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DAILY HANSARD (PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES)

THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

HANSARD NO. 182
MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2016

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ENGLISH VERSION

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DEPUTY SPEAKER
The Hon. Kagiso P. Molatlhegi, MP Gaborone South

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

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

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

OPPOSITION

(Umbrella for Democratic Change)

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

(Botswana Congress Party)

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

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Monday 15th February, 2016

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

PRAYERS

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

**BOTSWANA TELEVISION NON-COVERAGE
AT MABOANE KGOTLA DURING
ENTHRONEMENT OF KGOSI PHUTHEGO**

MR N. M. NGAKA (TAKATOKWANE): Asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration:-

- (i) If he is aware that there was no Botswana Television (Btv) coverage at Maboane Kgotla during the enthronement of Kgosi Phuthego on the 23rd October, 2015; if so, why;
- (ii) Whether it is not opportune that Btv should have an office in Letlhakeng or Letlhakeng Sub-District; and
- (iii) Why Btv regularly fails to cover events especially in the Takatokwane Constituency.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): Thank you Madam Speaker. I am aware that there was no Botswana Television coverage during the installation of Maboane Kgosi. However, Radio Botswana covered the installation for News and Tatediso ya Dikgang.

Madam Speaker, to optimise the available resources, Letlhakeng Sub District is serviced from the Information and Broadcasting office in Molepolole which covers the Kweneng District and its catchment areas.

Madam Speaker, records show that Btv does indeed cover Takatokwane Constituency in most events. For instance; from January 2015 to January 2016, 19 events were covered in the Takatokwane Constituency. These include; three Kgotla meetings in Takatokwane, Sesung and Metsibotlhoko in the months of March, April and June 2015, victory celebrations for Primary School Leaving Examinations in Tshwaane in May 2015, as well as a tour of Mahupu Unified School in November 2015.

In fact I can even add that even this past weekend when the Honourable Assistant Minister Goya toured the same school, that event was covered. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NGAKA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, Bogosi is the leadership of the nation. Having preference of when you choose to avail yourselves to cover the events of Bogosi could cause tribalism.

MR MAKGALEMELE: Madam Speaker, we do give priority to all events including those of Bogosi. As I have indicated earlier on, our ability to cover events is influenced by the resources at our disposal. In this particular context, the Molepolole office does cover a vast area. Therefore, they are unable to cover all events at the same time.

I must add Madam Speaker, that installations of Dikgosi even in certain parts of the country are not covered. For example; recently in the village of Dibete in my constituency, that particular event when Kgosi Mabua was installed, there was no Botswana Television coverage.

MR NGAKA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Honourable Minister, are you saying your office does not recognise Bogosi? Do you not find it important at this point to have a Btv office in Letlhakeng which covers Letlhakeng Sub Council?

MR MAKGALEMELE: I want to assure you Honourable Minister that our office holds Bogosi in high regard. We are still reviewing our resources to see how best we can expand our services. We have realised that Btv is a treasured and loved station therefore we should make sure that there is coverage in most areas. We will also take into consideration your idea of increasing the freelancers.

MR MMOLOTSI: Supplementary. Honourable Minister, maybe you can explain to us how you prioritise. Would you for instance give priority to a political defect from Botswana Movement for Democracy (BMD) going back to Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) and give no television coverage to the installation of Kgosi?

MR MAKGALEMELE: When I changed over to BDP there was no installation of Kgosi and it is something that I do not regret. On top of that Madam Speaker, I still want to reassure this Honourable House we recognise the installing of Kgosi and we do prioritise it. It is only that in this particular instance, it was not possible to prioritise the installing of Kgosi on that particular day.

DR P. BUTALE: Further supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. I just wanted a quick one Honourable Minister. I want to speak about the issue of editorial independence; who decides what to cover or not to cover? What is the criterion in terms of news worthiness of events?

MR MAKGALEMELE: Our stations have got

management Madam Speaker. They are in charge of reviewing different events that are brought to them and deciding which ones are worthy of covering.

DELAYS OF PAYMENTS FOR ARTS AND CULTURE COMPETITIONS AND CONSTITUENCY TOURNAMENTS

MR M. I. MOSWAANE (FRANCISTOWN WEST): Asked the Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture if he is aware of delays of payments for arts and culture competitions and Constituency Tournaments to an extent where some teams reach second levels without getting payments for the first level and if this is not defeating the whole intention of forming the tournaments; if so, what he is doing to remedy the situation.

MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE (MR OLOPENG): Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, it is indeed true that my Ministry experiences delays in paying participants of both Constituency Art and Sports Tournaments owing to a number of reasons;

- (i) It is often the case that participants do not submit the required payment documentation, such as surety forms and letters of consent for those who will collect payments on behalf of the teams on time. The documentation is expected to be submitted immediately after completion of the games.
- (ii) The creation or registration of teams in the GABS system also causes delays because it is centralised in Gaborone.
- (iii) It is often the case that most participants do not have bank accounts which is a requirement for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments. It therefore often takes long to open and submit such accounts and hence payments are delayed.

Madam Speaker, in response to these challenges my Ministry continues to;

- (i) Encourage teams to submit their payment documentation immediately after participating in the competition.
- (ii) Consult closely with participants to encourage them to open bank accounts to expedite payments.
- (iii) Preparations are underway to decentralise supplier creation to all the Districts to fast track payments. This roll-out is effective from 1st April 2016.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES FINANCED BY CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) IN GHANZI IN 2015/2015

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

- (i) The number of enterprises financed by Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) in Ghanzi North and Ghanzi South Constituencies for Financial Year 2014/2015; he should further state;
- (ii) Their monetary value;
- (iii) The number of jobs created as a subsequence; and
- (iv) The number of entrepreneurs trained by Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) in Ghanzi North and Ghanzi South Constituencies during Financial Year 2014/2015.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MR KEBONANG): Thank you Madam Speaker.

- (i) The Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) has financed a total of eight projects in the two constituencies in Ghanzi with total funds amounting to P6 022 000.99, mainly in Agricultural and services sector with 31 jobs.

Constituency	No of Projects financed	Sector	No of Jobs Created
Ghanzi North	4	3x Agribusinesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprising of cattle breeding 1 x Services • Comprising of a pharmacy 	21
Ghanzi South	4	3 x Agribusinesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprising of small stock and 2 cattle breeding 1 x services supply and distribution 	10
Total	8		31

(ii) In relation to Local Enterprise Authority (LEA), LEA has trained over 1078 clients on entrepreneurship awareness workshop and 11 clients were on financial management for the 2 constituencies.

Training offered	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Environmental Awareness Workshops	535	543	1078
Financial Management	6	5	11

Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR SALAKAE: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Minister why does it seem like you are training many people close to five hundred and something whereas you state that there are only four businesses at Ghanzi? Could you clarify that?

MR KEBONANG: Thank you Madam Speaker. I think that is a fair question. In relation to what LEA does besides mentoring the people that it trains are not necessarily those who seek employment or those who are unemployed. Some of the people who are trained here, are already in existing jobs. Thank you Madam Speaker.

UPDATE ON EMPLOYEES OF GUT AND MAS (PTY) LTD

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs if he is aware that employees of Gut & Mas (Pty) Ltd:-

- (i) continue to suffer abuse and unfavorable working conditions from their employers;
- (ii) are given loan/advances by the employer at 30 per cent interest;

(iii) are employed without contracts which subjects them to continuous exploitation and abuse by the employer; if so,

what is being done to protect Batswana from such abusive employers and further state if the company is licensed to trade with money.

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

(i) I am not aware that employees of Gut & Mas (PTY) LTD continue to suffer any abuse and unfavourable working conditions from their employer. I wish to indicate that the first labour inspection at the company was conducted on the 11th February 2016 following notification of this question. The inspection revealed that the company was generally in compliance with labour laws.

However, the inspection further revealed an anomaly regarding calculations of hours of work that could result in loss of overtime hours. The employer was advised to correct the anomaly; which the company has agreed to do with immediate effect.

(ii) Madam Speaker, I have been made aware that the company used to give out loans to employees at an interest rate of 13 per cent per month. This practice was stopped in January 2016 as it was in violation of Section 87 of the Employment Act. During the same period, the company was and is still providing salary advance to employees at no interest. After cessation of direct provision of loans to employees, the company arranged for a loan facility for employees with a private cash loan company as the employees felt that they needed such a facility.

(iii) Madam Speaker, the Company has an establishment of three hundred (300) employees and I am informed that they all have work contracts.

Madam Speaker, Workers in Botswana are protected by various labour laws which are implemented by my Ministry through the Department of Labour and Social Security. Where violations are discovered, appropriate action is taken in the form of advice and or penalties as prescribed by the law. Madam Speaker, according to official records, Gut & Mas (PTY) LTD is a construction company and not licensed to trade with money. Finally Madam Speaker, I appeal to members of the public including Members of this Honourable House who come across any violations of labour laws to report to the nearest Labour Office or indeed my office. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister can an Honourable Member really ask such a question if that is not the case at that company?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Who are you asking? You are the one who tabled that question.

MR NKAIGWA: I am asking the Minister not you Honourable Tshireletso, you are not at Labour. I also want to understand that in terms of the interest rate you are talking about of 13 per cent, how did you calculate it? What informed you that the interest rate was 13 per cent and not 30 per cent because I had access to their pay slips and saw that indeed they were being charged 30 per cent interest on the loans advanced to them? I will bring evidence if you want. The third question is since you are now aware that the company has been advancing loans to the employees, what are you doing as the government to ensure that employees who were being cheated are reimbursed? Thank you.

MR BATSHU: Thank you Honourable Member. I have realised that there might have been something you have seen that might have driven you to table such a question but I have answered as per your specifications. I could not have anticipated for questions you are only asking now. In most cases Members who work well together discuss a question before hand so that we can be able to assist people, this thing of springing a question on one Member will not help anyone. You said 30 per cent, according to the investigation it is 13 per cent which both parties agreed on. If the numbers differs then it would mean that the company provided me with false information and this will drive me to investigate further. Interest charges are basically an agreement although the information might be false, I think these agreements can hold water if they are to go to court. Thank you.

BACKDATING PAYMENTS OF FORMER INDUSTRIAL CLASS WORKERS

MR M. I. MOSWAANE (FRANCISTOWN WEST): asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration if he is aware that during the process of converting industrial class employees to permanent and pensionable they lost three (3) per cent of their income; if so, will he consider backdating their payments to suit their hours of employment which were adjusted.

Later date.

SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS SERVING K GALAGADI DISTRICT UNDER DEPARTMENT OF GENDER AFFAIRS

MR I. E. MOIPISI (K GALAGADI NORTH): asked the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs:-

- (i) if he is aware that there is only one Gender Officer based in Tsabong and a Supplies Officer based in Gaborone under the Department of Gender Affairs servicing the entire Kgalagadi District; if so,
- (ii) to state whether this acute staff shortage does not contribute negatively to the implementation of the Poverty Eradication Programme in the already poverty stricken Kgalagadi area.

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

- (i) The Gender Affairs Department has two (2) Programme Officers based in Tsabong, being a Senior Gender Officer and Gender Officer. In addition, a Procurement Officer for the district was appointed on the 22nd October, 2015.
- (ii) Regarding acute staff shortage, I must acknowledge that the Department has low staff levels across the nine (9) Districts and this affects proper service delivery to the public. As a result, my Ministry has started engagement with the Directorate of Public Service Management to explore possibilities of creating additional posts through rationalization of existing Ministry posts, with the view to capacitate the Department. In addition to the above, planned interventions include decentralization of assessment and adjudication of proposals to districts to reduce delays in funds disbursement. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR MOIPISI: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Minister, you said that the procurement officer was appointed on the 22nd of October but you did not indicate where the procurement officer is based, is he still based in Gaborone or based in Tsabong?

MR BATSHU: The procurement officer is based in Tsabong, she is now right on the ground in Tsabong. Thank you so much Honourable Member.

**NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED SINCE
RELOCATION OF DIAMOND TRADING
COMPANY TO BOTSWANA**

MR H. B. BILLY (FRANCISTOWN EAST): asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources to state:-

- (i) the number of jobs created since the relocation of the Diamond Trading Company to Botswana;
- (ii) how much in Pula has gone through our banking system geared towards diamond dealings; and
- (iii) how local people are benefiting from this relocation.

MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA): Good afternoon Madam Speaker. I believe that you enjoyed Valentine's Day yesterday and that you received some flowers too.

Madam Speaker, this question is a bit challenging because I will not be able to give the precise statistics. What I can show is that at the end of November 2013 there were around 3 302 employed and at the end of December 2013, the number had grown to 3 641. In 2014 the number increased to 3 700, however it dropped when we experienced challenges in the diamond market. The relocation of the Diamond Trading Company to Botswana was the result of the agreement that we signed in 2011, and we have seen an improvement in the hotels, taxis and other business locally since many Batswana are involved in those types of businesses. Thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. I do not believe that the Honourable Minister has answered my question. The question was very clear in terms of establishing the statistics of jobs created and he mentioned the years 2013 and 2014. Currently where are we in terms of jobs created by the relocation of DTC to Botswana?

MR MOKAILA: I think that the Honourable Member did not understand me well. I explained that in 2014 the numbers increased to 3700. Afterwards there was a decline in jobs as most diamond sorting companies closed. I did state that this is a very difficult issue because the situation is very fluid since as we speak some are opening those sorting businesses and some are closing them. In my last count there were 2 900 businesses operating. Thank you.

MR MOREMI: Supplementary. Thank you. I would like to enquire from the Minister what the targeted number of jobs was when the relocation was initially planned for.

MR MOKAILA: Madam Speaker I did explain that this is a difficult question indeed because when we moved the services that were only done abroad at the time, there was a lot of expectations. We expected that the diamonds would continue to be bought at the rate there were being bought. We expected the diamond sorting companies in Botswana to increase from 21. We also expected that since there would be a site visit every five weeks then the hotels will increase and indeed we are seeing an increase since people visit the country in large numbers. We expected growth in the local businesses in general especially considering the number of people ODC, Debswana and other diamond traders like Lucara

bring at any given time. For every site visit you have at least a hundred different companies coming to town. So we did not have a target per se but it was an initiative to get the economy to grow. Thank you.

DR P. BUTALE: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Minister, I would want to understand in terms of this process of beneficiation as I understand it, are you saying 1.9 jobs were created ever since the relocation of the office. Are you in a position to tell us how many jobs have since been lost through the fluid process that you were talking about, are other companies closing or not?

MR MOKAILA: The Honourable Member was not listening to my response to Honourable Nkaigwa. I stated that the jobs created grew from 3700 in 2014, however they declined and during the last count the numbers were around 2 900. I am referring to the diamond industry only and not other industries like hotels and others because I do not have statistics on those. I can talk about the diamond industry since I receive the report. Thank you.

**SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR PURCHASING
BLANKETS, CHAIRS, BIBLES, TORCHES,
SOUP, SCONES AND PARAPHERNALIA THAT
THE PRESIDENT GIVES TO THE ELDERLY**

MR D. L. KEORAPETSE (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST): asked the Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration to state:-

- (i) the source of funds for purchasing the blankets, chairs, bibles, torches, soup, scones and paraphernalia that His Excellency the President gives to elderly Batswana and Dikgosi when he visits their villages;
- (ii) whether the items in (i) above are transported to their points of distribution using Government or Council vehicles under which their point of distribution falls;
- (iii) the cumulative cost of transporting these goods from the time the President started distributing them to date, if Government vehicles or Council vehicles are used to transport the goods to their point of distribution; and
- (iv) whether His Excellency the President gives these items as official gifts from the Office of the President or from him at his personal level.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the source of funding that goes towards purchase of paraphernalia or items donated to

elderly Batswana and Dikgosi when His Excellency the President visits their villages is from benevolence of philanthropists, good hearted Batswana and other people from elsewhere.

Madam Speaker, as part of His Excellency the President's entitlement to use of official transport the items in (i) above form part of items he carries when he visits the said villages. It is therefore not possible to separate costs for the items being distributed.

Madam Speaker, His Excellency the President gives these items as official gifts from the Office of the President.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

**AMOUNT LOST IN TERMS OF ROYALTIES
THAT COPPER COMPANIES WERE TOLD TO
KEEP**

MR H. B. BILLY (FRANCISTOWN EAST): asked the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources to state the amount Government has lost in terms of royalties that Copper Companies were told to keep as relief and when such assistance will be lifted.

**MINISTER OF MINERALS, ENERGY AND
WATER RESOURCES (MR MOKAILA):**

Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker usually, when the prices for commodities such as copper and nickel drop the smaller companies struggle to stay afloat in business. In an effort to try and cushion them from the financial hardships we do what is referred to as deferring of royalty payments. We are not saying that they are not going to pay them however we assist by deferring them.

Currently the government is owed US\$14.2 million by two companies being Messina Copper and Tati Nickel. Those are the calculations done up to December 2015.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR MOREMI: I want to enquire from the Minister the criterion they use to determine the percentage, is it internationally benchmarked?

MR MOKAILA: When it comes to diamonds, I think we get 10 per cent and on precious stones we get 5 per cent, copper I think we are on 3 per cent. I can verify those, but they are broken down like that within the Botswana law, in terms of what we pay for, what we recover per mineral. Diamonds is 10 per cent, I think precious stones are 5 per cent and Copper is 3 per cent. Thank you.

**MULTIPLE PROBLEMS AT FRANCISTOWN
BOTSWANA MEAT COMMISSION ABATTOIR**

MR H. B. BILLY (FRANCISTOWN EAST): asked the Minister of Agriculture if he is aware that Botswana Meat Commission abattoir in Francistown has multiple problems; if so, when these challenges will be resolved.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MR AUTLWETSE): Madam Speaker, I am aware that the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) abattoir is facing a problem of low cattle throughput. A modern abattoir needs to operate at above 85 per cent capacity utilization to be profitable. Since the abattoir was commissioned in 1989, producers in the abattoir's catchment zones have been unable to supply more than 60 per cent of its capacity. This problem was compounded by the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) challenges affecting its cattle supply areas on several occasions.

Going forward Madam Speaker, restructuring through retrenchment of some staff members to bring the abattoir to a breakeven operation in 2016 has been opted for as a more viable option. It is also expected that the European Union inspection of November, 2015 will result in listing of the facility this year which will improve the export market value of its meat products. I thank you.

MR MMOLOTSI: Supplementary. Mr Speaker, I just want to find out whether it is true that you intend to restructure and in the process some people will lose their jobs at the Francistown abattoir.

MR AUTLWETSE: That is very true Madam Speaker.

MR MMOLOTSI: Further supplementary. If that is true Mr Speaker, have you made any consultations with...

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Mmolotsi!

MR MMOLOTSI: Madam?

MADAM SPEAKER: I am not Mr Speaker.

MR MMOLOTSI: Oh! I am very, very sorry Madam Speaker. Minister, is there any consultation that has been made? Has those people who are going to be affected been consulted about the impending job losses?

MR AUTLWETSE: Madam Speaker, consultations were made and some of the employees have even already opted for early retirement. Their trade unions were actually consulted.

MR MOSWAANE: Supplementary. Just a follow up Honourable Minister, when you say consultations are continuing are you aware that the Ministry is trailing behind in terms of information, 50 per cent of the staff

has already been laid off at the Francistown BMC? Thank you.

MR AUTLWETSE: Madam Speaker, I do not know anything with regard to the numbers of those who have already been laid off. What I know is that talks are still ongoing, and the staff have been given the opportunity that those who want to do early retirement can take their packages.

MR MOSWAANE: Supplementary. Is the Minister aware that their packages are sort of being imposed on them; in a way they are being 'fired' because one would be told to get a twelve months' salary or risk going away with nothing. I am referring to those who were leaving on January 29th. Thank you.

MR AUTLWETSE: Madam Speaker, concerning those who left work in January, there were no imposed packages like the Honourable Member is saying. Forced packages will be done after April after checking whether there is no one who opted to do voluntary retirement as I have already said.

MR DAVIDS: On a point of clarification. Madam Speaker what does the word 'tshono' (opportunity/chance) mean? Is it a proper Setswana word?

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: You are using vulgar language.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! I heard it has been stopped, and I did not know about that.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Davids has called the House to order.

MR GAOLATHE: Supplementary. Honourable Minister, my question is this restructuring of the BMC, is it limited to restructuring the organisation alone or is it restructuring that is comprehensive to include the restructuring of the beef sector in general as well?

MR AUTLWETSE: Madam Speaker, here we are talking about the restructuring of the abattoir not the entire beef industry.

TABLING OF PAPERS

The following papers were tabled:

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 126 OF 2014:
SOUTHERN DISTRICT COUNCIL (CONTROL
OF LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS) BYE-
LAWS, 2014.**

(Minister of Local Government and Rural
Development)

**STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 127 OF 2014:
SOUTHERN DISTRICT COUNCIL (MARKETS)
BYE-LAWS, 2014.**

(Minister of Local Government and Rural
Development)

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, let me talk to Honourable Mmolotsi. Honourable Mmolotsi, you had promised this House that you will bring evidence to my office, but you did not do so. That is not a good thing. You had said you will bring it on Thursday, actually initially I had said it should be brought on Wednesday but you failed to do that. On Thursday you were nowhere to be found; I was here looking for you but I had no idea where you were. Therefore, produce the evidence Honourable Member so that we bring this matter to a close.

MR MMOLOTSI: Madam Speaker, I am shocked by the way this matter is being approached because I never expected that it would be the Madam Speaker asking for that, I was expecting that to come from the House.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! No, wait! wait! You promised me so, I am following up on your promise.

MR MMOLOTSI: But you said that I said I was going to bring evidence to your office.

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

MR MMOLOTSI: Yes, so this is not the office, it is Parliament.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! You have failed to come to my office more than once.

MR MMOLOTSI: I think Madam Speaker, it is important that you do not take this matter personally. It is a House matter.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! I am only doing my job.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Procedure. Madam Speaker, the point of procedure I am standing on is that the Honourable Member is very clear in his mind that you are not taking this personally and you are not the person who demanded for the first time he must produce evidence. I was standing here and I demanded it, and I kept on saying if the evidence is here, it should be handed over to you Madam Speaker. And I think your magnanimity has landed you in this situation by allowing the Honourable Member to continue postponing this thing unprocedurally. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: On a point of procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. I do not believe there is anything wrong that Honourable Mmolotsi has done because the promise that Honourable Mmolotsi gave to this House was that he is going to be looking for evidence, and I believe Honourable Mmolotsi is still looking for that evidence. Therefore Madam Speaker, let us give the Honourable Member time to ... (interruptions) ... so that it can be presented to you.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (DR VENSON-MOITOI): On a point of order. We risk turning and taking this House completely out of order. My understanding is that Madam Speaker, you stood up, called order to a matter that has been on the floor now for several days. We are at a point where you are calling for follow-up on evidence that you have asked for to be produced. If that evidence is not available, it is up to you to decide what should happen next. It will totally be out of order for this House to open any more debate on this issue. A decision had been taken that Honourable Mmolotsi should produce evidence or retract and apologise. This issue is done. When Honourable Mmolotsi spoke about that evidence he said 'I have it with me, I can go and get it.' It did not have to take a week for him to find it because he had it. So, Madam Speaker, you are on the floor, please decide what should happen now, and there should not be any debate from any of us. It is between you and Honourable Mmolotsi in the House. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: No Honourable Members, I am not taking any point of order, I want to deal with this one first.

MR MMOLOTSI: Madam Speaker, I indicated the other day that the reason why I indicated that I was going to bring evidence was because I did not know that the information sheets that were given out were going to be ultimately collected. So, after the collection, there was nowhere I could get evidence. Therefore, I had to wait for somebody who was going to bring that evidence for me from another office, but he has not been able to do that up to now, I am still expecting him to do that. But I think it is wrong for us to be debating this matter because Honourable Members who want this evidence know very well that they have that particular hand-out with them. It was given to them, they read it, and then it was of course later on recalled. Some of them ... (interruptions) ...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: No wait! Honourable Mmolotsi, you are still repeating the very same words you said the other day and we do not want to hear that. It is either you produce the evidence or withdraw. You have two choices and I am giving you the last chance.

MR MMOLOTSI: According to our Standing Orders, how long does it take...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mmolotsi, can you kindly refrain from asking me questions, this issue has been dragging for days, the whole of last week.

MR MMOLOTSI: No! I want clarification from you.

MADAM SPEAKER: No! I do not need to give you clarification.

MR MMOLOTSI: Okay, then if you do not want to talk to me, what should I do, should I sit down?

MADAM SPEAKER: No withdraw, if you do not have substantial evidence.

MR MMOLOTSI: Is that an instruction?

MADAM SPEAKER: Otherwise I will ask you to leave this House.

MR MMOLOTSI: Well, if that is what you want Madam Speaker, I can even go out before you ask me to do that. If that is what you want Madam Speaker, then ...

MADAM SPEAKER: Then go outside if there is no evidence.

MR MMOLOTSI: Okay Madam Speaker since you want me to withdraw the truth, I withdraw.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mmolotsi, no additional phrases. Do not add 'Madam Speaker, since you want me ...' I am not the one who asked you say what you said.

MR MMOLOTSI: The thing is that I am still going to look for that particular paper, and therefore that is why I am saying you want me to withdraw the truth, I will withdraw it, but I will ultimately bring that paper here.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mmolotsi, withdraw. When you bring that evidence we shall deal with it accordingly, o withdraw.

MR MMOLOTSI: It is the same Madam Speaker, I withdraw but the point is made.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, Honourable Mmolotsi.

MR MMOLOTSI: I withdraw.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, he has withdrawn

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Oh! I did not hear that.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I am done with this issue. I have made a ruling, so there will be no further debates on it. I want to believe you are going to talk about something else.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: On a point of order. Thank you Madam Speaker, I am not happy with the procedures of this House...

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Mokgware, take your sit.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: You want evidence.

MADAM SPEAKER: No sit down. You cannot comment on an issue that we have concluded and start claiming that you are not happy with the procedure. That is not the time.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: I did not rule out properly by saying that he must withdraw?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: Only if you are not going to talk about that issue because if you do I will chase you out of this House.

MR NKAIGWA: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am rising on a point of order in relation to Standing Order 37.4 which I did notice some questions without notice to the Speakership, which I had expected them to appear on the Order paper of today in relation to the new establishment of Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources. But Madam Speaker, I just want an explanation from your office why my questions are not appearing and when these questions shall appear on the Order Paper because these are matters of public importance. There is a looming strike ...

MADAM SPEAKER: No let us not start that debate again.

MR NKAIGWA: Okay, thank you Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: I am very much aware that you have submitted and you were summoned to the office of which I am not certain that you honoured that. I will have to confirm first with the Deputy Speaker to establish if indeed you came to his office and the conclusions thereafter. So, this will be discussed in

my office because I am not sure if you went to see the Deputy Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Point of order. Thank you Madam Speaker for the response to the order that I have just raised. But I am worried at the way the business of this House is carried, and at the way in which the Standing Orders are being interpreted. That is why maybe I am also rising this afternoon because I believe there is a lot of unfairness Madam Speaker in terms of the interpretation of the Standing Orders, in terms of matters that are being regarded as matter of public importance, because I believe that the issues that I have raised before yourself, before your office are matters of public importance better than the question that I have always seen being presented in this House, being said to be matters of public importance. That is what actually worries me Madam Speaker that I need to be given an opportunity to present these issues, because time is not on our side. There are issues pertaining to the former Botswana College of Agriculture that need to be addressed in this House; that the Honourable Minister has failed to address. I believe the public of Botswana, students and lecturers of Botswana College of Agriculture need to know what is happening about their future. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: I heard you, I said to come to my office, I will go and enquire on the progress.

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): Procedure. Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I was requesting for procedure pertaining to Honourable Members who waste the time of this House like Honourable Mmolotsi, they know very well that they are telling lies and they keep saying there is something ...(interruptions)... can you be able to...

MR MMOLOTSI: Point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Makgalemele, that is not the right way of speaking. Again I said no one should refer back to that issue. It is also impolite for you to say someone is lying. The decision I made is that we are not going back to that matter.

MR MMOLOTSI: Point of order. Madam Speaker, I am not going to allow Honourable Makgalemele to give me that label. If he is not going to withdraw, I will have to revenge.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Makgalemele, I said you should not label others as liars, you are adults, withdraw.

MR MAKGALEMELE: Okay, Madam Speaker, I

withdraw the word lies but what should be done when somebody has said untruths to the Honourable House?

MADAM SPEAKER: No, Honourable Makgalemele, I do not want you to withdraw with reservations

MR MOSWAANE: Procedure. Madam Speaker, I heard you say, "Honourable Mmolotsi, go out," I do not know when you changed.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, sit down, you wish greatly that Honourable Mmolotsi could be chased out. Honourable Mmolotsi has withdrawn therefore leave him alone.

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

**Second Reading
(Resumed Debate)**

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! When the House adjourned on Thursday last week, Honourable Mzwinila was on the floor and he was left with 3 minutes 51 seconds. Honourable Mzwinila is not in the House and therefore the floor is open.

MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE

(MR OLOPENG): Thank you Madam Speaker. Since I have realised that a lot of us have not had the chance to comment on the debate, I will take a few minutes and sit down to give others a chance. Let me start off by commending the Minister of Finance and his professional staff for coming up with a budget that was done under difficult circumstances but they tried by all means to make it an exceptional one. They did this bearing in mind the economy, just as we know that the economy is one part in government which is very difficult because it is quite unpredictable. Madam Speaker, I recall that we had expectations that the growth of the economy would be at 4.5 per cent. While they were still reviewing, it plunged down again, like now it seems the growth will be at 1 per cent due to the prices of minerals, water and electricity. They however forged ahead and came up with a budget which deserves our approval.

