

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(FRIDAY 27TH MARCH, 2026)

MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

HRS/MINS

0900– 0945

- Minister of Minerals and Energy

THEME: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON BCL CLOSURE

To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to state:

- (i) the criteria used to select the commissioners;
- (ii) how the commission will ensure transparency and independence in its investigations;
- (iii) the terms of reference, and whether those terms were subjected to any stakeholder input or expert review;
- (iv) how Government will guarantee operational independence of the commission from political influence, particularly given that it will investigate actions of former leaders;
- (v) the total budget allocated for the commission's operation; and
- (vi) arrangements that have been made to ensure witness protection and prevent intimidation or interference during testimony.

(Mr. R. W. Kaizer, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

QUESTIONS

1. **MR. G. DISHO, MP. (OKAVANGO EAST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state: (292)
 - (i) when Government intends to give back the underlisted concessions to the following community trusts and villages;
 - (a) NG 14 and 16 to Gudigwa community;
 - (b) NG 11 for Mogocho, Ngarange and Sekondomboro (Itekeng Community Trust); and

- (ii) whether the leases are still valid with other operators and to further state when they will expire and how long they have been holding on to these leases.
2. **MR. M. MOALOSI, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture if he is aware that karakul sheep were illegally imported into the country; and if so, to state: (187)
- (i) where the sheep are currently located;
 - (ii) whether they were quarantined to ensure that they do not bring diseases into the country; and
 - (iii) whether any laws have been violated and what actions are being taken against the perpetrators.
3. **MR. O. KWAPA, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship whether: (375)
- (i) there was any consultation with Business Botswana regarding adjustments for trading hours for alcohol during the 2025 festive season;
 - (ii) this will happen annually in the years to come;
 - (iii) there has been an improvement in the country's economy during the 2025 festive season;
 - (iv) his Ministry is aware that the bars were given times which are specifically reserved for night clubs and to state the basis for such a decision; and
 - (v) he is aware that as a result, night clubs have suffered profit loss.
4. **MR. J. T. MODISE, MP. (KGALAGADI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs when the *Dikgotla* in the small villages such as Kolonkwaneng, Khawa, Struizendam and others will be upgraded to have Kgosi and Deputy Dikgosi positions as they have grown in population sizes. (376)
5. **MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBIRWA):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement to apprise this Honourable House on the project that seeks to connect Thune Dam to the villages of Lepokole, Gobojango, Semolale, Mabolwe and Mothabaneng for water, clearly stating past challenges and future plans to actualise the project. (379)

6. **MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST):** To ask the Minister for State President, Defence and Security to apprise this Honourable House on the current framework governing the benefits and entitlements accorded to former Presidents; and to further state: (380)

- (i) the specific benefits currently provided to former Presidents, including but not limited to financial allowances, security detail, housing, medical care, and staff support;
- (ii) whether the Ministry considers these benefits to be commensurate with the former Presidents' past service to the nation, or if they are deemed excessive or inadequate in light of the country's current economic realities;
- (iii) if the Ministry intends to undertake a review of the existing benefits package with a view to either reducing, maintaining, or increasing such benefits; and
- (iv) whether the Ministry intends to conduct any benchmarking exercise against other countries in the region to assess the appropriateness and sustainability of Botswana's benefits framework for former Heads of State.

7. **MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement if he is aware that non-clearance/removal of aquatic river blockages in the lower Okavango river channels has affected water flow patterns, which adversely affects some communities whose livelihoods are anchored on economic activity along the river; if so, to state the total funds availed in the last five (5) financial years for this activity and how much will be availed in the next financial year. (377)

• **STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF MINERALS AND ENERGY**

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

SECOND READING

0945 – 1230

- Bridge Financing Loan (Stanbic Bank Botswana Limited) (Loan Authorisation) Bill, 2026 (Bill No. 10 of 2026) An Act to authorise the raising by the Government, of a loan from Stanbic Bank Botswana Limited for the purpose of financing the budget.

