

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER          P A P E R**

**(MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2025)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**1400 – 1445**

1. **MR. K. S. GARE, MP. (MOSHUPA-MANYANA):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure to state progress on the reconstruction of the Moshupa bypass bridge which collapsed after heavy rains in 2021; and to further state: (380)
  - (i) why the construction was stopped; and
  - (ii) when his Ministry intends to resume the construction of the bridge.
  
2. **MR. K. K. KAPINGA, MP. (OKAVANGO WEST):** To ask the Minister of Finance to update this Honourable House on what initiatives, if any, his Government has implemented to deal with the following critical issues: (381)
  - (i) corruption in procurement, particularly inflation of prices and sub-standard work and whether the adoption of direct appointment in awarding of tenders is not going to exacerbate the problem;
  - (ii) cost containment measures and suppression of wasteful spending by Government, councils and parastatals; and
  - (iii) resuscitation of the economy.
  
3. **MR. G. SEDOMBO, MP. (TONOTA):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism to state: (382)
  - (i) elephant statistics in the Eastern part of Botswana being the North East, Tonota and Bobirwa Districts; and
  - (ii) Government plans regarding the human wildlife conflict i.e. if the Government has any intention to reduce the number of these elephants and if so, how.

4. **MR. G. DISHO, MP. (OKAVANGO EAST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to state: (383)
- (i) if Government will consider piloting some horticultural and arable farming projects in Okavango East Constituency since it has vast land, fertile alluvial soils and plenty of water from the Okavango River which could be harvested from the subtropical rains up in the north;
  - (ii) if he is aware of any efforts in the past and why the projects were stopped;
  - (iii) if there is anything being considered as a massive horticultural and arable farming project to help create employment and improve food security in the Constituency; and
  - (iv) when he will consider setting up an Artificial Insemination (AI) station to improve the cattle farming industry in Okavango East.
5. **MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST):** To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to brief this Honourable House on existing Citizen Empowerment Programmes (CEP) in different mines, their benefits and challenges experienced, in particular: (384)
- (i) the difference of operations between Debswana and Naledi;
  - (ii) if Naledi is a Debswana labour broker; if not, why Debswana workers are literally running Naledi as Board members;
  - (iii) the number of citizen companies benefitting from CEP in different mines;
  - (iv) skills transfer development programmes in place to usher in a citizen and privately owned mine dispensation in the near future through CEP; and
  - (v) processes in place to curb citizens fronting for foreign companies in Mines.
6. **MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBIRWA):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to apprise this Honourable House of any new agricultural programmes and schemes that have been introduced to improve or replace those that have existed in previous years. (385)
7. **MR. A. K. KHAN, MP. (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism to give an update on the following: (386)
- (i) how much communities have benefited from the lifting of the hunting ban;
  - (ii) what markets are open to selling hunting trophies;

- (iii) how many concession leases ended in the last twenty (20) years to date, how many have been renewed and which ones have been renewed;
  - (iv) the role of the Landboard, Ministry of Lands and Agriculture and Ministry of Environment and Tourism in the allocation of concessions and leases and what is delaying the renewal of leases and the effect on investor confidence, both local and international;
  - (v) the mandate of Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO), its successes and failures in the last five (5) years as well as its compliance status with the Auditor General; and
  - (vi) how many concessions have been awarded to citizens in the last ten (10) years and/or how many Botswana have acquired shareholding in concessions in the last ten (10) years.
8. **MR. K. C. HIKUAMA, MP. (MAUN WEST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to brief this Honourable house on the current, health, well-being and adaptation of the imported cattle to Botswana's environmental conditions. To further state: (387)
- (i) the current number, accounting for mortalities, or new birth since their arrival;
  - (ii) the uptake rate of the germplasm (semen and embryo) by the local farmers;
  - (iii) are there plans to distribute these important genetics (semen/embryos or even offspring) more widely across the country, beyond the Ramatlabama facility to ensure equitable access for all farmers; and
  - (iv) mechanisms in place to ensure that small holder farmers who constitute, the majority of cattle owners can affordably access these improved genetics.
9. **MR. S. O. MAPULANGA, MP. (CHOBE):** To ask the Minister of Finance to state: (388)
- (i) the total number of parastatals in Botswana;
  - (ii) the total number of parastatals that are operating profitably;
  - (iii) the total number of parastatals that are not operating profitably and the specific constraints for each of these parastatals;
  - (iv) the criteria for the appointment of Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and members of the Board of Directors of parastatals;

