHANZI SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**MR N. S. L. M. SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH):** asked the Minister of Education and Skills Development:-

- (i) whether she intends refurbishing the Ghanzi Senior Secondary School kitchen which is now in a dilapidated state and currently operating with pots that have worn out lids; if so,
- (ii) when the maintenance is expected to commence; and
- (iii) how much is the budget.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR MOLAO):** Madam Speaker, thank you. It is true that my Ministry intends refurbishing Ghanzi Senior Secondary School including the dilapidated school kitchen. The school has been allocated consultants to scope all their maintenance requirements and the consultants were recently confirmed by the Ministerial Tender Committee (MTC) at Ministry of Infrastructure Science and Technology on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Once scoping of maintenance requirements are complete, the Department of Buildings and Engineering Services (DBES) will put the project up for tender during the financial year 2016/17. The exact date of commencement will be known when the tender process is complete. Madam Speaker, we are currently unable to provide budget estimates for these projects since the scope is not yet determined by the consultants.

**MR SALAKAE:** Supplementary. I get you well Honourable Minister, but I thought it will be to the interest of this August House to know exactly when

the scope is going to start and end, because some of the maintenances that I am talking about is to replace the pot lid only because the pots have been tied with head scarfs, Ms Dow can attest to that.

**MR MOLAO:** Madam Speaker, the consultants are busy doing the scope of works and doing scope of works means going to the school to see status or the state of the facilities and thereafter making their determination as to what needs to be done and the estimates thereof. Hence the aspect of tying with head scarfs will be covered with the scope of works that is being done and we are saying this project will go for tender financial year 2016/17, which starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April as the Member maybe aware. It is also in our interest that it be done and done expeditiously. I cannot pin a day to say on the 26 of this month the scope of work will be done. We are waiting for them to complete and come back to us.

**MR MMOLOTSI:** Further supplementary. Minister, just brief us as to what leads us to eventually talking about dilapidation when you had time to check how things were so that you would fix them, but rather chose not to do so? Why do you allow things to be dilapidated before you can start taking action on them?

**MR MOLAO:** The reason is that sometimes when the time for maintenance comes, there would be not enough funds. The other reason is that sometimes we would be talking about students whose control and handling of property leaves much to be desired. The intention is to try to keep up to speed with the damage as and when it occurs.

**MR NTLHAILE:** Further supplementary. Honourable Minister are you not aware that the reason why the government projects are not completed on time is because maybe your Ministry is ignoring the important thing of being informed as to exactly when the consultants are going to complete their work. You have just left it hanging like that, there is no cut off point of saying we want a consultancy report on such a time or to say when should we expect it. It would be said that would happen at any time, even in March 2017; that on its own is what we call lack of project management. What are you doing about it Honourable Minister?

**MR MOLAO:** Currently Madam Speaker we cannot talk about the delay on the project because the project has not started yet. Therefore we shall talk about it when it has commenced, seeing how far it has gone. Right now I might appear as a prophet who might get themselves into trouble.

#### **NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF 'ONE VEHICLE PER VILLAGE' INITIATIVE**

**MR. P. MAJAGA (NATA/GWETA):** asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development if he is aware that the 'one vehicle per village' initiative is not being implemented; if so, what plans are in place to remedy the situation.

**ASSISTANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS TSHIRELETSO):**

Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker my Ministry is implementing the one vehicle per village initiative. A total of 40 vehicles are being procured under the initiative during the current financial year and deliveries are ongoing. Madam Speaker, a budgetary provision has also been proposed for the 2016/17 financial year.

Besides the above efforts my Ministry will continue to rationalise the available freight including vehicles for other Ministries to address shortages in the needy areas.

Furthermore, my Ministry will on an annual basis continue to budget for this initiative resources permitting. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MR KESUPILE:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I just wanted to find out from the Honourable Member how many villages were allocated land, and on which side of the country? The vehicles that you purchase, are they along the lines of the good advice given by Honourable Markus that the jalopies are better than nothing hence should be given to the villages?

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** Madam Speaker, we have 167 villages which have these vehicles but we have to know that these will not be taken to the villages when they are still new. When we have a vehicle allocated to service the *Kgotla*, we make sure that it assists the whole village, making it one vehicle per village; hence it would be able to help other departments as well. The ones which we do not use much are the ones belonging to the police and health because most of the time they would be busy; but for other departments we work together to assist one another in villages because most of the time one would observe that there would not even be a vehicle for the Agricultural Demonstrator, the Social Worker or even one belonging to the Tribal Court in a village. Therefore it is our intention to do so Honourable Member. We are not far from giving every village a vehicle. If we give the *Kgotla* a vehicle we would know they now have transport. If we issue one to the Social Worker we would know that we have given different departments. Thank you.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister I understand what you are saying, at the pace which you are buying these vehicles, do you see that by the time you finish

those other villages which you first gave them the vehicles, they would be worn out and it will be like you have not done anything, because of the slow pace which you are trying to implement this particular project.

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** Honourable Member, as I have mentioned that we are going to purchase 40, we are going to buy more and we have already been given 167. I believe the life span of a vehicle is a number of years, especially because we buy Hilux makes. I still have Nissan and Hilux vehicles which are about 15 to 20 years old. I mean, a vehicle does not just get worn out except if it gets involved in an accident. We are trying to buy them as soon as possible as I was talking about the 40, and we are using the other 40; I do not know how many villages we have in Botswana besides towns, but we are trying to buy them as expeditiously as possible Honourable Member.

**MR NKAIGWA:** Supplementary. Thank you, Madam Speaker, I just want to appreciate Honourable Minister whether this exercise will also apply to cities and towns where we do have Customary Courts who do not have transportation.

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** Actually, although we said 'village' not 'city or town,' the intention is that where people are, they should have vehicles which as the Village Development Committees (VDC), the Council, Social Workers and the Court Sheriffs could use; that is our objective. We would check to see how many vehicles we would issue per village as we would have done in towns and cities.

**MR MANGOLE:** Further supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Minister, what programme do you have in place to ensure that the entities you mentioned use the vehicle equitably?

**MS TSHIRELETSO:** The Honourable Member has asked a very good question because we have realised that when some villages do not have vehicles, people in another village will refuse to lend them. We are working on writing notices that whenever other entities do not have vehicles, those who have a vehicle should make a programme when the entity in need of a vehicle should be able to use it and this should not only be in emergencies. If for example Kgomodiatshaba shares a vehicle with Leshibitse, there should be an arrangement on how many days the vehicle should spend in one village and how many in another. This is a reminder to us that this thing is still happening. We agree with you because these are the things that we see happening. Some entities do not want to share vehicles despite having told them that such vehicles should service the whole village. Thank you Madam Speaker.

## TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 101 OF 2015:  
NURSES AND MIDWIVES (EDUCATION)**

**REGULATIONS, 2015**

(Minister of Health)

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 24 OF 2014:  
BOTSWANA – GUERNSEY TAXATION**

**EXCHANGE AGREEMENT ORDER, 2014.**

(Minister of Finance and Development Planning)

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 105 OF 2015:  
DRUGS AND RELATED SUBSTANCES**

**(AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE)  
REGULATIONS, 2015**

(Minister of Health)

**APPROPRIATION (2016/2017) BILL,  
2016 (NO. 1 OF 2016)**

**Second Reading**

**(Resumed Debate)**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** When the House adjourned yesterday Honourable Salakae was on the floor and he was left with 20 minutes and 20 seconds.

**MR SALAKAE (GHANZI NORTH):** Thank you Madam Speaker. It is true that I had just started my debate when we adjourned yesterday. One of the issues that I had said is that the negligence of the BDP has dragged us into the situation that we are now in whereby there is no money. I indicated that had it not been for this negligence, sectors such as education which we could be reliant on are in a serious crisis. Schools such as the Ghanzi Senior Secondary School are dilapidated and I had even went on to give an example about a situation which I had already asked the Minister a question on. Men and women there who have vowed to serve this country are suffering, they are forced to bring their head scarfs to tie the pot lids. The situation of the kitchen at Ghanzi Senior Secondary School is so critical whereas whenever the BDP needs money, it will be availed quickly like it happened at Camp Dubai where people were given money. This is a school that we expect to produce future doctors and lawyers but children there cannot eat. This situation was brought about by negligence.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** On a point of clarification.

**MR SALAKAE:** I should go on and indicate that other sectors such as beef, health, infrastructure...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SALAKAE:** I will explain how they have been affected by negligence. I believe that a national Budget must not only be a tool for resource allocation, it must also be a political plan that impact on the lives of ordinary people. We should assess whether the things that are planned in the Budget are things that can improve the lives of the ordinary people of this country. I must point out that according to the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, they have decided to come up with the ESP to improve the livelihoods of the people; a programme which if there is a mess in this country, it will not be wrong to say the mess has been caused by the ESP and the office of the Vice President.

Currently, our country is under the tenderisation risk. We are going through a tenderisation of the state with the Vice President at the forefront. I thought he would be here. Everyone is preoccupied by making a tender to get a share from the ESP. It is high time that we should admit that the Vice President or his office has failed and therefore the President should come to Parliament, put politics aside and ask him serious questions. I am afraid His Honour, the Vice President, I wish that those who are close to President Khama should tell him that I am afraid that between 2018 and 2019 Botswana will be in chaos. This is because it is an obvious case that those who have thrown this country into utter chaos will be no more and only the new ones will be there remaining. However, we should seriously consider the phase of 2018-2019 very seriously and I also want to challenge Madam Speaker that the time has come. I am one of the people who totally believe that Batswana loved President Khama. He is disadvantaging himself by not admonishing the ones working for him when they do not do things accordingly or when we need them to come and answer questions and they do not do that, unless he admonishes them privately.

The time has come for the President of this country to provide leadership, without fear on our part and not considering many other things because it is clear that he is left with two to three years before he leaves office. However, he should not leave given the current state where it is clear that 2018-2019 phase this country will be in chaos. We cannot even blame God because he has done so much for us but our inability to think would have brought us into that state.

Madam Speaker, I am greatly worried about the issue of tenderisation of the state. When a student is supposed to complain to you as a Member of Parliament about the

absenteeism of teachers, he or she will ask you why you did not advise him or her about establishing a company to benefit from tenders. We are at a point where we fail to answer such people. Is it in order if we tell them that this ESP is for tendering purposes?

My belief is that, the challenge in this country is unemployment and we should look into that very seriously. A budget of this nature should show what the greatest impact of unemployment is.

Abject poverty; there are people who still get very excited when given P10.00 to a point whereby if you address Noah wrongly that person will kill you. This shows that poverty is still rampant in this country and it is exacerbated by Botswana Democratic Party (Domkrag). When children are supposed to get educated and become role models of tomorrow they disregard education and chase after tenders. When they fail in the line of tenders, they go to Ipelegeng. The current budget even shows that Ipelegeng also has a bigger share. It even shows that in the years to come, Ipelegeng will continue to grow because there is no programme that shows that the BDP government is ready to change things so that the nation may enjoy the benefits of this country.

We have the issue of water and electricity and the issue of the difference between the rich and the poor. We also have a clear issue of exclusion from the mainstream economy of the majority of our people. Although we are encouraged to leave the private sector alone to carry out some things, we know very well that it is made up of a very small group of people. This results in one person selling chicken, eggs, vehicles, he or she is the butcher and he or she does everything. Then you want us to believe that when you say let us create platform, it is the private sector that comes up with it and then you think you have come up with something that can deceive us. Let us be serious and rid this country of poverty.

It is painful. Last time I said that we are not in a position where we are supposed to fail to feed, clothe and educate a population of 2 million; a population of a settlement in Zimbabwe. Then again we like to criticise Zimbabwe everyday yet we fail with the 2 million out of which only 248 812 according to the then labour survey are in need of employment. 54 per cent of that has tried looking for jobs and they have failed and given up. Those are the people whom the office of the Vice President is saying they should apply for tenders yet you know very well that we also want those tenders and we have contractor companies. This therefore results in the desperation of these people multiplying.

Personally, in all fairness, I dismiss this budget with the content it deserves. The way I respect the Minister

of Finance and Development Planning; I have read his career history, it shows that they are the ones who managed to plan and orchestrate the BTCL issue until it is where it is right now. My utmost respect goes as far as the time he was at Botswana Development Corporation, he was once a Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and he was also once a Managing Director of BDC, if it were me, I would resign. I would not allow my beautiful career to be dented by people who go around selling tenders.

