

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024)

MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

HRS/MINS

0900 - 0945

1. Minister of Local Government and Rural Development

THEME: STATE OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS FEEDING PROGRAMME, STATIONERY AND FURNITURE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to brief this Honourable House on the following:

- (i) status of feeding programme in primary schools across the country (if he is aware that there has been no food in primary schools since the schools re-opened);
- (ii) there is a shortage of stationery in primary schools across the country; and
- (iii) there is a shortage of school furniture in primary schools across the country.

(Mr. P. K. Motaosane, MP. – Thamaga-Kumakwane)

2. Minister for State President

THEME: BLACKLISTING OF PRIVATE COMPANIES BY THE DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY SERVICES (DISS)

To ask the Minister for State President:

- (i) if the Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DISS) is empowered by its Act to blacklist private companies from conducting business with Government or other private entities; if the answer is in the affirmative; and
- (ii) he should state the relevant section of the Act granting the DISS such powers and the measures in place to guard against possible abuse of such powers.

(Mr. D. Saleshando, MP. – Maun West)

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

- **MR. T. MANGWEGAPE-HEALY, MP. (GABORONE CENTRAL):** To ask the **(186)** Minister of Education and Skills Development:
 - (i) if he is aware that graduates of Gaborone University College's Bachelor's Degree in Construction have been refused registration by the relevant professional regulating bodies;

- (ii) which other courses/degrees have been conferred but face challenges relating to registration by their relevant professional regulating bodies;
- (iii) if the Minister is aware that some of these courses are approved by Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA) yet the relevant professional regulating bodies refuse to register them;
- (iv) what actions have been taken against the schools where foul play has been found in terms of offering courses that are being denied professional registration; and
- (v) what actions have been taken against the professional bodies that refuse to register graduates even after it has been proven that the courses meet the set standards.

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, prioritizing 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)

**GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER INTRODUCING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT
AND CHILD SUPPORT GRANT IN BOTSWANA**

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government that as a measure to combat Gender Based Violence (GBV), the Government should consider introducing unemployment benefit and child support grant in Botswana."

(Mr. Y. Boko, MP. – Mahalapye East)

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

3. "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**

4. "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**

5. "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)

EXEMPTION OF TAX ON SANITARY PRODUCTS

6. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider extending the same tax exemption applicable to certain staple food items to sanitary products in order to improve accessibility especially for low income households who cannot afford such."

(Mr. M. Balopi, MP. – Gaborone North)

GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A LAND AUDIT

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to conduct a comprehensive land audit to determine ownership, distribution, use or misuse of land in Botswana with a view to evolve an efficient, productive and equitable land use plan for the country."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobonong)

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

8. "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)

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

9. "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)

INSTALLATION OF BACKUP GENERATORS

10. "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

11. "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

12. "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)

TRANSFER OF FACULTY OF ENGINEERING TO SELIBE PHIKWE

13. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to transfer Faculty of Engineering from University of Botswana to Selibe Phikwe."

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

INTRODUCTION OF A RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

14. "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

15. "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

16. "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

17. "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

18. "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

19. "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)

SALE OF BRANDED OR EARMARKED MATIMELA CATTLE

20. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider stopping the sale of Matimela cattle that are fully branded or earmarked (sufficient identification), but instead contact the owners at a cost."

(Mr. Y. Boko, MP. – Mahalapye East)

GOVERNMENT TO EVOLVE A COMPREHENSIVE RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION STRATEGY

21. "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

22. "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

23. "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

24. "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

25. "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)