- (v) if he will not consider making changes which will subject the appointment of CEOs and members of the Board of Directors of parastatals to approval by Parliament to curb political and prejudiced appointments and restore public confidence in individuals occupying these offices;
  - (vi) whether the salary scales of CEOs of parastatals are proportionate to the total revenue and profits of each entity; and
  - (vii) the remedy to parastatals that are not operating profitably.
10. **MR. M. MOALOSI, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Health to update this Honourable House on the plans to introduce Injectable Antiretrovirals (ARVs) for HIV treatment and to further state: (389)
- (i) what caused the delays in introducing the Injectable ARVs since they were long approved in 2022;
  - (ii) the opportunity costs caused by such delays; and
  - (iii) benefits that can be realised from using injectable ARVs instead of daily pills.
11. **MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure whether the Government has any confirmed or proposed plans to introduce toll gates along the A1 Highway and if so: (390)
- (i) what is the anticipated timeline and geographic coverage of toll gates installations;
  - (ii) has Government explored the designation and upgrading of alternative national routes like Malolwane–Mmapashalala route to ease pressure on the A1, ensure affordable rural mobility and protect local economies that could be adversely affected by toll fees if they are installed considering that the A1 is the most heavily trafficked commercial corridor in the country and a critical north–south trade route;
  - (iii) to indicate any possibility of urgently upgrading the Malolwane–Mmapashalala road, which traverses key rural settlements and connects Kgatleng and Central Districts, serving as a viable toll-free alternative for local transport operators, small holder farmers, cross-border traders using Zanzibar Border Post and inter-district travelers;
  - (iv) how many border-crossing trucks and logistics vehicles does the A1 currently accommodate monthly, and what proportion of them might reasonably be expected to shift to alternate routes if tolls were introduced;

- (v) which constituencies including Kgatleng East, Mahalapye East and others would benefit from the development of this alternative corridor, and what is the estimated combined population of these areas;
  - (vi) given Botswana's current economic challenges, including the need for new revenue streams, rural infrastructure equity, agricultural logistics support and reduced dependency on the overstretched A1 has his Ministry used any models or projections to estimate potential revenue collection, particularly from cross-border transporters and logistics operators who rely heavily on the A1; and
  - (vii) will he consider prioritising the installation of toll gates and prior to that the construction of the Malolwane to Mmaphashalala road as a priority alternative national infrastructure project, either within the framework of NDP12 or through a supplementary emergency infrastructure stimulus plan.
12. **MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to update this Honourable House on the cattle restocking in Tati East; in particular: (391)
- (i) what Government intends to do to help or compensate farmers whose cattle died because of heart water disease; and
  - (ii) when the restocking exercise will be completed.

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**HRS/MINS**

**SECOND READING**

**1445 – 1800**

- Employment and Labour Relations Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 10 of 2025)
 

An Act to establish the labour institutions; to provide for the fundamental rights of employment and labour standards; to provide for a framework to promote sound labour relations and orderly collective bargaining; to provide for a framework for the prevention and settlement of disputes; and for matters incidental thereto and connected therewith.

(Published on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2025)

(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)

(Resumed Debate)

## **COMMITTEE STAGE**

- Medical Aid Funds Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 5 of 2025) An Act to provide for the regulation and administration of medical aid funds, including medical aid fund administrators, medical aid fund brokers and managed care organisations operating in Botswana for the purpose of ensuring protection of members of medical aid funds and, enhancing their financial soundness; and for purposes incidental thereto and connected therewith.

(Published on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2025)

(Minister of Finance)

## **AMENDMENTS**

1. The Bill is amended at **Clause 59(1)(a)** appearing on **page B. 48**, by substituting for the word "accreditation" appearing therein, the word "approval".

(Minister of Finance)

2. The Bill is amended on **page B.51** by inserting the following new clause after **Clause 64** under Part XIII of the Bill –

*"Appointment of principal officers for brokers and administrators"* 64A. The provisions of sections 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 39, 40 and 53 shall, with necessary modifications, apply to a medical aid fund broker and an administrator, in so far as the modifications are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act."

(Minister of Finance)

## **MOTIONS**

### **ADOPTION OF THE BOTSWANA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICY**

1. "That this Honourable House resolves to adopt the Botswana Occupational Safety and Health Policy."

(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)

### **ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS POLICY**

2. "That this Honourable House resolves to adopt the National Productivity and Competitiveness Policy."

(Minister of Labour and Home Affairs)