I wanted to state it clearly that you will not be the first person to resign when you see that things are not going according to plan.

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE):** On a point of order. Madam Speaker, I am worried when the Honourable Member says people go around selling tenders. I request that he substantiate that or withdraw that statement.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** No, I do not agree with that point of order, let him continue with his debate.

**MR SALAKAE:** Thank you Madam Speaker. When the situation comes to this, as a parent, you must stand up and control the situation, this country is going down the drain.

I was saying some beautiful careers like the Minister's should not be allowed to be dented by people fighting for a five year political period yet Batswana are poor and are in need of jobs. If I were you, I would resign definitely. Maybe just like Ms Hillary Clinton resigned at one point and right now she is running for presidency, maybe you will be the next President. With the good beautiful Curriculum Vitae, I do not believe that now you want us to pass a budget that tenderise the State.

I personally believe that this Budget could be fixed on projects that could create employment. When you look at this budget which is supposed to be stimulated, you look at the whole development budget, it is negatives everywhere, it shows that if it were not for the ESP coming to stimulate the economy we could be in deep trouble. If you look at most Ministries, their budget has been running on negatives since last year. There is only one ministry which seems to not be affected by whether the prices have gone down or water requires a lot of funds; that is the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security. It has increased the development budget with 172 per cent. With the absence of a policy which could guide us as to what are the things needed by this ministry, no one knows what informed such huge amounts except that some people are enthralled with the issues of military; it is the undisputed truth.

This country belongs to all of us and when we talk about it, we must do so unashamedly and show that we can even die for it if need be. We should not allow things to be the way they are; people dying of hunger and yet we are busy buying machinery. These are the issues we must attend to seriously.

Another issue which I believe we must seriously consider Minister is that let us try to finance the implementation of the Revised Policy on Education. Those were serious efforts which came from Mr Kedikilwe, some of which we tried to follow up on this Parliament with a motion which came from Honourable Kgoroba. It was a concern that if a child has failed Standard Two and obtained "E", why should that child allowed to proceed to Standard Three. I was here when this issue was debated, the Minister of Foreign Affairs took to the floor and said they will implement the approach. Honourable Dow also stood and said, 'we have that and we will implement it.' As we speak, pupils from Standard Two having attained an "E" proceed to Standard Three up to Standard Four, the next thing we expect them to be doctors and lawyers. My belief is that Honourable Dow, you must up your game...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, Standing Order 51, please address the Speaker. Do not address them individually.

**MR SALAKAE:** I am addressing you; I do not necessarily have to face you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I never said you should face me, I said do not address them individually.

**MR SALAKAE:** Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to urge the Ministry of Education to up their game. Education needs to be taken seriously in our country. I went to school and grew up with one Assistant Minister of Education and one of the people I believe have earned their places. He remained behind after defection and acted like an orphan and that is how the problems started. I know him very well and I think he needs to do something for the sake of the great respect I have for him. They should not only visit schools when they are invited as speakers during their political visits. Our country is in chaos. It is high time we start doing the right things at the right time.

The issue of roads and land go hand in hand in my constituency. As I previously mentioned, If the issue of land is not addressed you are forever going to lose elections in the Ghanzi constituency. There is shortage of land in Ghanzi that is why I once asked Honourable Ministers for the road to Qabo and Grootlagte to be tarred, to make travelling there easier because there is more land available there.

The main issue at the moment is land. The sad part is when I was almost on the same page with the government regarding the shortage of land, and that people should extend their search to Charles Hill, a new law of open space guidelines came out which suggested that there is a bit of available land in Ghanzi and should be given to the council. When addressing a Kgotla meeting in Ghanzi, I made the residents aware of the government's intentions. How is land allocated to the council when there are still pending cases of Ghanzi residents asking for land and were told that there is none? All of a sudden there are some open spaces available and they have been allocated to the council, and the council have been given permission to do as it pleases with this land, which I think is just another way of stealing land and later claiming that it was given out by the council. Why not allocate this land to the residents of Qabo?

Qabo residents hand crafted coffins with the help of funds from the government scheme and were told that the coffins looked cheap. I have invited His Excellency the President to visit Qabo whose population is about 700 to see if there a way of assisting them with funds to help craft a more expensive looking coffins. These coffins are mostly exported to South Africa. A coffin cost around 800 which is a reasonable amount of money but it is bitter sweet because this money is made by someone's passing. Through Ipelegeng, the residents of Qabo also asked for funds to make and supply school uniforms but they are struggling due to having no help with expanding the market. They are selling to a school which sometimes buys from them after a period of five years. These people are trying to make a living and failing and you are all sitting here and claiming to be good leaders. These are small issues which if solved, you could make them believe in you and even possibly give you their votes because as it stands right now, you are not getting any votes from them.

Another issue that I will like to raise is regarding the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC). If we loved Botswana and have her interest at heart we will seriously look after this sector. Most of us here are cattle farmers but I feel we are giving up on this sector. As I speak of the inefficiencies of the monopoly of the BMC; In Ghanzi they buy a cow for P1400 and out of that money, P500 is used to pay for transport and P900 will be left over to take home. A cow used to cost P3000 and now it's P1400. How are families supposed to be happy with all this? And we always say we strive to build dignified families, is it just a say or we are talking from the bottom of our hearts and the truth of our very guts? Please let us take this issue of cattle farming seriously.

In the last Parliament, 400 million was allocated to BMC with the belief that there is no problem; the only

problem was the cash flow. As we speak it is downsizing and people are being made redundant. There was a 100 million US Dollar offer to make a state of the art BMC abattoir in Ghanzi which Honourable De Graaff might be aware of, but this offer was turned down. The reasons being that, the BMC is for the people as they make a living out of it; this living being their cattle being bought for a mere P1400. Let us take this issue seriously because these people are knowledgeable about farming.

Right now in the middle of drought, the Ministry of Agriculture, without the knowledge of Parliament is giving out export licences. This is a deliberate sabotage to BMC because these licences will only be given to few people to enrich themselves as they will be able to sell to countries outside Botswana.

**MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** On a point of order. Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I think it is inappropriate, unless the Honourable Member can substantiate that government deliberately made BMC fail so that they do what he said they are doing. He must substantiate or he must withdraw because he is imputing improper motives on those that are taking decisions.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, substantiate.

**MR SALAKAE:** We are busy, Ministers are playing here. I have full proof.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, what you said is inappropriate. Correct that, she is not playing.

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** No, you said Ministers. That is the Minister who was on the floor. Let us try to treat Parliament with the respect that it deserves. Withdraw starting with Ministers are playing because...

**MR SALAKAE:** I withdraw.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**MR SALAKAE:** There is proof. I do not know whether you want proof that there are people who are secretly being given export licences or that BMC is failing and not profitable. BMC is making people redundant as we speak, that is the proof that the government is deliberately.....

**MS MAKGATO:** Point of order. He is deliberately confusing himself. My point of order is very clear; he said we are deliberately making BMC fail in order to do what he said. That is why I am saying he should give us proof of that deliberate action he said we are doing. So he is dodging.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay,

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR SALAKAE:** 19 seconds left.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** No, there can only be one point of order at a time. Who called for it?

**MR SALAKAE:** 19 seconds left. The problem is, the Honourable Minister wants me to answer the questions the way that she wants. In the last Parliament, we were told that BMC needed money for refurbishment while in actual fact they knew that in the coming year BMC will be downsizing the staff. I am saying this is deliberate because the Minister must have known that in the coming year, the BMC is going to experience the problems that will lead to people losing their jobs. BMC was given 400 million because it was said that their only problem was with the cash flow. The Honourable Minister of Agriculture is here.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Your time is up.

**MR B. BUTALE (TATI WEST):** Thank you Madam Speaker. I will start by congratulating the Minister of Finance and Development Planning Honourable Matambo, whom we all hold in high esteem even today after this budget. It is a tough budget in tough times. The world economy is not what it used to be. We are in our second year of deficit and on top of that, we all know that there is a high rate of unemployment in the country. He was really between a rock and a hard place. He could not idle and watch all of these problems. There was a political pressure for him to do something. I think in the circumstances, he has done quite well.

Let me just say that our predicament makes it more imperative that we as a country diversify our economy and create new streams of wealth. We must leverage our diamond bonanza to move up last future generations unfavourably. World economy as I said is in a crisis mode because of El Nino and other things. This crisis has reached our shores. But we should not let a good crisis go to waste. Our neighbour South Africa is also going through tough times and Zimbabwe our northern neighbour has been going through tough times for a long time. We as Botswana are placed in the centre of this crisis for a reason and a purpose. We should take an advantage of all these problems that are around us to move our country forward, how?

One; it is high time we are industrialized. We have been talking about industrialization since the times of Financial Assistance Policy (FAP) and our government has been working very hard to try to industrialise that economy but we do not seem to be quite getting there.

One of the ways that we can bring the stream of industrialization to come to pass is to use our parastatals and to set targets for them, and to give them specific mandates to carry out. Still on parastatals; companies like Debswana and Bamangwato Concession Limited (BCL) should look outward. I was surprised by the Leader of Opposition yesterday talking about inviting the Russians to come and colonise us just like De Beers colonised us. I was shocked that a Leader of Opposition would say that. I am thinking that we should use the leverage of Debswana and the goodwill and the systems that we have developed over time to go out and compete with Alrosa and all these companies. He said no, no let us call the Russian oligarch to come and exploit us. I thought that no; there is no socialism like this.

When we were at the university he was a Marxist and I thought there is no Marxism that goes like that. We should stop looking for Russians to come and help our country. We as a country can pull ourselves up by our bootstraps.

I really get exasperated. Why do we need Russians to come and...

**MR KEORAPETSE:** On a point of order. I think the Honourable Member is deliberately imputing improper motives because when you talk about colonialism, it is a very evil system.

To insinuate that the Leader of Opposition was calling for colonialism, it is imputing improper motive. What the Leader of Opposition was clearly saying was that the contract between the government and De Beers has given us a raw deal, and that the next government will review that system. That is exactly what he was saying. But to say that he was calling for colonialism is imputing improper motive because we all know that colonialism is an evil system.

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Listen, the problem is that I do not have his speech here. I would like to request that when we talk about the other person or quoting him, we should quote exactly what he said. I do not know if he said we should be colonised by the Russians. Otherwise we will have to get a copy of his Speech. I will just ask the Clerk for that copy.

**MR B. BUTALE:** Madam Speaker, I withdraw the word 'colonialism by Russia.' But what he was saying was that De Beers has been exploiting us, let us call the Russians to come also and exploit us. And then I am saying why does he not say Debswana should run on its own? Why should we always be hankering for people to come from outside and exploit us? Can he not just say

why does Debswana not...(interruption)...At this point Madam Speaker, I do not think I would be able to finish my speech.

**MR GAOLATHE:** On a point of order. Madam Speaker, the Honourable Member of Parliament is stating what is incorrect. The Speech does not call for the Russians to come in. The Speech indicates that there are companies around the world that have done well despite the global downturn. It gave the Russians as an example. It did not say that the Russians should come at all. So, it is incorrect.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Let us correct Honourable Member.

**MR B. BUTALE:** I stand by my word Madam Speaker. Maybe we should call the record to come. That is when I wanted to...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Order! Then it means we should look for the copy. Can I get a copy of that? Do you have a copy there? Who has a copy?

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

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, we want the Hansard.

**MR MOREMI:** On a point of procedure. Madam Speaker, I do not know whether we have adjourned, is it also procedural or I can proceed while waiting for the Hansard?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No, Honourable Butale has a copy since he was quoting.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** They are saying they want the Hansard.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Since he is coming from as far as Annexe, let us adjourn for ten minutes.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** There it is Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Oh! It is here?

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Yes, it is here.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** No, no, listen Honourable Members, we want the Hansard. The thing is if it is a copy some people may make some additions using his own words. So if it is the Hansard everything is captured. 10 minutes adjournment.

**PROCEEDINGS SUSPENDED FOR  
APPROXIMATELY 10 MINUTES**

**MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE):** Please take your seats so that we may begin. Now listen. Statement

made by Leader of Opposition yesterday which is on page 37 of the Hansard. Please let us save time, if you know that you are going to quote something, bring the material, we could not have adjourned.