Madam Speaker, I can see that they have considered the importance of allocating the Ministry of Education a substantial amount especially the recurrent as compared to other ministries. The reason why the Minister allocated the Ministry of Education that portion is because the failure of our students is caused by shortage of teachers among other things. Madam Speaker, they went on to increase the funds for the Ministry of Health because health is one of the fundamental rights in our country therefore it is important to ensure that health experts, doctors and nurses are available. It will also make it

possible to carry out maintenance in our hospitals and clinics.

Madam Speaker, I feel it is important for me to also comment on the funds allocated the Ministry of Justice, Defence and Security in this country. I also stand here to say it is embarrassing that sometimes as leaders we have a way of disregarding the sensitivity of matters of security in our country. I want to draw your attention to the fact that when we talk about security in the country, it goes beyond soldiers clad in their uniform. The security that we are talking about is the assurance that every Motswana wherever he or she is feels secure day and night. We should know that we are always referred to as a country of a developing economy and we are also in first place in terms of democracy in Africa. All these things and more that we have like diamonds and other mineral resources require security of the highest order.

Madam Speaker, sometimes I am puzzled by the comments made by other colleagues and conclude that maybe we are debating politics. Then again I know that the politics we debate here are debated by leaders, we should therefore know the right words to use and not to use when we talk about security.

Madam Speaker, Honourable Matambo gave security P 4.5 billion for recurrent budget and P3.5 billion for development budget. From what I gather during the debate, it seems most of the Honourable Members cannot differentiate Recurrent and Development budget. Everybody is saying they want to see new uniforms for the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), and we want that for the BDF, yet we see that the recurrent budget is as P4.5 billion. That shows that the BDF is well taken care of, they are being paid their allowance and meals provided for. We know that we are taking care of them but at the same time we should improve their conditions of service. The BDF welfare covers a lot of things and does not only cover their uniforms, it covers more than that, it includes feeding, as well as proper military equipment. Madam Speaker, we should be able to know that when we talk about military equipment, we talking about equipment which is of a high standard and is expensive. We should wonder when was the last time the ministry of defence, justice and security receive this kind of a budget. For as long I can recall they have not bought any new equipment, all they have been doing is to maintain the existing equipment. We should talk about real examples and not scare people when we talk of equipment and talk as is we are going to war with some people. We should desist from question such as, whom are we attacking? These are the questions that we should not be asking. Even a primary school student cannot ask this kind of a question. War, Madam Speaker is not parliament and does not have a time frame or it

is not anticipated, it is not politics where there is a time frame attached to the term we take in parliament. A war can just happen any time of the day and therefore we should be prepared at all times to protect this country as a whole. Like I said that war cannot be pre-empted, if we were going to have war we should be in a position to protect ourselves.

Madam Speaker, I want us to understand that when we talk of military aircraft, we are talking about a jet fighter and we are not talking about a Cessna 207 or 209. We are talking about an aircraft which has been designed specifically with a high speed capacity so that it can intersect anything which may happen in the country, and we should be sure that we are well covered. It is therefore not good for us to keep questioning as to why we need to procure those machinery it is like we are talking about small aircrafts which we use to travel in to Okavango Delta and other tourism areas. If we are to have that mentality then we will not be doing justice to ourselves. We should understand what we are talking about when we talk about military equipment. There are a few Honourable Members in this house who understand the military language on both sides of the aisle. It is very important for us who have the knowledge to help you understand and you should listen. At times I get disappointed at the fact that other embers across the aisle know about military equipment and then they decide to just downgrade the integrity of defence in this House. I do not agree to this Madam Speaker.

We have defence technocrats in this House Madam Speaker, we have the likes of Major General Mokgware who was the Grounds Force Command (GFC), he is well aware that during his tenure as the GFC, he once submitted a budget of P7 billion to the commander at that time only for the ground force. He knew yes, that it was a requirement; he needed that equipment to be bought by the BDF. It is important for him to help those who do not understand to understand the Defence and Security aspect. Madam Speaker, when I talk about military aircraft, we are talking about air security, there is ground security which encompasses the missiles and so on. So we should know that when we talk about those things, we are not talking about the 303's and we are talking about very expensive equipment. When we talk about an AK47 bullet, we do not compare it to a 303 box or that of a shotgun 12 gage. One AK 47 bullet or Fabrique Nationale (FN) bullet is very expensive and these are some of the things we should look at when we discuss the Defence, justice and security budget presented before his parliament. Madam Speaker, the reason that...

MR MOLATLHEGI: On a point of elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member.

Do you mean that this lack of education or knowledge by Honourable Members leads to them saying all these scary things to Batswana and end up saying that they are being threatened to be assassinated?

MR OLOPENG: I thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the reason why I am going to take time on the issue of defence is that I have realised that Members of Parliament will be embarrassed by their lack of knowledge. And it would embarrass them even more if the public realised that they are being addressed as Honourable Members because they will be saying things that should not be said. We are not supposed to say those things because we know that security is very sensitive and there are things which we can say here to analyse to a certain extent but I may not do that because I am well aware of the sensitivity of security in our country

Like the honourable deputy speaker has said; we should act on these issues. The reason we are so peaceful in this country is because all the neighbouring countries know that we are prepared to defend this country. The reason why we just sleep and assume being assassinated is because of tranquillity and strength of defence which we have in this country. It is why we always say we are being assassinated and then report that...

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: On a point of order. I hear you Honourable Member. Are you saying that some of the Members dream being assassinated?

MR OLOPENG: Thank you Madam Speaker. We all dream, but some people do not take their dreams to the newspapers whereas Madam Speaker, when some people have dreams, in the morning they go to the newspapers and tell them they dream being assassinated while we know that we do not assassinate people in Botswana.

Madam Speaker, these issues are important and when we talk about security, I want us to boldly talk about them. We cannot talk about security when we want people to vote for us, when we want popularity from the people or when we want to scare people. Security is very important if we want people to have confidence in us as leaders in this House. Madam Speaker, I am firm when I talk about such issues. When we talk about the welfare of soldiers, we should know that we are talking about people who have been trained to protect this country. We should absolve them from political issues. We cannot say that about security issues Madam Speaker because they are very, very sensitive.

I have promised that I would not talk for long. So let me take a few minutes to talk about the strategies that this Government has come up with. When government heard the reports that the economy was not doing well

because of the downfall of the diamond sales and other minerals, government came up with a programme called the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). Madam Speaker, I want to stand here on behalf of the youth, and I want them to listen to me and forget the negativity. You should listen and believe what is happening. ESP is live; it is created to create jobs. For example when it was launched, people were working. The youth whose companies have been given projects gave testimonies at the launch. That is why we are calling the youth to stand up and before the ESP came out, I encouraged them to go and register companies; maintenance companies which members like Honourable Maele are ready to welcome to submit proposals so that they assess where they can benefit.

As the Minister of Youth, I will go to every constituency whose Members of Parliament would not talk about the ESP. I will go there to encourage the youth that the ESP is alive and they should look for jobs. They should stand up and take their company proposals to Ministries like Honourable Nonfo Molefhi's and Honourable Maele's who will be building houses and other projects. They are going to extend clinics and schools and the youth will find jobs. Refuting something that we see happening is politics that deceive the people.

As leaders who see that the world economy, and not that of Botswana alone is not doing well, we cannot keep on questioning what ESP is. We can see boxes of tenders overflowing on television. We want Batswana to be given these tenders. I have not heard of any maintenance tender that has been given to foreign companies, they have been reserved for the locals.

I call upon the youth to listen to me; get into tendering, enquire so that you can have a contribution in our economy.

MINISTER OF LANDS AND HOUSING (MR MAELE): Elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker. Maybe for the benefit of those who were not present Honourable Minister, we should tell that when the ESP which was launched at Machaneng, out of the 17 contractors, nine of them are for the youth and they have been allocated deliberately. Secondly, tell them that the youth have already pocketed P4 700 000 from the maintenance at the Ministry of Lands and Housing because they are the ones who are given priority in terms of maintaining houses that are not complicated. I think you should say these things so that the youth can hear them Sir. Thank you.

MR OLOPENG: Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member. You have said it all. I have noted it here and it is one of the things I was going

to remind the youth. As ESP was launched, out of 17 contractors, nine of them were youth companies. This shows that we do not want to tell them things that are not happening. At the moment we have reservations and exemptions for the youth, through which we are doing what we call implementation of all these policies this year.

Like Honourable Maele said, already P4 000 000 has been pocketed by the youth. I stand here to say under reservations in the policy to empower the youth in this country, 45 per cent of expenditure at the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Culture has been allocated the youth starting this Financial Year. I urge the youth to stand up and partake in this.

MR MANGOLE: Clarification. Thank you Madam Speaker and the Honourable Member. According to you, you emphasise the youth and tendering, so I want to know the objectives of the ESP; is it directed towards the youth only or what exactly is this ESP?

MR OLOPENG: Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member. Let me quickly give you a live example to answer you so that we give others a chance since I promised I will not talk for long. You heard Honourable Maele saying that out of 17 contractors which were engaged in his project that was launched over the weekend, nine were youth companies. That tells you that eight of them were not for the youth. In short, ESP is not for the youth. So, Honourable Member, go and tender before it is late. If you have not tendered my friend, I know you like being honest...

MR MOSWAANE: Elucidation. The Minister is debating well. I heard you talking about negativity, did you not mean on issues where it is said, 'the poverty eradication framework, an expensive political adventure that consumes several hundreds of millions of pula, each year with no tangible results to show,' and 'the flagship initiative under the programme is backyard gardening, a poorly conceived and exceedingly wasteful initiative', that were said by the Leader of the Opposition. This will give the youth a negative picture in that regard. Thank you Minister.

MR OLOPENG: Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member. Honourable Member, I stand here to castigate those sentiments by leaders who come here and talk negatively about these things and to discourage the youth. We should know that regardless of where one is in this House, the responsibility of unemployed youth is for us all. We should not only recognise the lives of our youths only on Elections day when we want them to vote us to Parliament. We should take government policies to them and encourage them

to take advantage of these programmes. Let us avoid the negative attitude towards these programmes because if we keep behaving that way our youth will refrain from engaging in these programmes that might improve their lives. I will be listening to the radio stations Madam Speaker, I have been reading the papers, when I hear an Honourable Member talking bad of these programmes I take my time to go and visit his Constituency and inform the youth in that constituency on how these programmes could improve their lives. With those words Madam Speaker I will leave five minutes. Thank you very much.

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

Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to respond to the Budget speech, a really comprehensive Budget speech, delivered by his Honourable the Minister. Madam Speaker like many other Budget speech that have been of Finance and Development Planning presented to this House by this Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Government, it is one of the realistic and factual Budget presented by the Minister. I must start by saying that the global economy continues to present both opportunities and challenges to all economies, both small and big, including the China and the Europe or the Euro Zone economies. I have said two things here, the global economy presents both opportunities and challenges and for us in the BDP, we are looking at this with an open mind, we are looking at these opportunities as they present themselves, we are also facing the challenges as are presented by the global economy. Madam Speaker at this moment or earliest opportunity, I want to challenge anyone in this House to talk to paragraph 3 in the introduction of the Budget speech and also talk to paragraph 4 of the same speech and I have not heard even those in the Opposition addressing the macroeconomic aspect. All they had been singing is the usual broken record of saying the BDP has failed and also trying to demonise our programmes, the usual broken record, Honourable Davids and if you stand up we all know what you are going to say. So I want to draw the attention of this House to the framework, to the Budget that would be presented. The framework in the form of the macroeconomics, as well as in the introduction. I want to challenge anyone Madam Speaker; I want to quote to challenge these paragraphs. Madam Speaker on page 1 of the Minister's speech under the introduction, I quote, 'among the achievements by Government was the ability to support growth momentum in the domestic economy during National Development Plan (NDP 10), despite the fact that the implementation of the Plan coincided with the global financial and economic crisis of 2008/2009. (Underline the global financial economic crisis of 2008/2009) In the face of the crisis, this Government

demonstrated its prudent stewardship in economic and financial management and acted decisively by adopting a proactive fiscal stance to support domestic economic activities. As a result, the average growth in the domestic economy over the Plan period is now expected to be around 4.5 per cent, compared to the initial 3.3 per cent forecast at the beginning of the Plan.'

This paragraph is realistic, it is factual and I was listening attentively to hear even from the leadership of the Opposition whether they will challenge it, I have not heard anything. All I was hearing are other stories which I will attend to later on. The following paragraph Madam Speaker, which I also wish to quote at the earliest opportunity, it is paragraph 4, 'most importantly, the use of fiscal policy to support growth was done responsibly to ensure continued macroeconomic stability; with the average accumulated budget deficit during the Plan period now estimated at P4.7 billion or negative 3.1 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), compared to or negative 16.4 per cent of GDP initially projected for the Plan. Monetary policy also remained supportive over the Plan period, with inflation decelerating towards the lower end of the Bank of Botswana's objective range of 3-6 per cent, while the exchange rate policy resulted in a stable real effective exchange rate, which is a necessary condition for promoting competitiveness of domestic industries.'

Madam Speaker that read together with what the Honourable His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana when he launched the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP), read together with those paragraph, I wish Madam Speaker to quote and indicate how these two are in unison. Madam Speaker ...

MADAM SPEAKER: What are you quoting?

MR TSOGWANE: I am quoting from the speech by His Excellency when he launched the ESP in Machaneng, 13th February 2016. 'The Programme (referring to ESP) is a response to the current unfavourable economic climate following the world economic recession of 2008/9 which has resulted in job losses, not only in our country but in the world at large. One of the major challenges in the economy is fall of commodity prices in the mining sector including diamonds. There is a need to diversify the economy even more so as to create sustainable jobs and to be able to cushion the economy against the international shocks of the mineral process.' If you read these together Madam Speaker, you can realise that here are the challenges as I have said, the global economy presents both opportunities and challenges not necessarily opportunities alone as the leadership of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) seems to believe, that we have missed opportunities. There are

indeed other opportunities that we might have missed in the process, but all is not lost. A lot of opportunities we have taken advantage of and we are still taking advantage of the opportunities that are presenting themselves. The opportunity which is currently being debated is ESP, it is an opportunity that we have taken advantage of, to try to diversify and grow the economy, so we cannot come here and only lament that we at the BDP Government have lost all opportunities. Indeed there are challenges that we have to lead to and we must understand that like the global economy has presented, it is for each and every economy to also face those challenges. Madam Speaker, having said that, the BDP Government has also consistently continued to preach and also promote its principle and its ideology of welfare state and social democracy. We have been persistent and consistent with our programmes which I can indicate here that, a lot of them are talking to both welfare state and social democracy. The basis of that Madam Speaker is justice, as we all know. The basis of that is to create opportunities for those who are disadvantaged. The basis of that social democracy is that we must look at the demographics of this country and ensure that all people have an opportunity. That is exactly what the BDP Government is doing.

