

DAILY
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THE SECOND MEETING OF THE THIRD SESSION
THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2017

ENGLISH VERSION

HANSARD NO. 187



DISCLAIMER

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The Hon. Kagiso P. Molatlhegi, MP Gaborone South

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Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly	- Ms T. Tsiang
Learned Parliamentary Counsel	- Ms. B. Morolong
Assistant Clerk (E)	- Mr R. Josiah

CABINET

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Hon. O. K. Mokaila, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Transport and Communications
Hon. P. M. Maele, MP. (Lerala - Maunatlala)	- Minister of Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services
Hon. E. J. Batschu, MP. (Nkange)	- Minister of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs
Hon. D. K. Makgato, MP. (Sefhare - Ramokgonami)	- Minister of Health and Wellness
Hon. T. S. Khama, MP. (Serowe West)	- Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism
Hon. V. T. Seretse, MP. (Mmopane - Lentsweletau)	- Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry
Hon. O. K. Matambo, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Finance and Economic Development
Hon. T. Mabeo, MP. (Thamaga - Kumakwane)	- Minister of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development
Hon. T. Olopeng, MP. (Tonota)	- Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development
Hon. E. M. Molale, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration
Hon. Dr. U. Dow, MP. (Specially Elected)	- Minister of Basic Education
Hon. P. P. Ralotsia, MP. (Kanye North)	- Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security
Hon. Dr. A. Madigele, MP. (Mmathethe - Molapowabojang)	- Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology
Hon. S. Kebonang, MP. (Lobatse)	- Minister of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security
Hon. D. P. Makgalemele, MP (Shoshong)	- Assistant Minister, Health and Wellness
Hon. K. K. Autlwetse, MP (Serowe North)	- Assistant Minister, Agricultural Development and Food Security
Hon. B. M. Tshireletso, MP. (Mahalapye East)	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. F. S. Van Der Westhuizen, MP. (Kgalagadi South)	- Assistant Minister, Local Government and Rural Development
Hon. M. M. Goya, MP. (Palapye)	- Assistant Minister, Basic Education
Hon. F. M. M. Molao, MP (Shashe West)	- Assistant Minister, Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology
Hon. T. Kwerepe, MP (Ngami)	- Assistant Minister, Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration
Hon. K. Mzwinila, MP (Mmadinare)	- Assistant Minister, Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development
Hon. I. E. Moipisi, MP (Kgalagadi North)	- Assistant Minister, Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services
Hon. G. B. Butale, MP (Tati West)	- Assistant Minister, Investment, Trade and Industry

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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. S. Lelatisitswe, MP	Boteti East
Hon. J. Molefe, MP	Mahalapye West
Hon. K. Markus, MP	Maun East
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. Arone, MP	Okavango
Hon. M. R. Reatile, MP	Specially Elected
Hon. B. J. Kenewendo, MP	Specially Elected
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(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. A. S. Kesupile, MP	Kanye South
Hon. N. S. L. M. 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
Vacant	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. D. L. Keorapetse, MP	Selebi Phikwe West
Hon. S. O. S. Rantuana, MP	Ramotswa
(Independent Member of Parliament)	
Hon. T. Moremi, MP	Maun West

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OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT
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Thursday 16th March, 2017

THE ASSEMBLY met at 2:00 p.m.

(THE SPEAKER in the Chair)

P R A Y E R S

* * * *

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

MADAM SPEAKER (MS KOKORWE): Please take your seats. Order! Order! I request that you desist from coming late. Honourable Members we have honourables in the gallery; they are students from Motswedi Community Junior Secondary School.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes again! They are from Honourable Nkaigwa's constituency. We welcome you students and we are happy that you have been visiting our Parliament.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Applause!)...

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

NUMBER OF VACANT POSTS IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM

MR M. REATILE (SPECIALLY ELECTED): asked the Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism to state:-

- (i) the total number of vacant posts in his Ministry and provide the break down by Departments and Districts;
- (ii) the total number of temporary employees engaged to acquire experience; and
- (iii) the challenges that cause delay in filling vacant posts.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM (MR T. S. KHAMA): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the answer I have is fairly detailed and quite long. It covers twenty-three (23) sub-sections in itself and I was thinking that maybe in interest of saving time, I could give it to the Honourable Member. However, the total number of posts not appointed at the moment or unoccupied is one hundred and twenty (120). This is from C Grade down. I hope that is alright with you Madam Speaker. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: I agree with you. Thank you.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION NUMBER 1

Madam Speaker, the number of vacancies in my Ministry per Department are as follows;

NO	DEPARTMENT	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	TOTAL NO OF VACANT POSTS
1	Corporate Services	101	14
2	Wildlife & National Parks	1486	47
3	Tourism	108	1
4	Meteorological Services	413	19



5	Waste Management and Pollution Control	91	5
6	Forestry & Range Resources	531	20
7	Environmental Affairs	97	10
8	National Museum and Monuments	152	4
	TOTAL	2979	120

Madam Speaker, the breakdown of vacancies by District are as follows;

NO	DEPARTMENT	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT	TOTAL NO OF VACANT POSTS	DISTRICT	NO. PER DISTRICT
1.	Corporate Services	101	14	South East	14
	TOTAL				14
2.	Wildlife and National Parks	1486	47	Ngamiland	12
				South East	13
				Kweneng	3
				Central	7
				Kgatleng	2
				Gantsi	3
				Kgalagadi	5
				Southern	1
				Chobe	1
	TOTAL				47
3.	Tourism	108	1	South East	1
	TOTAL				1
4.	Meteorological Services	413	19	Ngamiland	3
				South East	7
				Central	1
				Gantsi	1
				Kgalagadi	3
				Chobe	2
				Southern	2
	TOTAL				19
5.	Waste Management and Pollution Control	91	5	South East	5
	TOTAL				5
6.	Forestry & Range Resources	531	20	Ngamiland	2
				South East	5
				Central	9
				Gantsi	1
				Chobe	1
				Southern	2



TOTAL					20
7.	Environmental Affairs	97	10	Ngamiland South East	1 9
TOTAL					10
8.	National Museum & Monuments	152	4	South East	4
	TOTAL				4
GRAND TOTAL					120

(ii) Madam Speaker, with regards to temporary employees, the numbers per Department are as follows;

DEPARTMENT	NO OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES ENGAGED
Corporate Services	34
Wildlife & National Parks	12
Tourism	8
Meteorological Services	12
Waste Management and Pollution Control	5
Forestry & Range Resources	9
Environmental Affairs	5
National Museum and Monuments	3
TOTAL	86

It should however be clarified that the purpose of appointing the temporary employees is to meet manpower needs of the department and not solely for the employees to acquire experience. Some temporary employees, such as cleaners serve in areas where Government is in the process of outsourcing services.

(iii) Madam Speaker, the challenges experienced in filling vacancies vary at different levels. At the lower level (C Band and below), the main challenge is that employees take time to accept and take up appointments to rural and remote areas. Most employees tend to prefer to work in urban and peri-urban areas. A few higher level positions take long to fill because of scarcity of professionals required.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR REATILE: Supplementary. Madam Speaker, Maybe the Minister should give us the reason why these 120 posts are not filled, what is the cause?

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Madam Speaker. Then maybe I can just read the conclusion. Madam Speaker, the challenges experienced in filling vacancies vary at different levels. At the lower level (C Band and below), the main challenge is that employees take time to accept and take up appointments to rural and remote areas. Most employees tend to prefer to work in urban and peri-urban areas. A few higher level positions take long to fill because of scarcity of professionals required. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Thank you Madam Speaker. A very good afternoon again to Motswedi Junior Secondary School students and teachers.

EMPLOYEES HARASSMENT AT HASKINS & SONS (PTY) LTD

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development:-

- (i) what is being done to address the problem of the employees of Haskins & Sons (Pty) Ltd who continue to suffer harassment from their Marketing and Operations Manager and Floor Manager;



- (ii) why the contracts for the above two positions continue to be renewed for non-Batswana whilst there are Batswana trained and experienced within the company to hold the same positions;
- (iii) why a lower position of Plumbing Technical Representative was delocalised despite having Batswana who are qualified and experienced and having held the same position;
- (iv) who informed the Minister's decision to approve the work permit for the Floor Manager and Plumbing Technical Representative despite being rejected by the Board; and
- (v) how many cases have been brought before the Labour Courts since 2012 involving the company and mostly the harassment employees continue to suffer from their superiors.

MADAM SPEAKER: Where is he?

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

MADAM SPEAKER: It is for Honourable Mabeo. Honourable Molefhi are you standing for him?

ACTING MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (MR MOLEFHI): Madam Speaker, I am sorry I was told it was a Question without notice, that is why I thought it was coming at the end.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Read each one of them.

MR MOLEFHI: Who is this one? Haskins? Where is it?

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

MR MOLEFHI: Madam Speaker ...

MADAM SPEAKER: If it is long you should summarise it.

MR MOLEFHI: No Madam Speaker, they have written one and half pages.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Is it long?

MR MOLEFHI: It is one (1) and half pages.

- (i) My Ministry is not aware of the alleged harassment of employees of Haskins & Sons by their Marketing and Operations Manager and the Floor Manager. However, my Ministry will

conduct a labour inspection at the company to establish if the allegations are true and thereafter take the appropriate action.

- (ii) I wish to clarify that the position of Floor Manager is held by a Motswana. The contract of Marketing and Operations Manager continues to be renewed because after advertising the position, Haskins & Sons did not find a local to fill the vacancy. As a result, the applications for renewal of work and residence permits were then submitted to the Regional Immigrants Selection Board which considered and approved it.

- (iii) The position of Plumbing Technical Representative was never held by a citizen. The position was advertised after the non-citizen incumbent left the company and no qualified local was found to fill it. A non-citizen was therefore employed.

- (iv) Section 24 and 25 of the Immigration Act, 2010 afford a person who is aggrieved by the decision of the Regional Immigrants Selection Board an opportunity to appeal the decision of the Board to the Minister. The Minister may, based on the reasons given uphold or reject such an appeal. In the current case, the Minister overruled the Board and awarded the work permit for the position of Marketing and Operations Manager.