It is under Our Proposals, “Now listen very carefully because here I set out. I enumerate”.

### Government Revenue and Receipts

“We will vigorously consider other technical partners for the management of Botswana’s diamond mines other than the current DeBeers arrangement. We believe that it is necessary to do so and this is informed by our view that there have been companies including one in Russia that have been able to perform admirably despite the global economic slow down and storm against diamonds”. I think one can stop there.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** There is no exploitation there.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Biggie Butale, these are the words you wanted to say but I hear Honourable Keorapetse arguing that there is no exploitation. I want to know exactly what you said you cannot do which the Honourable Leader of Opposition was proposing? Because I assumed that what you said is what is written here.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** It is not it.

**MR B. G. BUTALE:** It is true Madam Speaker. What I was saying was that I am disappointed because I thought Honourable Boko was a Socialist and he cannot say let us remove this technical partner and bring in another one. I thought he would say since we have this mining development company, when we take over, we will do the whole process ourselves and Hansard has borne me out I will continue ...

**DR P. BUTALE:** On a point of order. Madam Speaker, I think the Hansard was read and I want to compare with what cost us to go to a break. The Honourable Member said that the Leader of the Opposition said let us bring the Russians to come and exploit us. Those are the contentious words. The word that was withdrawn was colonialism. What we are contesting against is the assertion that he said let us bring the Russians to come and exploit us, that has to be removed from the Hansard, that is not what he said.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** If you said so Honourable, you can withdraw that part but otherwise ...

**MR B. G. BUTALE:** Madam Speaker, I will not withdraw.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR B. G. BUTALE:** This is what is happening Madam Speaker. Companies from the Western world come to Africa, mine our resources, share with us our own resources 50/50, they take 50 per cent of the profits we take 50 per cent of the profits. Some of us have been growing up looking at this system and wondering why we cannot take the whole 100 per cent and Honourable Boko is saying when we take over as the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), we are going to bring “different technical partners”. In my opinion, these people are exploiters and I stand by that word that this is exploitation. You cannot come to my farm and find my cows and say I will help you kill this cow, you take half I take half, that is exploitation. And if the Opposition says that is not exploitation, that is their own interpretation. I stand by my...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Listen! I am standing up so stop seeking clarification. So basically you are against even with the current, you were combining them that they exploit, is that what you are saying?

**LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (MR BOKO):** Clarification. Two things Honourable Members. In the way we conduct our debates, let us be careful not to be unduly restrictive on whoever is on the floor. And those who are on the floor must also be careful not to attribute words to other Honourable Members that they have not said. The difficulty here seems to be that the exploitation that the Honourable Member here mentions was attributed to the Leader of the Opposition, which is not consistent with the Hansard. That is the contentious part.

The second is, it is his understanding, his speaking to this State of Affairs. He considers the current arrangement exploitative and any arrangement in which technical partners are involved exploitative. That is his. He is entitled to make that submission. What he is not entitled to do however is to ascribe the wording that involves exploitation to a speaker who did not say it, he is entitled to put it across as his view. That I think is perfectly in order.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of procedure.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, proceed, no! Listen. He did not say Honourable Boko will call the people to exploit us, he said if those people can do that they will exploit us just like the current system.

**MR B. G. BUTALE:** Thank you Madam Speaker I will go on. Just to summarise that Madam Speaker, we have

our mining development company. It should become a global DeBeers and unfortunately people are now going to be putting an eye on the mining development company, the cat is out of the bag but that is what should happen.

It should stand in its own right as DeBeers itself as ALROSA, equal in outreach and business operations. Madam Speaker, Debswana and BCL are companies that are world class. They have got what is called goodwill and if we can use this goodwill that these companies have over the past 40 or so odd years generated, we can become an economic super power. But if we can just let Debswana and BCL remain in Botswana until the diamonds and copper nickel run out and then we say to them look outside the country, it will be too little, too late. Now is the time to hit the iron whilst it is still hot. Now it is the time for these companies to move out to the rest of Africa. Let us also colonise ourselves. Let them move out to the rest of Africa whilst there is crisis, whilst there is a downturn in commodity prices, whilst the Western World is crying because of these hard economic times. This is the right time that we could move out and “also colonise” our own continent.

Madam Speaker, I was very happy that the Honourable Minister talked about Special Economic Zones, that is how the Asian tigers became what they are, whether you are speaking of Malaysia, Singapore or even China. The Special Economic Zones model is what helped these countries to be where they are now. I would believe that we as a Government will pursue this economic growth strategy to its logical conclusion and it must not be said that the Special Economic Zones will employ people overnight, will make Botswana like the East Asian tigers overnight, it takes time. China took 2 decades to begin to move from its lethargy, from its sleep using this Special Economic Zone under President Deng Xiaoping.

Madam Speaker, I also believe that it is time we move away from rain fed agriculture. Our country has always been a semi-arid country, a dry country and now with the advent of El nino getting more vicious year by year, if we continue with this rain fed agriculture, we are not only wasting time, but also wasting money. It is time that we ventured into serious commercial agriculture, serious irrigation agriculture. It is such a pity that in Africa you have countries like Congo, where there is the Congo river, which is one of the biggest rivers in Africa and yet the people in Brazzaville, just next door to that river lack water, it is such a wonderful anomaly that only happens in Africa. In Botswana we have got so much water in the Okavango, so much water in the Chobe river, but we are not exploiting this resource adequately, actually we are not exploiting at all.

I know there are plans for the Agro-Zambezi project, but it is moving so slowly, in such a slow motion. If we could have had the same situation as Mr Mogae once said and I will never forget his quote, ‘if you could bring just 2000 Germans to come and stay in Botswana, they will transform this country overnight,’ but we are sitting with so much water and land, yet we cannot feed Africa. Tshekedi Khama, one of my favourite leaders, in 1956...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** He was not born.

**MR B. BUTALE:** Yes, that is what they say. They are saying because I was not born and Tshekedi was there what do I know about him, in 1956 he said Botswana can feed all of Africa, one of the greatest visionaries this country has ever seen. We are here 60 years later and we are still saying the same thing, Botswana can feed the rest of Africa, but we are not moving, it is just talk, talk. In the meantime, I am sorry that very soon we will run out of diamond money and then we will become just like the Central African Republic and other African countries. People will start to laugh at us and say, you had the diamond bonanza, what did you do with it?

**MR MOREMI:** Point of order. My point of order Madam Speaker is that we should come back to the Budget issue, I hear the Honourable Member saying we have failed and people are even laughing at us. I was hoping he could maybe associate this with the Budget.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** No, he is in order. I am listening to him attentively, he is on track. Please continue Honourable Member.

**MR B. BUTALE:** Madam Speaker, we can move our country forward, especially if we can leverage on service sector, it is where we can employ a lot of people. The South African economy is upheld mostly by the service sector like in the tourism industry, even in things like call centres and other service sectors. If we could look at the service sector as something that can move our country forward, we can transform Botswana. We do not even need a decade, less than a decade, this country can change beyond anything that we can imagine, but we need to change certain things. I have a vision and I know many Batswana will think that it is a crazy vision, we can change our country selectively by allowing 2 million extra immigrants into our country. To move our population from 2 million to 4 million and join the big leagues. This extra population, I am not talking about opening the borders and letting everybody come in, selective immigration. In simple mathematics we need to double our infrastructure, already that will increase the Gross Domestic Products (GDP). A lot of countries have reached first world status by this strategy, whether we are talking about America, New Zealand, Australia,

Canada, Dubai even Singapore, all these countries that have become ...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Molao, you were once a Whip. You know you are not supposed to stand before someone when they are talking... (inaudible)...

**MR B. BUTALE:** All these country Madam Speaker have managed to reach where they are because of selective immigration. The great majority of our people, I am sorry to say, they really have fear of foreigners, but foreigners can come and make our country better. Maybe it is because I am a Christian, believing that all men are made in the image of God and that boarders really are for proper running of the affairs and people say that if we bring these people they will come and dilute our culture and then we will not have Batswana anymore. If we really want to move into the big leagues, with the big boys, we should allow the selective immigration and increase our population. I believe that we cannot become a serious super power economically with 2 million people. You do not have the raw material to do it, which is why Botswana cannot win the World Cup because you do not have the critical mass. If we do not increase the critical mass, I can just give you an example, it is not even a prophesy, but what will happen is that once the diamond revenue finishes, we will join all the other African countries. We can stop that now Madam Speaker and move our country to first world status.

The other factor that we can look at is education, we have the infrastructure, the policies and the correct mind-set. Botswana is way, way ahead of many countries in the world, we have the human resource development council. It is amazing that people think that the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Government has lack of ideas, but this government has so many brilliant ideas, I consider myself a thinker, but when I see the things that this government has put in place, the policies that they have, I see that there is very little that I can add. It is just to take what is already there and put it into practice. Like I said, we have the Human Resources Development Council (HRDC), we have this vision of having Botswana as an education hub, getting African countries to bring their students to come and study in here. It is a good initiative. Let us put it into practice. Let us put these policies, ideas and programmes into practice. Not only that Madam Speaker, we have educated a lot of Batswana, even in this room. So many of us here have got degrees, some have got two degrees, some have been to Harvard, Connell, Oxford, Cambridge, you name it, they have been in this Parliament.

What I think we should also be looking at Madam Speaker is that this army of young people that we have educated, why do we not make sure that we help them to go and find jobs in Namibia, South Africa, even in Zimbabwe. It is how great countries have become great, by being adventurous and going to foreign lands. If Europe had not been adventurous, Europe would not be ruling the world right now. It is because you got people who wanted to see the new world, to go to America, Australia and Africa and that is where you find opportunities. But we educate our young people and we tell them that, "the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Government will find you a job. The BDP Government will take care of you from the cradle to the grave". I think there should be a paradigm shift. We should say that, "we facilitate you to get educated, you find your own job and you do your own hustle. Everybody is crying to the Government but we are afraid to say, "you are old enough, go and fend for yourself."

Madam Speaker as I wind up, we are looking at Vision 2036. 2016 has passed. I had thought my Honourable Minister will give a short preview of Vision 2016. But I understand you know when you are going from back to back deficits, sometimes you got thrown off track. As we head into Vision 2036, may it have timelines with targets that in 10 years from now this is where we will be at and 20 years from now this is where we will be at. I am saying this to my colleagues this side of the room that we have to have targets and meet those targets. If we do not do so Madam Speaker, I think this country might lose confidence in us and place trust in people who will just destroy what has been achieved in the past 50 or so years because when someone finds something that they have not sweat ton achieve, they do not know what to do with it.

Winding up Madam Speaker, we are going to be celebrating our 50 years of independence. Fifty budgets later, we are known as a prudent government, government that has handled the finances of the state much better than many in the world, not just in Africa. We are in difficult times and when we are in difficult times, difficult decisions have to be taken. We can only sustain budget deficits for so long. If for some reason the world economy does not recover in 2016, in 2017 we must prepare our people that we cannot continue with a budget deficit. It is as simple as that. I know that if we tell our people that they will say, "okay we will look elsewhere for people who can bring the Russians who will be able to give us jobs". As a government, we should be prepared to tell the truth and firmly stand on the truth. If Batswana say we do not want the truth, we want a lie, we want hit lists and all these other things, it is okay Honourable Minister. We should allow

Batswana to choose the lie and we should stand firm by our convictions. Future generations would be able to say that this was their finest hour. They will be able to say that the BDP Government was the greatest political party, not only in Africa but in the whole world. We should not be afraid. We should never be afraid because in the long run the truth will always come out.

That is why I am a member of the BDP. I could have long time ago joined the Opposition because a lot of my friends are in the Opposition and a lot of my friends formed the Botswana Movement for Democracy (BMD). But the only reason why I could not jump ship apart from the fact that I grew up in this area, it is because I trust the BDP. I trust the BDP to tell the truth. I trust the BDP to do right. That is why we should stay course Honourable Minister. We should stay course and be steadfast. If in 2019 because we are on the side of truth, Batswana say we are sick and tired of truth, we want and believe a lie we should give them the lie. Eventually, it does not matter how long it takes, they will acknowledge that this party and this government was the greatest thing that has ever happened to this country. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I am debating for the first time this year and therefore I want to wish this House, colleagues and you in particular Madam Speaker a blessed 2016, as we celebrate 50 years independence. Some of us were born when we gained independence so it is a special year for us. As I start my debate, those that generally do not have a lot of heart must get their water ready or take a break because I am going to give back what we have been sitting here as the ruling party taking from yourselves and we did not do anything unusual other than listen and take the ridicule that we are now accustomed to. First of all Honourable Matambo, I want to congratulate you on your Budget...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Thank you very much.