If you look at the demographics of this country, you will find that our programmes are targeting each and every group and they are intended to also bring equal opportunities to all groups including those that some people might think they cannot be of any use. In some countries, those people fend for themselves and nobody is taking care of them. Under our social democracy and welfare state, we have made sure that between the strong and the weak, we do have programmes that will address that, the young and the old, as the Honourable Minister here was advocating for the youth to try and make use of the BDP programmes while the BDP is still in power. They should not miss that opportunity. The healthy and the sick, those who are working and unemployed yes, we do have the platform, and interventions to ensure that even those who are sick and who may not even afford, in the olden days it was about, I do not know whether it was 50 Thebe or one Pula to go and be admitted or to get any health services, but up to today, you will find that, even those who do not afford are taken to the most expensive health service centres. They are even transferred to our neighbouring country and huge sums are being paid on their behalf. That in itself is a social democracy and a welfare state as a principle of our government.

Those who are unemployed as we have always said, we put them into poverty eradication programmes to ensure that we pull them and place them under the Ipelegeng programme to ensure that they have sustenance or

livelihood. We are trying to bring them to par with all other people who can afford a meal so that they can also afford a meal. Those are programmes of social democracy. Those are programmes of a welfare state.

Madam Speaker, the handicapped today know that we have given them dignity as you know that we have recently put in place the disability allowance.

MR NKAIGWA: Question. Thank you Madam Speaker and Honourable Minister. I would like the Minister of Local Government to explain to the House what he holds in high regard in Botswana, and what his Ministry is doing in terms of advocating for the autonomy and independence of Local Government. Honourable Olopeng explained the road map of his Ministry and you have not said anything. You are only praising the programmes of the Botswana Democratic Party government and nothing about your vision for your Ministry of Local Government. Lastly, are you aware Honourable Minister that your Ministry is failing the people? Some people are still drinking water from bowsers, which at time takes a long time to get delivered to the people? People are very thirsty in areas like Mahutshwane and Khonkhwa, they have no water. This thirst is caused by your Ministry and your Government that you have been praising. What are you going to do about this Honourable Minister?

MR TSOGWANE: Thank you Honourable Member. A priest who will never dare to tell the truth, not even on a single day. Honourable Member, all that I have been saying if you have been listening, if you know what welfare state is, is all built into my ministry. We are housing the welfare state which I have been talking to now. We are the core; we are the heart of welfare state. I think that will be a lesson for another day because we do not have enough time to educate you on welfare state and social democracy.

Madam Speaker, while I am still there, before I even forget I have just outlined what BDP Government is for and in terms of this budget what it represents and how it addresses the issues that are pertinent to our country instead of coming here and opposing and condemning everything as my learned friends are doing.

Madam Speaker, we have heard people coming here to try to fuel instability in this country. We have heard Honourable Nkaigwa when he was presenting, trying desperately by all means to fuel religious tensions in this country. That is not what we expect of a leader. If that is what he believes in, and if that is what his party the UDC believes in, because I have not heard anyone, even the leadership of the UDC disassociate themselves from the remarks and the comments made by Honourable

Nkaigwa, then that is too bad for this country. Here in this country we must preach and promote peaceful development. We cannot afford to have people who are calling themselves representatives of the people coming here to lament religious tensions, claiming that the Christians are being disadvantaged as compared to the other religions or the Muslim Society. I was even taken aback when some of the members of those religions stood here and never attempted to address what Honourable Nkaigwa was saying, particularly in public. I talked to Honourable Kablay and asked him why he is not responding to Honourable Nkaigwa's comments of fuelling religious tensions in this country. That is bad for our democracy. That is bad for our country. As I have said, I listened attentively to hear whether the leadership of the UDC will disassociate themselves from Honourable Nkaigwa's comments. I do not think it is good for their party to associate themselves with the utterances of such Honourable Members who want to fuel and breed tensions in this country. Probably that backs the reason why we should have a huge budget for the BDF, because if such people are amongst us, they are a threat to peace and therefore we need to have a back up to guard against such elements.

Madam Speaker, I just wanted to...

MR DAVIDS: On a point of clarification Madam Speaker. You are on the right track Honourable Minister, but let me remind you that you are forgetting your Department of Tribal Administration that is failing throughout the country. That is a big failure on your part as a Minister. Talk about that.

MR TSOGWANE: You are opining and in this country you are free to opine. That is your opinion Honourable Member about this Department and I am not going to stop you to continue to form opinions. What we are doing is, we are trying our level best to ensure that we enhance Tribal Administration with all the initiatives that we have brought in.

Madam Speaker, they want to derail me from the real truth and what is supposed to be addressed as I have earlier on indicated that, really we are a government that promotes welfare state and social democracy. Now turning to the issue, I have dismissed without saying that, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition in the Leadership but not at the helm but being the second in the leadership who stood up and continued to talk to the fact that, we are missing opportunities, I have indicated the opportunities that we have availed to ourselves. I have indicated rightly so how we have taken each and every opportunity, the latest being Economic Stimulus Package (ESP).

Madam Speaker, I must also indicate that, we are faced with challenges, as I have said, the global economy presents both opportunities and challenges to each and every economy. I have said Madam Speaker earlier on that there are challenges indeed which we must admit. And by admitting challenges, we do not sit back; we try to address those challenges. We have the challenge of water, which we are continuously trying to address. We have the challenge of energy which we have addressed. Unfortunately, things did not work well as we had expected at Morupule B. But we did not give up. We are coming up with other initiatives, we are trying to repair all that has gone well at Morupule B and we are coming up with maintenance of Morupule A.

So, we are a government that knows that there can be challenges in life, and those challenges have to be addressed. Unlike others, when there are challenges, they point a finger and start to blame the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) for everything that happens.

Madam Speaker, I want also like my Honourable Members on the other side of the House, the BDP members, who have addressed the BDF budget and tried to set the record straight because some people think that it is a waste to have given the BDF that budget. But we are all saying the BDF budget is proper and it is in line. Like my Honourable Members, some of them who have been in the army, we had expected the same from Honourable Mokgware because he has got an idea about what is going on. So, they have tried to set the record straight by indicating that in the army we need capability, we are not going to allow our people, our children to be faced with a battle field while they are using bows and arrows. That age has long passed of using bows and arrows. So, we want our people to be safe, we want our soldiers as part of their welfare to be safe and ensure that they have the right technology. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition, last time he was talking about technology as one of those things that we should be looking into. So, if you want us to hold back on the old technology in the army, what are you saying? We are looking for the state of the art technology today, both in the battle field and in the other aspect of the economy. So, that is the part of the economy. We cannot allow our people to go without clothes, uniform in the Botswana Defence Force (BDF); we cannot allow that. So, the budget has to be there, the budget has to be in line and ensure that our soldiers' welfare is not only about money, is not only about salaries, it is about their safety, protection, protective clothes that they have to use. More importantly it is about armoury. So, we cannot leave the BDF as you expect to be vulnerable, we would not do that.

As long as we know we have put people there whose lives are so important, and also we know in this country

like Honourable Olopeng has rightly indicated, we do have in our economy plants like Morupule, diamonds being mined at Orapa. And all these, we cannot leave them vulnerable. We have to protect them, and by so doing, we need a strong army; we need a sophisticated army; we need an army that will be ready anytime. So, you do not prepare for war during war time, you only prepare for war during peaceful time. That you must understand Honourable Members.

With those few minutes left, I want also to address some of the projects that we are floating around in my Ministry; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development under the backlog eradication. The backlog eradication Madam Speaker, we are addressing under ESP. As you know, we have had backlog eradication for a very long time. We have had shortage of classrooms, shortage of toilets at the primary schools, shortage of teachers' accommodation or teacher's houses, we have had shortage in Tribal Administration as he was saying that we are not looking after the tribal administration. But here under ESP, we have 30 Dikgotla which we are going to house our chiefs.

We had targeted 401 classrooms, 1,280 toilets, 480 teacher's houses in 123 schools. My Ministry to date will only be able to build 122 from the savings that we have realised from 2015/2016 budget. We will be able to construct 122 classrooms, 456 toilets, 125 teacher's houses including 30 tribal administration type I and type II. We are also going to look into infrastructure development, and one of the beneficiaries is sitting there, I can see he is smiling because he knows what ESP is all about.

We are going to have infrastructure development, the assessment or the review of the last designs at Gabane, Tutume. Tutume comes first before Gabane for that matter and then we will have Kang. We are going to review these. And if the situation improves, we hope the situation will improve and therefore we will go on with the construction of those infrastructure developments.

Honourable Kablay is also benefiting at the moment. If you go to Letlhakeng, you will see what is going on there, infrastructure development.

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

MR TSOGWANE: Honourable Kablay, yes the Chief Whip for that matter for the BDP...

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Clarification. Can you say it loud and clear, are you saying you are going to review or construct the Gabane road?

MR TSOGWANE: Road is a result of a design, you do not do roads before you do the design, and that

design of Gabane especially is so complicated because there are so many developments that have taken place after the design, so we need to review that design. And therefore as I have said, as we continue to review the economic status, we will definitely end up having roads. Infrastructure development for that matter not only roads, street lights, storm water drainage including roads. So, you must smile but know the credit is not going to you when going to 2019, know that credit goes to BDP because it is the government that is implementing those. So, do not go around boasting that you are bringing roads and so forth.

Madam Speaker, before I conclude, I must indicate as I started that really the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has not provided any alternative budget. All that we have heard from the UDC is that everything is possible; all monies will be flashed, there will be unlimited amount of monies to the extent that everything will be done, including distributing iPads and laptops to all children in the schools. Madam Speaker, there is only one word which can describe that; it will be a bubble economy and the bubble budgets will follow that bubble economy. We do not have a bubble economy here, we have a realistic and factual economy that is addressing all sectors of the economy and that is ensuring that our welfare state and our social democracy take place.

Madam Speaker, I would not forget to plead with the Minister, that of course we need some projects in Boteti, going forward you should also be looking at that area as an area that has been lagging behind; not deliberately but because of the constraints as the years passed by. We have a road like Motopi/Makalamabedi which people have been lamenting about for a very long time and has isolated our people to the extent that it is like they are in the remotest of this country. We also need infrastructure at the sub-district which was designated but ended up being a service centre, including of course the Nata Service Centre. We need to look into those things as we ask for more money and we review the economy going forward.

Madam Speaker, with those few remarks, I must thank you very much and thank Honourable Members from the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) who have been very factual and very realistic in their debates. I thank you.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE (GABANE-MMANKGODI): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I am grateful for the opportunity to have a say on the 2016/2017 budget. I think that there are good elements and bad elements within the budget however, I will not dwell on the good elements because I believe we all concur when it comes to those. I will mostly talk

about those elements that I do not agree with you on. As the people's representative for the Gabane-Mmankgodi constituency I should ask myself how the budget will benefit those who voted for me. Basically what the impact of the budget will be to the life of my voter. I should answer this question considering the challenges facing the people in my constituency. The main issue in my constituency is land allocation and I believe that it is only in my constituency where people have had to wait to be allocated plots for 23 years. As I speak to you they are currently allocating plots to people who applied in February 1994. This is not a good thing Honourable Members and if you can calculate how old those people must be by now you will realise that this is not fair. Really it is not fair and it is not right to make people wait 23 years to be allocated a plot. If I look at the budget I do not see Gabane-Mmankgodi in the plan for accelerated land servicing. Why was it not included? Why do you expect me to be happy about the budget if you have not included it in the accelerated land servicing programme? We know very well that there is no one amongst us who has had to wait 23 years in order to be allocated a plot. We have been saying that we want to empower the youth and you can empower someone by giving them land because if they have no land then they cannot carry out their business anywhere or even build a house for themselves. I believe that we have got adequate land in the Gabane- Mankgodi area and so I am wondering why it is so difficult for the government to compensate people for their fields since they want to be allocated plots. Those people who have been waiting for those 23 years only want to be allocated plots within their fields and nowhere else. What is so difficult about that? These are some of the things that I cannot tolerate and celebrate just because we have been presented with a budget; no I am not going to accept that.

The Gabane-Mmankgodi constituents want plots including the youth. Last weekend I was with the youth and they had grouped themselves and we met to discuss issues. On Sunday I had a meeting with over 100 youth who called me to ask me questions about land and what it is that is so difficult about them being allocated land. I explained that there is no land servicing because when you consider the budget there is no accelerated land servicing in my area, where the problem of land allocation is most prevalent. Those are the challenges that I am faced with.

On the education sector we have a lot of challenges in the Gabane-Mmankgodi constituency. The Metsimothabe Primary School, children have no chairs and sit on bricks and stones in the classrooms. It is surprising because last year we approved two supplementary budgets for the Ministry of Education and Skills Development. One

should really step back and ask themselves why they keep pouring money into a hole because there are no results. We will never get any good results if the money that we continue to give to the Ministry of education and skills development does not yield any good results in terms of developing the education sector. There is a lot of research that has been carried out within the Ministry geared at developing education however we have still not seen any results. If we continue running this sector the way we do then our education standards will continue to decline. Yesterday the Junior Certificate results were released; 66.6 per cent failure rate, can we be proud of it? I am directing it to all of us in this House; can we be proud of it? I do not think so. I want us to understand that when you invest money on something and it shows that there is a mishap somewhere ...

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): On a point of elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Member. I acknowledge that you are debating well however, I wanted to ask you if you are aware that even if the budget can be increased the money is never enough when it comes to education. If it was enough then all those issues that you raise regarding shortages of classrooms and many other things would not exist and the standard would improve.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you Honourable Minister. You spoke well and we are saying that the money is enough. The problem is the corruption practices within the Ministry of Education. There is too much corruption in that Ministry and I spoke about it the other day. One newspaper today even has a headline saying, “DCEC uncovered thriving corruption in Education,” but what are you doing about it? Last time I also talked about the funds that you had released for schools, I was saying people should meet that side. Now if this is the case, it is not a problem. I am simply saying we should fight this corruption.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): On a point of procedure, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, when one talks about such issues; I think the Honourable Member is actually misleading the nation. Some of the things which appear on newspapers are not true. I want to say, if there is corruption at the Ministry of Education and Skills Development, can the Honourable Member give evidence so that we investigate that corruption? Can he out rightly say it here that the corruption which transpired was with regard to this and that? Thank you Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Major General, since you were just reading from the newspapers

without having any concrete evidence whether it is true or not, do not say it as if you are certain.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you Mr Speaker. When I see such issues and my colleagues on the other side appear not to be bothered, I will believe that that thing exists. I mean if that is the case we have to talk about it. A paper is here, it is the Mmegi newspaper dated Wednesday 16th December, 2015 and it had this to say, “DCEC uncovers thriving corruption in Education”. Now if we are refuting what has been said in here, it is here; I believe you also usually buy it and read it. Therefore some of these things make us a bit sceptical and we wonder if the funds are really not enough like the Honourable Minister was saying that side. I mean those are some of the things we are doing Sir.