- (v) Since 2012, the Department of Labour and Social Security has received ten (10) grievances involving Haskins & Sons (Pty) Ltd. In as far as allegations of harassment are concerned, I reiterate that my Ministry will conduct a labour inspection at the company and take appropriate action.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker. Thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister, I want to appreciate common sense from you. Are you saying we do not have plumbing technicians in Botswana whereby a lower post of a plumbing technician can be held by an expatriate or a foreigner?

In terms of advertisement, which media was this post advertised on so that we can appreciate that indeed they did advertise and indeed there were no Batswana who actually applied for that respective position?

Also, are you aware that you are misleading Batswana to the effect that this position was never held by a



Motswana? The person who approached me was actually holding this position and he was a Motswana.

In terms of labour inspections, when was the last labour inspection that you did at Haskins & Sons?

How many positions at Haskins & Sons are currently held by expatriates or foreigners?

MR MOLEFHI: Madam Speaker, with all due respect, the Honourable Member had brought forward entirely a set of new questions which would require an in-depth inquiry on my part and I am unable to answer some of the questions that he is raising. Should they have formed part of the body of the original question, this information will have been provided. I cannot provide that information regarding or relating to the last labour inspection. I cannot provide information on the medium through which the vacancy was advertised and of course I cannot also provide evidence that the position of the Marketing Manager was never held by a citizen. Had this formed part of the original question, all this information will have been provided. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of procedure.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, there are no points of procedure. Do you want a supplementary or what?

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. Madam Speaker, I think the Honourable Minister is not being fair in answering my question, because my question is very clear to the effect that I wanted to know why a position of a plumbing technician is currently held by a foreigner or an expatriate as opposed to a Motswana? They said they advertised but no Motswana showed interest in the advertisement. I am simply saying he should clarify and not mislead the nation that indeed Batswana do not have any plumbing technicians. I mean a country like Botswana that is spending so much on vocational...

MADAM SPEAKER: We are not debating. We heard you, you did ask him right?

MR NKAIGWA: No, all those questions are related to the question that I asked him, so I want answers. You know Madam Speaker, this Ministry of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development, they are fond of not answering questions. I want this question to be answered Madam Speaker. If the Minister is not prepared to answer, he should just say the question will

be answered by the respective Minister, not him denying to answer questions that are related to...

MR MOLEFHI: Madam Speaker, I have no reason not to answer the Honourable Member's question, absolutely no reason. If the information is available, that information will be provided. I cannot answer as if I am Haskins & Sons Managing Director who is conversant with the details and the minute...

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Procedure Honourable Minister.

MR MOLEFHI: Madam Speaker, I will avail the answers to the Honourable Member. I will go and make an enquiry on the details of his enquiry and provide the substantive answer to this Honourable House. I thank you.

ESTABLISHMENT OF TAWANA BOPHIRIMA ARBITRATION WARD AND APPOINTMENT OF HEADMAN OF ARBITRATION

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

- (i) to state progress made in the establishment of Tawana Bophirima Arbitration Ward and appointment of Headman of Arbitration thereto;
- (ii) what caused the delay in appointing the Headman of Arbitration since the approval of the Minister was made early 2016 and it has almost been 12 months without implementation; and
- (iii) what action has been taken against the officer who failed to implement the decision of the Minister.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me greet the students up there.

- (i) Madam Speaker, Tawana Bophirima Arbitration Ward has been established as an extension of Tawana Arbitration Ward in Letlhakane. A Headman of Arbitration for the ward was inaugurated on 1st March 2017, after protracted consultations by Bogosi.
- (ii) As stated above, Tawana Bophirima was established as an extension or by dividing Tawana Ward into two (2). The concern related to the above decision while there were other existing



Arbitration Wards in Letlhakane that were not receiving the allowance. The delay therefore emanated from protracted consultations by Bogosi regarding the same.

- (iii) Madam Speaker, no officer was held liable hence no action was taken.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

NUMBER OF LIVES LOST AT THE SCOTTISH LIVINGSTONE HOSPITAL IN 2016

MR N. M. NGAKA (TAKATOKWANE): asked the Minister of Health and Wellness:-

- (i) how many lives were lost at the Scottish Livingstone Hospital in the year 2016 resulting from patients falling from the first floor wards to the ground;
- (ii) how the relatives were compensated; and
- (iii) what measures are in place to avoid similar occurrences.

Later Date.

CONTRACT PERIOD FOR CUSTOMARY COURT PRESIDENTS

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

- (i) to state the contract period for Customary Court Presidents;
- (ii) why their contract period and remuneration are different whilst performing the same functions;
- (iii) how they are employed; and
- (iv) if there are any plans to allow residents to elect their own Customary Court President.

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

- (i) Customary Court Presidents are public service employees and their appointments are regulated by Public Service Act No. 30 of 2008 and General Orders (1996). Just like other public employees and in line with Section 13 of the Public Service Act No. 30 of 2008, some are permanent

and pensionable while others are engaged on contractual terms, depending on their age. The contracts periods of Court Presidents vary due to age of a particular individual.

- (ii) There are two (2) levels in the cadre, being Court Presidents on D2 grade and Deputy Court Presidents on D3 grade.
- (iii) Court Presidents are recruited in line with Public Service Act No. 30 of 2008.
- (iv) My Ministry has no plans to allow residents to elect their own Customary Court Presidents as per the above stated reasons. They are public officers and not elective.

Thank you.

MR MMOLOTSI: Supplementary. Minister, can you tell us why you have decided to renew the contracts of those who have since reached retirement age? When you look at most of the Court Presidents, they have reached retirement age and now they are serving on contract and yet their deputies are of good age and they are able to perform the same duties diligently. Why are you continuing to extend their contracts even when they are so old?

MR TSOGWANE: I do not know of the so called old whose contracts have been renewed. Of course yes, case by case we do look into each case and decide whether a person is still useful and fit. Then on the basis of that, we use our discretion to renew the contract. I am not sure of those who are obsolete, who are very old and their contracts are renewed.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you Honourable Minister. Minister, I wanted to find out whether these people are considered Dikgosi, if they are considered Dikgosi, then who fits in the category of a Kgosi? Another thing that I wanted to understand is, for someone to be appointed on contract basis, how many contracts can you be appointed on? Is there a limit that it needs to be two (2) or three (3) terms? I also want to understand that since you built us a Kgotla in Ledumang and Tshweneng, did you not see the need for residents of Ledumanang and Tshweneng to elect their own Customary Court President whom they know, who can work with them?

MR TSOGWANE: Honourable Member, I did mention that they are public officers and that is what prohibits



residents from electing them. Yes they are Dikgosi in urban areas but the way they are hired is different from other Dikgosi in villages. They perform the Bogosi duties. The Dikgosi can work until the age of 80. When they are still fit, we keep on renewing their contracts, but we do not do that with these ones because they are public officers. When it comes to retirement, they can retire but we are able to assess if we could renew for them depending on their health but they cannot go up to those ones who retire at 80 years. Thank you.

MR MMOLOTSI: Supplementary. Minister, are you in a position to tell us those who are in their second or third contracts? As far as I am concerned, a lot of them that I know are serving multiple contracts. You should further tell us whether you do not have competent people who could perform these functions.

MR TSOGWANE: No, I am not aware maybe some had their contracts renewed before I came but there is no one who has his/her contract renewed more than once so I will look into it Honourable Member and investigate. If we find those whose contracts have been renewed numerous times it means their contracts will not be renewed. Thank you.

EXEMPTION OF ATTORNEYS WORKING FOR GOVERNMENT AND PARASTATALS FROM HOLDING PRACTISING CERTIFICATES

MAJ. GEN. P. MOKGWARE (GABANE-MMANKGODD): asked the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security:-

- (i) whether it is true that attorneys who are working for the Government and those employed by parastatals are exempted from holding practising certificates and paying fees required under the Legal Practitioners Act; if so,
- (ii) to state if this is not discriminatory and running contrary to the Constitution of Botswana that ensures the right to equality, in that those in private practice are required to pay for practising certificates, fees and subscriptions to the professional body.

MINISTER OF DEFENCE, JUSTICE AND SECURITY (MR KGATHI): Thank you Madam Speaker. It is true that attorneys in the employ of Government and Parastatals, though members of the Law Society are exempted by Section 3(2) and 57 of the Legal Practitioners Act (CAP 61:01) from holding

practising certificates and from payment of subscription fees and the 1st schedule thereof categorises all those persons exempted from paying subscription fees.

Madam Speaker, it is not discriminatory and contrary to the Constitution to exempt Government lawyers because the primary consumers of the services of the Law Society are the private practitioners. Although Government lawyers are members of the Law Society, their conduct is controlled by Government as their employer. Whereas the Law Society regulates the conduct and relationship of private practitioners and their clients especially when it comes to the handling of funds. There is therefore a reasonable basis for differentiating between private practitioners and Government lawyers.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

MAJ. GEN. MOKGWARE: Supplementary. I hear you Honourable Minister. Why can you not do what other departments do, like the accounting profession, they belong to the accounting profession, and they pay and get certificates. In terms of professionalism, like discipline in terms of their profession, can you disqualify them from practising as attorneys? You as the Government, can you simply take the disciplinary action of just dismissing them from the job? So, can you just reconcile the two because as a lawyer, if you do not practise according to the laid down procedures, you can be removed off the list. Now, what about Government lawyers, can you do the same, can you actually strike them out of the list, or maybe you can only dismiss them or fine them a certain amount of money?

MR KGATHI: No, if you want to change to the satisfaction of your desire as you propose, we will then have to change the Legal Practitioners Act but as of now, Government lawyers are governed by the Public Service Act.

MR MMOLOTSI: Supplementary. Minister, do you not think the question asked by Honourable Major General Mokgware should be considered because other professions for example nursing, they have a society which compels them to have licenses every year regardless of whether they work in the private sector or Government. Why do you not make sure that these things are uniform?

MR KGATHI: No, I have taken that question into consideration; is it true Government lawyers are not affiliated? My answer is yes, as they are governed by the



Public Service Act. So if there is a proposal Honourable Member, it can come, I will look at it accordingly.

LACK OF VENTILATION IN SCHOOL CLASSROOMS IN KHWEE

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

- (i) to apprise this Honourable House on what caused the school classrooms in Khwee to remain without ventilation (no windows) on the rear side and give 3-4 schools in Botswana with windows only in the front;
- (ii) if it was by design or otherwise;
- (iii) whether it is true that students in Khwee village have a tendency of jumping out through the rear windows while teachers are busy with other students and that, that is the reason why windows are permanently welded and not opened; if not,
- (iv) when will the Minister consider a corrective measure to the current situation; and
- (v) how has this affected teachers and students especially in summer.