**MS MAKGATO:** And the reason I want to congratulate you is because you were doing this budget under very, very difficult circumstances, under a constrained environment. Yesterday when you were delivering what in my view was a brilliant thought through budget, you were told that you were breaking ranks; that shows you how good it was. It was so good that because they could not dish it, the Leader of the Opposition in particular had to say it is tantamount to you breaking ranks with us because the budget is good under the difficult circumstances. It is so good because it was not expected if you go by what the Opposition had told the masses; they had told the masses that what we were dreaming and what we were talking about, what we were visualising

was unachievable. There was no way you were going to come up with a budget, but you did, and it was good, and because it was good, it was then said that you were breaking ranks with the government. I trust you because you do your budget in a way and manner in which international organisations recommend, in a way and manner that governments today do it. You do not just do thumbs up, you do it within rules, and you continue to do so in this current budget. So, ignore them when they want to cause us to fight, they are antagonists, they want to confuse you to a point where you will think we do not like you, we like you.

**MR KHAN:** On a point of order. Madam Speaker, the Honourable Member is now using two languages, I thought she chose English as a form of language, now she has changed the language.

**MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE):** Standing Order 15 Honourable Minister.

**MS MAKGATO:** Thank you Madam Speaker, but within that Standing Order just two minutes of another language is not a crime. However, I will continue to speak in English.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** Point of order. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. The words that we are antagonists paint us in a bad light. An antagonist is a sinful and bad person. Maybe the Minister could withdraw those words.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Maybe we should just let it slide but Minister you should stop provoking your colleagues. Otherwise I do not agree that she should withdraw, there is nothing wrong with it.

**MS MAKGATO:** Thank you for your protection me Madam Speaker...

#### **Exchange of Speaker**

**MR MOREMI:** Point of order. Mr Speaker, maybe we should disregard Standing Order of improper motives because I remember yesterday Honourable Nkaigwa was barred from saying anything by Honourable Molefhi and Ms Makgato is denying people an opportunity to speak. Now we find that labelling people antagonists is just fine. Maybe we should just accept that this issue of improper motives will one day be disregarded in this House.

**MR SPEAKER (MR MOLATLHEGI):** I hear you Honourable Member, a ruling has already being made on that. Honourable Member Makgato, please continue.

**MS MAKGATO:** Thank you very much Mr Speaker. I would like to explain what an antagonist means; he

or she is a person who would find people sitting in peace, people that are agreeable, that belong to the same party, have agreed on a budget and blessed the Member of Parliament, and the Minister of Finance saying we agreed all of us, the antagonist will then say 'no that is not true, you have break the ranks with them,' so that they can bring division, that is an antagonist. That is where I am coming from. So I shall continue with my debate.

The debate today is on a budget that I have said was under difficult circumstances, and I will articulate what I mean. Fact of the matter is the following;

1. There has been a slowdown in both domestic and global growth.
2. Another fact is, countries both in the continent and outside this continent in Europe which develop economies for that matter, currently as we speak are being downgraded in terms of their ratings.
3. The third fact is countries as we speak are going bankrupt; some are even being bailed out by funding institutions or countries and so forth.
4. A fourth fact; there has been a prolonged depression, and also we have had a long time where commodity prices such as those of diamonds and copper have been very low over a period of time.
5. The final fact is despite all these which are the difficult circumstances under which our Finance Minister and the government of the day had to produce a budget that Batswana can accept is that we are a prudent government; that is a fact.

We are a prudent government because a prudent government is one that will adapt its ways when there are changing circumstances, you do not give up. Adapt its ways. It does not adopt a business as usual approach, it will come up with new initiatives, initiatives such as the Economic Stimulus Program (ESP). The reason there is all this noise is because we have not done it before, we have not called it a name before. But what we have done is prudent, it is responding to the situation of 1; a prolonged slowdown in growth, 2; the fact that Batswana are hungry for jobs, 3; the fact that we are in, we want to diversify this economy in a hurry etcetera. Therefore, we could not adopt a business as usual approach, which is why when the Finance Minister came to us as the government of the day and said we need to be bold; I know that is not my style to encourage you to operate under a deficit, it is not his style, yeah! We have done it there and then, but it is not our usual style. If anything, we probably for a long time have operated surplus budgets, but today he said I am going to take

a bold step I want to fast-track all those things that have stayed behind as a result of these circumstances that I have just explained. Therefore, I am going to deliberately present a budget deficit. When you do that it is called prudence, it is called being smart, it is being in control and being in charge of that which you have promised your electorates; and that is the government of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP).

When you achieve that, those that oppose you must get worried, and they must do what is normal, oppose, discredit, disqualify, and find faults in this system that you have produced, that is basically answering that which you will do to Batswana.

I want to go to Paragraph 7 which I particularly like, I will not quote, I will paraphrase, but I like it because it talks to infrastructural development, challenges that we have tried to address across board, Health, Education, Local Government etcetera. It was not limited to one particular area, but rather based on a cross board position. I want to however, quote if you allow me Mr Speaker, I want to quote Paragraph 8, may I?

**MR SPEAKER:** Go ahead.

**MS MAKGATO:** 'In many respects, the 2016/2017 budget is a transitional budget specifically from NDP 10 to NDP 11, Vision 2016 to Vision 2036 and United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to Sustainable Development goals as (SDGs). Efforts were therefore made during the preparation of the 2016/2017 budget to ensure that it lays a sound foundation and expenditure path for NDP 11 whilst at the same time aligning its priorities with the emerging themes of both the Vision 2016 and Sustainable Development Goals'.

In simple terms, we did not do this budget out of a vacuum, we had a plan, we had a point of reference, we had things that we had to address, and we had some alignment issues. Therefore, anyone so far who has talked about getting tenders for us, it is irrelevant because that is not what is stated in this. I have been looking for a paragraph that specifically talks to us giving each other tenders.

I get worried when Honourable Members do not want a public procurement system that is transparent, which is called tenders; a law which is made by them. If they are unhappy about that law, they must change it. You must change it Honourable Salakae, change the law because you passed that law that we use.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ...murmurs...

**MS MAKGATO:** Huh! I was listening to you. Mr Speaker, through you, Honourable Salakae in his debate

is worried about the tendering system. He is saying if government uses the tendering system it is wrong, we should not. I am saying if he has a problem with that specific piece of legislation, he can come with a motion and change it. As far as I am concerned, we will continue to use the tendering system as a transparent way of doing business of government. Corruption is a separate matter, I am talking about a public procurement system, and there is a difference. The only problem is you only understand tendering to mean corruption; it does not, they are two separate things. So address...

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

Elucidation. Mr Speaker, would the Honourable Member on the floor agree with me that if there was any sort of corruption in tenders, certain members of this House would not have won tenders as we see them winning tenders in government companies like Debswana?

**MS MAKGATO:** I agree with you entirely and that was the point I was heading to. I think it is hypocritical if you have leaders that will perpetuate this misconception that it is wrong to tender, to think about tenders and to want to win a tender, when themselves are winning those tenders and funding themselves. To me it is very selfish because they only want these benefits for themselves and not for their electorates. It was so sad, point of reference when I was Minister of Trade and Industry; I sat in this House when Honourable Members condemned Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA). I knew for a fact but because I am ethical I did not disclose their names, for the fact that those that are condemning CEDA are those that benefitted from CEDA themselves, not once, not twice but many times. But they want to keep their followers at bay so that they can continue to have it.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Salakae, order!

**MS MAKGATO:** I am bringing it in because you brought it in, I am responding to what you said. You brought in an irrelevant fact; you are forcing me to debate in an irrelevant manner.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Makgato, calm down. Honourable Salakae, you cannot be so loud when another Honourable Minister is still talking, you are disturbing.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** What you are doing is unacceptable. Honourable Makgato, address me and do not be tempted to respond to side remarks.

**MS MAKGATO:** Thank you very much Mr Speaker. I will continue on my path and I will only introduce certain aspects of my debate on the basis that I am responding to those that put them on the floor of this House. So whenever you hear irrelevance on my part, know that somebody else was irrelevant and I am responding to that irrelevance. It would not be right of me to just gloss over irrelevance without necessarily contextualising it nor correcting it.

It is important Mr Speaker that as we speak about our economy, we compare. If you look at the growth of developed economies at global level for 2014, you are talking 1.8, 1.9 per cent. A country that has been referred as a small country of two million people, under this current environment, managed a growth of 3.2 per cent. A young country that is only 50 years old has managed to maintain this growth despite the difficult circumstances. That basically says we are able to mitigate risks, we are able to deal with prevailing environments at any given time. Otherwise we would not be where we are today.

I want to talk about Paragraph 17 Mr Speaker which is Southern African Customs Union (SACU); my favourite subject. I want to say to the Honourable Minister, as you debate around the table at SACU, I think you must debate from a position of strength, not a position of weakness because whether we like it or not Botswana is a factor in the economy of SACU. We have shown that, we have demonstrated that with how we have managed our resources. I know that there is a current impasse, therefore I am saying stick to your position because it is only through that, that you can force others to come to the table and debate with us where they take us with the seriousness that we deserve.

If you look at Paragraph 19, I am so glad that you decided to depart from just talking the language of fairness and educate some of us. I knew that there is a difference between foreign reserves and savings but I know, having listened to the debate that there are others who did not distinguish between the two. Where the natural assumption was foreign reserves are the same as savings.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** They are the same.

**MS MAKGATO:** Our foreign reserves currently stand at 84.9 billion, whilst our savings stand at 35 billion as we speak. How can they be the same?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ... (Murmurs)...

**MS MAKGATO:** I know that within that 84 billion, he was correcting me; I am not going to deny that, he was telling me that the 35 is within the 84 billion. So I am comparing...

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

**MS MAKGATO:** It is not the same, I am comparing 84 billion in total which is inclusive of our savings and excluding 35 billion and I am saying you cannot say 84 is the same as 35 billion, that is a fact. Therefore to me the reason I like this paragraph if I may quote Mr Speaker, Paragraph 19, the 35 billion that I am talking, "while this portion of the reserves is available for Government use, it is important that the use of these reserves is restricted to investment in high impact projects, with potential to bolster economic growth, and thus, contribute to future budget surpluses needed to re-build the depleted resources." If you go into the rest of the speech where he talks about infrastructural development; that is where ordinarily we will be spending this money. When you talk Kasane/ Kazungula, North South Carrier and all those mega projects that will boost and reboot the economy that is where this money is supposed to come in so that it can create value.

I want to talk about the performance of our parastatals; I do not know why we are deliberately leaving out the good performance of a number of parastatals contained in the Minister of Finance's speech. We have decided to talk about those that have not done well; it is natural that if you have parastatals, some would do well some would do badly. But it is important to also acknowledge where others have done well. Example; Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) made a net profit of 202 million compared to a net loss of 7.8 in 2014; it is a significant jump. Telecommunications; recording a net profit of 146.8 million in 2015 compared to 140 the previous year. I am saying this so that Batswana can know that there are parastatals that have done well because we have concentrated on those that have not done well. There is also Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority (BOCRA); recorded a profit of 37 million, a decline granted but a profit is a profit. Similarly, Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC); a net profit of 9.8 million and Botswana Savings Bank (BSB); a net profit of 12.2 million. To me that say they must have done something right to be able to achieve what they have achieved and therefore they must be congratulated for having achieved that. I like the fact that we have highlighted those that are having challenges currently and having challenges does not necessarily mean you cannot turn around.

On Paragraphs 24 and 25 you talk about roads; I was hoping that I might see some of the roads that are in my constituency. I am hoping that the Minister of Transport when he does his committee of supply would highlight but it would not kill anybody if I said I would like to see our Radisele-Mokobeng and Machaneng-Parrs Halt-

Dibete roads. Those are my desires and I would like to see them as we go forward.