The other time there were those who were moving around inspecting schools and you should also read their report. The school which I am making reference to which is Metsimotlhabe, I am inviting you Honourable Minister you should go there tomorrow morning. You will not find any chairs there, pupils sit on rocks in classrooms and this affects their studies. The conditions are not that conducive for learning. I mean that is the situation right now, even if we can visit many schools. Even if we can tour a number of schools, that is how things are. I believe that, if we could try to improve our education system, things will improve.

The other thing that is a concern to me is that, I had wanted to comment when the other members were here. They have been talking about the budget that is required for the BDF: there is no one who is disputing the fact that, the army needs funds. The question is, do these funds buy what is needed? Let me try to tell you the utmost truth, research has shown that since the cold war, the wars that took place were internal not external wars. Over hundred wars or conflicts have shown that, which implies that, when we are planning our defence system, we should look internally. The major threat to our own security is internal. It is the unemployed citizens; they are qualified technicians and IT experts.

When we leave them to roam around the streets this way, in future they are the ones who are going to be a threat to us. If you could look at the Arab Spring and understand what it is, how it came about, it came with the same problems of lack of governance with a lot of educated youth who are unemployed. So, we should probe deeper into this so that we can come out of this internal... (interruption)... is that we should actually...

MR KEORAPETSE: On a point of elucidation, Madam Speaker. You are debating very well General. Are you saying contemporary security challenges are

human security related issues not conventional security issues that need arms of war? Is that your point?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you Honourable Member. That is my point. Honourable Members, let me try to explain this to you, right now we are saying we should not buy fighter jets, let us build the small force; the agile force which we want, give them the equipment which you have been talking about here, not expensive jets. Look what happened in Afghanistan, expensive jets have been bombing Afghanistan looking for Al-Qaeda. Al-Qaeda is still there. Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); in Syria how many super powers with super aircrafts have been bombing there, but ISIS is still there on the ground? What is important is the soldier on the ground, the foot on the ground, the way you clothe your soldier and the way you arm your soldier. That is what is important.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR GOYA): On a point of clarification, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I thank you. I just wanted to find out from the Honourable Member if the sophisticated equipment is not the one which was used to find that hairy man called Bin Laden from his hideout? Thank you.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you very much. You have actually answered most of the problems here. In Botswana, we do not want a jet fighter aircraft which takes 10 minutes from here to Francistown. You need a helicopter because what we are fighting here, the anti-poaching scenario, it is almost like a guerrilla warfare tactics, so you need helicopters. Honourable Boko has mentioned it.

We need helicopters which can move our soldiers from one ground to the other. We do not have an air defence mechanism of picking an aircraft entering our Botswana airspace. We do not have that. Now if we have an aircraft, having F5s as well, I would tell you why, those aircrafts can land in only three airfields in this country, which means it would be in Gaborone, Thebephatshwa and Francistown only. You cannot take a poacher or a terrorist with a supersonic aircraft, no, you cannot. We need helicopters, lifting capability, to take them from one place to another. That is our argument and we agree on that. All of us support security; there is no one who is against.

Last time I was lamenting about the army uniform. This uniform Honourable Members, I will tell you, we make them wear a uniform just like this. Soldiers need a specially designed shirt which takes time to get heat, it takes time to get wet, not what we are currently giving them. That is what I am advocating for. So, we have

not been against any expenditure, we are against the jets only; but we are waiting for the unpacking of this P3.5 billion. That is what we are waiting for at the Committee whereby we will be debating Ministry by Ministry. Right now we would be making a mistake grouping all things, and then end up saying we are refusing. We will wait for the Committee stage at which we will be looking at Ministry by Ministry. I can give you an example, I saw it captured that the training for police is P600, 000.00. I do not agree with that. I think they need more than that.

Now let us get to the issue of conditions of service of the soldiers. The heart and the mind of a soldier is very very crucial, you cannot go to war with disgruntled soldiers. That is a fact. Go to Shaka Zulu, why did he defeat the gun powder? He defeated the gun powder because the soldiers were happy. We are together on this one. We are all saying, the conditions of service for soldiers should be improved. A soldier should be given a certain type of uniform. We are also talking about accommodation for police officers and the Prisons Services officers.

Now, when we talk about security Honourable Members, let us not only look at the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), let us consider the police officers and others as well. Our security would be out of line, it would be imbalanced. Now we are saying, let us unpack that P3.5 billion and see what it has in there and what it left behind. That way it could be better. We have to understand what we are talking about when we talk about security. When you buy a jet aircraft which is supersonic, it takes 10 minutes from here to Francistown, you would be seeking to start an arms race in the region. You would be seeking to arise an arms race in the region. Why? Heads of States who owned such like Gadhafi have been killed by their very own people because of the internal problems in their countries, so that is what you should also expect. So, you should know that if you purchase such a jet and keep it without using it, the day you decide to use it will be very costly. It will be much profitable to equip a soldier by purchasing the right ammunition which will be used.

Currently, the military patrols the anti-poaching areas using man trucks and that is not right. They have been hit hard by this past winter session because they did not have the right winter gear. We need to appreciate these dynamics because it is very disturbing for some people not to treat issues of security with the level of seriousness they deserve and rather divert their focus to buying military machinery. I have once advised that, we should have an annual threat analysis which is practiced by countries like South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. This is something which Members of Parliament are privy to but that cannot happen with us. People are busy

buying military machinery and ammunition and we fail to understand why.

MR SPEAKER: Just a minute Honourable Mokgware. Honourable Salakae, you are not supposed to use your phone in this House, if you repeat that, I will confiscate it. Proceed Honourable Member, sorry for that.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you very much. Some of us know security more than others because we are very much conversant with what it entails. So it becomes problematic if someone decides to buy jet aircrafts for no apparent reason because they think we need them. If you go to countries like Syria, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) they have expensive jets but high maintenance. That is what you should know as the leadership.

We talked of opportunities and yet we fail to address the issue of corruption in our budget analysis. I would like to quote from one local business newspaper, Botswana Gazette, dated 22nd December, Page B2. It states that Botswana bleeds P74 billion in illegal spending....

MR SPEAKER: Who gave you the permission to quote?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: I had said I request your permission to quote.

MR SPEAKER: Quote and include the dates of the newspaper together with the year.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: it is dated Gazette 16 to 22 December, 2015. It reads, "a new report from the Global Financial Integrity Network shows that Botswana has lost over P73.97 billion from 2009 to 2013 in illicit financial flows. The country rankings for the years under review show that Botswana come 66th in the World and 14th in Africa, in terms of quantities of lost development money due to trade mis-invoicing, transfer mis-pricing by companies with subsidiaries domiciled in low tax jurisdictions and hot money flows." I believe that it really challenges us to think hard concerning the P73.97 billion that has been lost due to mis-invoicing and mis-pricing...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: That is pure corruption.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: You are very right and even His Honour the Vice President is very much aware of that because he is the one who gave out this information. Therefore if we continue to promote these corrupt tendencies with the funds that could be used to develop our country, it will be wrong of us.

HIS HONOUR THE VICE PRESIDENT (MR MASISI): Clarification.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: We need to introspect to map a way forward so that we avoid missed opportunities. Currently we have the financial intelligence office which is supposed to equip us but we need to first provide them with the relevant resources in order for them to be effective and also pick on these issues.

The ESP has currently been the talk of the town but I would like to firstly talk about public servants. This is very, very crucial. It should be our first priority to make favourable working conditions for public servants because if we have a disgruntled workforce, there will not be any delivery. We are going to lose a lot of money like we have started by overspending on unnecessary military weaponry. We have to work on improving the conditions of service for public servants. I have once proposed an early exit policy for those who are about to retire so that they can go and start their own businesses and in return create employment opportunities for the youth. This will curb the idea of giving funds to young people to start their business who are clueless about the business dynamics. I believe this Early Exit Package will assist the Civil Service to...

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Point of correction.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: What are you correcting?

MR TSOGWANE: What he has just said.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: I think this is what is supposed to be happening.

MR TSOGWANE: Point of correction.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: I do not understand that which you wish to correct because I have not said anything wrong.

MR TSOGWANE: Point of correction. Thank you Honourable Mokgware. I heard you mentioning Early Exit but there are no specifics attached to the statement, then we get lost because we already have an Early Retirement at the age of 45 years. So maybe you need to guide us because we have been thinking that this is the same thing?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Okay. Thank you very much. You are on point Honourable Minister, we already have the Early Retirement at the age of 45 years but it is quite short. It does not meet the requirements for the pensioners because they are not allowed to use all their money and they are not even given a certain percentage of the money. If it is an Early Exit Package, it means there can be...

MR MASISI: Further correction.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: That is why I am of the view that, those who are 45 and above should be accorded that opportunity with an enhanced package which will motivate people to exit. If not, then we will continue to have a problem of plot allocation which takes more than 23 years to be allocated. This means someone will be able to start building in that plot using the very same money. So we have to balance all these things. If we have a better and enhanced package it will be better.

Now going into the issue of agriculture...

MR MMOLOTSI: Elucidation. This Early Exit Policy has around 4000 people who take it every year and these people only benefits in as far as leave days, pension and terminal benefits are concerned. But what Honourable Mokgware is saying is that, make it attractive instead of getting young people to get into businesses which they are not well equipped to venture into. Instead it could be given to older people because they will exit being assured of funds that they could use to open their businesses. That is what we are trying to say.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: You are on point Honourable Member. If we take that route, it will alleviate the levels of poverty in our country. Sometimes I wonder why we seem to be ignorant of the rate of poverty in our country. Through your permission Mr Speaker, I would like to quote the The Voice Newspaper dated Friday October 22, 2015. The heading reads, 'Crime of Poverty'. It says, 'poor couple kills a child by drowning.'

MR SPEAKER: Are you already quoting?

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: My request is to quote from it Sir. Please pardon me.

MR SPEAKER: Quote Honourable Mokgware. Honourable Tsogwane please lower your voice.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: If I can quote here, 'a young couple of Seronga has been arrested for allegedly killing their one year three months old child by throwing him away into the Okavango River to drown. The couple unemployed; twenty five (25) year old woman of Mabudutswa Ward and her twenty three year old (23) also unemployed boyfriend are currently held in police custody while the police wrap up their investigation'. This couple has been forced into this situation by poverty, they had nothing to feed the child and they then fed him to the crocodiles. That is what the newspaper wrote.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): On a point of procedure. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I am not quite sure we are following the right procedures to use a quotation from a newspaper that we are not even sure whether it is the truth, or is just a quote from the paper but to use it as evidence to prove that indeed what the Honourable Member is debating...

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

MS MAKGATO: When have we started using...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order!

MS MAKGATO: I am not Molale, I am holding the floor.

MR SPEAKER: Wait a minute Honourable Makgato. Honourable Davids, stop making noise, I cannot hear her. Let me listen Honourable Member and stop making noise. Honourable Makgato, start from the beginning.

MS MAKGATO: Thank you very much. You will tell that the point has hit home when they start screaming foul. This is what I was saying that, are we using the right procedure in this House to quote a newspaper as though it is the true evidence of the effects of poverty just because somebody wrote that someone died and then that substantiates arguments of poverty? That is all I am asking. I do not understand why they are screaming.

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

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Salake. Honourable Makgato, when the Honourable Member requests for permission to quote in Parliament, all I need is the source of the quote. If he or she provides us with the reference material, we allow the Honourable Member to quote. Now the onus is on you to follow up on what he is quoting. If he quotes the wrong thing, you can then call him to correct.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Thank you Mr Speaker. I quoted the truth, as a researcher that is what I do best. I was saying, if we could do that, we can avoid such incidents where when some read this news wherever they are, they might think that poverty caused this. That is what we must agree on.

The last point I will conclude with, which has been debated by my colleagues is the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). Honourable Members, if you get funds, tell people what they are going to be used for and the consequences of such an action then no one can oppose you. The problem with ESP is that, first when it was introduced, it was clouded with secrecy. There was no explanation of its intentions. Even right now when you go through the Budget, it is not clear as to how much funds will be used and for what purposes. Sometimes we

hear that it will be responsible for carrying out a certain project. If it came out as a clear project, no one could oppose it. The most important thing which we have to underline in this House is transparency. Let us be transparent. If you are transparent VP (Vice President), no one can suspect you of any bad thing.

What is frightening is that, we still have a problem of monitoring our projects. I do not know how we are going to overcome that. Do we have enough project inspectors? Do we have people to carry out the projects that we are talking about? It is said the ESP project will run for three years. What will happen to those who fail to finish their initial projects? Those are the complaints of Botswana as they ask a lot of questions to which there are no answers because of lack of transparency. I request for one person who can come and answer what this ESP is and what it means. The individual should answer all the questions from Botswana like what is going to happen concerning those who have failed to finish their projects, are they also going to be awarded tenders again?

Another thing is that, if it is taken to the Office of the President as opposed to where it is supposed to be, does the Office of the President have enough personnel to supervise the whole country? It should have been left at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning where it is supposed to be. The problem is that, sometimes it is good to talk in this manner, but when you say these things with no idea of who will be responsible when they fail, they end up going back to that individual. We should ask ourselves these questions. We should know that there will be no cost overruns, the capacity to implement this amount of money is available. Do these youth have the necessary skills of establishing these companies? Will they get funding after establishing companies? So in a nutshell, I am requesting that we be transparent. We should fully explain what it means to us and how it will benefit Botswana or voter. If we do not do that, there is going to be a lot of confusion or ignorance. If there is a lot of ignorance, some will get discouraged. With those few words, that was the assignment I was given by the Gabane/Mmankodi residents to bring to this Parliament.

MR MOIPISI (K GALAGADI NORTH): Thank you Mr Speaker for giving me an opportunity to comment on the Budget. Let me first of all thank Honourable Matambo that though he was surrounded by challenges such as drought, shortage of water and electricity...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Davids take your seat.

MR MOIPISI: He managed to come up with a profound budget of which we are grateful. Mr Speaker,

I will not be long because most of the points have been addressed by my colleagues. Maybe I will focus more on the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), water and education. I will also look into Special Economic Zones (SEZ), environment and conclude with the youth.

Let me start off by saying, we are grateful for the ESP. We also commend the government for having come up with a programme that will come to our rescue. It will create employment and carry out other projects which have been deferred due to financial constraints. We are aware that, ever since the economic down turn, some projects in Botswana were not carried out, however this programme is going to assist in implementing these projects. Botswana will benefit financially from this assistance. We are going to have rich people in Botswana. We are going to create millionaires in the country.