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

Madam Speaker,

- (i) Rear windows to one classroom block, but on confirmation by the Headmaster I was told that there are two classroom blocks, at Khwee Primary School were tack welded as a temporary measure after some parts were vandalized and there were no funds for the required maintenance. The vandalized parts included steel hinge legs, tear drop hinges, handles and locking screws. The temporary solution was necessitated by the need to protect pupils from chilly and windy conditions and was based on consensus among school authorities and the District Council. This is an isolated case and it is not common practice to have schools with windows only in the front or one side.
- (ii) The welding was not by design but a reaction to the situation which prevailed at the time. The open windows in a hostile weather dictated the need for a temporary solution

(iii) I am not aware that students at Khwee village have a tendency of jumping out through the rear windows while teachers are busy with other students.

(iv) Madam Speaker, my Ministry is currently experiencing financial challenges this financial year and maintenance funds are inadequate given the number of facilities that require maintenance from time to time. My Ministry will continue, during financial year 2017/2018 to attend to any minor defects as a corrective measure in order that the classroom block remain habitable.

(v) Madam Speaker, as regards to how the welded windows affected teachers and students especially in summer, in the absence of the any detailed study of the effects of the situation, I can only deduce that the closed windows limited ventilation while keeping out rain water and the cold breeze during winter but as promised, we will look into it and make sure that we maintain and rectify that. Thank you Madam Speaker.

AMOUNT SPENT ANNUALLY SINCE 2012 IN BUYING SEEDS FOR INTEGRATED SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR ARABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (ISPAAD)

MR H. G. NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): asked the Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security to state:-

- (i) the amount spent annually since 2012 in buying seeds for the Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD);
- (ii) the main suppliers of such seeds;
- (iii) the percentage share per supplier since 2012;
- (iv) if he is aware of the monopoly by Seedco which supplies both local dealers and the Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB);
- (v) what is being done to address inflated prices by Seedco where a bag of maize that has a normal price of P200.00 is sold to Government for P650.00; and
- (vi) the Directors of Seedco and how much value of seeds they have supplied to BAMB since 2012.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY (MR AUTLWETSE): Madam Speaker,



- (i) The amount spent annually since 2012 in buying seeds for the Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD) during the past cropping seasons is as follows:

YEARS	AMOUNTS (P)
2012/2013	P20 million
2013/2014	P27 million
2014/2015	P95 million
2015/2016	P29 million
2016/2017	P22, 082,000. However the season is still ongoing and data collection is also ongoing.

- (i) The main producers who are suppliers of seeds are Seedco, ZAM Seed and Cross Corn.

- (ii) The percentage as per tender awards for different years are as follows:

Supplier	Year	Percentage Share	Other percentage
SEEDCO	2012/2013	12 per cent	The rest came from our Seed Multiplication Unit, and other Suppliers through coupons.
SEEDCO	2013/2014	75 per cent	
BAMB	2014/2015	35 per cent	
BAMB	2015/2016	8 per cent	

We are still collecting information on the total seeds used during 2016/17 cropping season.

However, we do not prescribe to farmers and distributing agents where to source the inputs through coupon system. The amount supplied by the manufactures varies from year to year depending on marketing strategies, availability of seeds and farmers' preferences. Presently, we have registered about 154 distributing agents who are at liberty to source seeds from any seed manufacturer both locally and externally (Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Malawi and as far as Australia).

- (iv) I am not aware of any monopoly enjoyed by Seedco in supplying local dealers and Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) as the market is open to all seed companies provided they are registered in Botswana. It is worth noting that seed dealers and individual farmers have the right of choice to buy stock from any seed company or supplier of their preference.
- (v) I am not aware of inflated prices by Seedco where a bag of maize worth P200.00 is sold to Government for P650.00. As a control measure and to prevent overpricing of inputs, we cap input prices against prevailing market prices on annual basis before the beginning of each cropping season. We will continue capping prices to avoid price inflation by input suppliers/ companies.
- (vi) Both Seedco and BAMB are private and independent entities, and as such reserve the right to run their operations; hence the Ministry has no involvement in their business dealings and/or matters. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: Supplementary. Thank you Madam Speaker and thank you Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister I thought you will come to this House well equipped with information of how Seedco is selling their seed to the Government. A 10 kilogramme (kg) bag of maize that is sold in Seedco for P200.00, is sold to the Government for P650.00. Are you not aware of this Honourable Minister? Secondly, are you saying that you are not aware that Seedco is the main supplier of seeds to Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board, and even to all the distributors that we have in Botswana? Are you not aware that all Batswana who have been ploughing have been getting their seeds from Seedco?



MR AUTLWETSE: Thank you Honourable Member. I am not hiding any information, at the end of my answer I stated that BAMB and Seedco are private entities and reserve right to run their companies. The issue about P200.00 seeds being sold to the Government for P650.00, that I said we are not aware of.

MR KEORAPETSE: Further supplementary. Honourable Minister, now that you have pointed out that you are not aware that a 10 kilogramme (kg) bag of maize that is sold in Seedco for P200.00, is sold to the Government for P650.00; are you going to investigate this? You also said that BAMB is a private company while it is a parastatal.

MR AUTLWETSE: Madam Speaker, we will investigate the issue regarding the seeds that are sold for P650.00 because we were not aware of it as a Ministry. If we discover that they have indeed done that, we will take relevant action.

MR MMOLOTSI: Correction. Honourable Minister, Members of Parliament said that when Seedco is selling to individuals it sells for P200.00 but it sells to the Government for P650.00. They did not say some places sell them for P200.00.

MR AUTLWETSE: This is what I said Madam Speaker. I said that if Seedco is selling seeds to individuals for P200.00 but P650.00 to the Government; that is wrong. It will be investigated to determine if it is true and appropriate action will be taken. This is what I said.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM SPEAKER: You know very well that at this point, I do not allow points of order.

EFFECTS OF ACCREDITATION OF THE KWENENG DISTRICT COUNCIL ON SERVICE DELIVERY

MR N. M. NGAKA (TAKATOKWANE): asked the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development:-

- (i) how the accreditation of the Kweneng District Council by Botswana Bureau of Standards has affected service delivery, given that the Social and Community Development (S&CD) offices started to specialise only in social welfare and community development; and
- (ii) what measures are in place to rectify this.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (TSOGWANE): Thank you Madam Speaker, today I do not have my assistants.

Madam Speaker,

- (i) When Kweneng District Council got ISO 9001:2008 accreditations by the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS), it did not change any official professional structures within the Social and Community Development (S&CD) professionals. In fact it was enhancing compliance to both Schemes of Service and Job Descriptions of all the three professions within the S&CD namely; Social Work, Adult Education/Community Development and Home Economics. During the BOBS accreditation audits, Job Descriptions and Schemes of Services for the S & CD Extension Officers were assessed to ensure that officers are performing duties aligned to their professions or training.
- (ii) Madam Speaker, for Kweneng District Council to comply with alignment of officers against their Job Descriptions and Schemes of Services, consultations were made with Social & Community Development Staff and which resulted in a new allocation that ensured equitable coverage of villages by officers and sharing of resources and expertise among themselves across the District.

Furthermore, Kweneng District Council continuously gives priority to the S&CD Department whenever trade-offs are made to create new positions for Social and Community Development Officers in order to fill any gaps remaining. For example, the Council has created four (4) D4 posts, being two (2) Social Welfare and two (2) Community Development to strengthen supervision at village level.

Madam Speaker, there is general shortage of Social and Community Development Officers across the country. My Ministry is continually addressing these problems through trade-offs of posts, and priority will continue to be given to the S&CD Departments when new posts are created. I thank you Madam Speaker.

PLANS TO COME UP WITH INDUSTRIAL COURT ACT

MAJ. GEN. P. MOKGWARE (GABANE-MMANKGODI): asked the Minister of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development if there are



any plans to come up with the Industrial Court Act that would clearly set out the mandate of this court and separate it from the Trade Disputes Act so that this aligns to other courts in the country that have specific legislation dealing with them, for example, Customary Court Act, Court of Appeal Act.

ACTING MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

(MR MOLEFHI): Madam Speaker, there are currently no plans to come up with an Industrial Court Act. The mandate of the Industrial Court is clearly stipulated in the Trade Disputes Act, 2016 (Part III), as a court of equity and my Ministry has no intentions to change that status. I thank you Madam Speaker.

NUMBER OF VACANT POSTS AT BOTSWANA TOURISM ORGANISATION (BTO)

MR M. REATILE (SPECIALLY ELECTED): asked the Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism to state:-

- (i) The number of vacant posts at Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO);
- (ii) The total number of temporary employees engaged by the above mentioned organisation to acquire experience;
- (iii) The period of the longest vacant post; and
- (iv) The challenges that cause delay in filling those vacant posts.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM (MR T. KHAMA): Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the number of vacant posts at Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO) is 27 as illustrated in the table below:

Existing (Old Vacancies)	New Vacancies (From Realignment)
CEO Band 1 position,	Deputy CEO 1 position
Executive Manager, Corporate Services (Band 2A)	Executive Manager, Quality Services (Band 2A)
Marketing Manager, Events (Band 3)	Manager, PMS Improvement and Monitoring (Band 3)
Ecotourism Officer- Francistown (Band 5)	Tourism Attaches *5 (Band 3)
Marketing Officer- Maun (Band 6)	Marketing Executive Culture and Heritage (Band 4)
Front Office Secretary- Selibe Phikwe (Band 7)	Marketing Executive Hospitality and MICE, (Band 4)
Marketing Executive, Promotions (East) (Band 4)	Manager Investment
Manager, Investment Facilitation (Band 3)	Marketing Executive, Promotions (West) (Band 4)
	Project Operations Officer (Band 5)
	Investment Executive, Culture and Heritage (Band 4)
	Investment Executive, Hospitality and MICE (Band 4)
	Manager, Industry Competitiveness and Development (Band 3)
	Manager Research (Value Statistics) (Band 3)
	Manager, Skills Development and Education (Band 3)
	Marketing Manager Promotions (West) (Band 3)

- (ii) The total number of temporary employees engaged by Botswana Tourism Organisation to acquire experience is two (2), Environment and Ecotourism Officer and Marketing Officer.
- (iii) The period of the longest vacant post is two (2) years; the Executive Manager, Corporate Services post which has been vacant since 6th February, 2015.
- (iv) The main challenge has been lack of funding especially for the new positions. I thank you Madam Speaker.



