

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER          PAPER**

**(WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**1400 - 1445**

1. **MR. P. M. SEGOKGO, MP. (TLOKWENG):** To ask the Minister of International Relations if he is aware of any citizens of Botswana who have sought asylum in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom; if so, to state: (501)
  - (i) the reported numbers of such asylum seekers in each country over the past five (5) years;
  - (ii) the reasons cited by these asylum seekers; and
  - (iii) steps, if any, the Government has taken to address the root causes leading to such asylum claims.
2. **MR. L. BARONGWANG, MP. (MOGODITSHANE EAST):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to state: (502)
  - (i) the current capacity and legal empowerment of Government officers, beyond judicial magistrates and judges, who are authorised to hear and issue legally binding rulings on labour disputes in Botswana, specifically detailing the roles and powers of the Commissioner of Labour and arbitrators under the Trade Disputes Act, 2016;
  - (ii) the average turnaround time for labour-related matters to be completed within the Ministry's dispute resolution framework for the last three (3) financial years (2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24), compared to the Ministry's set targets; and
  - (iii) the specific legislative amendments being considered to enhance the adjudicatory powers of labour officers and address any identified delays.
3. **MR. J. J. FRENZEL, MP. (SHASHE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure when the A30 Road at Matakana that leads to A3 which passes through Matsitama and Lepashe will be tarred. (503)
4. **MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement: (504)
  - (i) whether there is no refund for drilling of a borehole and hitting a blank;

- (ii) how drilling companies and surveyors are regulated so that Batswana get value for their money;
  - (iii) if he is aware that a lot of agricultural projects fail because of farmers hitting blanks and still losing money in the process; and
  - (iv) if he is aware that most drilling companies work with unregistered and unregulated surveyors allegedly robbing farmers of their hard-earned money.
5. **MR. G. SEDOMBO, MP. (TONOTA):** To ask the Minister of Health to state: (505)
- (i) when the planned construction of Tonota Primary Hospital (Level 1) will commence since its inclusion in the approved Second Transitional Development Plan (April 2023-March 2025);
  - (ii) why Government does not consider undertaking the project's pre-construction activities such as design and assessment studies now in order to shorten the implementation period at the time when construction starts since the plot of the planned hospital has been identified; and
  - (iii) what his Ministry is currently doing to improve access to enhanced health services to area residents during the time when there is no hospital in the whole of Tonota District.
6. **MR. M. M. MOROLONG, MP. (KGATLENG CENTRAL):** To ask the Minister of Higher Education to state: (506)
- (i) the number of operational flying aviation schools in Botswana;
  - (ii) why there is no life insurance cover for training students;
  - (iii) the total number of students enrolled in these schools;
  - (iv) pending applications for school registration; and
  - (v) the number of trainees (students) who lost their lives in aviation tragedies and how their families were compensated.
7. **MR. K. S. GARE, MP. (MOSHUPA-MANYANA):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement if he is aware that despite the promises made during the last parliament, the queries raised by Moshupa residents with regard to the damages to their properties (especially houses) that occurred during the water sanitation project have not been addressed; if so: (507)
- (i) when does he intend to bring this matter to closure; and
  - (ii) will he consider addressing a Kgotla meeting specifically to speak to those who were affected.

8. **MR. R. M. LEKUTLANE, MP. (KGALAGADI NORTH):** To ask the Minister for State President to update this Honourable House on the number of Police Stations being constructed under the Development Manager (DM) model; and to further state: (508)
- (i) the number of on-site professional staff for both the contractor and the employer, with their qualifications and experiences, especially at Hukuntsi Police station;
  - (ii) whether his Ministry is satisfied with the site establishment in place now; and
  - (iii) whether the District Coordinators under the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure have any input during the construction of these Police stations or are just spectators on the projects they are to inherit after completion.
9. **MR. T. BOGATSU, MP. (LENTSWELETAU-LEPHEPHE):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to state plans to assist Ramankhung pupils who travel long distances to access education at Dikgatlhong village about 10 kilometres away. (509)
10. **MR. R. W. KAIZER, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services if he is aware that there is no officer designated to handle employee-employer relations at the Selebi Phikwe Industrial court; if so, to state: (510)
- (i) the reason for such a shortage in a town of about 18 200 labour force;
  - (ii) why the vacancy has not been filled; and
  - (iii) the total expenditure for transport logistics related to the said officer commuting from Francistown to Selebi Phikwe every Tuesday in the past twelve (12) months.
11. **MR. O. KEDIKILWE, MP. (SEROWE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs to state: (511)
- (i) when Mmashoro clinic will operate on a 24 hours basis as it has long been upgraded; and
  - (ii) what has caused the delay; if any.
12. **MR. O. KWAPA, MP. (JWANENG-MABUTSANE):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to state plans to upgrade the five (5) junior secondary schools to senior secondary schools or build a much more needed Senior Secondary School in the Jwaneng-Mabutsane Constituency. (512)

- **STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

## NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

### SECOND READING

1445 - 1800

- Cannabis Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 25 of 2025) An Act to provide for the regulation of the cultivation, manufacture, production, storage, distribution, import and export of cannabis for medicinal, scientific or research or industrial purpose; establish the National Cannabis Control Authority which will be responsible for the licensing of cannabis for medicinal, scientific, research or industrial purposes; provide for security measures for the cultivation, manufacture, production, storage, distribution, import and export of cannabis for medicinal, scientific, research or industrial purposes; domesticate Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

(Published on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2025)

(Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture)

(Resumed Debate)

### COMMITTEE STAGE

1. Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 22 of 2025) An Act to amend the Value Added Tax Act.

(Published on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2025)

(Minister of Finance)

2. Digital Services Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 23 of 2025) An Act to provide for the regulation of digital services; to enhance the management and promotion of digital services and processes; to establish the Digital Services Authority which shall be responsible for the formulation of digital services standards and provide for its functions; facilitate access to digital services to improve service delivery, administrative functions and productivity in order to enhance public access to digital services and information; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental, to the foregoing.

(Published on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2025)

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

## **AMENDMENT**

- The Bill is amended at **Clause 3** appearing on **page B.542**, by substituting for subsection (2), appearing therein, the following new subsection –

"(2) This Act shall not apply to the provision of digital services by or on behalf of the State, to the extent that adequate safeguards have been provided for or established necessary, where it involves national security, defence, public safety, customs and taxation".

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

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| 3. Cybersecurity Bill, 2025 (Bill No. 24 of 2025) | An Act to provide for the establishment of structures to promote cybersecurity and capacity building in Botswana; to regulate and promote the development of cybersecurity activities in the country; to provide for the identification and declaration of critical information infrastructures and measures to protect critical information infrastructures; to provide for secure and cyber resilient systems for the protection of users; to provide for the governance and securing of network and information systems essential for the functioning of society and state and local authorities' network and information systems, liability and supervision as well as the basis for the prevention and resolution of cyber incidents; and for matters connected or incidental therewith. |
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(Published on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2025)

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

## **AMENDMENTS**

1. The Bill is amended at **Clause 3 (2)** appearing on **page B.564**, by inserting immediately after paragraph *(g)*, the following new paragraph –

"*(h)* Botswana Unified Revenue Service".

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)

2. The Bill is amended at **Clause 46 (2)**, appearing on **page B.579**, by substituting for the word "Authority", the word "Minister".

(Minister of Communications and Innovation)