I am worried. I am concerned that Opposition does not have faith in ESP. This is not good. If you allow me to quote Honourable Leader of the Opposition's speech Mr Speaker in his response to the speech on the 3rd February 2016; he said, "Economic Stimulus do not generate economic booms, so we were shocked as your Ministers..."

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Member, you are quoting from which page of Honourable Leader of opposition's speech?

MR MOIPISI: Page 14 of the Hansard, "Economic Stimulus do not generate economic booms, so we were shocked as your Ministers, Legislators, Councillors and party operatives went around the country urging Botswana to register firms in preparation for the ESP. This is cruel, it is irresponsible and it is downright fraudulent." Mr Speaker, this is what we call missing the boat. He misled his constituents in Gaborone Bonnington North by not advising them to venture into this ESP and benefit from it. If he did not explain to the constituents then he did not do justice to them. He will be the one who is cruel and irresponsible because the constituents have trusted him enough to get the information for them. It will be a pity if he did not share with them because already there are tenders being advertised both on print media and television. People have submitted their documents and the Gaborone Bonnington North constituents have not done anything on that. It is a sad situation. Mr Speaker. I am one of the Members of Parliament who has gone around the constituency and consulted with the constituents and explained this programme. I therefore implored the youth to team up and form companies, given their different expertise...

MS BATHOBAKAE: Question. Honourable Moipisi, we have said that ESP is only classified to the ruling Botswana Democratic Party, where would Honourable Boko get that information to share while we do not have it at the Umbrella for Democratic Change?

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Honourable Member Bathobakae. I take it that we were all here when His Excellency the President of the Republic gave the State of the Nation Address last year. He highlighted this ESP programme and explained the objective of this programme. If Honourable Boko was not around, he could have asked rather than just write a response...

MINISTER OF HEALTH (MS MAKGATO): Elucidation. Thank you very much Honourable Speaker, thank you Honourable colleague. I am surprised Honourable Moipisi, if Honourable Boko did not know about this ESP, what was he condemning, since he does not know about it?

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Honourable Minister. That is what we are dealing with...

DR MMATLI: On a point of Procedure. Thank you Mr Speaker. I think this House is out of procedure. The Honourable Member here knows that he is not telling the truth. He knows very well that the President said that he will not give out all the details in his presentation, so we were waiting for more details, Honourable Boko does not have those details. He should know that he has to tell the truth in this House.

MR SPEAKER: No, according to what I gather when he presented, he was quoting what Honourable Boko said, he is not out of order. Please give him a chance to debate maybe he will respond to your concern.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was still saying that, I am one of those who went around the constituency and explained this programme. I called on the youth to team up and register companies and submit their paperwork so that they benefit from this. They did that through the assistance of the office of the Member of Parliament.

I still remember well, in my response to the state of the nation address, I said that ESP is an important initiative and I clearly remember saying that one should not give away the game; this is a very important initiative to Batswana. We should therefore be careful in dealing with it and ensure its success. I am still repeating those words Mr Speaker that we should all work together in this ESP, and make sure that it succeeds. All the village leadership should take part in it.

Education: I am grateful that the Ministry of Education and Skills Development have a better share of the

budget allocation. Issues of quality education and skills mismatch are going to be addressed. Those are the most important things that are going to be done. Let me request the minister for all the schools that have underperformed to have an improvement plan and they should be monitored in all the regions. This should be an ongoing exercise as a way of monitoring progress on those schools. There should be spot check by Education officials in schools to check progress. While at that Mr Speaker, please allow me to quote from what Honourable Boko said in his response, page 14...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Moipisi I may not hear you. There are conferences going on in this House. If only they could reduce their voices I could hear you.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was still on Education. I just wanted to quote from what the Leader of Opposition said in his response to the budget speech allow me to quote the speech from the Hansard on page 14, 'we cannot develop this country without a great public education system. It comes as no wonder then, that none of my colleagues on this side of the aisle send their children to public schools, none of you. It is a searing indictment of your education system.' Mr Speaker, I urge the Leader of the Opposition to enquire before coming to make speeches here because he is not telling Batswana the truth. The Leader of the Opposition implies that all of us in the ruling party do not send our children to government schools and that is not true. My child has just completed at Nanogang JSS and the other one is at Sir Seretse Khama JSS and therefore, he cannot come here and mislead the nation by saying...

MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE (MR OLOPENG): Clarification. Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Honourable Member. Honourable Member, you have just quoted the speech by the Leader of the Opposition and you highlighted that firstly, there is no truth in that, and secondly, you said that the children of BDP members in this Parliament and that of the BDP members do not go to government schools. He also sounds conversant in English, so do you not think that his speech was written by someone else?

MR MOIPISI: It looks like someone wrote the speech for him Honourable Minister and we should encourage him that, even if someone wrote the speech for him, he should always take time to ask and find the truth because if he will just come and read everything, he will end up reading that which he is not supposed to read. Still on Education, and the Leader of the Opposition, he did not tell us which schools his children go to. That is what we want to know and as well as what his contribution is in education. What is he doing because we are in Parents Teachers Associations (PTAs) where our children are

schooling and we advise where we can? Those are the questions that we are asking him.

Mr Speaker, I now want to talk about water...

MINISTER OF DEFENCE JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR MAKGALEMELE): Clarification. Thank you Honourable Member. Before you finish on that point, maybe the Leader of Opposition should tell us where he schooled since he is a very eloquent speaker of the English language. He discredits our government schools yet he is good in English and schooled in government schools.

MR DAVIDS: Procedure. Mr Speaker, I do not think it is right for us to be talking about the Leader of the Opposition while he is not here. I think Honourable Makgalemele is just wasting our time.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Davids, there is nothing wrong in talking about what Honourable Boko said in Parliament even when he is not here. I expected him to be here. Since he is a member of this House, you can take notes for him so that he responds if they accuse him of anything since we have everything recorded.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. Honourable Minister Makgalemele, Mr...

MR MOSWAANE: Elucidation. To add onto what you are saying, we once heard of scary issues in the Leader of the Opposition's speech when he said, 'training (i.e. vocational and technical education), that branch of the education system with ...

MR SPEAKER: What are you doing, quoting or what?

MR MOSWAANE: I requested to quote Mr Speaker, allow me Honourable. 'Training (i.e. vocational and technical education), that branch of the education system with a direct link to the labour force, continues to be neglected.' Maybe the Honourable Member should explain whether this person is saying what is happening about Botswana because Government has taken over all the private technical colleges which were community owned, so does he really know this?

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Honourable Moswaane. Honourable Member, I take it that you have already realised that the Leader of the Opposition has his speech written for him, so he will just be coming here to read things which he cannot prove.

MR KEORAPETSE: Point of order. Mr Speaker I am worried because the Honourable Member is saying this, it would appear authoritatively that the Leader of Opposition has had his speech written for him and for that reason he has even said out things that he is not even

sure about, is the House in order for the Honourable Member to say Honourable Boko has had his speech written for him, hence he is saying things which he cannot confirm?

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Keorapetse the House is perfectly in order. I have said earlier that, Honourable Boko is a Member of this House; he has a right to set the record straight if he is accused. He will come and clear everything that is being said here if there is need to. I do not want to disturb your debates.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was about to talk about the issue of water, we are thankful for...

DR MMATLI: Point of order. I agree with you Mr Speaker that if Honourable Boko is being accused, he will come and correct that, but there are things that we know are not true and we should state that they are untrue. So, does the Honourable Member have proof that Honourable Boko's speech was written for him? Who writes for him? It is important that you submit the evidence or just withdraw if you do not have the proof.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Members, do not spoil your debates, Honourable Boko will come and respond to all the issues that you are talking about. I guess you still remember that last time when you were talking about Honourable Leader of the House, I gave you a green light to continue talking about him and said he will come and comment on what you were saying. He is a member of this House therefore he will be given the chance to respond to the accusations.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was still talking about the issue of water, and I have this to say, I appreciate the connection of water from North to South and even in the areas that are along the main road. Minister in my constituency I have 14 villages, eight of them are far from the services, there is no water.

The water is provided using big Water Utilities tanks and the greatest concern for the constituents is that, they cannot build houses for themselves using this water. Maybe the Minister should consider requesting for the supplementary budget so that the people who have water challenge could be assisted with boreholes where they could source water.

Let me now move on to Special Economic Zones (SEZ). This is a very good initiative; last time we were listening to the Minister of Trade and Industry saying they benchmarked this programme in countries such as Poland. In China they tax for different jobs for example they can have Information Technology (IT) tax.

In Botswana we are already heading in the right direction, even though this programme has started already, I would

like to say, since a region such as Kgalagadi-Ghanzi is already doing well in the Agricultural sector maybe we could consider on the Special economic zones. Maybe we can create a livestock hub for Kgalagadi and Ghanzi because the Agricultural sector is doing well that side.

Services such as growing fodder, extension of artificial insemination, production of dairy cows can be done in that region because all these are agricultural. Our Brigades that are in the Kgalagadi-Ghanzi region could start courses like livestock management to promote Agriculture. Those are some of the things that we can do, on top of that we have to provide market for the livestock thus turning Kgalagadi-Ghanzi into a livestock hub.

I will leave Special Economic Zones and move on to the environment. Honourable Members nowadays we experience climate change but I believe that the Ministry of Environment should budget for these situations. There is extreme heat, crop production has gone down and lack of rainfall. In other words, the adaptation and mitigation to climate change issues. So the Ministry of Environment needs a good budget as well to sensitize Batswana on these issues so that they stay prepared.

Mr Speaker in the previous meeting I stated that as a country we do not have Hazardous Waste Landfill. I suspect that our hazardous waste are dumped anywhere and this is a hazard to our environment. I gave a company such as Debswana in Orapa and Jwaneng mines as an example that, they take theirs to South Africa in Johannesburg where they are dumped in a safe place. I believe it is high time we have Hazardous Waste Landfill, and we need the budget for that. Just like the Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water resources, the Minister of Environment too can request for a supplementary budget so that we attend to such matters. I also suggested that maybe the Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources could work hand in hand with Botswana Chamber of Mines and talk about this landfill to see how they could assist each other. That is one of the issues which are important.

Still on the issue of environment, every year the farmers complain of not receiving any compensation when certain animals such as hyena and fox have eaten their crops. So I think the Ministry of Environment too needs the budget that they can use for compensation of farmers...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Member, be careful you might end up at Committee of Supply. Do not go to the generalities of the budget, you will go there next week.

MR MOIPISI: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was actually concluding my debate considering the fact that, it affects

the budget. When you talk about Hazardous Waste Landfill, it is one of the things that are very important to this country therefore it is crucial that they are presented in this Parliament.

MS BATHOBAKAE (TLOKWENG): Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me also advance my comments on this 2016/2017 budget.

Let me start by acknowledging that the Ministry of Education has been given a lion's share as compared to other ministries. Since these funds have been allocated to educate our children, will it be utilised properly? We realise that our quality of education has gone down. I wonder if there are resources in our schools? Is there furniture or books in our schools to facilitate children's education in order to produce good results? Even the teachers, is their welfare taken care of in terms of accommodation because there is a challenge of staff accommodation, which results in them commuting then getting late for class, they are unable to give the students their full attention.

Do these teachers work overtime; the reason for this overtime is to offer students remedial lessons, are they really paid this overtime? Honourable Members we need to be serious when allocating our funds. Our school furniture should be inspected and ensure that it is repaired well in time so that it can be utilised.

What draws my attention to the fact that inspection of our school furniture is not done on time is that yesterday we saw the Minister of Education angrily rebuking a teacher publicly when she was visiting the Gaborone Secondary School (GSS). Is that the right procedure, is she not embarrassing that teacher to the extent that she will be unable to face the students? Inspection of government properties should be done regularly; it should not just be conducted when there are problems. GSS furniture is old, I wonder if the government is not aware of these things.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Bathobakae, though I am seated here, the way you are debating dictates that you are not doing so independently, please stop reading your notes. I said you can refer to them to guide your debate but not reading such that I can hear comma and full stop in your debate. Proceed Honourable Member.

MS BATHOBAKAE: Thank you but I am not reading Honourable Speaker, I shall proceed with my debate. Honourable Members the main issue is that we should take care of public funds, let us take care of government properties. The students should be taught and given books on time so that they make progress in their syllabus. Mr Speaker, I am not intimidated when I talk

about issues pertaining to our children and education. We should see results regarding these funds.

The issue of security; I have been hearing Honourable Members with army background talking about army issues, a field they specialise in, they were talking about the security of this country but the issue of security is not only narrowed in purchasing weapons and jet fighters. We have to look at the fact that the enemy can intrude through our border fences. Let us look at the fact that currently our border fences are worn out.

I come from Tlokweng village where the border fence of South Africa and Botswana is completely worn out whereas there are claims that there is an agreement in place. The Minister alluded that there is an agreement between Botswana and South Africa that South Africa repairs our fence when it wears off then Botswana pays. One might wonder if ever there is an inspection to see if the fence has been repaired by South Africa. What I experienced together with the farmers from Tlokweng is that South Africa has not yet repaired the fence. The enemy can easily crossover through the fence and attack Botswana. So Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, should ensure that there are funds to repair the border fences, we should not just come here and boast that we are purchasing weapons and jet fighters, we should not do that. The enemy can attack from any angle.

This can also assist in addressing the fears among the farmers of Tlokweng regarding criminals who illegally enter with drugs and vehicles. It is just too simple to pass through because the fence is down, there is no fence. They drive in and sell drugs then return to South Africa. They enter and leave as they please. Therefore in the funds the Minister has just been allocated, he should use a portion to repair the border fence of Botswana and South Africa so that Batswana can sleep peacefully and Tlokweng farmers can relax without having to worry about their cattle crossing over to South Africa because there is no fence.

I would like to talk about the issue which drew so much attention of ESP; Honourable Members ESP is there and no Motswana can dispute it but what we want to know is how much has been allocated to the ESP? How many projects are said to be allocated to the youth through ESP? We cannot keep on hearing about ESP and all its promises. A few days back people were so hopeful that they went to register companies. Tlokweng youth are always asking questions like “what kind of projects does ESP fund?” Will they be able to find employment, where are the opportunities? How much have these projects been funded with?

Another question I have is that does ESP have a separate budget from the one drafted by the Ministry of Finance

Honourable Matambo. When its draft is submitted to the Vice President, does he have more resources than Finance? We should be reliably informed that it has a separate budget to drive it to be transferred from Honourable Matambo’s office to there?

MR MOREMI: On a point of elucidation. Thank you Honourable Bathobakae. You are on the right track because we also wonder at Ngami about the road like Maun/Toteng which is completed and said to be under ESP, it has long been completed and is about to be handed over to the right authorities, including the other one of Tsao, it is almost done but is said to be under ESP whereas ESP was announced recently in Budget.

MS BATHOBAKAE: Thank you Honourable. That is what we also want to know Honourable. You are right to comment about it. My question Minister...