Overall Mr Matambo, I am personally satisfied. I am grateful that in your budget you have increased my budget as Minister of Health and this is in line with our Vision of Transformation, because at Health we talk of transformation, we talk of transition, which is the language that you are using in your Budget Speech.

I can tell you something that over and above what you have given me, I am going to go beyond this, go to other partners and ask for money. I am going to present a business case and I encourage others to do the same, because it is possible. I am sure you will be glad to note that yesterday I signed for USD 32.8 million from the Global Fund to assist us in Malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS. I believe that there is still scope for us to be able to go and seek for more funding.

I want to end my debate Mr Speaker on a good note that we as the Ministry of Health, we want to change our language to where we can talk about no transmission and talk about the epidemic control. We will be investing heavily and rigorously on the testing and treating because that is where the world is going. As we go there, we hope that Honourable colleagues when we come here and ask for more money, as long as we can achieve what I have just said by 2020 or 2030, you will support us in that regard. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**MR RANTUANA (RAMOTSWA):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Let me start by acknowledging that just like some Honourable Members I do not know much about economy nor about financial management. My comment on the budget will therefore be brief.

I will start by quoting Honourable Matambo's last year speech where he said if Honourable Gaolathe was his assistant our budget would have been packed because he is a guru of economics and because there is no one who is qualified like him that side of the isle who can assist you.

**MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (MR MATAMBO):** Point of order. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. The point of order is that the Honourable Member is out of order when he says; I said that there is no one this side who can assist me. I have many people who can assist me. I just wanted to clarify that one. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** He is not telling the truth. Honourable Rantuana correct that and stop saying what Honourable Matambo did not say.

**MR RANTUANA:** My intention was not to accuse Minister Matambo but he said he does not see anybody

who can assist, he did not say there is totally nobody. I thank you

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

**MR RANTUANA:** There is a difference when you say you do not see anybody and when you say there is absolutely nobody. Honourable Member we have been given the budget, however I am surprised that the budget has left out the very people who help in generating this income, the public service. Personally I believe that we are turning 50 years and we should thank the public servants as they are the ones who generate this income. We should have made it clear and said we are going to budget this much for the public service salaries for this period of time.

I am one person who believes in better salaries for the public servants.

**MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MR RALOTSIA):** Point of order. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. It is not in order for Honourable Member Rantuana to pretend not to know that there is a Bargaining Council, which when otherwise we act outside that, it is regarded as breaking the law and that government pretends not to know that there is a Bargaining Council. It is not in order.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! No, but Honourable Minister that is not a point of order, it is a point of correction. Just correct him to say whatever he is saying is still handled by the Bargaining Council, the House is completely in order. He is the one who is not saying what you believe is right. So correct him on that.

**MR RANTUANA:** Thank you for teaching the Minister. That is the way to go Mr Speaker.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** No, what are you on about now. Just continue with your debate.

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

**MR RANTUANA:** It is not that I know nothing about the Bargaining Council. It is not wrong for the Minister not to know some of these things. I also read on number 89 when Honourable Matambo was presenting in the year 2015. I will quote the last sentence.

**MR SPEAKER:** Where are you quoting the Honourable Member?

**MR RANTUANA:** The last year speech.

**MR SPEAKER:** Last Speech, which one is that?

**MR RANTUANA:** Budget Speech.

**MR SPEAKER:** Yes, continue quoting.

**MR RANTUANA:** It says, "Madam Speaker, the government remains fully committed to the Bargaining Council in the process of negotiating Public Service salaries and will continue to consult with Trade Unions." I do not negate that. But how about if you are going to negotiate about the money which has been budgeted for already? Can you not just negotiate even if it is in the budget? What will be the point of negotiating with the Bargaining Council? It concludes by saying, "we hope that the negotiations by the Bargaining Council will be concluded, an agreement reached before the beginning of next financial year so that the Public Servants are not disadvantaged." We are here today, the negotiations have not been concluded, this is the next financial year, when are they going to conclude?

On that one regarding Public Service, in this year's Budget Speech, he is still saying, "Madam Speaker, negotiation on the Public Service salaries is prerogative of the Bargaining Council."

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Rantuana, as you quote you must tell us the paragraph that you are quoting from.

**MR RANTUANA:** Paragraph 78 of this year's Budget Speech. Page 19, third Paragraph from the bottom, it is printed in black and white. "Madam Speaker, negotiations on public service salaries are the prerogative of the Bargaining Council, which comprises the Government and Trade Unions. It is important, however, to consider the prevailing global and domestic economic outlook, in particular, the constrained fiscal space for 2016/2017, arising from the depressed global demand for, and prices of diamonds. We all need to take into account these unfavourable economic fundamentals to ensure the country's future fiscal sustainability..."

So now there are no longer negotiations...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Say end of quote.

**MR RANTUANA:** You are right, end of quote. So now there are no longer negotiations because civil servants should not be disadvantaged. We are now talking about the poor performance of diamond trading. Right now if the diamonds were to change into useless stones, are we going to retrench the civil servants?

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** No.

**MR RANTUANA:** Then why is it just a huge excuse. Why? I do not know how the Bargaining Council operate, I do not. There is one animal called *ramoshwe*, when it gets inside the hole, it places the snake's head by the entrance therefore I believe that the Bargaining Council is that head of snake which has long died so that it might seem like we have Bargaining Council,

there is no seriousness in it. If at all there was some sense of urgency and know that the civil servants are the ones regulating the economy of the country besides the diamonds. Civil servants wake up every morning with no water, no accommodation and come to the office to make money for this country whereas we do not have that sense of urgency to try and increase their salaries. We are not serious. We are not serious at all.

**MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable colleague.

**MR SPEAKER:** Mr Speaker!

**MS MAKGATO:** Oh I am so sorry. I think it is the new gown. Mr Speaker Sir. My clarification is here, is there anything particularly wrong in providing a context within which any negotiation is taking place because the sentence that you have said today and the sentence that you quoted from last year, all they did was present a context within which people will be negotiating?

**MR RANTUANA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Context as it is alluded to, at school I was taught numbers therefore there has to be an amount, we should not be fake and claim that the reason is because civil servants should not be disadvantaged.

Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS) employees work on the borders risking their lives without any security to make money for this country. Police are making money every day, that money should be used to increase civil servants' salary.

It is more than five years with them earning the same salary, prices of domestic commodities hike on daily basis, there is drought. People should know that they are the ones regulating the economy of this country, we should take them seriously and stop wasting money on unnecessary things.

The money which is wasted at Ipelegeng could be used to increase the civil servants' salaries. The money which is currently wasted by Ralotsia at the Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agriculture Development (ISPAAD) while there are no rainfalls could be transferred to increase the civil servants' salaries rather than being wasted there, this is just lost money now. I think that after this he will report as to how many hectares he buried the money without any progress.

Mr Speaker the second one is the roads, I sometimes hear that Botswana wants to have transport hub of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) but when you look at the budget allocated for the roads department it is very small. The projects which

are in the budget, I thought I was going to see the Lobatse/Gaborone road being seriously constructed but it is not even in the plan. It was long shelved in the National Development Plan 9 (NDP 9) and National Development Plan (NDP10) I do not know when it will be constructed, there is even ESP and it is not included. Why is the Lobatse/Gaborone not included in the plan? The accidents occurring on that road claim people's lives, do you not think the accidents will be few if you can construct that road?

There is a Pioneer border gate from Lobatse which is a source of our revenue, let us provide it with good conditioned roads. Right now the bridge of Ramotswa border gate is falling apart; a road should be seriously constructed. There is a border gate at Tlokweng and they are all going to use this same road. So why have we not actually developed it and included it in the budget so that it can have dual carriage like it was planned before there was this so called economic meltdown? Why can we not include the Lobatse/Gaborone road so that it can bring in revenues. We import a lot of goods from South Africa yet we are failing to maintain the road so that it can be up to standard.

There is this word ESP, which I have been mentioning in my debates, it is similar to ghost. We all know that there is a ghost but we have never actually seen it. ESP is a ghost which is said to drive projects. If that ghost is there, you are failing to construct a 100 metres road after passing Boatle to Lobatse.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** The ghost?

**MR RANTUANA:** Yes, the company took six months. It has abandoned the projects; there is not even one machine. People's cars are being ruined due to using gravel road. The ghost will abandon you and you cannot show any results that you had a ghost.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Rantuana you mean there is not even one single word besides ghost which you can compare to ESP?

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

**MR RANTUANA:** Mr Speaker, I do not think I am out of order. I mean if you can drive 8 kilometres from Boatle to Lobatse, you will see the ESP projects. The accidents on that road are rife, others operate buses. Accidents which were there during Christmas were so many. Right now it is claimed that this ghost is going to push pending projects yet we have an example of the pending Boatle road.

I am seriously requesting that when this ghost fails, when NDP 10 finishes this Lobatse/Gaborone road

should be constructed, maybe it is unfortunate because it goes to the south and not Phakalane. If it were going to Phakalane maybe it could have been constructed by now. The other thing Mr Speaker is with regard to the train which is said to be coming back. I was saying if it has been spared some funds in this Budget, we should have train station buildings because currently they cannot house people. They are old and have turned into ruins. These also need to be refurbished. Right now the building in Ramotswa at Taung Station is in ruins status and there is no one who can wait for a train there.

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

**MR RANTUANA:** Yes, even if it does not stop there that will not be a problem.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Rantuana let me remind you of something, do not be too impatient and go into the specifics of your debate of the Budget. Currently we are still talking about the macro component of the Budget. When we get to the Committee of Supply at the Ministry of Transport and Communications, that is when you will now focus on your station at Ramotswa and Otse.

**MR RANTUANA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Even if it does not stop there it is still fine, it will stop in Francistown. There is this other challenge that we are facing with regard to water. Last year in the speech water was allocated a lot of funds with the pretext that there is going to be fixing or maintenance, and that by this time the situation would be much better. Hey! The water situation is a problem, all the funds, I wonder if you have used up all of the monies you were given for water in the last financial year. Nothing has improved, where did the money go? What have you done with it, since you could be telling us in this Budget that the funds we had earmarked for water have been used for this and that; here we have failed so give us some more. You failed in Boatile, the water treatment plant failed. There is a ghost called the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). Before there was an excitement of the north-south water carrier, the Ramotswa boreholes have been abandoned. Right now we are spending millions in underground water because you had said it has been contaminated. I do not know what washed it now.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Rantuana.

**MR RANTUANA:** This water is from underground.

**MR SPEAKER:** Alright thank you that is the one.

**MR RANTUANA:** Mr Speaker, please allow me to continue. The underground water from Ramotswa was flowing into the Gaborone dam before the excitement

of the north-south water carrier. This water was used in Gaborone, now I wonder what has washed or purified it such that boreholes would then be resuscitated, saying this water will be drunk. Honourable Members we have spent a lot of money on water. As we speak the situation would be better. As I speak, in the greater Gaborone we have spent seven days without water, even now nothing is coming out, but a lot of monies were pumped out last year. Water and Mineral Resources was leading the Budget last year. Now we could have reflected to ensure that we move forward. Projects are trailing behind, even if you say you will train District Commissioners on Project Management, I do not think they will manage such a mess.

There is another issue on land. I did not hear the Minister of land telling those of us who live in the greater Gaborone anything with regard to what he is going to do to reduce shortage of land. We have many farms surrounding us, which are owned by ghosts in Europe. The government could be buying those farms, and assisting us with land. There should have been a deliberate budget to buy land, those farms which are surrounding us, so that our children can have plots from there. Now they are not saying anything about buying land for us to increase what our Land Board has so that they could give us plots. There is a challenge such that in Ramotswa we are on a stalemate, our farm issue has been halted by the court which does not agree with the Minister of Defence Justice and Security, we do not know what to do now. We need land. We have agreed, now where is the Defence, Justice and Security, if a court can stop our farm, and later say it does not agree with the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, who should we believe? Someone just blasts on the radio saying we shall no longer do business with the Law Society of Botswana because they did not speak justly.

