

BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY, 2024)

QUESTIONS

HRS/MINS

1400 - 1445

- 1. MR. P. MAJAGA, MP. (NATA-GWETA):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to state: **(306)**
- (i) if he is aware of the frequent power cuts in the Nata-Gweta Constituency;
 - (ii) if it is mandatory for his Ministry to provide electricity for Batswana in the Nata-Gweta Constituency or his Ministry is doing them a favour;
 - (iii) what action has been taken to assist the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) in Nata since power cuts occur every year during rainy season;
 - (iv) what plans are in place to have a permanent solution for power cuts not to occur in future;
 - (v) if he is aware of the damage caused by power cuts on electrical appliances;
 - (vi) if he is aware of the impact of power cuts on the businesses in the Nata-Gweta Constituency especially butcheries; and
 - (vii) if there is any provision to compensate for business losses caused by power cuts.
- 2. MR. J. L. THIITE, MP. (GHANZI NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy if he is aware that whenever there are veld fires in some areas, electricity timber poles are burnt resulting in some villages enduring days without electricity supply; if so: **(296)**
- (i) when will his Ministry consider using concrete poles in veld fire prone areas as a long term solution taking into account their superior fire rating and other factors compared to timber and steel poles; if not, what is the position in this regard; and

- (ii) to elaborate on the Expression of Interest (EOI) 3531/19 concerning the establishment of a manufacturing plant for the production, supply, and delivery of concrete poles and cross arms to Botswana Power Corporation (BPC).

3. MR. M. I. MOSWAANE, MP. (FRANCISTOWN WEST): To ask the Minister of Transport and Public Works to brief this Honourable House: **(315)**

- (i) on the legal frameworks and statutes guiding transportation of goods by foreign operators from Botswana to other countries, in particular Zimbabwe;
- (ii) if he is aware that private Zimbabwean transport operators are taking goods from Botswana to Zimbabwe which fuels lack of business opportunities for Botswana;
- (iii) if he is aware that his Ministry has directed that the above practise must stop but to date it is still happening despite the fact that the department of transport and road safety knows about it;
- (iv) on how many foreigners were caught from 2020 to 2023, crossing or conducting businesses at ungazetted point of entry into Botswana; and
- (v) what are the remedial actions in place to stop the practise and when will it be stopped.

4. MR. M. REATILE, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE): To ask the Minister of Education and Skills Development to apprise this Honourable House on basic education in the country and to state: **(316)**

- (i) how the Ministry is working to improve the quality of education and learning in rural schools in Thankane, Mahotshwane, Kanaku and Itholoke; and
- (ii) if there are specific programmes aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by students, teachers and schools in these rural areas to ensure that they have access to a quality education.

5. DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (SEFHARE-RAMOKGONAMI): To ask the Minister of Agriculture to update this Honourable House on the state of the Machaneng District Agricultural Offices; he should specifically state: **(265)**

- (i) if he is aware that the offices have been declared environmentally uninhabitable for continued use; and

- (ii) whether there are plans to construct new offices indicating timelines.

6. MR. P. K. MOTAOSANE, MP. (THAMAGA-KUMAKWANE): To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to state whether: **(317)**

- (i) he is aware that councils refuse to grade roads leading to *masimo* and settlements even though such roads are de-bushed under the Ipelegeng programme;
- (ii) such a scenario is not counterproductive to the good initiatives by Government to create access to production centres; and
- (iii) he will consider instructing councils to start grading such roads with immediate effect.

7. MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBONONG): To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism to update this Honourable House on the following: **(318)**

- (i) review of compensation rates for damages caused by wildlife;
- (ii) review in compensable species and plants/crops;
- (iii) compensation rates for persons killed by wildlife; and
- (iv) estimated time frame for the completion of the compensation review exercise.

8. MR. T. LETSHOLO, MP. (KANYE NORTH): To ask the Minister of Finance to apprise this Honourable House on the role of Asset Management firms in supporting local businesses in terms of investment and capital raising and the potential regulatory measures being explored to stimulate Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) growth; in particular: **(319)**

- (i) over the past three (3) years, how much capital have Asset Managers invested in local businesses with an annual turnover of less than P50 million each year;
- (ii) for the same period, disclose the number of local businesses with less than P50 million in annual turnover that Asset Managers have rejected as investment opportunities each year;

- (iii) has the Government considered implementing a regulatory requirement specifying a certain portion of investments to be directed towards Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Botswana; if not, what are the reasons behind the decision;
 - (iv) elaborate on the potential benefits to Botswana's economy and business development, particularly for SMEs, if such regulatory requirement was to be implemented.
- 9. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs whether his Ministry does not consider the current process of change of land use and application of land use planning too lengthy and costly, where one has to first request for consent to apply at Land Board, go to Council Physical Planning offices and back to Land Board for final application. **(320)**
- 10. MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development to state: **(321)**
- (i) the current number of Wards per Administrative District as well as the number of wards inclusive of the new ward demarcations following the Constituency Delimitation exercise; and
 - (ii) if the increases are aligned to population growth in all the districts and where the increases are not based on population increase, to state the factors that were considered for each district and the number of wards demarcated not proportionate to population growth.
- 11. MR. O. REGOENG, MP. (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Water Affairs whether he is aware of the protracted dispute between Kweneng Land Board and a certain individual over a piece of land designated for a tribal cemetery at Magokotswane in Molepolole; if so: **(322)**
- (i) to state the number of years the matter has dragged; and
 - (ii) how soon the matter will be resolved.
- 12. MR. M. G. J. MOTSAMAI, MP. (GHANZI SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Finance if she will consider cancelling the 4% levy charge for farmers as they account for different charges regarding livestock development. **(313)**

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

SECOND READING

1445 – 1800

- | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Electoral (Amendment) Bill, 2023
(Bill No. 21 of 2023) | An Act to amend the Electoral
Act. |
|----|---|---------------------------------------|

(Published on 1st December, 2023)

(Mr. D. Saleshando, MP. – Maun West)

(Resumed Debate)

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2. | Electoral (Amendment) Bill, 2024
(Bill No. 7 of 2024) | An Act to amend the Electoral
Act. |
|----|--|---------------------------------------|

(Published on 5th April, 2024)

(Mr. D. L. Keorapetse, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)