

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(FRIDAY 9TH AUGUST, 2024)

MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

HRS/MINS

0900 - 0945

- Minister of Transport and Public Works

THEME: SUBCONTRACTING POLICY FOR BATSWANA OWNED COMPANIES

To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works:

- (i) to provide updated information on the number of projects awarded to Chinese-owned companies and the total value of such projects under his Ministry since the year 2020, as of the most recent data available;
- (ii) if there is any data or records available regarding the extent to which the 30 percent subcontracting policy for Batswana-owned companies has been fulfilled in these projects and if so, could the Minister provide those details;
- (iii) to elaborate on the reasons for any variations that may occur between the contracted sum and the end sum paid for in these projects and if there are any specific examples or statistics available regarding these variations;
- (iv) considering the Minister's mention of difficulties in retrieving information due to COVID-19 related office closures, could he provide a timeline or plan for when the missing data on end sums paid for these projects will be available and accessible;
- (v) in light of the Minister's acknowledgement that records on the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of these companies have not been maintained, could he share plans to establish and maintain such records in the future to ensure transparency and accountability in similar projects; and
- (vi) are there any specific guidelines or mechanisms in place to monitor and evaluate the Corporate Social Responsibility contributions of companies involved in these projects and if so, could the Minister provide details on how these are implemented and enforced.

(Mr. M. Reatile, MP. – Jwaneng-Mabutsane)

QUESTIONS

- 1. MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture to state: **(335)**
 - (i) progress in the construction of the Botswana National Library Services (BNLS) headquarters;
 - (ii) how much was used for the design of this building; and
 - (iii) if the plot still exists at Central Business District where it was to be located.

- 2. MR. O. RAMOGAPI, MP. (PALAPYE):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to apprise this Honourable House on technical colleges and brigades stating the following: **(344)**
 - (i) the total number of students who graduate in Trade Test B the whole of Botswana per year;
 - (ii) the total number of students who progress to National Craft Certificate per year;
 - (iii) the total number of students who fail to progress to the next level per year;
 - (iv) what the Ministry is doing regarding students who are unable to progress to the next level due to shortage of spaces despite passing Trade Test B;
 - (v) why the Minister is not building a new Technical college; and
 - (vi) what the Ministry is doing about the shortage of equipment, practical materials, tools and lecturers' accommodation.

- 3. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism: **(349)**
 - (i) to state the number of farmers who have successfully managed to introduce game animals in their small holding farms;
 - (ii) to quantify the level of economic benefit to the farmers; and
 - (iii) if the Government intends to assist potential small holdings game farmers in the development of such farms as well as capture and stocking.

4. **MR. K. K. KAPINGA, MP. (OKAVANGO):** To ask the Minister of Justice (351) whether he is aware that it takes an inordinately long time for records of proceedings to be transcribed by the lower courts of law for transmission to the appellate courts and that this delay occasions considerable prejudice to appellants, for example, those whose applications for bail pending appeal have to remain pending for a long time due to unavailability of a transcribed record of proceedings; if so:

- (i) what measures are, or are to be put in place to ensure the swift transcription of records of proceedings; and
- (ii) to state the estimated cost of procuring a stenography machine for all courts of law.

• **STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR STATE PRESIDENT**

**MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT – DEFINITE
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

- "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider waiving the requirements by Land Boards to advertise available civic and community plots which are tendered for by local Batswana churches particularly in their territories or jurisdictions as it takes long for these churches to be allocated land."

(Mr. P. P. P. Moatlhodi, MP. – Tonota)

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

MOTIONS

0945 – 1230

REVAMPING SELEBI PHIKWE ECONOMY

1. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider revamping Selebi Phikwe economy through the mining industry by relocating the Department of Mines Headquarters to the town, prioritising the town for base metal processing plants such as smelters, refineries and manufacturing facilities; establishing a national Nickel and Copper Mining Museum; favouring the town for major mining events; and moving the Department of Mining and Geological Engineering of the College of Engineering and Technology at the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) from Palapye to Selebi Phikwe for the purpose of establishing BIUST Phikwe Campus among other workable current and past initiatives."

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

(Resumed Debate)

**GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER ASSISTING
FARMERS TO DRILL BOREHOLES**

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider assisting farmers to drill boreholes in their farms in order to encourage food security and food self-sufficiency."

(Mr. W. B. Mmolotsi, MP. – Francistown South)

**RELOCATION OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TO THE
MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

3. "That this Honourable House requests Government to relocate Primary Health Care to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development."

