

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**(MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**1400 – 1445**

- 1. MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (NGAMI):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to apprise this Honourable House on the state of the Gumare dumping site and sewage pond and to further state: **(213)**

  - (i) if he is aware of the risk and danger posed by the Gumare dumping site and Sewage pond to the residents of Gumare and their livestock; and
  - (ii) measures taken to arrest the situation.
- 2. MR. B. MATHOOTHE, MP. (SEROWE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to update this Honourable House on the Mabeleapodi road stretch project and to further state what has caused the delay in the commencement of the project. **(215)**
- 3. DR. T. MATSHEKA, MP. (LOBATSE):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to apprise this Honourable House on the following: **(217)**

  - (i) the turnaround time for the payment of suppliers at Debswana and the age analysis thereof;
  - (ii) the number of companies that are owed beyond the threshold set internally by Debswana and the total amount owed to suppliers;
  - (iii) how many of the owed companies are citizen owned in number and percentage; and
  - (iv) whether this is a temporary outcome and if so, how it promotes citizen empowerment.
- 4. MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to brief this Honourable House on the progress made from the Ipelegeng Skills Development Component (ISDC) in particular: **(218)**

- (i) the turnaround period on projects and if it makes economic sense to continue with the model on public projects;
- (ii) the turnaround period of the LA2 house built through the model in Sexaxa/Maun East;
- (iii) why the Boseja Central/Maun East 800 metres road paving earmarked for the same project has not progressed as per schedule;
- (iv) the cost overrun implications of ISDC projects being completed late and mitigations against such cost overruns; and
- (v) if trainers are able to be part of the project for extended periods, if it is at an extra cost.

**5. MR. T. MANGWECAPHE-HEALY, MP. (GABORONE CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture to update this Honourable House on the National Arts Council: **(220)**

- (i) what has been achieved since it became operational;
- (ii) what challenges/impediments have been faced; and
- (iii) what the Arts Council is doing to help local creatives to monetise their content on social media considering that some platforms like YouTube do not allow for Batswana based users to monetise their content.

**6. MR. D. TSHERE, MP. (MAHALAPYE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Health to apprise this Honourable House on Boiler Operator Services at Ministry of Health and to further state: **(222)**

- (i) which Department Boiler Operators belong to;
- (ii) how many Boiler Operators the Ministry should have as per the establishment register;
- (iii) how many are supposed to be at Mahalapye District Hospital in Mahalapye West Constituency;
- (iv) when the Ministry started hiring Boiler Operators;
- (v) the salary scale attached to the employment of Boiler Operators;
- (vi) what the plan was at the time regarding their promotion, progression, training and development;
- (vii) if he is aware that there is no Scheme of Service for Boiler Operators as such they have been stuck at the entry level scale for over fourteen (16) years;

- (viii) the Ministry's plan to rectify this seemingly unfair treatment of workers;
- (ix) how his Ministry plans to compensate for the years Boiler Operators did not have a Scheme of Service thereby disadvantaging them; and
- (x) if he will consider recommending that Boiler Operators countrywide be moved to B3 Salary Scale with effect from 2011 and progress to B2 Salary Scale from 2016 and progress to B1 Salary Scale from 2017 and pay them accordingly in recognition of his Ministry's omission of not putting in place measures to ensure that they benefit appropriately from progression, promotion and development.

**7. MR. O. REGOENG, MP. (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to update this Honourable House on the improvement made in terms of students intake at Molepolole institute of Health Sciences: **(223)**

- (i) total number of students currently enrolled;
- (ii) the different programmes offered and the number of students for each programme;
- (iii) the actual designed maximum students carrying capacity of the institute;
- (iv) if the school is operating at full capacity as per its design or not; and
- (v) whether all the academic staff are Batswana.

**8. 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.

**9. MR. D. L. KEORAPETSE, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister for State President if he will consider paying teachers 26 days, or more days than currently paid, so as to restore the tradition of teachers in schools working outside the normal eight (8) hours a day: **(219)**

- (i) the Minister should state if he appreciates the ramifications of treating teachers like ordinary civil servants and subjecting them to typical civil service structures especially under the Public Service Act;

- (ii) to update this Honourable House on whether he has conducted any study to assess the results of this relatively new policy; and
- (iii) to explain his engagement with teachers' unions on the same.

**10. DR. U. DOW, MP. (SPECIALLY ELECTED):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development: **(226)**

- (i) whether he accepts that;
  - (a) there has been a steady but sure shrinking of social services to the poor and vulnerable people since the onset of COVID-19;
  - (b) not every person assessed for assistance by his Ministry is actually assisted;
  - (c) the assistance for persons living with disabilities is not available to all those in need;
  - (d) the Government's policy on universal access to health care is undermined when everyone, including the poor, are expected to buy their own medication;
  - (e) the deterioration of the education system, leading to the mushrooming of unregulated tuition centres, will affect the poor more than the wealthy; and if so;
- (ii) what new policy and programing reforms will he initiate to address this situation before it worsens.

**11. MR. M. BALOPI, MP. (GABORONE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works whether he is aware that public infrastructure is generally dilapidated and not well maintained, e.g. classrooms, hospitals, police stations etc, and if so; to state: **(227)**

- (i) why maintenance of Government infrastructure, especially buildings, is often delayed, compared to private sector infrastructure;
- (ii) if there are any plans in place to streamline processes, especially the procurement process, with a view to reducing the length of time taken before damaged or worn-out infrastructure is attended to; and
- (iii) if there is room for private sector players to come on board and assist in infrastructure development maintenance as necessary without being subjected to bureaucratic red tape.

- 12. MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to state the short-term solution for the Marakanelo Junior Secondary School drainage system since the kitchen is affected by the flowing drainage water. **(228)**

**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 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.

(Published on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2024)

(Minister of Finance)

|       | <b><u>ORG</u></b> | <b><u>MINISTRY</u></b> | <b><u>TIME</u></b>  | <b><u>HRS/MINS</u></b> |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Day 1 | 0100              | Parliament             | 1445 hrs – 1645 hrs | 2.00                   |
|       | 0200              | State President        | 1645 hrs – 1900 hrs | 2.15                   |