

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH, 2024)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

- 1. MR. M. I. MOSWAANE, MP. (FRANCISTOWN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to apprise this Honourable House on the status of brigades in Botswana and to further state: **(225)**

 - (i) how many are closed; and
 - (ii) the total number of students admitted.

- 2. MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to state: **(240)**

 - (i) how many times electricity tariffs and connection fees have been increased since April 2018;
 - (ii) the amounts and/or percentages of increase;
 - (iii) whether or not his Government is considering to make electricity to be Value Added Tax (VAT) free for domestic use; and/or
 - (iv) what is being done to make electricity access more affordable to domestic and industrial users.

- 3. MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs to brief this Honourable House on progress of the Maun Water Works Project; in particular: **(242)**

 - (i) the completion date of all the four (4) components of the project;
 - (ii) when the worsening Maun potable water situation will be improved and at what rate or percentage;
 - (iii) the number of compensation reports being handled by contractors;
 - (iv) how many cases have been resolved, those pending and why they are pending; and
 - (v) protection measures in place for non-compensated households upon the departure of contractors.

- 4. DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (SEFHARE-RAMOKGONAMI):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to apprise this Honourable House on labour issues in the Tuli Block commercial farms; the Minister should specifically state: **(246)**
- (i) if she is aware that farm workers are subjected to poor labour practices such as being paid below Statutory minimum wages, long working hours without overtime payment, unfair dismissals, living in squalor conditions, no sick leave and verbal abuse;
 - (ii) the number of labour inspections conducted since November 2019 indicating the last time such inspections were undertaken; and
 - (iii) whether she will consider opening labour offices in the Sefhare-Ramokgonami Constituency in consistent with the decentralisation policy.
- 5. MR. T. MANGWEGAPE-HEALY, MP. (GABORONE CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security to state: **(249)**
- (i) the number of reported drugs and substance abuse cases since 2022, and the percentage of the contributing drugs;
 - (ii) whether his Ministry is collecting data to collate the prevalence of drug abuse given how the scourge of drugs and abuse is afflicting the nation and whether besides reported police cases, the Ministry collects data from schools and clinics;
 - (iii) if he will consider propagating regulations that will increase the use of drug testing kits for certain services offered by Government as well as employment prospects, as a way to limit the use of drugs; and
 - (iv) what has been done to curb drugs entering the country since the establishment of Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), and ways it has implemented to limit drug abuse.
- 6. MR. W. B. MMOLOTSI, MP. (FRANCISTOWN SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to state: **(250)**
- (i) the reasons why this country still needs nominated Councilors;
 - (ii) the current number of nominated Councilors; and
 - (iii) the number of those from the ruling party and those from the opposition respectively.

- 7. MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBONONG):** To ask the Minister of Health: **(251)**
- (i) to apprise this Honourable House on the availability of specialists for different health conditions and how that relates to waiting periods for patients to receive specialised attention; and
 - (ii) to state the waiting period for different health conditions that need specialists' attention.
- 8. MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs to apprise this Honourable House on water supply disconnections by Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) in the Jwaneng-Mabutsane Constituency and to state: **(252)**
- (i) the Act governing water calibrations in Botswana;
 - (ii) how WUC implements this Act;
 - (iii) the total expenditure by WUC on sizing/calibrating water metres in the Jwaneng-Mabutsane Constituency from 2019 to date, broken down per year;
 - (iv) how many water metres in households and businesses were sized/calibrated during the same period;
 - (v) the number of households that have been calibrated since the inception of the Act;
 - (vi) the total outstanding amount owed to WUC by disconnected households;
 - (vii) how many households and businesses in the Jwaneng-Mabutsane Constituency have been disconnected due to unpaid bills from 2019 to date; and
 - (viii) how many households were disconnected post the COVID-19 waiver in 2022 to date.
- 9. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Finance to update this Honourable House on the status and progress of privatisation initiatives in Botswana and the potential considerations for specific entities like Air Botswana, specifically: **(253)**
- (i) which entities are earmarked for privatisation and the associated timelines for each;
 - (ii) over the past five (5) years, which entities have been successfully privatised, and what key lessons or learnings are derived from these privatisation efforts;

- (iii) has there ever been any consideration to privatise Air Botswana; if so, how far did the process progress, and why did it not reach its conclusion; and
- (iv) what are the primary factors causing delays or obstacles in the privatisation agenda, and what measures are being taken to address these challenges.

10. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST): To ask the Minister of Entrepreneurship whether he is aware that since the start of the Poverty Eradication/Wealth Creation Programme, there are beneficiaries who take up the programme and end up unceremoniously abandoning the equipment/programme, demonstrating lack of commitment; if so: **(254)**

- (i) what steps does the Ministry intend to take in order to correct the situation; and
- (ii) does the Ministry ever do market research to establish feasibility before giving out projects to potential beneficiaries in view of the fact that there is so much equipment lying idle in people's homes.

11. DR. U. DOW, MP. (SPECIALLY ELECTED): To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs: **(255)**

- (i) how many missions and which are they have no substantive High Commissioners or Ambassadors, as the case may be;
- (ii) to state the procedure for the appointment of Ambassadors and High Commissioners; and
- (iii) if there is a document detailing the process which one can share with students of Political Science.

12. MR. M. BALOPI, MP. (GABORONE NORTH): To ask the Minister for State President: **(256)**

- (i) how Botswana is performing in recognised international corruption indices and rankings, particularly whether the country is improving or regressing;
- (ii) what Botswana's performance is attributable to;
- (iii) in which sectors corruption is most prevalent; and
- (iv) how corruption has hampered Government's efforts to uplift the living standards of all Botswana.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY**HRS/MINS****COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY****1445 - 1900**

- Appropriation (2024/2025) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 1 of 2024) An Act to authorise the payment out of the Consolidated Fund and the Development Fund of sums of money for the year ending 31st March, 2025.

(Published on 1st February, 2024)

(Minister of Finance)

(Resumed Debate)

	<u>ORG</u>	<u>MINISTRY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>HRS/MINS</u>
Day 7	2100	Industrial Court	1445 hrs – 1645 hrs	2. 00
	1600	Independent Electoral Commission	1645 hrs – 1845 hrs	2.00
	1700	Office of the Ombudsman	1845 hrs – 1900 hrs	0.15