BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

O R D E R P A P E R

(MONDAY 5TH AUGUST, 2024)

QUESTIONS **HRS/MINS**

1400 – 1445

1. **MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Finance if she will consider cancelling the 4% levy charge for farmers as they account for different charges regarding livestock development. **(313)**

2. **MR. D. TSHERE, MP. (MAHALAPYE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs to state: **(323)**

   (i) under which circumstances have sewerage water pipelines gone through people's yards and further explain;

   (ii) whether rental is paid in cases where sewerage pipelines go through the yard,

   (iii) if it is possible to relocate these sewerage pipelines out of the yards' upon request;

   (iv) if it is possible to relocate the home owner to another suitable location and compensate upon request;

   (v) if he is aware that most of these sewerage pipelines normally get blocked and sewerage spills into people's yards, making homes inhabitable; and

   (vi) what his Ministry is doing to help people who are affected by these intruding sewerage pipeline spillages.

3. **MR. S. N. MOABI, MP. (TATI WEST):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry if he has plans to institute a buy Botswana initiative which will enable access to the public (Government) markets through listing of locally manufactured products and brands in Invitation To Tender (ITTs) before procuring imported goods. **(324)**

4. **MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Trade and Industry to state: **(325)**

(i) progress on the large-scale tobacco company licensed in October 2020, specifically regarding its projected investment of P10 million and anticipated employment of 20 people;

(ii) the types of products or services produced by the two (2) licensed tobacco companies in Gaborone and any relevant regulations or quality standards they must adhere to;

(iii) measures or incentives in place to attract and support the growth of the tobacco and alcohol manufacturing industries in Botswana and how his Ministry ensures responsible manufacturing practices including health and safety standards;

(iv) the licensing process and requirements for retail liquor businesses including the different types of licenses and any specific criteria or regulations they must meet;

(v) measures or support his Ministry provides to ensure responsible alcohol sales and consumption in Botswana especially with regard to public health and safety in light of the significant number of employees in the liquor retail businesses; and

(vi) plans or initiatives to further develop and diversify the tobacco and alcohol manufacturing sectors in Botswana and how his Ministry monitors the impact of these industries on the economy and society.

5. **MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security to brief this Honourable House on the sewerage arrangements at the Maun Botswana Defence Force (BDF) camp, in particular: **(326)**

(i) how the BDF camp disposes sewerage;

(ii) engagement that took place with households adjacent to the BDF sewerage tanks;

(iii) how BDF deals with the extreme smell affecting households adjacent to the sewerage tanks; and

(iv) compensation paid to adjacent households to help them alleviate the health ills emanating from extreme smell.

6. **MR. W. B. MMOLOTSI, MP. (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to state: **(328)**

(i) when the passenger train is likely to resume operation;

(ii) how long it has been suspended; and

(iii) whether the coaches are still in good condition.

7. **DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (SEFHARE-RAMOKGONAMI):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to update Parliament on the plight of Botswana former South African miners; the Minister should specifically state: **(283)**

(i) the extent of progress in respect of discussions between Botswana and South African officials aimed at resolving the long standing issue of compensations and pensions of the affected ex-miners;

(ii) how many have been found to be eligible for compensation on medical grounds and pensions;

(iii) how many ex-miners have been successfully assisted and reasons for delayed conclusion of outstanding cases.

8. **MR. O. RAMOGAPI, MP. (PALAPYE):** To ask the Minister of Health to explain the status of Palapye Hospital in particular; **(330)**

(i) the cockroaches that infest the hospital due to poor hygiene;

(ii) shortage of nurses and doctors and how the Minister is addressing this;

(iii) long queues at the hospital and how he intends to provide quality service without long queues; and

(iv) unavailability of scan and ultra sound and the technical operator, i.e. how many people are capacitated to operate these machines.

9. **MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Entrepreneurship to apprise this Honourable House on existing programmes intended for wealth creation and their status to date. **(332)**

10. **MR. K. K. KAPINGA, MP. (OKAVANGO):** To ask the Minister of Agriculture: **(334)**

(i) to disclose where, in his 2023/2024 Committee of Supply Speech, he made reference to an intention by Government to buy cattle from the United States of America (USA);

(ii) if such purchase of cattle was indeed part of the Ministry's publicly declared plan of action, why was it shrouded in secrecy until just before their arrival; and

(iii) to disclose the costs of keeping the cattle from the date of importation to date and declare whether he is convinced that the purchase is in line with the national policy of financial prudence and value for money.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

11. **MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to provide an update on the drought relief mitigation measures and assistance for the 2023/24 agricultural drought year, following the declaration by His Excellency the President, Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, that the 2023/24 season is an extreme agricultural drought year, and necessitated urgent intervention to ensure household food security and support for vulnerable populations, further: **(337)**

(i) what is the total budget allocated for these drought relief measures;

(ii) how much of this budget has been released to each Council and the date of the savingram, listed by district and/or sub-district;

(iii) how many elderly individuals, per district, have accordingly benefited from the provision of special food baskets;

(iv) how are the food baskets being, or are going to be, distributed;

(v) what are the necessary resources for the distribution exercise; additionally, if Social Workers are to be engaged, how many have been enlisted to ensure the operation is carried out efficiently and effectively, preventing Batswana from going to sleep hungry;

(vi) how many additional *Ipelegeng* workers have been engaged, per district, in accordance with these relief measures, also articulating the criteria used for the distribution; and

(vii) Provide a copy of the savingram with the answers.

12. **MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy if he is aware of the ongoing evictions of former BCL employees from the company houses by Deputy Sheriffs instructed by a Gaborone based law firm, if he is aware, he must state and explain: **(338)**

(i) the category of former employees being evicted and the reasons for these evictions, who is evicting them, under which law or regulation or judgement of the court and the reasons for evictions;

(ii) how this is possible when the houses have been bought by the Government and to explain whether indeed Government has purchased these residential properties, how much it has paid for the houses, number of houses bought and who it was buying the houses from;

(iii) His Honour the Vice President's statement on Government's decision to buy the houses and whether Government is still committed to selling the houses to former BCL employees through a special targeted programme of subsidised purchase of the houses and to explain when exactly this will happen; and

(iv) if he is aware of the ongoing secret sales of the houses by the liquidator and to state the number of houses purchased by individuals and companies.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY **HRS/MINS**

SECOND READING **1445 – 1800**

1.	Political Party Funding Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 16 of 2024)	An Act to provide for the regulation and funding of political parties and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

(Published on 26th July, 2024)

(Minister for State President)

2.	Electoral (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 7 of 2024)	An Act to amend the Electoral Act.

(Published on 5th April, 2024)

(Mr. D. L. Keorapetse, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

(Resumed Debate)

3.	Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 2 of 2024)	An Act to amend the Citizenship Act.

(Published on 23rd February, 2024)

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)