PREPAREDNESS TO FIGHT MALARIA IN CASE OF OUTBREAK

MR S. LELATISITSWE (BOTETI EAST): asked the Minister of Health and Wellness to apprise this Honourable House about the Ministry's preparedness to fight Malaria in case of outbreak looking at the past heavy rains that were experienced in most of the villages looking at:-

- (i) Malaria drug updates/stock levels;
- (ii) staff distribution;
- (iii) areas that are likely to be affected and why;
- (iv) distribution of mosquito nets;
- (v) how much is reserved for this; and
- (vi) Boteti drug situation.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS (MR MAKGALEMELE): Thank you Madam Speaker and good afternoon. Madam Speaker, due to the heavy rains, we are experiencing an increase in the number of reported malaria cases. By the beginning of this month, we had recorded 627 cases and 7 deaths. About 60 per cent of these cases are from Okavango District. The country has also recorded sporadic cases from non-endemic Malaria Districts such as Kgatleng, Kgalagadi South, North East, Mahalapye and Palapye.

Malaria transmission period runs from around October to early May. Annually, in preparation for this season my Ministry conducts integrated vector control interventions, public education, community mobilisation and capacity building. Drug and commodity availability are also ensured.

Based on the early warning of normal to above normal rainfall this year by the Meteorological Services, my Ministry intensified its efforts to prepare for the eventuality of a possible outbreak.

- (i) We have been monitoring stock levels of our anti-Malarials at both Central Medical Stores (CMS) and our health facilities. Most of our health facilities have adequate stock levels of first line anti-malarials. However, a few District Health Management Teams (DHMT's) have this week reported shortage of Quinine injection which is used for severe cases. We are expecting a second consignment by tomorrow and additional stocks

of this drug and other anti-Malarials are expected next week to cater for the increase in cases. Central Medical Stores is monitoring the situation by contacting DHMTs on a daily basis to monitor anti-Malarials and anti-diarrhoeals.

- (ii) Madam Speaker, there has been no staff redistribution based on the outbreak. The National Malaria Control Programme has trained trainers of trainers from all our health districts on Malaria case management to train the rest of the staff in their respective districts. This country wide training is to strengthen case management of health care workers in both Malaria and non-Malaria endemic areas. Specifically for this particular outbreak, national teams have been dispatched to monitor the situation in the affected Districts of Okavango, Ngami, Tutume, Bobirwa, Palapye, Kgatleng and Mahalapye. Our entomologists are also on the ground supporting case investigations.

Madam Speaker, it is also important to highlight that all DHMTs have Malaria Epidemic Response Teams. During outbreaks, as is the case, these teams have been reactivated and are meeting on a weekly basis to assess the situation.

- (i) The areas that have been affected and more likely to be affected are the 6 Malaria endemic Districts (Chobe, Ngami, Okavango, Bobirwa, Tutume and Boteti). However, due to high population mobility and standing water pools, sporadic cases of Malaria can occur in non-endemic areas.
- (ii) My Ministry has bought 2 325 Long Lasting Insecticidal Mosquito Nets (LLINS) which continue to be distributed in Malaria endemic districts.
- (iii) All these nets have and are being distributed in the endemic areas.
- (iv) For the quarter ending December 2016, the average drug availability was 86.5 per cent. The DHMT has also indicated that they have adequate anti-Malarials in Boteti. I thank you Madam Speaker.

MR NTLHAILE: On a point of procedure Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, my apologies for coming late. Madam Speaker, please protect us because the Standing Orders are so restrictive and Ministers do not answer questions from our electorates and that is not good at all. Question 8 (v), was not answered; it shows clearly



Madam Speaker, that one company sells its commodity using two different prices; and the Minister comes to Parliament to respond saying he will go and find out, and also said that company is private. That is totally not acceptable. We are kindly requesting you to protect us Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Order! Order! No, you also need to protect yourselves by amending the Standing Orders. I advised you saying let us review them. Have you submitted?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: We are the minority Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, submit please, instead of talking about the minority. Order! Order! Honourable Members, I understand the Honourable Leader of the House has a Business Motion to move.

BUSINESS MOTION

LEADER OF THE HOUSE (MR TSOGWANE): I am standing in for the Leader of the House. Madam Speaker, I beg to move in terms of Standing Order 27.1(c) that the hours of today's sitting be extended by two (2) hours. That is instead of concluding today's business at 18:00 hours, we conclude at 20:00 hours. The reasons being that we have Supplementary Estimates Madam Speaker which we have to dispose of to enable those departments to go and make payments, particularly salaries. So that is the reason Madam Speaker. I move accordingly Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Question put and **agreed to.**

APPROPRIATION (2017/2018) BILL, 2017 (NO. 2 OF 2017)

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

(CHAIRPERSON in the Chair)

ORGANISATION 2000-MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM

Resume Debate

MADAM CHAIRPERSON (MS KOKORWE): The debate on this organisation is resuming. I therefore remind Honourable Members that I shall call the Honourable Minister to reply to the debate at 15:45 hours today and the question will be put at 16:15 hours.

When the House adjourned yesterday Honourable Ralotsia was on the floor and he was left with nine (9) minutes fourteen (14) seconds.

MR MOLATLHEGI (GABORONE SOUTH): Thank you Madam Chairperson. I stand to support the budget proposal made by the Honourable Minister, for his budget proposal to be approved in order to allow him to carry out what he outlined in his presentation. I was waiting to hear the Honourable Minister talk about the country's level of readiness for climate change. Do we have a policy on climate change? If it is not in place, when will it be presented so that we consider it? Another thing is that since your Ministry heads most of the government departments, how are those departments reacting to climate change, looking at the Ministries of Agricultural Development and Food Security, Health and Wellness, Transport and Communications, Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security as well as the Infrastructure and Housing Development.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS (MR MAKGALEMELE): Clarification. Thank you Madam Chairperson. Thank you Deputy Speaker. We have talked about climate change since the 10th Parliament, is there anyone who is paying attention to you or you are just talking and no one is listening to you?

MR MOLATLHEGI: I am going to talk about this issue until I die. I am going to continue talking about it because if we are not going to talk about it, then our society is going to continue suffering natural disasters while we are not doing anything about it, only because we think other people are not listening. I know that honourable Khama is listening because last year he attended a CoP22 conference in Morocco and this year he was attending the CoP21 at Paris, together with His Excellency the President of the Republic, this is promising. This therefore means that I can continue talking about this issue until something happens.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR MOLATLHEGI: I am losing time, wait. Madam Chairperson, I just wanted the Honourable Minister to explain how he is sensitizing Batswana on the issue of climate change. I have never seen him address any Kgotla meeting on issues of climate change. I have not seen anything on Botswana Television regarding climate change, not even in radio stations. It looks like this is an issue which is known only to metrological



services department and is kept a secret from Batswana. In the current situation, traditional doctors have to know the reason why they can no longer get some of the herbs they use. Herd boys need to understand why pastures are different from the way they used to be. They need to understand about climate change and it is a change they have to adapt to and live with it. We have to come up with ways of dealing with the challenges brought about by climate change. Honourable Minister, I expected you to talk about stakeholder participation, or involvement in climate change issues. How are you collaborating with the media for information dissemination on climate change issues? You have not called any press conference to address these issues. How are you collaborating with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) because they are the ones who can reach out to remote areas, where you cannot reach, so that they assist to disseminate information on climate change? How are you going to sensitize even Honourable Members of Parliament on climate change issues so that they understand it the way I do, as you have just heard one member asking why I am the only who is always talking about this issue.

MR LELATISITSWE: Clarification. Before you go any further, I just wanted to talk about traditional doctors, that maybe...

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Lelatisitswe, you always take the floor just like that. Take your seat, did he yield for you?

MR LELATISITSWE: Clarification. The Member of Parliament for old Naledi is doing well. The Honourable Member talked about traditional doctors; I just want to say that since we have a traditional doctor in this House, has he made contact with him and consulted with him?

MR MOLATLHEGI: Madam Chairperson, he is just wasting my time...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR MOLATLHEGI: Madam Chairperson, this Honourable Member will derail me. Lastly, because time is not on my side, I would like to talk about funding; resource mobilisation on issues of climate change. How is the Honourable Minister going to source funds to cover this mobilisation? Since he is the one leading issues of climate change which all departments should request funding for, but not any of the Ministries has in their presentation highlighted that they have set aside some budget for issues of climate change. I had expected him to explain. I implore you Honourable Minister

to explain that once you take the floor to respond, especially that aspect which covers funding, are we going to be sourcing funding from Green Climate Fund; or banking on someone to donate funds to the country? Madam Chairperson, signs are already visible that there is climate change. We cannot therefore ignore the fact that the situation matches that which has been outlined by the Department of meteorological services; that we are going to experience unforeseen issues Honourable 'makgorwane'. We will experience floods, we will experience heat waves, cyclones which are rare in our country...

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR MOLATLHEGI: It is high time we accept that these things are happening, and there is no how we are going to avoid them, we just have to adapt. We are going to have disease outbreaks just like the honourable minister was talking about Malaria outbreak, after Malaria there will be another outbreak, probably diarrhoea. We have to understand the extent to which the government is prepared in order to deal with these, we need to talk about disaster management and climate change, and how ready we are.

MR MAKGALEMELE: Thank you Madam Chairperson. The Honourable Member keeps on referring to a certain Honourable 'makgorwane' and that coming from the Deputy Speaker, might suggest that there is one Honourable 'Makgorwane' in this House. Please correct.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Correct Honourable.

MR MOLATLHEGI: I withdraw Honourable 'Makgorwane' because I was referring to Honourable Rantwana, but I withdraw the statement.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: ... (Laughter!)