**HONOURABLE MEMBERS:** Murmurs.

**MR SPEAKER:** No, Honourable Members, do not disturb him you will soon lead him into temptation.

**MR RANTUANA:** This issue of land should have a budget; farms should be bought and brought back. In fact I do not know why they should be bought back because there is no one who came from England with land, this is our land. These farms have to be reduced so that we are given our share of Maletse Reserve and Kweneng Reserve. There is no area which was referred to as English Reserve in this country. Those farms have to come back to us now. They should also get compensation just like the people in Mogoditshane, and stop this freehold thing. If there was a budget to pay for this land I would be very happy.

Let me come to Labour and Home Affairs; Labour has been given very little money. Right now when you look at the border gates and borders, the condition they are in. People who work at the borders do not have accommodation and security. When you work there it is like you are volunteering to say even if I get attacked it will not matter. They work in dangerous borders in Ramokgwebana, Ramotswa and Ramatlabama. When night time comes the poor people fear for their lives. If we could improve the status of accommodation at the border, and improve the status of police officer and security there, Labour and Home Affairs would help us. Our borders are a problem Honourable Members, the people who work there are not free, they always fear for their lives. In places where they have revenue offices, there is serious challenge because the robbers who come know how much they have roughly made in a day. They would come and attack a poor officer sleeping alone there at his or her place. If we were serious we would go beyond the 33 million which has been allocated the Ministry of Labour. The 33 million is too little to be used for the whole year, the officers do not have accommodation, and other resources. Sometimes you will discover that even when it comes to buying or shopping they leave Ramokgwebana to go and buy things in Francistown, there are no shops to buy from. Those who work in rural areas do not even have transport. When someone is asked to go somewhere to attend to a labour issue, it becomes a problem because they have to ask for transport from the District Commissioner, and they would also say it is not there.

Now onto Education; this ministry has been allocated a lot of funds. I hope you will utilise those funds and assist us at Kagiso. There is overcrowding. A hostel room that accommodates 12 children currently has 24 and most of them are orphans and vulnerable children.

**MR SPEAKER:** Where is Kagiso Honourable Member?

**MR RANTUANA:** Kagiso Senior Secondary at Ramotswa. There is no water at this school. I have talked about water but I have to stress it and say if you stay in a hostel and you do not have water, how do you go to school if at all we want results to improve? We have been outclassed by mission schools because at Moeding they still drink water from the boreholes, at least schools should have boreholes so that in situations like this, they can drink from boreholes. There is a standby generator at Moeding which they use during power cuts, but at Kagiso when the power goes off it becomes a total blackout.

There is the issue of privatisation which is referred to as outsourcing. If at all you were serious and wanted to

privatise and save government funds, I would say you should privatise prisons because a lot of government funds are spent there. They would be very effective if they were parastatals and the rich people having shares in them. Since prisons cannot make profits as fast as the BTC, they cannot be privatised. Imagine how much money could be made if every prisoner there was paying, they could relieve government in buying food. Even cases could be tried fast because prisoners would not want to stay there for long. So if the government takes care of you, you can board for a long time because it is free. If they were privatised, we could be faring well.

In conclusion Mr Speaker, let me turn to the Minister of Agriculture; we could be given a deliberate intervention for drought. He could be saying since there is severe drought and we need food, this is what we could be doing. We could be buying food because probably we have storages where we can keep them so that if South Africa stops selling us food, we could survive for a few days. If the border can close now, we do not have any plan of what we could do, we will not have even bread and come to this Parliament hungry because we do not have wheat. Therefore, there should be a deliberate effort to allocate a budget for buying food and store them and know that in the event the drought worsens, we can sustain ourselves for another three months. If South Africa can also say it has been hit by drought and will not be supplying Botswana from July to October, we will have problems and we will not be a proud nation anymore. We will be divided and we would not be united and proud. Where there is hunger, there is no unity. So, we should have a deliberate budget for buying us food and not only to subsidise livestock feeds. If we can go without food, we will also perish.

Farmers are not doing enough. At the time when the Borolong farmers were still supporting the economy of this nation, the government did not take them serious. Now that we import these genetically modified foods from America, maybe they will be finished because drought has not affected Botswana only. In a drought like the current one, the government must stockpile something, otherwise we are going to die of hunger, this one is serious, it is true even more true than the existence of satan. We are going to starve because we did not budget for a counteractive plan.

Honourable Members, let me conclude. I nearly forgot the important one which is security. A larger share of the budget has been allocated the Botswana Defence Force. Some could have been allocated the Botswana Police Service which does not have vehicles and is understaffed. This larger portion of the budget will be used to procure 4x4 fongkongs from Brazil and we do

not need those. Let us buy vehicles for the police who ensure our security day and night. They do not have resources. If you report something to them, they will tell you that there are no vehicles because they do not want to be shot. They should have safety resources like dogs, simple security dogs do not cost much and they should be included in the budget.

**MR SPEAKER:** Your time is up Honourable Member.

**MR KABLAY (LETLHAKENG-LEPHEPHE):** Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me first thank the Ministry of Finance and the Minister for bringing this Budget before us. Mr Speaker, this Ministry has sustained us in difficult times when the economy of this country was down. The economy is a very fundamental aspect to the nation. When the economy does not do well, people start looking for greener pastures. During the economic recession, the Minister sustained our nation and ensured that no one ran away due to that situation. Economy is very important and affects every Motswana and as such, we should not be clouded by our political affiliations and wish the government could fail in running this country because economy is for us all. If we have problems in our country, everybody will be affected regardless of their political affiliation. Therefore, we should all strive for the improvement of the economy of our country. Our people should not be like in other countries where we always see people fleeing due to starvation in their countries. So, we are thankful to you Minister for having sustained us through that difficult time.

Secondly Minister, it is high time that we should know government ministries which return funds to your ministry at the end of the financial years because we always hear that some ministries have an under expenditure of this much and we wonder why such funds are not used when we have so many challenges. Mr Speaker, this situation needs to be monitored.

Another thing is that we must save every thebe in our country. If we misuse our finances tomorrow you will find that we did not achieve anything. For an example, let me just state that there was no need to give the Kweneng Council P10 million in the name of opening a Service Centre which is of no use to anyone. This huge sum of money could have been used to alleviate poverty in the Kweneng District. This district has the poor and our children still walk about 14 kilometres in this scorching heat and rainy seasons to schools and then we invest P10 million in a useless Service Centre at Mafenyatlala. This thing Speaker...

**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):** Correction. The first correction, Honourable Member, is

that I think a Service Hall opened in Molepolole and not a Service Centre to reduce the congestion of queuing for services. Let me also correct him and say contrary to what he is saying, a Service Hall is helpful.

**MR KABLAY:** Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Member, whether you refer to it as Service Hall or Service Centre, to me it is just the same.

**MRTSOGWANE:** Point of order. No, Chief Whip must speak correctly and not speak like those on the other side. Service Hall and Service Centre are two different things and therefore he needs to say the correct thing.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let us close the matter. Honourable Kablay, say what you know is in Molepolole.

**MR KABLAY:** Thank you Mr Speaker, let me say what I have remembered. It was said that Service Hall will assist those who could not manage to get services from council like those from Letlhakeng. Right now when you go there, the Service Hall assists two people in a day but month end P48 000.00 is paid. As the government, is this thing beneficial to us? Service Centres are just in name only, when you get there you will find that they do not even have a photocopying machine and manpower. Recently we opened one in Sojwe, it is very embarrassing as it has nothing. Mr Speaker, it was just a name only and now the people are asking us why we are making them suffer in such a way. Mr Speaker, we must ensure that we use our funds for things that can benefit our people.

Kweneng District is very poor. There is nothing that you can find there and you suffer to get what you want. For you to get a copy of a passport or driving licence, you have to go and seek services in Molepolole. Mr Speaker, given the state of this poverty stricken area, the government must ensure that it is considered when funds are available to help those people. I just wanted to state that, the P10 million could have been used for a lot of things in Kweneng.

In rainy seasons, you cannot even open the door to go to the toilet because the door is water logged. These funds could be used for these things instead of being invested in a Service House that the Minister is talking about. This pains us a lot as Members of Parliament of that district because we have seen that these funds were not used properly.

Mr Speaker, we are grateful that the government continues to discuss the issue of water which is a challenge in most areas. Mr Speaker, Botswana is experiencing a water crisis and we know that it is dangerous to be without water as some things cannot be done without water. We are grateful that the Minister

said they are making efforts so that people may have water.

Children from Shadishadi and Boatlaname fail to attend schools regularly due to shortage of water. Mr Speaker, we voice these things and we are not sure if our own forget us. Mr Speaker, I just mentioning that in passing.

We are grateful that the government is making efforts for us to have electricity. We have seen the efforts made by the government but the problem was the electricians. It is a wonderful thing to hear that the electricity situation is attended to because business people in our country were left wondering as their stock kept going bad in the shops. Mr Speaker, I must say that although we still have electricity challenge it is not the same as before, it is much better.

Mr Speaker, we have a challenge of roads more especially some of us who are from the Kweneng District. There are no roads in the Letlhakeng-Lephephe area, especially roads that can economically boost this area. All this talk about Bakgalagadi being poor and in need of assistance so that their standard of living may improve refers to having roads. They need big shops so that people may get employed and eat healthy foods. They also need to have transport to go and visit their relatives.

Mr Speaker, in my constituency the roads are needed so that the area could develop. If we are not going to do something we are going to continue being poor in Kweneng West and Letlhakeng East. Poverty eradication would not be possible because the poverty will be generational, it will be a chain until the end of the world.

**MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE:** On a point of elucidation Mr Speaker. Thank you Mr Speaker. I hear you, you are basically saying your constituency has got a lot of farmers who have large number of livestock and if there are no roads there is no market for them.

**MR KABLAY:** That is how it is Mr Speaker. There are no roads in some areas in my constituency. This is the opportunity for us to speak on behalf our constituencies, it would not make sense if I was to come here and pretend that everything in my constituency is fine whereas it is not. That is my responsibility Mr Speaker.

Letlhakeng Constituency has got a lot of livestock and people have already started feeling the pain because of the policies that are being implemented. We have a policy that dictates the number of cattle that one has to sell in a day. People have no freedom to sell their cattle if they have problems that need money. In my constituency even if somebody was to be sentenced and asked to pay

a certain amount he would not manage eventhough he has cattle. Nowadays we are told that the cattle must be inspected before they could be slaughtered, so the problem is that the inspectors in these areas would arrive at around 10 o'clock and knock off at 4:30 pm if asked to come and inspect at the kraals. These things really are a challenge to our people. They always ask us about the inspectors. So I am pleading to you to ask these inspectors to assist the farmers as the cattle are the only source of funds for them.

**MR MOREMI:** On a point of elucidation Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Kablay. I wanted to add on that point because it is a big challenge. Honourable Tsogwane also raised a concern on this matter that it is affecting Boteti constituency. Since it was decided that there will not be any staff complement, you will find that there will be only two inspectors in a constituency as big as Maun West. It then becomes a long and difficult process if a farmer wants to slaughter his cow; he looks for either the inspector or the police officer and then hires a vehicle. This procedure makes us even poorer. So Honourable Kablay if that is the case in your constituency, the same thing is happening in mine. We are trying but it seems we are trying in vain. If there was time I was going to ask you to give Honourable Tsogwane the chance to add on what we have already said.

**MR KABLAY:** I thank you Mr Speaker. I agree Kgosi, Honourable Member for Maun we have mutual challenges. The owners of butcheries are complaining too, they are forced to slaughter a smaller number of cattle. If a butcherman has to slaughter six cattle he ends up slaughtering two, just because of inspectors. Even if you can talk to the Minister about these things it is like he does not hear you. So some of us are under pressure because we are here because of our voters; they elected us. This should be assessed to see why the farmers have to suffer just because the inspectors do not provide them with the service that they deserve.

The other thing that I want to talk about is Self Help Housing Agency (SHHA). We were informed that the public servants who are paid low salaries are going to be assisted with houses just like the Self Help Housing Agency (SHHA) ones. That has gone silent now, even when you try to ask around about it, nobody is willing to give an answer. I am saying this because when we are told about a programme, we take the information to our people who then get excited that the government is going to assist. So Honourable Members today...

**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):** On a point of clarification Mr Speaker. I thank you Honourable Speaker, you too Honourable Kablay. I

want to ask the Honourable Member if he is aware that the responsibility of the Member of Parliament is to seek for clarification from the Ministers if there is some information that he wants clarified not to wait for the last day so that he can come and cry in Parliament.

