

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(MONDAY 18TH MARCH, 2024)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

- 1. 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.
- 2. MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH):** To ask the Minister for State President to apprise the Honourable House on the delay of paying salary arrears to many public service employees, which arose from a Court of Appeal Judgment on Multiple Graded C-Band positions, despite the Ministry of Finance allocating one billion, four hundred and ten million Pula (P1 410 000 000) for this purpose and to further state: **(258)**

 - (i) when employees can expect to receive their salary arrears;
 - (ii) if there has been any formal communication to the concerned employees regarding the non-payment of their salary arrears;
 - (iii) whether non-payment of salary arrears is not contempt of Court of Appeal Judgment; and
 - (iv) whether any action will be taken against officers who caused or contributed to the delay in payments of salary arrears.

- 3. MR. S. N. MOABI, MP. (TATI WEST):** To ask the Minister of Agriculture to state: **(259)**
- (i) plans in place to rehabilitate community dams for livestock watering;
 - (ii) the number of community dams currently in need of rehabilitation and the timeline for implementing these plans; and
 - (iii) what budget allocation was made for the rehabilitation of community dams and if there are any partnerships or collaborations with local communities or organisations involved.
- 4. MR. C. GREEFF, MP. (GABORONE BONNINGTON SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to update this Honourable House on the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Scholarship offered by the Indian High Commission for the year 2023-2024; he should further state: **(192)**
- (i) the total number of applicants distributed across the 57 constituencies;
 - (ii) the total number of successful applicants and their distribution by the 57 Constituencies;
 - (iii) the total number of successful applicants with Junior Certificate qualifications and those with Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE);
 - (iv) the key selection criteria and whether first come first served takes precedence over merit;
 - (v) if he is aware that there are applicants with lower BGCSE points who have been awarded scholarship over those with higher points; and
 - (vi) if he will be willing to investigate the ICCR scholarship during the last five (5) years for possible corruption, nepotism, favouritism and fraud.
- 5. MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to state and explain what "maximum power demand billing system" is, when it was conceived and implemented and elaborate on the exact rationale of the system and to explain how it differs from other billing system(s) that exist in Botswana Power Corporation (BPC); the Minister should further update this Honourable House on: **(264)**
- (i) the category or type of companies billed using the system;

- (ii) the criteria used to apply the billing to a manufacturing company or other companies;
 - (iii) the number of companies in Selebi Phikwe which are affected by the maximum power demand billing system and how this has affected manufacturing companies; and
 - (iv) if he will consider billing users, especially manufacturers, for the amount of power used as an incentive to lure domestic and foreign investors as a cost of production reduction measure.
6. **MR. P. K. MOTAOSANE, MP. (THAMAGA-KUMAKWANE):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to apprise this Honourable House on the status of Construction Industry Trust Fund (CITF) around the country especially Thamaga CITF and what is the intention of the Ministry about these institutions as it looks like the Ministry is not aware of what is happening in these Institutions. **(267)**
7. **MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to brief this Honourable House on whether all the individuals relocated to give way to Maun International Airport have been compensated, with particular emphasis on: **(271)**
- (i) the number of unpaid beneficiaries and target date of paying remaining beneficiaries;
 - (ii) the number of beneficiaries to be paid through Court/Trust process and the number of beneficiaries whose payments have been sent to High Court so far;
 - (iii) how the Ministry is addressing queries raised by unsatisfied beneficiaries; and
 - (iv) why his Ministry is not collecting queries directly from Disana or the affected community.
8. **MR. M. BALOPI, MP. (GABORONE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Finance to state the latest unemployment figures in Botswana, and: **(151)**
- (i) distribution of unemployment between male and female Batswana;
 - (ii) the level of graduate unemployment; and
 - (iii) whether Government has a strategy in place to increase economic activity in order to improve the prospects of job creation in both private and public sector.

9. **DR. N. TSHABANG, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Entrepreneurship to update this Honourable House on the financial status of the Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) and to further state: **(276)**
- (i) the amount owed for each year since 2019 and the cumulative amount owed to date;
 - (ii) if the current financial year has a promising turn around and to further elucidate if he is in a position to resuscitate the commission; and
 - (iii) if Batswana have been getting value for their livestock from BMC.
10. **MR. P. MAJAGA, MP. (NATA-GWETA):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development if he is aware of the Nata Senior Secondary school boys' hostels that were gutted by fire; if so: **(278)**
- (i) when the Minister and other senior Government officials intend to visit the school to appreciate the accident as they did in other schools;
 - (ii) what permanent plans are in place to maintain the boys' hostels;
 - (iii) to state short term plans in place to accommodate the 2024 Form Fours;
 - (iv) if he is aware that 2 out of 3 boys' hostels are burnt;
 - (v) when were the first and second blocks burnt; and
 - (vi) why his Ministry took long to respond to the first incident until the second one happened.
11. **MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister for State President: **(280)**
- (i) to state the number of acting or substantive Directors appointed to head the Directorate on Economic Crime and Corruption (DCEC) since April 2018 and the reasons for the changes; and
 - (ii) if the changes effected to the leadership of the DCEC enhance or erode their independence.

12. MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (NGAMI): To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development if Government through his Ministry ever conducts skills inventory in the public service, parastatals and private sector in the country; if it does: **(281)**

- (i) how often and what is meant to be their purpose; and
- (ii) do the outcomes of the inventory confirm or reject the long held view that there is a high level of skills' mismatch to the country labour market demand.

TABLING OF A PAPER

- Legal Aid Botswana Annual Report, 2022-2023.

(Minister of Justice)

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF A GOVERNMENT BILL

- Supplementary Appropriation (2022/2023) Bill, 2024 (Bill No. 5 of 2024) An Act to authorise the payment out of the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure incurred during the year ending 31st March, 2023.

(Published on 13th March, 2024)

(Minister of Finance)

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 13	3200	Land Tribunal	1445 hrs – 1705 hrs	2.20
	9000	Appropriations from Revenue	1705 hrs – 1735 hrs	0.30

AMENDMENTS

1. **Clause 2** of the Bill appearing at **page B.2** is amended by substituting for the sum, 'P93 410 348 024 (Ninety-Three Billion, Four Hundred and Ten Million, Three Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand and Twenty-Four Pula)', the sum "P93 710 348 024 (Ninety-Three Billion, Seven Hundred and Ten Million, Three Hundred and Forty-Eight Thousand and Twenty-Four Pula)".
2. **Clause 4** of the Bill appearing at **page B.2** is amended by substituting for the sum "P29 765 817 313 (Twenty-Nine Billion, Seven Hundred and Sixty-Five Million, Eight Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirteen Pula)", the sum "P30 065 817 313 (Thirty Billion, Sixty-Five Million, Eight Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirteen Pula)".
3. The **Schedule** to the Bill, appearing at **page B.3** is amended –
 - (a) at organisation 9100, by substituting for the sum "29 666 196 024" the sum "29 966 196 024"; and
 - (b) by substituting for the total sum of "93 410 348 024" appearing therein, the total sum of "93 710 348 024".

(Minister of Finance)