MR MOLATLHEGI: And I request that he forgives me, I knew he would not take offence in the name. As Members of Parliament, we have to ensure that this is attended to, and ensure that the Government takes necessary steps in preparation of disaster management. When we talk about climate change Madam Chairperson, we can compare it to disaster, we have to understand how ready we are in dealing with these issues. Are we ready to respond to any form of disaster, if ever it happens or we will always request the District Commissioners to be on standby despite the fact that they do not have resources to rescue people during floods. What will



happen if Gaborone Dam burst or in case of heat wave, do we have medicine and other things that can be used to assist the public in hospitals? Madam Chair, these are the things that we should discuss as Honourable Members and the Minister should also assist by having workshops that will inform Honourable Members on the experts that he has and their skills. They should teach us so that we speak with one voice as representatives of the nation of Botswana so that we may access help well in time. Thank you Madam Chairperson.

ASSISTANT MINISTER OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, SPORT AND CULTURE DEVELOPMENT (MR MZWINILA):

Thank you Madam Chairperson. I would like to extend my support for the Honourable Minister in his proposed budget. I would like to point out my appreciation of the Dams Tourism Project which will benefit those at Letsibogo and Dikgatlong Dams. However, I think that I have mentioned before, when we move forward in terms of the dams' tourism, I would like you to ensure that there is some sort of affirmative action for those who were moved during the construction of the dams. Going forward, the plots are going to be allocated for these Dams Tourism Projects. In part of the allocation of the plots for the tourism ventures as I have stated and advised before, I would like the certain percentage, let us say 10 per cent to be reserved for those in the community which has to be relocated in order to make way for the dams. At Letsibogo and Dikgatlong, their entire settlements had to be moved to make way for the national developments. We have no problem in my constituency moving for national developments but when time comes to allocate the benefits accrued from those national developments, I think that we have to have an affirmative action policy for those who, in a way, had to sacrifice for national developments. Honourable Minister, I implore you that when you go forward some of those plots be reserved for the communities which had to make way.

In terms of dams' tourism, I would ask you to expedite the realisation of these projects. They are sustainable economic development projects which have a huge tourism potential. As you are fully aware Honourable Minister, that region has undergone a change in the unemployment statistics due to what happened at BCL. I would implore you that as expeditiously as possible we get these Dams Tourism Projects off the ground to try and absorb some of those who had to part ways with their former employer. So, I would ask you to expeditiously ensure those projects are started.

Going on to the issue of human/wildlife coexistence rather than human/wildlife conflict, I think that compensation, you have mentioned it Honourable Minister, the problem with compensating for the problem animals is creating a huge problem for us especially in my constituency. We have a backlog of many years in terms of payments for damage done by elephants. We are one of the constituencies which are severely affected by the large number of elephants in the area. I think that to move to human/wildlife coexistence instead of human/wildlife conflict, we have to urgently address this issue of underfunding of compensation for those whose fields or farms are damaged by elephants because the elephants are growing exponentially. So, it means that the problem is going to continue and is going to get worse and worse that almost every Kgotla meeting I have at Robelela, Tshokwe or Mmadinare, there are those who complain that they have not been paid or their payments are lagging behind in terms of the damage caused by these elephants.

Honourable Minister, the problem with the elephants is in our fence with Zimbabwe. We have a problem in my constituency; we are a red zone for Foot and Mouth Disease. One of the reasons why we are a red zone is because of the cattle, they stray into Zimbabwe and back. There are these stray or movement of cattle across the fence that is continuously being knocked down by elephants. I think that going forward, we need to find a long-term solution in how we prevent elephants from knocking down or destroying this fence.

There was an idea which was mooted a couple of years ago of creating buffer zone farms along the border with Zimbabwe to ensure that we give the farms to the private individuals or private sector in order that they can maintain the fence and ensure that there is no cross-contamination of our cattle with those of Zimbabwe. That was the idea but I think that maybe going forward, we should look at that in how we can ensure that even though there is a fence it is actually non-existent because elephants are the ones which knock down the fence.

Also, what we have to look at Honourable Minister is the issue of excretia payment for those who have lost their lives due to some of these wild animals. There are a couple of cases in my constituency where people lost their lives due to elephants. We cannot put a quantum or you cannot put a value on human life. P50 000 Honourable Minister, maybe we need to look at increasing it or doubling it to maybe P100, 000. It is very hard to debate what should the amount be but I am



just saying that maybe going forward, we need to see what else can be done to the excretia payments for those who lost their lives due to the wild animals.

Another issue Honourable Minister is the rehabilitation of the pollution that was caused by BCL. Going forward, whatever the new BCL or new mine would have, whatever format or structure that it would have, one of the underlying principles which I request kindly from your Ministry is to ensure that pollution control is implemented. When BCL restarts in whatever manner or fashion, I would implore you to make sure that the issue of pollution control to the environment is tantamount to whoever will be operating that mine. Also, we have a lot of rehabilitation that needs to be done in terms of the previous damage to the environment that was caused by BCL. I might have not yet heard how this rehabilitation to the water, land and different flora there will be done because the mine has stopped but there has to be rehabilitation of the environment, because there have been significant degradation of the environment caused by the pollution. Going forward, when BCL restarts, we have to ensure that there is adequate pollution control and also we have to look at rehabilitation.

The last issue I would like to talk about is the Anti-Poaching Unit; I think the Anti-Poaching Unit is very important and is severely under resourced. If you look at the type of equipment and the type of mentality the poachers have these days in their desperation and training because most of the poachers are ex-military officers from different countries; we need to ensure that the Anti-Poaching Unit is adequately resourced and given the right material so that their lives are not jeopardised. If you do not give them the right equipment, then their lives could be jeopardised. For example, I noticed that some of the camps which were supposed to be constructed did not proceed because of budgetary constraints. I have also noticed that some of the equipment which was required could also not proceed because of budgetary constraints. I think that even in my constituency because of the large numbers of elephants, we have problems with these poachers. So, we know of the impact they can cause because when they come into the country, it is not just an issue of committing crime in terms of wildlife, they also commit other forms of crime because these are the same poachers who ransack and steal boreholes, ransack and steal from the farms of my constituents because they are law unto themselves. So, I think going forward it would be quite prudent to equip the Unit. If they are adequately equipped, we can reduce some of

the demands or some of the pressure we have or require from the military, the Botswana Defence Force to carry out some of these anti-poaching tasks because it can also be argued as to whether soldiers should be involved in anti-poaching. I think going forward, this Anti-poaching Unit should have its own resources, armoured carriers, armoured personnel carriers, helicopters, intelligence unit and medical personnel. What if they get injured in the field? Rather than relying on other units and other sectors of the armed forces. With those I submit. Thank you Madam Chairperson.

MR NKAIGWA (GABORONE NORTH): Let me thank you Madam Chairperson for affording me an opportunity to also contribute in this department. Firstly, let me start by commending the Honourable Minister, Honourable Khama. I mean, if somebody is doing something good, we need to commend him as Batswana. I was very impressed with the ITB Berlin spectacular show, I think it was a good investment for Botswana Tourism and it will go a long way in improving, also attracting more tourists into our country. I also want to commend you for one thing again, which I believe you have done well. In 2010, when I was still the Mayor of Gaborone, your Ministry funded a project, Gaborone Integrated Sewer Project which has been completed to the tune of about P1,2 billion, but unfortunately your Government is still failing the people of Gaborone to actually help them with the connections now to the main sewer lines.

I also want to plead with your Ministry, the good heart that you had for us as residents of Gaborone, to budget within your Ministry, that indeed even though it was not your responsibility, it was the responsibility of Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, but you decided to take it on an environmental aspect, to say let me assist the people of Gaborone and assist them to eradicate pit latrines in the city of Gaborone. I think that was the main objective. But unfortunately, we are having a Local Government Ministry that is not offering any solutions to the people of Gaborone. I mean we need to say this; you are a regulator, you are not the implementer.

We expect Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to do better, but I believe with your good heart, have mercy on us the people of Gaborone. We want Government to create a special fund whereby residents can be assisted with funds towards connections. It is not easy for residents to raise P10 000.00 to do the plumbing



works or to undertake waterborne toilets. It would be a good development or a good initiative by Government to say let me assist these people, not by grant, but by loan, whereby this loan will be paid over a period of time. That will be a welcome development to ensure that the main objective of the sewer project, of eradicating pit latrines will be attained.

As you all know, the water levels in Gaborone are very high and it is very unfortunate that we find ourselves in a city, the first city of this country still using pit latrines and for those that are said to have connected, you find that only those at the main houses are the ones that have connected, but for those that are staying behind, at the servant quarters have not yet connected. I know Honourable Khama that indeed if we give you this request, you shall listen to us again because Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development continues to fail us as the city of Gaborone.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: That issue is not for Local Government.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: You do not seek permission, you just speak anyhow?

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Correction.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: No wait a minute. You cannot stand on correction, you have already stood on another point and your microphone is on. Proceed Honourable Nkaigwa.

MR NKAIGWA: Madam Chairperson, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development continues to fail us in the city of Gaborone, they are the ones whom we have been told that they are housing Self-Help Housing Agency (SHHA), and we have been told that through SHHA, residents will be able to get loans that would be able to assist them to connect to the main sewer line.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: The reason why I have been ignoring you is because you keep on pressing, now when you realise that I am not giving you the floor, you say point of order. It is very wrong.

MR NKAIGWA: I also want to plead with you for residents of Gaborone North farms. You know, if you go to Gaborone North farms, you will think those people are not living in a city. You helped us by connecting the primary sewer lines at Gaborone North farms

but unfortunately we do not have portable water and therefore, it is very difficult for residents to connect to the primary lines or to the sewer lines because absolutely there is no water in Gaborone North. I believe as an environment aspect, to the fact that indeed residents have no facilities to use when they want use the toilet for whatever reasons, it is an unfortunate situation that we are really pleading for help from Government to assist us in this aspect.

It worries me Madam Chairperson, we are still concerning ourselves with landfills because of the failures from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Point of order Madam Speaker.

MR NKAIGWA: We have always said that there is a lot that we can achieve as country out of the little landfills that we have in this country.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Nkaigwa, you keep on pointing fingers at this Ministry even on issues that affect the Ministry of Land Management. You cannot talk about landfills and refer it to the Ministry of Local Government, what is wrong?

MR NKAIGWA: Madam Chairperson, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development are the ones who are in charge of the landfills, he is a regulator, let us not blame people who we are not supposed to be blaming. The Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism provides regulation, they regulate these landfills, he is the creator of all these landfills.

