

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY, 2024)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 – 1445

- 1. DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (SEFHARE-RAMOKGONAMI):** To ask the Minister of Health to update this Honourable House on progress in respect of previous assurances that the Ministry will install and commission Medical Oxygen Generating Plants at all primary hospitals as well as the supply of one hundred and fifty (150), 10-15 litres per minute oxygen concentrators. **(167)**
- 2. MR. T. MANGWECAPHE-HEALY, MP. (GABORONE CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state: **(181)**

 - (i) the total number of reported labour violations/issues for each year in the last five (5) years;
 - (ii) which top five (5) sectors have the largest labour violations/issues reported; and
 - (iii) if the Minister is aware that security guards, shop assistants, and cleaners tend to be undermined by their employers in matters of labour issues, among them late payments, unfair dismissals and failure by the employers to respect/or implement rulings from labour mediation; and if so, what is being done about it.
- 3. MR. S. N. MOABI, MP. (TATI WEST):** To ask the Minister of Defence and Security: **(182)**

 - (i) if there is any new strategy implemented to reduce cross border crimes in areas like Moroka and Mbalambi; and
 - (ii) what specific measures are being taken to enhance border security and prevent criminal activities in these areas.
- 4. MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works: **(183)**

 - (i) whether any budgetary allocations or design plans have been put in place for the upgrading of the Ghanzi-New Xade/East/West Hanahai road to bitumen standard; and
 - (ii) what is the envisaged commencement date for the road.

5. **MR. P. K. MOTAOSANE, MP. (THAMAGA-KUMAKWANE):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to update this Honourable House on the following: **(184)**
- (i) what is the number of licenses issued out in the Thamaga, Moshupa and Kanye areas for pit sand and gravel and the various categories of the holders, whether citizens, non-citizens and/or communities, for example, Trusts and Village Development Committee (VDC);
 - (ii) when the Minister intends to dialogue with the said communities for possible lifting of the moratorium on licensing for sand mining South of Dibete; and
 - (iii) what penalties are there for illegal miners currently and any statistics on those who have already been punished.
6. **DR. T. MATSHEKA, MP. (LOBATSE):** To ask the Minister of Finance to specify/disclose/share the total number of subsidy programmes implemented by the Government of Botswana (GOB) by sector or at best by Ministry; and further state: **(185)**
- (i) the total cost of each programme to the Government coffers during the last four (4) financial/fiscal years as both an absolute amount and a proportion of total revenues in each financial year;
 - (ii) if GOB has an overall assessment criteria for the approval of these subsidy programmes and to share it if any exists;
 - (iii) which one of these subsidy programmes has been the most successful as per the set criteria and objectives; and
 - (iv) whether the level and penetration of subsidies in any economy reflects its underdevelopment.
7. **DR. N. TSHABANG, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs to outline the steps involved in acquiring land as espoused by the Land Board authorities up to the stage of Secure Land Title. The Minister should further state: **(188)**
- (i) if he does not consider these steps way too long for this process; and
 - (ii) what he intends to do to shorten the period in order to alleviate the land allocation crisis.

- 8. MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Health **(189)** to state:
- (i) the number of patients on the waiting list for medical procedures or operations not offered by Letsholathebe Hospital;
 - (ii) the average waiting period for each procedure;
 - (iii) the longest waiting period that patients have been subjected to for each procedure; and
 - (iv) if there are private medical facilities in Maun that offer services not available at Letsholathebe Hospital for which patients have been referred to facilities outside Maun.
- 9. MR. D. TSHERE, MP. (MAHALAPYE WEST):** To ask the Minister for State President if he is aware that between 1992 and 1994, the industrial class employees who were transferred to Permanent and Pensionable basis were paid using 20 working days per month while other employees in the same category were paid using 22 working days per month; if so, to explain the following: **(170)**
- (i) if he is aware of a court judgment ordering payment of the differences;
 - (ii) when can these people expect the money;
 - (iii) if he is aware that some of the beneficiaries are now pensioners or deceased; and
 - (iv) whether such money can be claimed by beneficiaries' children.
- 10. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to apprise this Honourable House on his Ministry's efforts to foster sustainable development and equitable economic growth, in particular, to explain the extent of local participation in the mining sector's economic opportunities, to expound on the developmental impact of these investments, as well as explain the regulatory framework ensuring responsible mining practices and further state: **(190)**
- (i) Mine Ownership Transitions: Providing a detailed list of the mines that were previously operational and have since been purchased by Botswana entities or individuals in the last five years (2019-2023), including the names of these mines and their new owners;

- (ii) Development Stages: what are the various stages of development for these mines since their acquisition and detail any advancements or expansions undertaken by the new owners within this period;
- (iii) Legal Framework and Development Standards: What does our current legislation dictate concerning the required level of development and operation for mines within our jurisdiction and how the law ensures these mines meet our national standards for environmental, social, and governance (ESG) compliance; and
- (iv) Liability and Accountability: In the event of non-compliance with ESG standards, who bears the primary liability for these mines, furthermore, what sanctions or penalties could be imposed on those found culpable of violating environmental, social, or governance regulations.

11. MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (NGAMI): To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs to update this Honourable House on the state and progress of the new Secure Land Title certificate issuance which follows from the Land Administration Procedures Capacity and Systems (LAPCAS) programme from 2009; and to further state: **(191)**

- (i) how many certificates have been issued across the country since the launch of the programme in June 2022 by His Excellency the President Dr. M. E. K. Masisi in Moshupa and specifically how many were issued in the Ngami Constituency;
- (ii) how much has been spent in the reform since LAPCAS (2009) up to date; and
- (iii) if this has improved the land allocation and administration in the country, if so, to state how.

12. 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.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

SECOND READING

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)