(Mr. F. T. Leuwe, MP. – Takatokwane)

**REVIEW OF THE POLICY ON ALLOCATION OF
BOREHOLES IN COMMUNAL AREAS**

4. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider reviewing the current policy concerning the allocation of boreholes in communal areas with a view to reduce the radius between boreholes from six (6) kilometres to four (4) kilometres in order to reduce the over concentration of cattle around limited boreholes resulting in over grazing."

(Dr. K. Gobotswang, MP. – Sefhare-Ramokgonami)

**SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE
BILLING SYSTEM AT WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION (WUC)**

5. "That this Honourable House resolves to setup a Special Select Committee as per the Standing Order to investigate on the water billing system at Water Utilities Corporation."

(Mr. O. Ramogapi, MP. – Palapye)

**DECLARATION OF GABORONE MAIN MALL
A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE**

6. "That this Honourable House requests Government to declare Gaborone Main Mall as part of Special Economic Zone geared towards the creative sector and entertainment hub."

(Mr. T. Mangwegape-Healy, MP. – Gaborone Central)

(Resumed Debate)

INSTALLATION OF BACKUP GENERATORS

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to install backup generators in all Government clinics in the Takatokwane Constituency as a matter of urgency."

(Mr. F. T. Leuwe, MP. – Takatokwane)

INCENTIVES FOR LONG SERVING CIVIL SERVANTS

8. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce an incentives programme for long serving civil servants to incentivise them to take early retirement and make way for younger, more able-bodied graduates with the right skill sets and qualifications so that they get an opportunity for employment in Government."

(Mr. B. Mathoothe, MP. – Serowe North)

INTRODUCTION OF A POLICY THAT COMPELS SUPERMARKETS TO SUB CONTRACT THEIR IN-HOUSE BUTCHERIES AND BAKERIES

9. "That this Honourable House requests Government to come up with a policy that compels supermarkets to sub-contract their in-house butcheries and bakeries to 100% citizen owned businesses in which the supermarket owners are not shareholders as a way of making up for mainstay businesses such as bakeries and general dealers which have generally closed down due to being outmuscled by supermarkets."

(Mr. M. Balopi, MP. – Gaborone North)

INTRODUCTION OF A RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

10. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce a Rural Water Supply Scheme in order to promote economic and social upliftment of the rural communities."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Ngami)

AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

11. "That this Honourable House requests Government to amend the Public Health Act in order to give the Director of Health Services powers to be able 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)

DESIGNATING MAUN A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

12. "That this Honourable House resolves that Maun be designated a Special Economic Zone for tourism."

(Mr. D. Saleshando, MP. – Maun West)

REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL SELF DRIVE CUSTOMERS

13. "That this Honourable House requests Government to regulate international self-drive customers to utilise local companies in undertaking their game drives and related activities in local National Parks and Game Reserves in an effort to promote economic inclusion of locals in the tourism industry."

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE ALLOCATION OF PLOTS

14. "That this Honourable House requests Government to expedite the allocation of plots earmarked for Self Help Housing Agency (SHAA) Project and business in Sowa Town."

(Mr. P. Majaga, MP. – Nata-Gweta)

REVIEW OF SPEDU INCENTIVES

15. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider reviewing SPEDU incentives to boost domestic and foreign investment."

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

GOVERNMENT TO EVOLVE A COMPREHENSIVE RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION STRATEGY

16. "That this Honourable House requests Government to expeditiously evolve a comprehensive rural industrialisation strategy with clear resource allocations and timelines to address unemployment and poverty in rural areas."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobonong)

QUOTA FOR LAND ALLOCATION TO CHURCHES

17. "That this Honourable House requests Government to set a quota of at least 30 percent for land allocation to churches on advertised plots and further demarcate plots to be specifically allocated to churches only."

(Mr. O. Ramogapi, MP. – Palapye)

BANNING OF NON-ESSENTIAL PLASTICS

18. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider banning the use of non-essential plastics."

(Mr. K. Nkawana, MP. – Selebi Phikwe East)

CREATION OF A CITY/TOWN IN THE NORTH WEST REGION

19. "That this Honourable House requests Government to create a city/town in the North West Region given that the North West Region is underdeveloped, but it could be the hub of tourism with a city/town that fits a tourism hub status in terms of infrastructural development and services. This is the Region which is home to Okavango River, Thamalakane River, Lake Ngami and a wide range of flora and fauna. Creation of a tourism city in this Region would not only put the country in a better position to exploit the rich natural resources found in the Region and to create jobs, but also because the country is ready for an additional city to alleviate crowding in the existing towns and cities."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Ngami)

AMENDMENT OF THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ACT

20. "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)