MR MOSWAANE: On a point of order. Honourable Moremi, you have been alluding that the completed roads are under ESP, he should explain where he got the information because he might put the government and nation in trouble? He should explain where he got the information because this is an Honourable House? Who said the completed projects are under ESP? Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: The problem is I cannot ask Honourable Moremi because he is not on the floor.

MS BATHOBAKAE (TLOKWENG): Mr Speaker, I should continue on the issue regarding the ESP and mention that as Batswana who reside in the South East District we expected some outstanding projects within our district that were in the National Development Plan (NDP) 10 to be undertaken. We had hoped that a clinic would be constructed in our area but now we understand that it will not be part of the programme. Instead there are other projects that are being done that we had not anticipated. I believe that before the implementation of the ESP there should have been consultations with the nation regarding the projects and what they want to be prioritised. We wish our clinics could be upgraded from health posts to fully fledged clinics and that is what we were hoping for however we hear that a classroom will be built at Botsalano Primary School and there will be some land servicing done instead. I do appreciate the land servicing because people need land in Tlokweng. We are thankful for that and we have long proposed that...

HIS HONOUR THE VICE PRESIDENT (MR MASISI): Clarification. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Thank you Honourable Bathobakae. I want to know whether if you can have an upgrade of your clinics to become health posts you will now believe in the ESP?

MS BATHOBAKAE: I cannot say I will believe in it because I am not sure if the ESP will manage to achieve everything that has failed in the past 50 years. We are saying that services should be provided. Every year a budget is allocated and projects are undertaken and we are saying that we should do things procedurally and follow what has been prioritised. I will not believe in the ESP because it cannot eradicate all the challenges that we are faced with in this country. Getting to the health sector; I would like to show appreciation for the budget allocated to it because health is a very vital aspect in the lives of Batswana. We are however faced with challenges of shortage of doctors in our clinics. The nurses do not have uniforms and they use uniforms that they were long supplied with in the past years. There is shortage of medications in our facilities. If the Ministry of Health could ensure that doctors are posted to our clinics so that they can assist Batswana we would be very grateful.

I would now like to talk about the Ministry of Local Government and Rural development; there are a lot of things that are needed in our councils. Honourable Tsogwane's Ministry could ensure that they provide funds to enable a lot of projects to be undertaken by increasing the revenue support grants. They should desist from this issue that the money has been reduced and that there are ceilings because to increase resources would ensure that the councils do their job. I would now like to talk about the Public service and state that it is not a good thing for us to keep on being told about the bargaining council whenever the budget is allocated. There are challenges because the meetings between the government and the unions usually do not take place. Public servants drive the economy of this country and so they should be a priority. Whenever the budget is announced they are left behind and that is not a good thing. I am therefore wondering if the money for their increments has been catered for within this budget so that when the Bargaining Council concludes then their salaries get increased. Public servants salaries should be increased

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

MS BATHOBAKAE: I do not want you to derail me. The prices for commodities have risen and the public servants should be awarded a 10 per cent increase in their salaries. Batswana would be happy about that.

The President long mentioned during the State of the Nation Address (SONA), that there is the Self Help Housing Agency for public servants. I am wondering how far it is and what is being said about it. The ESP cannot manage to solve all these things. It has failed. We have long promised the public servants the SHHA

scheme and now we are talking about the ESP. What type of a programme is this ESP that will manage to solve all problems? I would be very happy if the public servants will be able to access the SHHA programme so that they can be able to build houses for themselves. Thank you Mr Speaker. I will stop here.

MR KHAN (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): Thank you very much Mr Speaker. I had hoped that my colleague will use her full time. However, I think I am reasonably prepared to present my case. Mr Speaker, I know very well that the Honourable Vice President will be listening very attentively to what I have to say and I am so pleased for that.

I would like to talk on a number of issues regarding the processes, management, distribution and accountability of our finances. I would also want to talk about the ESP, the drought situation, cost benefits and the advice ultimately to the ruling party particularly the Minister of Finance and Development Planning. I am not very happy with the budgetary processes. The reason I am not happy is that we are as Members of Parliament, as Legislatures representing our various constituencies. We come here to a Budget Session to find a budget in its final stages, what we call the final draft. However, when the processing of the budget is ongoing during the preceding year for the following year, we are not included. I would suggest that the Minister looks into the Members of Parliament participating, particularly at the stage when the budget is being discussed by the Permanent Secretaries, probably in the period between August and October of the preceding year of the year when it is presented. So if that happens, it would make it much easier for it to be an inclusive budget, where Members of Parliament or the representative from the people have had an input in saying what priority projects in their constituencies would be preferred. Why I say this is because we also consult with the people of our areas. We also come here having made assessments in our various constituencies. So, by making that input it will help us all to come up with the Budget that is all inclusive. Right now we are excluded, we feel redundant. We come to Parliament, the Budget is there, is going to be adopted almost in the manner in which it is. Probably in my area I may not require that particular development that have been thought of in terms of priority for this year, compared to maybe...

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

MR KHAN: Yes Honourable Member I will cross. Therefore, the reason I said this is that it hurts me quite a lot at Molepolole- but I will come to that part where I speak about my constituency and how it affects my constituency. What I would like to talk about now is

to challenge the prudent management of our finances. The reason I am going to challenge this is because when we take other countries, every now and again you will hear Minister of Finance and Development Planning particularly he starts off with...

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MAKGALEMELE): On a point of clarification. I wanted to ask the Honourable Colleague whether he is aware that at this stage what Honourable Matambo has presented are just budget proposals? If you are not aware, I want to refer you to page 15 of his presentation. On page 15 there is a heading which says, 'the 2016/2017 budget proposals' meaning that as Parliament we are supposed to debate and come up with proposals.

MR KHAN: Thank you very much Makgalemele. I think you actually just addressing my point. You are actually saying that we are not inclusive, we are excluded. You as Honourable Ministers you have that opportunity. I heard what you said Honourable Makgalemele. What I am saying is that at the stage when it goes to the Permanent Secretaries, this is my suggestions, let the Members of Parliament participate with the various Permanent Secretaries to come up and help in making up the budgets that are required for our particular areas. That way it will be inclusive. I hear what you are saying regarding that. But there is no alternative. The Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has come up with very clear indication that we should have a budgetary office in Parliament. We should have our Parliamentary Budget Office which will include us all in the processes. It is done in many countries. The United States for instance uses that process and it works very well for them. So, I think we should adopt that type of thinking. Because I know that it is very difficult for the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Government to take a proposal such as a budgeting office which requires some funding to run. I am proposing it in a different way, so that we take it step at a time. So by the time we come to 2019 when UDC takes over, then we can put in our budgeting office in place, in Parliament.

I want to challenge the prudent management of the management of funds of our country. What we are saying is, you are saying that we are happy in the manner in which you are managing our funds. I disagree with that totally. First of all if you look at most of the Ministers and like I said particularly the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, he is talking about managing funds or trying to balance the Budget under constraints, which is your job. But then comparatively when we benchmark with countries like Rwanda for instance, we want to ask ourselves why was Rwanda

growing its growth rate of 10 per cent during the time when we still have the recession? Why is it in other countries they still a high growth rate? I am talking about Africa comparatively. Why is it that we had such a small growth and we have a difficulty in growing our economy?

I can understand. Let me put it to you, that if you talk about our prudent management God has given us a lot of resources and we should be thankful to God almighty that we have a small population. Two things; It does not need rocket scientist to realise that we have a small population, we have a vast land and a huge amount of resources. How do we manage the resources we have vis á vis the population that we have and that is when it comes to prudent management. We must make our own assessments. We must not say a foreign country giving us accolades, I mean we do not need those accolades. What we need is our own accolades from our own people. That is when we must know we are doing things right. That is when we should know things are proper in our country.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR KHAN: Let me finish my point on this one. I am saying prudent management of funds can take, for instance what do we need De Beers for, for God sake we have been in the industry for over 40 years mining diamonds. The very people De Beers is hiring are Batswana that are running our mine squads. Why do we not run our own mine? Why do we have this particular family of the Oppenheims, they are half of almost half rate of our country? This is the question we should ask ourselves. Why did we not join hands and becomes closer to Asian tigers when we knew that the world is turning around and the economic powers of this world are going to be Asian tigers, the Indians and the China's. Why were we sitting back?

Honourable Members, my point is that when we talk about prudent management, let us all be honest. Let us be honest with ourselves and talk about it. In order to battle ourselves, we need to improve ourselves. The only way we are going to do it is look at the objective criticism. Let us accept criticism. Let it be objective yes, let face facts and reality that yes we could have done better. Let us know we can do better, then we can talk about prudent management, otherwise it is going to be difficult for us to actually agree to what people are saying out there in foreign countries and say we are prudent management. Many of these countries are benefiting from Botswana, for in instance tourism. When you talk about tourism and we say we are number one destination in the world. Where did the money go to? The money is paid in Johannesburg, United Kingdom in London as

there are offices there. Which money came to Botswana from there? They paid the packages in other countries and they flew from there, monies are deposited in bank accounts in those countries for the same company that is operating in Okavango Delta. So where is your benefit? How much have we benefited from the tourism industry in that regard?

What we need to do is to relook at ourselves, we need to rethink. When we talk about prudent management, we have to look at the people who are bringing container loads of goods from other countries. They bring container loads and they tell the tellers that they have bought the goods at 20 000 US Dollars whereas it is 80 000 US Dollars that they have paid there for the goods. They are bringing through the modest and pay taxes for only 20 000 US Dollars. So who is losing? Us, because we are not managing our things properly. We are losing a lot of money. Please let us rethink.

Let me go on to another topic. I am not upset, I am only disappointed by the manner in which things are done. We should not keep talking about prudent management when we know we can do better.

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

MR KHAN: Unequal distribution of the wealth of this country Honourable Members. Let us talk facts. Again here we need an Audit. We need to see where the money of this country is being spent. This money is Botswana's money, let us all agree. It is not the money that belongs to BDP. It does not belong to a particular Minister...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Procedure Madam Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: I am not Madam.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): On a point of procedure. Oh sorry! It is because I am sitting opposite to Honourable Bathokae so I am always thinking of a lady. Mr Speaker, I would like to enlighten the Honourable Member about the Procedures of this House while he is still lecturing on prudence and management, that clarification is not postponed like he did. He said he will yield later and continued with his debate.

MR SPEAKER: Were you saying Honourable Bathokae is my lookalike?

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

MR SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable Father of the House is on point Honourable Khan. If he stands on a point of clarification, it is either yield or refuse. Do not

postpone because by the time you decide to sit I will not understand the move.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. Pardon me for being naive in this case because I am new in this Parliament. However, I stand corrected and I shall do so in future. However there is unequal distribution of wealth in this country. When we look at how the wealth of this country is distributed considering that this is Botswana's money, we have to share it as equally as possible throughout the constituencies. We find that the Central District has benefited the bulk of the infrastructural developments of this country. We look at nine senior secondary schools in Ga Mmangwato, particularly if we look at the central location Mahalapye, Shoshong, Palapye and Serowe, I know that Honourable Makgalemele is now edgy, he is sitting up in his chair. Look at these developments; let us compare and call for an audit. Let the Minister of Finance audit the developments vis-à-vis the population in the various constituencies. Kgalagadi is very weak in its developments, very far behind in infrastructural developments, Nkange and Nata-Gweta; those are areas that need developments. The worst is Kweneng; Kweneng as a whole only had one senior secondary school for so many years, and the recently one built in Mogoditshane. What we really need to do is to visit this once more, see the infrastructural developments, tarred roads, schools, classrooms comparatively and look at the number of hospitals and clinics. We need to revisit and see how the wealth of this country is being spent. I believe sincerely that there is unequal distribution of the wealth of this country.

We need proper accounting from the Ministry of Finance. We need the Minister of Finance to tell us how the money is being spent. For instance, we need to have cost benefits; we need to know how we spent money. Take from 2008 to 2013 and you put a graph on that for the money spent, you would find that the graph is going up from 8 billion to 11 billion in the Ministry of Education...

MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (MR MATAMBO): Clarification. I just wanted to inform the Honourable Member that we do more accounting in terms of what we spend this money on that we are going to approve. It was only last week when I submitted here a big book like that called Annual Statement of Accounts of the Government of Botswana for the year ending March 2015. This is the book that is going to be debated by the Public Accounts Committee going into details on what we have spent the money on. So, I do not know what other accounting we are required to do. Thank you.

MR KHAN: The type of accounting on the graph, if

you have heard me out, listen to my words Honourable Minister with due respect to you. We are talking about cost benefits here, you as the man of the wallet looking after the money for this country.

MR MOSWAANE: On a point of order. We need to correct Honourable Member. He stated that Kweneng District has only one senior secondary school, there are two; one in Molepolole and one in Mogoditshane. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. You are out of order Honourable Moswaane.

MR KHAN: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was talking about the past not about now. I said had, for the many years in the past. In any case I did not have to correct him because he did not capture it correctly. My reasoning here is, you have a graph Honourable Minister which shows the amount of money we are spending from 2008 to 2013. The graph shows from 8 billion to 11 billion that we are spending in education, which is good, we need to spend in education. I do agree, the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has said that before and it is saying it now. Let us spend money in education and educate our people and let our people's dreams come true. Then look at the graph the other way; look at the output, that is the input, that is the amount of money we put in education. What have we got out of it? The graph shows down spiralling; standard 7, form 3, form 5 and tertiary education, the results are bad. Why? that is the question that we have to ask ourselves.

We have to say these are non-performing ministries, so that you bring it to our attention and you say to us, these ministries have to be attended to. There are performing ministries where we spend money and we get output, we get back something and this country benefits from the expenditure. You cannot go and spend on *a moraka* and you do not get back your returns. It is impossible to do that from your own pockets. None of you will ever run a business that way. When you see that you are not getting back returns on any investment you have made, you will cut that investment. I am not saying cut the investment of education, I am saying let us revisit it to fix it so that the graph shows double rise. Double rise means input rise and output rise, not a downward spiral on the one hand on the output.

Now Honourable Vice President I love you so much. I do not mean it in a different way, I mean it because you keep on showing a lot of respect to me when you interject. I appreciate that you recognise me, that is why I love you.

Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), my Honourable leader Gaolathe Ndaba had asked this question at one

stage, and we still to date do not have a clear cut answer. He asked a simple question and it is so difficult for architects of ESP to explain to us what exactly ESP is. Everybody is in confusion. If maybe I can have a little bit of time with the Honourable Vice President or somebody because in this House I never got the answer. Honourable Gaolathe Ndaba has presented his case on the ESP asking what it is. How many jobs are going to be created, how much money we are going to...

MR MATAMBO: Clarification. I was looking at my own speech, because I remember very well that we have addressed this issue that you were raising of too much money being spent in education, but the performance is going down and we are doing nothing. Look at Paragraph 47 of my speech under skills development; it says, "concerned with the declining education performance, government..."