**MR SPEAKER:** No look for the right word.

**MR TSOGWANE:** I withdraw Sir.

**MR KABLAY:** I thank you Mr Speaker. The reason why I am crying is because I have tried all the means and hit rock bottom. So the Parliament is the last place where I am raising my concerns...

**MR TSOGWANE:** On a point of order Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, you have made a ruling, you have made your ruling now I do not know why the Honourable Member is repeating that word in Parliament.

**MR SPEAKER:** No Honourable Tsogwane I meant you, I said you should not use it. So since he is the one who is using it he would not be offended.

**MR KABLAY:** I thank you Mr Speaker. That is what I was saying Mr Speaker that I am glad that I had to say this in Parliament in the presence of the Vice President because he is one person who takes such issues seriously. I trust that he will record them and I will be answered. Mr Speaker I have no doubt that what I said will not be taken into consideration.

Lastly Mr Speaker the world is no longer how it used to be. Things have changed, we are experiencing wars, when you switch on your television people are fighting everywhere. Even the countries where you least expected wars, people are fighting. It is therefore important that we prepare ourselves well in time in case we are affected to avoid being caught off-guard. So Mr Speaker, I am very grateful that we are allocating these funds to the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) so that they can buy what can protect us in future so that in future we avoid blaming them that they failed to buy what they were supposed to buy. I rest my case Mr Speaker.

**MR ARONE (OKAVANGO):** Thank you Mr Speaker. For the first time I will be very, very brief simply because Honourable President Boko did a good job to address policy issues on the other side of the aisle that we are prepared to undertake. So, what I am just going to briefly do is to try and interrogate the budget as presented by Honourable Matambo who is the Minister.

Honourable Kablay, thank you very much the Chief Whip. Thank you because you are helping us to underscore what we have always said that your party; the BDP, for all these years honestly speaking it has failed the masses in this country.

The budget that Matambo presented would be celebrated if he presented it to the High Level Consultative Council (HLCC) because those are the guys who know where the economy of this country rest. The real Batswana who are represented by yourself and I do not know. I do not know whether is by coincidence that you sit next to Honourable Ngaka Ngaka because you have the same plight and you represent the same people including Honourable Kwerepe, Honourable Majaga and many of others who represent peripheral areas in this country. There is nothing, nothing at all to celebrate.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:**...(Murmurs)...

**MR ARONE:** No, if you think development is a favour then you are wrong.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Arone, do not address side remarks.

**MR ARONE:** I cannot ignore someone like Vice President. I cannot ignore that.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:**...(Murmurs)...

**MR ARONE:** This is a democratic country; the animals that are developing this country have been saved by us!

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Arone, sit down.

**MR ARONE:** No! I am not going to accept a remark from a high profile Member like...

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, sit down Honourable Arone, sit down for a second.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Order! Honourable Members, Honourable Arone, calm down. You just started your debate you have a lot of time to lay out your issue.

Honourable Keorapetse, you are seated next to him, if you make a comment do not be too loud otherwise the microphone is going to record your voice. That goes to the rest of you do not talk loudly, do so in lower tones so that he cannot hear you because you are derailing him.

**MR ARONE:** Mr Speaker, I am not a newcomer in this House, "*mutlwa wa noko o rotolwa ke o mongwe*," which means an eye for an eye that is the culture of this House. I am still going to demand a lot of things from the Vice President.

As I have said, Boko has done a good job; that is our policy direction. You know sometimes is a waste of time to speak to this government where people cannot learn for 48 years. Batswana still expect that we should continue to come and stand here and talk to them, no, not at all. We are just going to punch holes in this budget.

As I have said Mr Speaker, a budget is a tool used to distribute resources to the citizens of the country. Not because some are major tribes, or some are minor as is depicted in this country's Constitution, but as resources belonging to the citizens of this country. As Kablay was saying and I agree with him entirely, some constituencies in this country are undeveloped.

Mr Phandu Skelemani in the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament when he was narrating his experience after visiting my constituency, he said as we are in 2016, but in parts of this country some people are in the 1940's. We still have Batswana obviously that I have pointed out who cannot afford to build even a toilet. What I am simply saying is that the budget Mr Speaker should speak to the concerns of the citizens who go to the polls to elect a government. It should not answer the concerns of the elite group.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Not polka group.

**MR ARONE:** Whatever. Phandu Skelemani used to refer to the law as the 'loo'. It depends on where you went to school and which part of the country you come from. The Zambians would say 'I am having a problem with helping my child learn English because we say cat in this country, they say cut'

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

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Do you want to become a Zambian citizen?

**MR ARONE:** So, I am just trying to give a free lecture but what is important is to listen to the content of the presentation and not to come and give free English lessons because it can only be done in England not in this country.

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

**MR ARONE:** Mr Speaker, some of us we are sad Members of this House because we represent very poor people. Honourable Kablay, this is our second term and you have been complaining about poverty in your area. One of the questions that you should be discussing at your Caucuses as the ruling party is that where does this poverty come from? Is it God given or is it by design?

Many times in this House we had tried to appeal to the other people on the other side of the aisle Mr Speaker that there is no way a Herero child, Mokgalagadi child, Mbukushu child and a Kalanga child who when they were born used their mother tongue to try and appreciate the world can learn appropriately. At school they are taught a language which is foreign to them and you expect them to compete equally, that is wrong. This is where the first problem Honourable Guma starts.

I have been in the North East and that was the first time I appreciated that we have people in that constituency who cannot speak Setswana. The same applies to our people apart from "Dumela" there is nothing else that they know. This budget should have the concerns of the people so that at the end of the day, this poverty that has been designed by this current government, can be truly eradicated not through maize meal and bread.

Before the Vice President leaves this House, we are going to demand the report on the Poverty Eradication Programmes.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Yes, it is ready.

**MR ARONE:** Yes, we want to know. I will be visiting Moshupa; your constituency to go and see how many gardens are working. If you think we can respect someone who have been nominated to that highest office who says a small garden can bring about a miracle for someone to be rich, for someone to build a house, for someone to connect electricity, surely anybody can be a Vice President anyway.

Honourable Tsogwane, Basarwa, me and you grew up eating bees. Now a Vice President comes with a station wagon and says starting from now on you are going to eat honey. **HONOURABLE MEMBER:** ...(Laughter!)

**MR ARONE:** Where are people coming from? Mr Speaker, I have said today I am just going to try and punch holes and make people think a bit.

This House is supposed to be a House of integrity; a House with ideas that the people who come can really appreciate and celebrate and say 'we have leaders who are able to fine-tune the direction of this country.'

Now we have got ESP. I am not going to mention names, my friends who we chat, we know very well we are in the same House but we are all confused as to what this ESP is all about. Honourable Goya, it is for the first time this country has passed a budget without a National Development Plan (NDP), for the first time in history. Anyway let me just leave you there.

**MR GUMA:** Correction Sir.

**MR ARONE:** No.

**MR GUMA:** No correction is correction.

**MR ARONE:** No I am not obliged; just say correction.

**MR GUMA:** Correction Sir.

**MR ARONE:** Yes, I will do it.

**MR GUMA:** On a point of correction. Have we really passed the budget without the national development?

I was of the view that we have extended the NDP 10, in this Honourable House, by another year. We are still now debating the very same NDP 10 that has been extended. Just with that humility Sir, I am not really trying to ridicule you in any way.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you Honourable Member. I think the Honourable Minister of finance with due respect is on record pronouncing in this House that NDP 10 has come to an end. Now he is going to present the draft NDP 11 in July. That is what a clearly remember vividly and everything else falls under the ESP; the programme that we do not even have guidelines to as we speak now, of what exactly is going to be obtained in that ghost which Honourable Rantuana was talking about.

**MR GUMA:** Procedure Mr Speaker. Honourable Speaker, we run the risk of misleading the Hansard in history and the House. NDP 10 has been extended by the same House and we are currently debating NDP 10 project and the budget; that is fact and this is what has happened. I will urge you Mr Speaker to give us that direction. There was no way the Minister can actually prepare any budget which is not guided by a National Development Plan. And that is the very same budget that we are asked to consider.

**MR SPEAKER:** Order! Honourable Arone, I take it that maybe you did not understand Paragraph 2 very well in the budget speech. Maybe we should read it so that we are at the same level in terms of understanding. It reads thus, "Madam Speaker, the 2016/2017 budget marks the end of the tenth National Development Plan (NDP 10), whose implementation was characterised by slow growth in both the global and domestic economies. It is, therefore, an opportune time to reflect on our achievements during NDP 10, as well as determine how best to address the persistent development challenges facing this country such as unemployment and poverty." So I think this is the part you need to understand is this, the Honourable Member really needs to understand it well.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I would accept the clarification. That is why I have been asking Honourable Guma from which year to which year. I accept that guidance Mr Speaker. But the confusion has been brought about by the fact that throughout the whole presentation, the Honourable Minister was talking about ESP as a backlog eradication strategy without even talking what Honourable Boko complained about on the issue of evaluation strategies because one of the downfalls that this government has is on the implementation part. We are able to come up with good ideas but we fail on the implementation. That is why I said I would talk and address the Vice President as the

coordinator of the programme of poverty eradication. How many deadlines have we been given Honourable Moyo that those people who were sent to some holly places like Struizendam, Sehunong and Chanoga for Poverty Eradication Pitsos and the promise then was that after those Pitsos, that will be end of poverty in this country. Even up to now, people have not received the packages. How do we then eradicate poverty, how do we then create hope to the same populace that we have been leading for all these years by making promises that you never fulfil? We had expected Honourable Matambo to ...

**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Honourable Member for Okavango. I agree with you that they have not seen anybody, but the intention was that by now they could have been assisted. That is why we have backlog eradication of assisting those people in that area. We are trying by all means to help them, and they are still not completely covered. Thank you.

**MR ARONE:** 'They are trying' ('*Ba ntse ba a leka*') some of these Setswana phrases do not have any place in the jargon of this world's way of doing things, 'they are trying.' How do you measure trying? It is the same when you talk about encouraging Honourable Tsogwane, how do you measure encouraging? But anyway, I do not accept that situation Honourable Tsogwane. We need to be able to move forward. You should be able to tell us where the money that we gave your Ministry in the past financial year is, where is the money? Why are we now talking about a new programme? You should be able to tell us. You are talking about ESP now as a backlog eradication panacea but we allocated money to your Ministry to ensure that the people receive their packages but you are not even telling us where the money is.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR ARONE:** No, let me deny you for the first time. I yield to Honourable Guma.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister, you only have to say it once, if he agrees he will yield. I was just reminding him to confine himself to the generalities of the budget, when he presents the budget for his Ministry you will ask him where the funds are. You were saying you are yielding for whom?

**MR ARONE:** Honourable Moyo Guma.

**MR GUMA:** On a point of elucidation. Sorry to take you back. I like your concerns about the poverty levels,

in particular, in areas where you are the Member of Parliament (MP) the Ngami section. I want you to emphasise seriously that there is a need for us to come up with a totally different strategy on how we are going to counter the inequalities, in particular, the western side of the country and the Chobe. The poverty in those areas is unacceptable and as Batswana, we all should actually work together but the resources in those areas are abundant. I want you to really talk to us and assist us again in the thinking that we have identified the problem that the poverty levels are totally unacceptable. Maybe through again with the Economic Stimulus Packages (ESP), what interventions are we coming up with in those areas that are going to assist addressing that particular issue? I want you to really talk thoroughly about that issue and I support you in that regard.

**MR ARONE (OKAVANGO):** Thank you very much Honourable Guma. The first just to address what should be done, not only in Okavango, in the Letlhakeng area, the Kgalagadi areas. First we have to address the education system. The education system should be able to give us graduates who have been capacitated, to be able to see opportunities in their surrounding areas. Young people who are able to take advantage of government programmes...

**MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE):** Point of correction. Thank you Mr Speaker. Sorry to just draw you a little bit back on a point that you have just completed. My correction Honourable Arone is that when you talk about alternative packages and the backlog for those people who were supposed to receive alternative packages, you related it to the backlog eradication of projects by ESP, I am saying the two are not linked. As I said we are continuously funding and supplying those materials. These two are not the same. I thank you.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you Honourable Speaker, Honourable Tsogwane with due respect, you know the more you try and explain, the more you even confuse yourself. You know Batswana are not interested in these cheap explanations. What they are interested in is when you took them for training for poverty eradication, the promise was that you will give them the tools of trade for them to start their businesses and you have even failed to buy flour in three years, just to start a bakery. How do you supply a tent without chairs, honestly if people are serious? No, whether there is backlog eradication or whatever, the fact of the matter is that your ministry has failed and you should continue to point out that no, you should work hard to try and address and reach your promises.