(Published on 20th March, 2026)

(Minister of Finance)

(Resumed Debate)

COMMITTEE STAGE

1. Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited (Loan Authorisation) (No. 1) Bill, 2026 (Bill No. 7 of 2026) An Act to authorise the raising by the Government, of a loan from Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited to finance Botswana Government budget.

(Published on 6th March, 2026)

(Minister of Finance)

2. Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited (Loan Authorisation) (No. 2) Bill, 2026 (Bill No. 8 of 2026) An Act to authorise the raising by the Government, from Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited for funding Botswana Government budget.

(Published on 6th March, 2026)

(Minister of Finance)

3. Botswana Livestock Commercialisation Project (International Fund for Agricultural Development) (IFAD) (Loan Authorisation) Bill, 2026 (Bill No. 9 of 2026) An Act to authorise the raising, by the Government, of a loan from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for purposes of financing the Botswana Livestock Commercialisation Project (BoLCop).

(Published on 20th March, 2026)

(Minister of Finance)

MOTIONS

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 201 (A) OF THE PENAL CODE NO. 18 OF 2018

1. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending Section 201 (A) of the Penal Code No. 18 of 2018 that any person found in unlawful possession of any human flesh, body parts or human remains commits an offence and shall be sentenced to a minimum term of 20 years imprisonment or to a maximum term of life imprisonment."

(Mr. C. K. Jacobs, MP. – Lobatse)

(Resumed Debate)

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS OR TRUSTS

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government to institute a commission of inquiry on allegations of Maladministration, financial embezzlement, insider trading, corruption, abuse of political power and abuse of office on Community Based Organisations or Trusts by Technical Advisory Committees and Trustees from year 2014 to 2024."

(Mr. S. O. Mapulanga, MP. – Chobe)

COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL STUDY ON THE INCLUSION OF BLOOD GROUP TYPE DATA WITHIN ROUTINE MEDICAL RECORDS

3. "That this Honourable House requests Government to undertake a comprehensive national study on the inclusion of blood group type data within routine medical records, with the aim of improving emergency response and enhancing preparedness for medical interventions across the country."

(Mr. P. M. Mosanana, MP. – Kanye East)

INTRODUCTION OF SAFE AND STUDENT-FRIENDLY SCHOOL BUSES

4. "That this Honourable House resolves that Government should introduce safe and student-friendly school buses by establishing a comprehensive, nationwide policy framework to ensure the safety, efficiency and accessibility of school transportation."

(Mr. C. K. Hikuama, MP. – Maun West)

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUNS PERMIT QUOTA

5. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to introduce a "special guns" permit quota for farmers residing in dangerous wildlife infested farming areas, as a matter of facilitating them to protect their livestock, crops and properties."

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE THE EXTENT OF FOREIGN WORK PERMIT ABUSE AND NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CITIZEN SUBCONTRACTING MANDATES IN GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

6. "That this Honourable House requests Government to immediately establish a high-level Task Force mandated to investigate the extent of foreign work permit abuse and non-compliance with citizen subcontracting mandates in all Government projects, and further requests that the Task Force be required to submit a comprehensive report with actionable recommendations to this Honourable House within six (6) months of its formation."

(Mr. M. Moalosi, MP. – Nkange)

POLICY FRAMEWORK OR LEGISLATION, EMPLOYEE SHARE SCHEMES AS A STRATEGY TO ENHANCE EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT, RETENTION AND ALIGNMENT OF INTEREST OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to encourage through policy framework or legislation, employee share schemes as a strategy to enhance employee engagement, retention and alignment of interest of employers and employees."

(Mr. R. W. Kaizer, MP. – Selibe Phikwe West)

GOVERNMENT TO STOP CHARGING FARMERS TAX ON IMPORTATION OF LIVESTOCK

8. "That this Honourable House requests Government to stop charging farmers tax on livestock imported from the neighbouring states, in order to encourage importation of more animals of high-quality genetics, as our country is gearing towards increasing both cattle and small stock number, farmers are bearing high transportation costs, food and accommodation costs."