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): Correction. No that is actually a point of correction. The Honourable Member is lost because when he was still at the Council, these services were under his portfolio by then but they are no longer there. Honourable Member, sanitation and all those are under Ministry of Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services. Therefore stop implicating us.

MR NKAIGWA: Madam Chairperson, landfills are still the responsibilities of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, still housed under Local Authorities. So, that is why I am blaming the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, I am not blaming him as a person, I am blaming the



Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, that it has failed Batswana in the various local vicinities. I mean, who could have...

MR MMOLOTSI: Procedure. Madam Chairperson, I think I am extremely worried if the substantive Minister of Local Government and Rural Development does not know and understand his functions, then does he deserve to be here really, if he does not know that the landfills fall under his jurisdiction? Is he supposed to be here or home?

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Sit down Honourable Mmolotsi.

MR TSOGWANE: Point of order. The Honourable Member is confusing issues here. He was talking about sanitation, pit latrines and connecting to the sewerage and blamed them on the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. So, now he is talking about landfills, it is a different topic. Earlier on when you were talking about connection to the sewerage and phasing out pit latrines, you were wrong. Admit that you were wrong, but where you are right, yes, the landfills we are taking care of.

MR NKAIGWA: I am not here to educate the Honourable Minister, I think he will go for a class, Triple C offers evening classes which he can go to and learn more about his Ministry.

Madam Chairperson, I totally believe that we can come up with waste management solutions in Botswana that will economically help in creating employment opportunities for young Batswana.

Our landfills Madam Chairperson, are in a bad state and the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism continues to allow the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to get away with murder whilst the residents are affected by the bad smell that comes out of the landfills. This is an opportune time for you to ensure that indeed you will enforce your regulations, Honourable Khama, because failure to do is compromising the livelihoods of Batswana.

We are living in a City that is smelling all over because of the drains and the Gaborone sewerage ponds which I know very well that they have been referred to the Ministry of Land Management, Water and Sanitation but this is a state that you need to start taking action on. If you do not take action people start pointing fingers at you but

you are a regulator and they are the implementers as the Ministry Land Management, of Water and Sanitation. So, we need a better Gaborone that will be able to attract tourists into the City of Gaborone. I do not know how we would be able to attract tourists when we have such bad smells in areas like Phakalane, Phiring, Ledumang, Tsogang, all those areas in Gaborone North whereby residents cannot be able to get out of their houses more especially during the night. We expect you Honourable Minister to enforce the law to ensure that indeed we as residents are protected from the bad smell that comes from the Gaborone sewerage ponds.

I have raised this issue and I also want to raise it again; that indeed the levies that we continue paying for plastics in various retailers and wholesalers, it is Batswana who continue to suffer. It is Batswana who continue losing money whilst Government is not benefiting anything out of the levy that consumers are charged from plastics. I think it is high time you come up with the policy or with a way in which Government can be able to collect some levy out of these plastics. If you remember very well, the intentions by Government when they introduced the plastic levy was that at least we should start using a certain quality of plastic; but when you look at the shops what they are providing as plastics I mean, they have gone back to the olden days when they were selling low quality plastics but at very high prices. We are paying almost fifty thebe (50t) for plastics and if you look at the number of plastics that we pay for on a yearly basis, this is money that Matambo could be coming to Parliament and saying "I am increasing salaries for Members of Parliament. I am increasing salaries for civil servants," because that is a lot of money that would increase Government coffers.

Lastly Honourable Minister, I totally believe that this Ministry is just too big. You know the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife could be a separate Ministry. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources can be a separate Ministry that can be handled by a separate department. I totally believe that if indeed as a country we want to diversify from diamonds to tourism and wildlife there is a need for us to give more attention to that and if indeed we need to diversify into the environment whereby we want to see the environment as a source of income which can create job opportunities for our own people it is an opportunity that we also need to have a separate ministry along that line.

MINISTER OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, SPORT AND CULTURE DEVELOPMENT (MR OLOPENG): Thank you very much Madam



Chairperson. Madam Chairperson, let me start off by thanking the Honourable Minister like the others have mentioned for the good display at the International Travel Trade (ITB) Show in Berlin. I also want to thank him for the fact that, when his Ministry and my Ministry are collaborating on issues of sports and tourism, It always brings a smile in the faces of Batswana. Madam Chairperson I would like to thank him for bringing Strongman to our country the other time. These are some of the things Batswana thought were just seen on television and magazine and can never happen locally. However since this Ministry is led by an visionary leader he saw it fit to bring them here.

Honourable Minister I have two or three comments which I believe can help amend the policy in your Ministry. One of them being the issue of wildlife filming. I have a lot of Batswana who are in the film industry, but you will find that they focus more on soapies and all that. Therefore, my suggestion is that, you need to reserve licenses or permits to film wildlife areas. Also at the same time we should amend the policy so that if there are foreigners who wish to film wildlife in Botswana, we should work with them and see to it that we attach our children in those film companies, to avoid them coming with their whole crew from outside the country and then going back to their countries. The Wildlife are a multimillion Pula industry on their own as opposed to plays which most of our locals can film anytime.

Honourable Minister, may I also request you to speed up the process of tourism around dams because it seems like it is getting out of control, in my constituency every weekend people go to Shashe Dam for pleasure. You will find that in some of the weekends there will be over 3000 people going there. As a result, some of them after drinking alcohol excessively, end up engaging in activities that claim their lives in the dam, something that we could always avoid. So we need a regulation on this issue and some developments around the dams so that we could be able to control the movement of our people around these dams. I know you already have the plan, so all I am asking for is a speedy implementation of such a plan.

Honourable Minister may I also request that since Batswana are starting to understand tourism and you have special locations like the Okavango Delta but it is not affordable among Batswana. So, I wish you could consult with the operators in that industry or in the wildlife area to have special rates for Batswana, so

that they know that the Mowana in Kasane is not the only tourist area to visit. Okavango is so unique. I wish Batswana could be more exposed to it so that they can be able to appreciate the combination of the environment of water and wildlife, and so forth because Okavango has everything. That is why I am of the view that may be you can ask the operators to come up with special rates for Batswana.... (Interruption) ...

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Elucidation.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Who sought for elucidation?

MR SHAMUKUNI: Elucidation. Thank you Madam Chairperson and thank you Minister for yielding. You did very well by advocating for affordability of camps such as the deltas. Do you not think this can help Batswana to have a fixed policy like in countries such as Zimbabwe and South Africa where some areas like Cape Town have some due rates. There are rates for tourists and for the local people, so that rates for locals are pegged in such a way that it becomes affordable for Batswana to visit such hotels. Thank you

MR OLOPENG: Thank you Madam Chairperson. That was my main issue Honourable Member. However I wish to advise the Minister on this issue that we should not to go overboard. At the end of the day we should understand the environment of the location of the delta, because we do not want to find ourselves in a situation whereby there is an influx because we dropped the rates to nothing. This should be done in a way that will not affect their business because they also have their peak seasons and where business is low, they do their maintenance. Probably they could use that time to welcome Batswana into their business. So that we should not affect the quality of the product as we know that Okavango is a high quality product.

Mr Minister the other one, I know you already you have a reservation of the camp sites for Batswana. I now request that within that reservation for Batswana, you should reserve at least 30 to 40 per cent for the youth. It would help us to know that even though it is 100 per cent reserved for Batswana camp sites, but 30 per cent is particularly for the young people. We have very energetic young people in this country, very intelligent, very creative. They want to get into these things, the problem is that sometimes it appears like our conditions are not favourable to them.



The other issue is that of the game farms. As the Minister responsible for the young people in this country, we are faced with challenges regarding lack of employment. I was thinking that perhaps you could have a re-look at your game farms policy. We are aware that we have stopped hunting in general locally, but the moment someone ventures into game farming, that is a business. It must make profit, it must be viable by relaxing conditions a little bit so that they are able to sell, and they are able to shoot for trophies and so on within that restricted area that is referred to as a game farm. That way, it will even entice Batswana to set up more of game farms as opposed to other type of farms. Currently the environmental conditions have changed as Honourable Molatlhegi earlier on stated. We should see more youth venturing into game farming, because there is a big market in game farming. At times it is like our conditions are too stringent and they make it appear like it is a hobby as opposed to business. I request that we should do that so that it can be viable.

Last point Mr Minister, I want Parliament to make a decision on how we are going to manage our elephants in this country. We are facing serious challenges. We have Honourable Ralotsia implementing the Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD). People are ploughing fields and the moment he reports statistics of how many people have ploughed fields, then at the same time the elephants follow back, to come and destroy the fields. I know that we have signed different protocol around the country and that if we can talk about culling them there will be an uproar. The time is now that we have to bite the bullet and make sure that we make a decision on what to do about reducing the number of elephants in the country before we get into trouble by becoming hypocrites; we are saying we empower people by assisting with resources for them to plough but at the same time the elephants destroy their farms. I know that you are one of those smart Ministers in this country, you will not just be rigid and say we cannot cull. We can build a case together in Parliament, we could actually help you. We could even sell outside the country or donate to outside the county, to those countries whose elephants have gone extinct in order to relieve us from this huge number of elephants.

On that note, I thank you very much Madam Chairperson.

MR MOLEFE (MAHALAPYE WEST): Thank you Madam Chairperson. I am grateful to you for having given me the opportunity to...

MR MMOLOTSI: On a point of procedure. It is unfortunate that Honourable Olopeng sat down when I wanted to rise on a point of procedure; he explained that Honourable Tshekedi is one of those smart Ministers. I wanted to ask if he is implying that others are not smart. Does he mean the likes of Honourable Tsogwane or...

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Sit down Honourable Mmolotsi. They say that you are a witch, I am not sure what they mean.

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Madam Chairperson. I should thank you for the budget proposals that you have.

I should also thank your ministry for having proved in the past that the tourism operations in our country have contributed to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of our country. I urge your ministry to continue doing that Honourable Minister.

On the issues that you updated us on like that of the national museums and monuments you have indicated that the proposed budget is Eighty Thousand Pula (P80 000) geared towards taking care of three thousand (3000) sites. I suggest you look into it again because this money is too little for that type of job. I suggest that you should also include places like the Tropic of Capricorn, as one of your sites so that they can be taken care of. The area where the topic of Capricorn cuts across, along the A1 Road is a special place geographically and otherwise. Facilities can be set up at that area to attract people who use the A1 road. They could use it as a resting place. The youth could be permitted to develop that place in order to earn a living.