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

Point of order. My point of order Mr Speaker is that I thought maybe it will be in order that if Honourable Member has asked an important question and when referred to the paragraph it should not be an afterthought but something that is readily available. The reason being that I can see that the Honourable Member is not even looking at the paragraph that we are supposed to look at and it means that there is no use, he is just debating this speech out of no base.

MR SPEAKER: No, but that is not a point of order, Honourable Khan is listening.

MR MATAMBO: Thank you very much. Paragraph 47 part of it says, 'Concerned with the declining education performance, Government adopted the Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (ETSSP) in 2015, whose implementation is expected to address the quality of existing Vocational schools ...et cetera'. So, we are aware of that problem and we are saying we are doing something about it. So, I just wanted to clarify that.

MR SPEAKER: You did not close quote Honourable Minister.

MR MATAMBO: Close quote. Thank you.

MR KHAN (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): Let me thank the Honourable Minister. I have ears, when something is being quoted, I can listen, just as you can. I had prepared myself to speak tomorrow not today, that is why I left my notes and my things, but because I have a good memory, I recall what I needed to speak on.

The Honourable Minister, I appreciate what you said, my point is, I appreciate what you are planning to do,

but my problem is that there are alarm bells ringing for the past 7 years, only now we start waking up to that. I am saying this is a clarion call. When HIV/AIDS struck, we said '*Ntwa e Bolotse*' and then we were all together, across political lines, we worked together towards trying to fix or trying to bring awareness and to try and reduce the spread of AIDS in our country. And we did a good job with that, we tried very well and I commend the Government on annihilating that. Right now the alarm bells are ringing so loudly, our children are failing, the quality of education for the past 7 to 8 years has shown downfall, why does it have to take so long for us to correct these things? If he brings it to a call...

MR MOSWAANE: Point of order. I was saying Honourable Khan is misleading Parliament, 3 years ago more than 4000 teachers were sent to school for Diploma and Masters to upgrade education. Have you not heard of that Honourable Member? Looking at the situation, I am saying three years ago...

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Moswaane that is not a point of order.

MR MOSWAANE: He refuses when I say 'clarification'.

MR SPEAKER: You are out of order, that is supposed to be a correction, not a point of order.

MR KHAN: Mr Speaker, you should throw him out of Parliament, this man is wasting my time because I am talking about important things.

Look here, in education, let us be honest with each other, we are spending money on 45 year olds to do a Degree, we are wasting money. Why are you sending a 45 year old when the person is going to be leaving any moment now from the education sector? We can help you with that, we can advise you on that as Opposition. It does not mean we oppose mindlessly, we are advisory council to you, that is what we are to you. Now bring us on board, call a special workshop, put us all on board and say Honourable Members, alarm bells are ringing, this is a clarion call to all of us as Batswana to pull together. Let the Honourable Vice President lead it, this is showing leadership; that is what we need. This country needs true and genuine leadership to fix the problems that are there, we cannot fix something that is not there. If we say things are right when they are not right, how can we fix them? Let us face reality, things are not right, and we need to work together. Do not tell us that the Government itself is going to do this; we all need to pull together on this one on education.

Economic Stimulus Package (ESP)

The Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) is clear, the UDC says Economic and Institutional

Transformational Plan, and this is what the UDC talks about. The UDC is saying to you, let us not just put money in to the economy to try stimulate it. Let us fix the problems that are there in order for our money to be utilised in a proper manner for us to get gross benefit. Let me give you people an idea of what is going on here, and you will know it, it is in this House, that the report was done. We spent P105 000 to create one (1) job in the programmes for agriculture. These were the statistics that we were given in this House. P147 000 for non-agricultural projects, that is what we spend to create one (1) job Honourable Vice President, non-agricultural; meaning the Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) project for industry, business and so on and so forth. The funding that we give, the programmes, the Youth Development Fund (YDF), the Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID), the CEDA programmes and so on and so forth; you understand that. So, I am saying that the gross benefit is not working out for us, we have to review these things, and say how can we reduce creation of 1 job to benefit us more.

We spent 8 and half billion in CEDA to create 48 000 jobs, and this is what we have with us, meaning that an out of that 80 per cent of those projects have failed, they are in the matter between, so we have to see where is the problem. Why is it that Batswana are failing in the business sector? Is it the business IQ that they do not have or something?

It is so easy Honourable Members to go in to the internet and most of our people go in to the internet and come up with a business plan, and they download a business plan from the internet and they give it to CEDA and it looks so lucrative, mouth-watering. And what happens next is that the business does not go through because the person himself or the people themselves were unable to run it. Look in to that so that we can improve our people's capabilities, their skills, the capacity in order to get benefit batch. We want Batswana successful in business. We want Batswana to take over the economy of this country, but we can only do it if we are genuine in our approach to it.

Honourable Members, I want to come down to the issue of drought. The Minister has not spoken much about our contingency plans. I know that an assessment has been made by the Ministry of Agriculture on the situation but we already knew before him. Let me bring this note to the House, that look let us take this thing seriously, we are going to be fighting for maize; Zimbabwe, South Africa, ourselves and other countries, because this southern part of Africa is in drought and we are going to be fighting for maize. The price of maize is probably going to get high and we will buy maize higher than what we should

be buying it for. So let us look at the best way, how we can apply ourselves to try and pre buy the maize before we get in to trouble, to utilise our money prudently so that we can say this is prudent management.

The other issue on drought also, I know that there are some programmes being made, but let us look at drought resilient products or crops such as herbal. We have *sengaparile, mokgwapha, monnamontsho*, we have all these things. These herbal medications are being bought, they are needed by European markets; I do not know the English names of them, one of them is called devils claw but I know them in Setswana. These herbal medications can do well for the wealth of our nation, they can do wealth as an economic diversification programme, and they are resilient crops or plants that can grow in our country where they do not need much water. They do not need much looking after and are not consumed by goats and cattle and so on and so forth.

Let us look at programmes like small abattoirs for chicken farming, we have this monopoly guys that are handling chicken; you know the people we are talking about, the big shots. Let us try and make small abattoirs in districts for small farmers, so that we have chicken farmers who are successful. We are giving them the money but we do not have the market because Choppies and Spar cannot buy from them. So if we have a systematic approach and we facilitate, we can help them market their goods. Market is one of the biggest issues that they talk about and they are faltering on. We have to help them and facilitate them. The Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) says this because we are going to do it in 2019. If you do not do it now, we are going to take over our country in 2019 in a bad state of affairs. The last one, Mr Speaker through you, I am advising my colleagues on the other side of the bench that look at the UDC as people that are capable, do not undermine us. This kindergarten mentality, we know English as well we will talk, tell you and call you names as well. Name calling is not the solution. The solution is reality. We all have the intelligence or the intellect to be able to bring this country together to a very top notch situation. Let us bring Botswana Export Development and Investment Authority (BEDIA) on board. There is a policy on the coal beneficiation process at BEDIA, the policy has been just sitting there. Take it out from BEDIA and use it, the BDP. Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you for listening to me.

MINISTER FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MR MOLALE): Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me congratulate honourable Kenneth Mathambo for the presentation of the budget. Thank you Honourable Mathambo for this presentation.

MR SPEAKER: Honourable Molale, those who are recording have requested that you move your microphone a bit closer to you.

MR MOLALE: Thank you Mr Speaker. They were complaining the other day that it was too loud and that I should move away from it, I do not know what to do. Mr Speaker, when we talk about budget and governance, it is not a joke. We are talking about something that is serious more so that we align it to the development of the Republic. We should be serious when we get in parliament and not to always talk with no action. We should remain truthful and allocate the budget according to national needs which will take the country forward. Mr Speaker, we do so according to priority list considering all projects, but not putting aside others because they are not important; just like Honourable Mathambo has highlighted that Education, Defence, Rural Development are priority areas. We execute these things, despite all the challenges we have. It is therefore quite disturbing for a person to keep saying that things are not done while they are being done, but when asked they just say they could be doing them in a different manner than they are currently being done, or they would say exactly what is being done. This causes a concern, people do not make constructive criticism and it renders this paper useless when they do that because we deviate from the presentation made.

We just want to advise them that we want to enhance the economy just like the Honourable Member sated earlier on. Honourable Mathambo has made his presentation very well. In rural areas there are roads on the pipeline, as we may all be aware, we are also doing the abattoirs though the ISPAAD programme. Currently we are constructing a small stock abattoir in Tsabong, we are developing the Zutshwa salt pan and they have already started employing people in that area. Zutshwa is not far, like he said, it still forms part of Botswana and we are slowly developing the area. We have started with Mogobane, with irrigation, and we have made an industry at Selibe Phikwe as well, the Agro processing industry for the garden produce. It is therefore surprising as to how could people dispute the ongoing developments, yet at the same time have the same ideas towards the said projects. Mr Speaker, we agree that education is the most key aspect and we have said it even on this budget that it is a priority because it drives a Setswana saying, "*lore lo ojwa le sale metsi*"- meaning that it is easier to teach children at a younger age. We do not just teach, we also develop and enhance tools which are used in education. If funds run short while developments are ongoing, it would be wrong for some of us to come back to this house and claim that nothing has been done, we would not be telling the

truth. We know that we have done everything we could to enhance and develop education. We are building a Unified Secondary School at Tsabong and Takatokwane in order to help Matsha Secondary School. Those are the things we are doing to better our education system. We also use this huge budget to...

MR KHAN: Clarification. The Honourable Minister in his presentation is talking about the integrated schools that are being built, but the point he is not getting is the quality and standard of the education, not the type of school.

MR MOLALE: Mr Speaker, I am saying to relieve Matsha Senior Secondary School and when they are overwhelmed, it means that the quality becomes substandard. If the class teacher ratio is not considered, there are other standards with which we measure the quality of education. Those are service quality standards which we have under the governance of the BDP. So, it is not like I am saying the Tsabong Unified and the Takatokwane Unified for the sake of constructing structures, I am looking at the quality that will be produced thereafter.

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

MR MOLALE: I am giving examples because we are not yet at the Committee of Supply. I am only emphasising what we are doing which is being criticised and if you ask them what they are going to do, they will talk about ISPAAD, education and land allocations.

Mr Speaker, we should be thankful for these things and we should teach Batswana the truth. And the truth lays where things are done and not on unfounded promises. Honourable Members, the major thing that we should focus on is to make Batswana aware of the dangers of trusting people who do not know how to run government.

Honourable Moipisi said that some Members seem to have their speeches written for them and they come here to recite a poem, but that is not how we do things. We do things through consultations. That is why we have consultation seminars and workshops when we come up with development plans and they are held back at the constituencies where Members of Parliament come from. It is not we say Honourable Matambo consults some people in Gaborone. They come from the constituencies because we said we do bottom-up planning. That is where it starts. We want to be as inclusive as possible.

Mr Speaker, this is something that I want the lecturers who have left lecture rooms and are here in Parliament to learn because it looks like they do not know and they mislead children by telling them that things are

not being done properly. It is not their duty to say that. Honourable Members, these things should be said to expose such people and to show that they are misleading the people.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Point of order. Thank you Mr Speaker. I think the House will be out of order because the Honourable Minister is imputing very, very improper motives on some of the lecturers from the University of Botswana who are the legislatures right now sitting in this House that they are misleading people. I do not think that is right and he should give evidence of that.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Mokgware that is not a point of order, this House is perfectly in order. You could have asked for a clarification and asked who he is referring to. He did not mention any name nor said the person is in this House or where. He said some lecturers are misleading children, and he never said in this House.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: He said so; you did not hear him well.

MR SPEAKER: Did he say in this House?

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Yes.

MR MOLALE: I said including those in this House.

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

MR SPEAKER: If you said so, then that is where the problem comes in. It means that you are referring to those who are in this House who were lecturers. They have a right to complain Honourable Molale. Withdraw that Honourable Molale.

MR MOLALE: Mr Speaker, when people say something and you respond, they hide by saying that...

MR SPEAKER: Order! Withdraw Honourable Molale; I do not want us to go there. Withdrawn and proceed with your debate.

MR MOLALE: I withdraw 'those in this House'.

MR KEORAPETSE: Point of order. Since those who are in this House can speak for themselves, what about those who are not here?

MR SPEAKER: Order! If he has not named anyone, then it is okay.

MR MOLALE: Thank you Mr Speaker...

MR MOREMI: Point of order. Mr Speaker, I request you to make a ruling on this, we have been talking about improper motives. When you come up with what we see as an alternative, and then someone ascribes a motive to

that as misleading people, is that not improper?

MR SPEAKER: Order! No Honourable Moremi, I do not need to rule anything. It is straight forward and everybody understands. I am only guarding against the use of unpalatable words. I do not see any problem in the words that are used so far. I am not going to interrupt you but I will guide your debates.

MR MOLALE: Thank you Mr Speaker. When we come up with these attractive policies, we do them for Batswana and not members of the BDP. Then we have people who condemn them whereas the beneficiaries think otherwise, so that is misleading people. It is a fact.

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

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

We will look at the applications. Madam Speaker, as members of this House we should focus more on communicating with Batswana and make them aware that these programmes are neither for the Botswana Democratic Party nor UDC. These are government programmes intended for every Motswana to enjoy. We are looking after this money as the Botswana Democratic Party Government and we are making sure it is used appropriately. There are those that think they will be governing this country in the near future; the mirage is too low. Batswana need to be aware of this.

I could talk about few instances where some programmes were criticized when they were implemented, but the same person who criticized them will be the first person to benefit from them. Some people in this House have benefitted from these programmes. This shows that these programmes are not just a dream, they do materialise. When they run out of valid reasons to criticize, some people resort to condemning the truth that is not even condemnable hence confusing the nation

We are talking about the Economic Stimulus Package (ESP); which is not the first programme; some of you might remember Accelerated Rural Development Programme (ARDP) in 1974. Some contractors such as Faola from then are now localised. I understand most of you were not around but some of us were here. There was also an Accelerated Remote Area Development Programme (ARADP). Developments were brought to some remote villages. Furthermore, we had the major village infrastructure which is the reason foreigners ask; 'you say this is a village, what is the difference, this is a town?'

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

MR MOLALE: Yes it is because they come from

foreign countries. Even the Americas say the same thing. I thought Professors will be much knowledgeable of these facts than any other person in this House. ESP is not the first programme so there is no need for 'hullabaloo' like Honourable Moremi was saying. It is just a programme that is supposed to be used to promote the economy so that those who have been getting some jobs could be added to the old ones to increase the infrastructure. It is not anything new. So since most of them were not there when we did Accelerated Rural Development Programme (ARDP), they are just making it in to a hype of something. No, relax it is the Botswana Democratic Party government; we have been doing this since long back.

MR SPEAKER: Order! Honourable Molale, stop where you were saying 'we have been doing...' you shall continue tomorrow.

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

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

Question put and **agreed to.**

The Assembly accordingly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Tuesday 16th February, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

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

LAYOUT DESIGNERS

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