(Mr. O. Kedikilwe, MP. – Serowe West)

GOVERNMENT TO AUTHORISE BOTSWANA POWER CORPORATION (BPC) TO FOCUS ON DISTRIBUTION OF POWER

9. "That this Honourable House requests Government to authorise Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) to strictly focus on distribution of power, village connection, inspection of materials used and to allow local privately-owned companies to connect electricity in homes and farms."

(Mr. G. Lekau, MP. – Mogoditshane West)

GOVERNMENT TO COMMIT TO ALLOCATE PLOTS TO ALL PERSONS CURRENTLY ON THE WAITING LIST

10. "That this Honourable House requests Government to commit to allocate residential plots to all persons on waiting list for residential plots in next 3 years to facilitate home ownership for a significant proportion of the people of Botswana."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobirwa)

DOMESTICATION OF THE SADC MODEL LAW ON PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

11. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to take the necessary steps to ratify and domesticate the SADC Model Law on Public Finance Management into the national Legal Framework."

(Mr. T. Furniture, MP. – Tati East)

AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

12. "That this Honourable House requests Government to amend the Public Health Act in order to give the Director of Health Services powers to undertake efforts to contain and control the outbreak and spread of any disease without the need for His Excellency the President to rule by decree in a protracted State of Emergency."

(Mr. L. Lesedi, MP. – Serowe South)

INTRODUCTION OF SIGN LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

13. "That this Honourable House resolves to introduce and adopt sign language as an official language in Botswana."

(Mr. M. M. Morolong, MP. – Kgatleng Central)

**AMENDMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATIONS AND COMPLIANCE AT COMPANIES
AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AUTHORITY (CIPA)**

14. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider exempting registered non-operating businesses or shelf companies from filing fees or paying annual returns as well as to reduce filing fees for annual returns of operating business entities, restoration fees for businesses and companies deactivated and removed from the CIPA register."

(Mr. C. K. Jacobs, MP. – Lobatse)

GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW THE POLICY OF DISPOSSESSING LAND-HOLDERS

15. "That this Honourable House requests Government to review the policy of dispossessing land-holders to give way to village expansions, with a view to allowing the existence of small farms within towns and villages."

(Dr. U. Dow, MP. – Kgatleng West)

**REVIEW AND UPWARD ADJUSTMENT OF THE COMPENSATION RATES
FOR LOSS OF LIFE, INJURY, LIVESTOCK AND CROPS**

16. "That this Honourable House resolves that Government immediately reviews and upwardly adjust the compensation rates which no longer reflect the true market value for loss of life, injury, livestock and crops, for the purposes of aligning them, with current market prices and inflation in order to promote the coexistence between the people of Botswana and wildlife."

(Mr. C. K. Hikuama, MP. – Maun West)

CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)
TO DISCONTINUE THE ISSUANCE OF LOANS

17. "That this Honourable House requests Government to discontinue the issuance of loans by the Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) and instead partner with commercial banks for all credit facilities by providing surety."

(Mr. G. Lekau, MP. – Mogoditshane West)

AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ACT

18. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending the Public Holidays Act so that it reads, "if a public holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the Monday becomes a public holiday" as opposed to reading, "if the public holidays listed fall on a Sunday then the Monday shall be a public holiday" as it has now become common that if a holiday falls on a Saturday then the next Monday is declared a public holiday at short notice and this disrupts planning and is bad for business."

(Mr. L. Lesedi, MP. – Serowe South)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL FUND FOR GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

19. "That this Honourable House requests Government to strengthen Botswana's commitment to gender equality and the protection of its citizens by establishing a Special Fund for Gender Based Violence (GBV) to provide immediate, targeted financial resources for prevention, survivor support and legal redress."

(Mr. T. Furniture, MP. – Tati East)