On the issue of wildlife and national parks, I should commend you for the job that you are doing. I commend you for ensuring that places like the Chobe National Park become leaders in the industry. It is true and when we consider issues of terrain management, you will realise that it is quiet exceptional. Those for track discipline and the operators should keep up the good work that has been noted by the tourists. I request that you should look into the beauty that national parks can bring and to conserve it. Departments like the Anti-Poaching Unit, should be developed through this budget. You should increase the budget and give them the equipment that they need. They should be trained when there is need, they have not been provided with resources ...

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MR TSOGWANE): On a point of procedure. Without disturbing the Honourable



Member on the floor, some of us need to calculate and know when we can stand. I would like to know; what are you considering when choosing who to speak? Are you in the range of three or four, so that we can gauge when to stand?

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: No you have debated many times. The Member standing is just like Honourable Kwerepe. They have only debated once so sit down to allow him to proceed.

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

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Do you want me to consult the register now? We will give you the register so that you can verify for yourself. Proceed honourable Member.

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Madam Chairperson. Honourable Minister the anti-poaching unit should be provided with more resources. They should be trained appropriately as we can even see with the involvement of the Police and the BDF in anti-poaching activities. Honourable Minister if the anti-poaching unit is not given resources this camps that you explained ... interruptions...

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Molatlhegi, are you allowing Honourable Mokgware to go out?

MR MOLEFE: They are supposed to be set up during the stipulated time so that the good work that is being done by your Ministry can continue to be done.

I want to talk about the department of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); as you explained that it is geared towards improving business processes. I am happy that you recognise the sector that produces the Environmental Impact Assessment reports. In the past these reports have been taking too long and they were very expensive for Batswana. If Motswana wants to start a business or be part of the tourism industry, when he is given the EIA you will find that the process is very expensive.

Minister maybe you should consider regulating the fees, some will charge you P40 000 while others say P60 000 even if the work is similar. We request that you look at the enforcement and compliance of the EIA reports down at the Council Minister. This should be done because someone would indicate that he would leave a certain amount of sand in the river and when he gets there he starts taking everything leaving open pit and causing conflicts with the people who use the

place. I am saying this Minister because of the cases that we have in Mahalapye; in rivers such as Kudumatse, Mmadiperetla and Tewane. They have unending issues eventhough they have EIA Reports because no one is making a follow-up on it to check if they are compliant with the provisions of the report.

MR REATILE: Elucidation. Thank you Madam Speaker, thank you honourable. I just wanted you to stress that point because those who are doing road construction have been given the burrow pits licenses and when they have to rehabilitate these burrow pits they fill the pits with tar. They contaminate and pollute just because the ministries have neglected this, but if they can be given strict supervision, that will be nice.

MR MOLEFE: Thank you Madam Chairperson. I agree with you Honourable Member that this Ministry should be the one that checks if the people comply and it should make reports for the departments and different development projects.

Madam Chairperson, I will proceed by saying the Minister has reported on waste management that it is working in our country. We are aware Minister but we are still not satisfied with the fact that people dispose waste everywhere in our villages. I would also like to plead to you that you work with the people who do road construction because they leave burrow pits open.

I am saying this because in my constituency there are three burrow pits in Mahalapye that were left five years ago. These burrow pits have now turned into a dumping site. The Council workers are doing all they can to clean that area but after a week the place is dirty again. I suggest you make an arrangement with the Council to ensure that they enforce the waste management regulations.

The other thing Minister that we have discovered is lack of education for people living in those areas, your Ministry should therefore do in-depth education campaigns...

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: It is now time for the Minister to respond.

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND TOURISM (MR T. S. KHAMA): Thank you Madam Chairperson. I will...

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Whip, you did not count the quorum.



MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Madam Chairperson. I would like to thank all the Honourable Members who have made comments here, and in particular I have taken note of those comments which are generally productive and in this case I should say all of them have been.

I would also like to assure the Honourable Members here that where my Ministry has underperformed and that may also include myself, I do not remove myself from that category, we will strive to do better. We are open for any suggestion at any time. Madam Chairperson, taking up some of the time that I have, I would also like to advise the Honourable House that going forward, budget available, we would also like to expose Honourable Members to some of the work we are doing and some of the challenges we have around the country. I think this will be something that will be very informative because I do believe that the country is not necessarily represented by what we see in Gaborone only. Madam Chairperson...

DR P. BUTALE: Clarification. I thank you Minister. I did not manage to comment therefore I was saying when you talk about tourism; I believe you will consider the issue that I always talk about of urban tourism in Segoditshane. There should be something interesting there that could attract people.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Honourable Member. We have discussed this and I totally agree with you. Madam Chairperson, first of all, I would like to respond to Honourable Shamukuni's comments. I totally agree with growing the tourism sector particularly in those areas which are at the juvenile stage. I think it is highly important, I must say. I am disappointed that up until now there has not been more of a concerted effort to introduce Batswana into tourism. Tourism that has been available to Batswana, has been pretty much, what I would suggest is a little bit more than token. This is unacceptable. To this extent, I do intend to approach the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development that they should give us a budget so that we can empower them because I believe it is extremely important that Batswana own this country including the tourism destinations.

I also want to also say on that issue that we have had resistance from certain concession owners about the subdividing of the concessions. I want to assure this House that it will happen because one thing I am not interested in is greed within the tourism sector and we will not allow it. I also want to assure this House

Madam Chairperson that our consultations with the communities, Kgotla visits will be increased. We will be also very visible.

I also want to go on to the issue of fishing and the over regulating. Honourable Member, the challenge we had with fishing was that it was foreigners who were benefiting from fishing than Batswana. We have now changed the situation that we should reverse it and let Batswana be the prominent recipients of the benefits of fishing.

The transfers Honourable Member are underway and we are at fault. We have not insisted on transfers because of the public service protocols. We have to request somebody to be transferred and there in itself becomes a debate. You are absolutely right, we have not done justice to transfers as we should have and we could easily have done so. It is only now that in the last two or three years, we have started seriously embarking on the transfers, particularly the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) around the country.

I would like to go onto Honourable Kgathi's comments but he is not here. I wanted to actually ask Honourable Kgathi if he knew where the following destinations were; Bobirwa, Tobane, Lesongwane, Semolale, Lepokole, Mabile and Bobonong. I believe all these are in his constituency. These all have heritage sites which are signposted so maybe I will have to give him a familiarization tour of his constituency. I will pass that one because he is not here.

Unfortunately Honourable Mokgware is not here. He had some very good questions which I would have liked to have the opportunity to answer.

Moving on Madam Chairperson, I would like to go to Honourable Molatlhegi, he is not here as well. Honourable Mzwinila, is here, Honourable Member, dams tourism, I totally concur with you, and as I have said in the past that the dams tourism purpose is to empower the people of the communities. The way the dams have been designed is that there are not going to be necessarily plots that can be taken up, but rather industry around the dams. I also want to confer with you that the Climate Change Policy is due for presentation in the July Parliament meeting. Compensation; Honourable Member, this is one which continues to baffle me. As I detailed earlier on that our compensation amounts are reducing, but the incidents are increasing. What I would like to know is what it would take for Ministry of



Finance and Economic Development to realise that we are challenged. Maybe if people from that Ministry were to leave their offices and go out, they would understand exactly what the challenges are in the rural areas.

Madam Chairperson, one of the challenges we do have as far as the way the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is budgeting, is that, we do not compensate for wildlife damages, but yet we will give money for Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agriculture Development (ISPAAD) and Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID). The very elephants that we are crying about damage those projects. That money comes from the same fund or the same ministry. On one hand we are enabling, but we are not preventing the damage to what we have enabled. This baffles me, why the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development does not see the obvious. However there is an expression which says, "the definition of a genius is an ability to observe the obvious," maybe we do not have geniuses there. Madam Chairperson, on the issue of pollution of BCL; unfortunately the Selebi Phikwe story is dire. The pollution that has originated from there is very bad and we estimate the cost of rehabilitation for Selebi Phikwe region to be around P2 to P3 Billion Pula. We also want to thank the Honourable Member for his comments on empowering the anti-poaching team and also giving them more facilities. Madam Chairperson, three weeks ago the Department of Wildlife and National Parks ran out of budget for petrol. We asked Ministry of Finance and Economic Development for a supplementary and it was denied. We also asked them for supplementary for compensation, it was denied. What I find interesting, at the same time there was a denial, the Directorate of Intelligence Services (DIS) had applied for P15 Million for computers, which was also denied. I do not know whether I read this correctly, but it appears in the estimates. Are we going to ignore compensation? Are we going to ignore the death of people in favour of computers? Is that what we have come to? Is that the level of priorities when Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is budgeting? I do not know if we can console a person by saying to them, "we do not have money to give you since you have lost a parent or your child, but we are going to buy computers." I find this a travesty and totally disjointed in our areas of priority. It is continuously demonstrated through this ministry. That ministry has...

MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT (MR MOLEFHI):

Correction. I had said that while the Honourable Member

holding the floor raises issues of concern, I think the point which he raises that money has been allocated to DIS over money requested for compensation, I think the sum total of the presentation should be considered in its totality, such that at the point at which a determination was made to prioritise this other request, it was a decision based on its own merit. I therefore believe that it is not correct that we are negligent of human life and we prioritise infrastructure related services over preservation of human life. I thank you.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Madam Chairperson. I hear what the Honourable Member has said, but I am afraid I do not agree totally. Computer systems maintenance is more important than people's wellbeing and health! In any case, let us leave this issue, I think I made a point. I think that also brings me to the next point that we need to be exceptionally honest with ourselves as a nation, as to where our priorities lie. Let me touch on it because I can see that it is a concern for other people. As far as...

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

Clarification. My clarification is that, like the Honourable Minister made clarification earlier on, we want you to be very clear on what the age analysis of this compensation is. Does it come earlier or before that money which was denied as supplementary? This has got history, compensation is as old as it was initially; since its inception. So I do not think it is a new issue, some have been owed for five or six years.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Madam Chairperson, Honourable Tsogwane is on the right track. In my presentation, I indicated here that going back to 2014 and that was just my choice to go back to 2014, this goes back beyond, the request for compensation was P16 Million. We were given P9 Million. As far as I am concerned Madam Chairperson, the request comes back from as old as time itself that the compensation has been made available. We should accept that we did not do this people any justice, if we did not compensate them for the damage done by wild animals and that is a fact. I will not change from that position.