I was coming on addressing Honourable Guma's, which is part of my presentation as we are talking about the education system. You know, it seems the Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning each and every year when he comes to Parliament, Honourable Matambo with due respect, you are very happy to announce that Education takes the largest share of the Budget. But you are short in telling us, are we getting the return on our investments. So as the custodian of the public purse you should be able to be concerned, you should raise the concern yourself that these results are unacceptable.

Honourable Olopeng I sometimes feel sorry for you, that you have the responsibility to try and turn around the fortunes of young people in this country. But you are given wrong young people, guys who have eyes, but they cannot see. We are now struggling, for example in my constituency, I am talking to some Consultants to go and teach the young people in my constituency how to fill that Application Form. Someone from Cambridge cannot even fill a simple form of a proposal and you are saying no, this is prudent management of the economy, when year in and year out we are producing more "Es" and "Fs," sending and condemning our young people to the gallows of poverty. So these are some of the things that personally I want to hear the Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning being concerned about because we are not getting the return of your investment from this education system.

Secondly Honourable Guma is to bring about what the Botswana Congress party (BCP) and the Opposition have long proposed, of the Special Economic Zones. Let us try and look at our regions and find that our investment strategies addresses the natural resource found in those areas and even the training in terms of Brigades and other institutions that are at tertiary level, should then address the resource base or available in those areas. By doing that we would be having a lot of fish farming in Chobe and Ngamiland. We would be having a lot of young people taking advantage of the tourism potential that we have in those areas. We should be having young people seriously involved into cattle farming Honourable Minister of Agriculture and other domestic animal farming, in terms of goats and sheep in those areas, but there is little that has been done by this government.

We should be having young people you know participating in vegetable and fruit tree production in this country, seriously assisted by government, in all stages starting from the secondary and tertiary levels of production, going up to the markets. The third that we need to know Honourable Minister, Honourable Boko talked about regulations. Let us try and ease the paper

work and bureaucracy at the PPADB. Right now young people from Seronga and Gudigwa are expected to travel all the way to Francistown, just for them to apply for some procedures for them to have their companies registered and recognised by government. So these are some of the things that are affecting and leading to poverty in this country.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Clarification.

**MR ARONE:** Denied. Let me develop this point that I am moving into. Honourable Minister, you talk about employment creation and you are saying the ESP part of the budget will go into the infrastructure development. You are addressing short term employment of the Artisans, what about other Graduates; like the 6 000 and more that we have in the IT section, the Social Workers that we have. Are we saying they should also go into construction because the strategy is one sided if at all it is going to achieve what we intend to do? We need to talk about employment, His Excellency talked about dignity. When you look at the salaries paid by the construction industry, Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning in this country, does it pass the test to qualify as jobs sustainable to bring about low poverty levels in the country? Not at all. They work for P5.00 per hour and at the end of the day the salary is around P800.00 or P900.00 which at all is almost nothing.

Honourable Master Goya, the confusion in the education system, I do not know whether the Ministers in that ministry are aware of what should be done more especially in addressing the confusion between Teachers and Teacher Unions and the Government. I would propose that let us do away with the Public Service Act, let us come with a specific Act to address teachers' concerns. You know, I do not know, sometimes when I make these statements, Unions are confused, I do not know what confuses them, because there is no way you can run a country with a single Act, without addressing the peculiarity of the professions themselves. What we are simply saying is that, we are not saying teachers should work for more than 8 hours for free. What we are simply saying is that when you have set up an Act or a professional body, it will then define what teaching is. Defining teaching and all its components and that also should inform the salaries given to the teachers. I want to be clear and put this on record that, if most of the teacher unions are saying they are going to use overtime to try and improve welfare of teachers, then it is wrong.

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

**MR ARONE:** Yes, because overtime does not come each and every month Mr Speaker. It comes sometimes

and other times, it is not there. What is important if we are going to negotiate in good faith is to ensure that teachers are well paid, taking into consideration all aspects that form the teaching profession.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Arone, still holding the floor, there is noise coming from my right. Honourable Goya, Honourable Lelatisitswe and those who are currently not occupying their seats, may I request that you lower your voices. I am unable to hear the Honourable Member.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the protection. We are trying our level best and saying we are calling for a separate Act to address teachers' concerns, because when talking about teachers, we are talking about people who prepare the future. We cannot afford to go into this confusion that we find ourselves in because of 8...

**ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA):** On a point of clarification.

Thank you Mr Speaker. Thank you my colleague. It is this very same House which agreed that teachers should be included in the Public Service Act. My question is, if we bring a Bill here to remove them will you agree and allow them to have their own Act? Thank you.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you very much. We would be more than happy to support on one condition and that is if the Act would define teaching and all its components and if at all the Act would improve and will inform that a teacher works earlier not from half seven but from as early as 5:30a.m to very late at night when they finish feeding and when they arrive in trucks and buses whenever travelling with the students. If we take that into consideration, then I will be the first person to support the Act.

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Conditions of service.

**MR ARONE:** Of course it will also talk about conditions of service of teachers themselves Mr Minister. I have spoken about the employment creation of the ESP thing that I personally feel it will only address the construction industry and leave out most young people who are graduates in other fields.

Honourable Minister of Finance and Development Planning, I strongly believe you will help me to appreciate this that it is very expensive for a country to keep poor workers; workers who are not well paid. Workers who only go to the shops month end and disappear to their houses. Personally I thought you would assist me in that regard. Personally I thought if we had good salaries it will stimulate the economy because there will be money circulating in the hands of the people because those are

the workers who are expected to support businesses in the country. Now if they go to Spar and Choppies only at month end and in between there is no business, I do not know how we then stimulate the economy. Personally I would take it that when we increase salaries for our public service not only for the public service even in the private sector, it will help. I want to request Honourable Members in this House that we do away with minimum wage thing. That thing is an evil law.

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

**MR ARONE:** No, but we can do it here. There is no way a business entity making 8 million, perhaps we may say, a month then a poor worker is paid P400 or P800 per month...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Parliament is above the Bargaining Council.

**MR ARONE:** Of course yes, we are the law making body. These are some of the laws that we need to seriously look into that are bringing about the poverty that people are running around and say we are eradicating poverty because we are keeping very poor workers who cannot afford to sustain themselves and their families.

In the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament Honourable Mmolotsi came up with a motion Honourable Members for the benefit of new Members of the House, requesting that we should regulate school fees... **MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO):** On a point of clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker. I was saying if you feel strongly about the fact that the Bargaining Council is below you, as Parliament you should determine, why do you not change the law to do exactly that?

**MR ARONE:** Thank you very much Honourable Minister. In other words, what I am simply doing is trying to motivate because I know the challenges on the other side of the aisle. We are trying to work on your emotions, talk to your understanding of your electorates as to why they are suffering and why they are stuck in this poverty levels. Let us do something about this. When we bring about these Bills because they talk about our constituencies, we should all support them because we are addressing not only our constituencies, we are also addressing the economy of this country.

Mr Speaker, let me turn to the young people in this country. I will be very brief. Honourable Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture let us try and do more to make sure that young people are assisted. We have got good intentions that we have announced but when you look at the numbers in different constituencies, it does not add up. We should ask ourselves why young people are not taking advantage of these programmes. Why young

people are not starting businesses? We should address the why part of it. Why your ministry in different districts is returning huge sums of money. I can stand here confidently that from my constituency the Okavango and Honourable Kwerepe's you will be receiving more than 2 or 3 million returning. The question is why, why are young people not taking advantage? I am always talking to the officers and say let us address the why part of it.

The other area that you need to address Honourable Minister is to talk to your counterpart at Lands. Land boards in this country are making it terribly difficult for young people to access some of the government programmes. You will be funded but it will very difficult for you to get land despite the fact that the policy says that young people and women should be facilitated to get land.

**MR MOSWAANE:** On a point of clarification. I want to understand you very well Honourable Arone Bagalatia. If I remember very well, 12 million might have been deposited into your constituency ever since you became a Member of Parliament because every year your constituency is awarded 2 million. I want to understand that it seems you totally condemn these programmes. As a role model for your constituency, is it not possible that the youth are listening to your condemning voice rather than implementing these programmes? Thank you.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you very much. I am going to ignore the Honourable Member. I am just going to assume that he is demon possessed. When I was on television recently and some were watching...

**MR SPEAKER:** No, address each other respectfully Honourable Arone.

**MR ARONE:** No, 'demons' is a Christian term Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** No, address each other with respect.

**MR ARONE:** Demons is a Christian word Mr Speaker. It means somebody is not well he might be poisoned and as a result he must be assisted to get rid of that poison.

**MR SPEAKER:** That is what I am saying

**MR ARONE:** I do not think I am offending the Honourable Member moreso that he is a priest.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Arone let us close it, just address each other nicely.

**MR ARONE:** Thank you Mr Speaker...

**MR MOSWAANE:** On a point of order. I thought you were going to reprimand him and ask him to withdraw.

When he says I have demons he is offending my spirit and my life in general. I do not want to get into trouble so ask him to withdraw that word.

**MR ARONE:** Honourable Moswaane with due respect, I withdraw. I have been on record that even when we take over power, we would have our own programmes. Batswana have spoken; they have given you another term. Personally, I believe I should encourage my constituents to take part in the programmes simply because it is not the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) money, it is their money. That is my understanding. If there is anybody sitting on the other side of the aisle thinking that this is BDP money, that is wrong. It is the public money, therefore they are our programmes.

What we are saying is that the implementation strategies that you people employ is what let most of you down. Some of the programmes more especially the new ones, if you go and read Pamphlet No 1 by Dr Koma while we were still Botswana National Front, you go and read our manifesto, you have copied most of our programmes. Mr Ntuane who is now the Secretary General of the party is on record that for us to hook in the opposition, we are going to do what they are proposing.

The Old Pension Scheme was never introduced by the BDP, it was Dr Koma's idea in the BNF in those times. The forefathers in that side of the aisle could not agree with Dr Koma saying that there was something wrong with him, how would government pay someone sitting under tree doing nothing? So, these are some of the programmes that you have on the other side, apart from the backyard garden and others, I do support them personally. I want us to implement them correctly.

Lastly Mr Speaker, as I did in the State of the Nation's Address, I want to appeal to Honourable Members on the other side, more especially in the back bench, we are inviting them to come and join the new government. We want to appeal to the Dikgosi who have been used overtime by the ruling party without recognising their welfare; we want to appeal to young people to get these short term contract and employment. The last thing is that we are going to try...

**HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Point of order.

**MR ARONE:** I am still making an introduction, which point of order are you standing on?

**MS MAKGATO:** On a point of order. Thank you very much Mr Speaker. I thought we debate the generalities of the budget speech, now I do not understand how recruit Dikgosi and others fits in the budget.

**MR SPEAKER:** He is still making an introduction and I believe he is finishing.

**MR ARONE:** Honourable Speaker, I said I am still making an introduction and I am doing so by inviting all stakeholders; the young people. We are going to teach them slogan in Namibia which South West Africa's Organisation (SWAPO) used. We are going to teach them to eat and dine with you but they will vote with us, because you are trying to blindfold them in the last minutes so that they forget about their problems. The piece jobs in the construction industry would not allow a young person to become a fully-fledged citizen in terms of economy empowerment in this country.

Mr Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity as I will be travelling home to Okavango. For the next week, I would not be in.

**MR NGAKA (TAKATOKWANE):** Let me thank you Mr Speaker even though I can see that the time is already up. The truth of the matter however is that...

#### MOTION

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

Thank you Mr Speaker, on that note of an Honourable member who said he is going to speak very briefly and he took the whole time, I beg to move now that the House adjourns.

**MR SPEAKER:** Honourable Tsogwane just rise and move that the House adjourns.

**MR TSOGWANE:** Mr Speaker, now that the House has completed its business of the day, I move that the House do now adjourn.

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 18:00 p.m. until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

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