Moving on, Honourable Nkaigwa, I totally concur with you about the regulation of waste in this country. We would be having a Waste Management Policy which would be tabled in 2017/2018. I do apologise for its delay, but that Waste Management Policy has also been strongly spoken to and influenced by the results



of CoP21 and CoP22. We want it to be consistent with what those two CoPs were doing and not come back and change the policy thereafter. I hope that going forward, I would like to confirm to you that that Waste Management Policy will allow us not only to regulate, but to enforce what should be done to be consistent with what we have agreed as good practices of livelihood within the country. I do take on your comment again about the connection to sewer lines. I will speak to my colleague in the appropriate ministry and we will then also try and elevate it from an environmental point of view. Hopefully, we will be able to get funding from them. I want you to rest assured that I will pursue that and I will communicate with you directly, the outcome of those attempts. That would also be the same as influencing the management of landfills at an earlier stage rather than a later stage. I must also comment at this stage that we have been disadvantaged because we do not have manpower.

Mr Chairperson, let me go into the plastic bag levy. Plastic bag levy is an issue that has been with us for about a year and half or longer. We have initiated the need to ban the plastic bags and this was initially rejected by the National Strategy Office (NSO) and the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry. We were then asked to go and consult, which we did. Yes gave the plastic bag manufactures the two (2) months, they wanted, to come with alternatives and they have not. So, I would like to inform the House that it is our intention to continue with the plastic bags ban of less than 24 microns as stipulated by Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS).

Going on to Honourable Member Olopeng; the wildlife filming moratorium is in place and this has been put in place so that Batswana who are involved in wildlife filming and research will be able to participate in any organisations coming into the country. It is also an area where we believe the youth or those who are established would be able to grow. The reason is simple; we have one (1) Okavango Delta which is the 1000 World Heritage Site. We have about 200 requests for filming permits. There is a reason why they are 200 because this ecosystem is unique. I would like to therefore, jealously say that, I will reserve most of this for Batswana to participate. That will happen as well. That is not going to be negotiable. As far as I am concerned Mr Chairperson, it is a right that we should instil and I will do so.

The lodge sites that are not affordable; Mr Chairperson, we have spoken to the concessioners about making them affordable. However, in my speech, I have declared

that we have got three (3) sites now in the Okavango which we are going to develop with Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO) and the citizens. This will give Batswana an opportunity to own a share of the tourism model in Okavango and also be able to participate in visiting the Okavango Delta. We believe this will take us to exactly where we want to go and it will grow.

I also take on board Honourable Olopeng's request for the youth in our campsites. I want to assure you that the youth will be given the 30 to 40 per cent that we have agreed on.

Game farms in Botswana; this has been a challenge because the game farmers have not necessarily participated with local communities. Despite various attempts, we have failed to get them to see the way we think Batswana should be empowered in game farming. To this extent, we have engaged with an organisation in the United States of America (USA) which is willing to sponsor. So, we are now looking at establishing two (2) or three (3) game farms which will be community owned. My honest belief Mr Chairperson, is that we will be able to provide wildlife meat cheaper than beef and to this extent, it will be exceptionally sustainable.

Finally, I would like to then come to Honourable Molefe's comments. Tropic of Capricorn is in the budget this year for development and we are busy drawing up a plan on what the sculpture and it will look like. It is a very important opportunity because it gives an opportunity for development within the area.

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) delays; Mr Chairperson, we are working on those currently. One of the mistakes we have made Mr Chairperson is that when the Practitioners Board was established, there was no funding as the guideline which would then be appropriate to the necessary programmes taking place. This is something we are now also reviewing so that we can make sure we are able to deliver.

Mr Chairperson, the issue of elephants is a topical one. It is a worrisome issue for my Ministry and we are exceptionally concerned about the lack of support, particularly financial support that we are not getting to manage these elephants. We had made a decision at some stage at Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to take it as those elephants were in Appendix 1. This did not mean those elephants were actually in Appendix 1. What it meant is that the way we managed our elephants, it would be



similar to that of Appendix 1. We thought in so doing, we would be able to as well to attract the necessary external investments to support this initiative because there were so many other countries that had actually lost the initiative because of their lack of performance. This to some extent has been the case but may not have been totally successful. We are back and we are intending to present this document which talks about the elephant situation in Botswana. It also depicts how serious this elephant situation is. My Ministry is not capacitated to manage it. I will explain why. Mr Chairperson, in 2002, there were 250 Problem Animal Control Officers in the Department of Wildlife and the population of elephants was about 60 000. In 2016/2017, we had about 160 000 to 200 000 elephants. Our Problem Animal Control Officers are less than 250. Despite attempts to get additional officers, we have not been successful. So, this does not need Einstein to work out that the challenges versus the manpower are going in different directions. So, I am hoping in the not too distant future, it may be that we come back to this Honourable House and ask for special funding so that we can manage these elephants. The situation with elephants in this country...

MR KGOROBA: On a point of clarification Mr Chairperson. To manage them Honourable Minister, do you not mean reducing them, do you not think the number is too high and should be reduced? I hear you talking about managing them.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Mr Chairperson. When I talk about managing elephants, because we are signatories to CITES, we are constrained into exactly how we can manage them. We hoped that countries would also take the initiatives to manage their elephants. Let me give you an example; in Hwange National Park, we were advised that the authorities there are no longer giving water to elephants, so those elephants have moved to places like Sepako in the Nata area in great numbers and they are now residents there. So, when we talk about managing, we mean controlling their movements. That has been done and can be done. There is no reason why Botswana which has the highest population of elephants should not be able to do so if resourced. I just do not understand how we can resource other factors and then proceed to ignore the damage that these elephants are doing to other issues funded by Government. This does not make sense to me.

MR KHAN: On a point of clarification Mr Chairperson. Thank you Mr Chair. Honourable Minister, what I need clarity on is if we are signatory to CITES, why are they

not supporting us or giving us a certain fund to manage these elephants? What I am seeing is elephants killing people. I think in the recent past, they have killed about eight (8) people if I am not mistaken. What is the cost of life compared to an elephant? I do not even think those elephants got shot down. So, are we giving priority to elephants over human life? This is where my problem is.

MR T. S. KHAMA: Thank you Honourable Member. I concur with you that CITES is a very good talk shop and it is so politicised that the discussions for the next CITES have already been discussed at this time. So, the positions are already known. When I went to CITES this time, the position has already been discussed. I was surprised to see how CITES itself works. So, this is why I think as a country, we need to do things slightly different, but we need the assistance to be able to do so, and as a Ministry, I am not getting that assistance to do so and that is exactly what I intend to do. I would like to then at some stage if I fail to present to this Honourable House the challenges we are having with elephants and this must be taken seriously Mr Chairperson. Lest otherwise, we are going to have a bigger challenge and we will never be able to manage.

In closing Mr Chairperson, because I have got about four (4) minutes left, I just wanted to also acknowledge Honourable Mokgware, when he mentioned the issues of a third army, I hear exactly what he is saying. I just wanted to enlighten Honourable Mokgware that those refurbished vehicles we got, it was because we did not have a budget to buy new vehicles, we thought as we bought refurbished vehicles, they have had limited warranty, we will be doing better than having no vehicles at all. This was a model which was ... (Interruptions)...

MR CHAIRPERSON: Only two (2) can go out, Honourable Tsogwane, Honourable Rantuana, one of you must remain.

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

MR CHAIRPERSON: Wait a moment; you may continue Honourable Tshekedi.

MR T. S. KHAMA: This was a model Mr Chairperson that Botswana Defence Force (BDF) themselves at the time had done and with certain success. I would also like to conclude by saying that we do have challenges and the biggest challenge we have at the moment is funding. We have attempted to buy boarded vehicles from Central Transport Organisation (CTO) but again we have not been able to be funded on that. So, with



those few comments, I would once again like to thank the Honourable Members for your questions, I want to assure you that my Ministry is there to assist and any suggestions or information is more than welcome. Finally, I would like to implore that it is important and incumbent on us as a Ministry to reveal to you what we are doing and we look forward to that opportunity to do so.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: Clarification.

MR T. S. KHAMA: I need to finish. I therefore move that the sum of Six Hundred and Seventeen Million, One Hundred and Forty-Nine Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty Pula (P617, 149, 660) under the Recurrent Budget for Head 2000 be approved and stand part of the Schedule of Appropriation (2017/2018) Bill, 2017 (No. 1 of 2017) and that the sum of One Hundred and Sixty-Four Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty-Seven Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty-Five Pula (P164, 787, 635) for Head 2000 in the Development Fund Estimates be approved and stand part of those estimates. I thank you.

MR CHAIRPERSON: Thank you Honourable Minister.

Question put and **agreed to.**

MR CHAIRPERSON: Some people were just quiet; I do not understand why they are not taking part.

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

ORGANISATION 2100 - INDUSTRIAL COURT

MR CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Members, please note that two (2) hours has been allocated to this Organisation. I shall call upon the Honourable Minister to reply to the debate at 17:45 hours today and the question will be put at 15:00 hours on Monday the 20th of March, 2017. Honourable Minister of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development, please present your budget proposal, you have twenty (20) minutes. The floor is yours. Those that are leaving; can you please check the quorum before you go.

HONOURABLE MEMBER: We do not have quorum, they have all left.

MR CHAIRPERSON: Honourable Molefhi, let us check if we have quorum first; there is too much movement. Two (2) Honourable Members are going out, we do not have quorum. Honourable Kablay, can

please you call in Members of Parliament who are outside because we are running out of time.

...Silence...

MR CHAIRPERSON: ...can everyone please take their seat so that I can use these remaining ten (10) seconds to check if we have quorum.

...Silence...

MR SPEAKER (MR MOLATLHEGI): Order! Order! Honourable Members; do you see what is happening? The quorum was intentionally collapsed by Honourable Members even though they are well aware that we have a lot of work to do. We had agreed to extend time so that we can cover the supplementaries and we did not get to do that. We have not even started looking at the Industrial Court but people are spending a lot of time outside the House. Let us disperse.

ADJOURNMENT

The Assembly adjourned at 4:34 p.m. until Friday 17th March, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.



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