

**BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER          PAPER**

**(FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025)**

**QUESTIONS**

**HRS/MINS**

**0900– 0945**

1.     **MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture: (481)
  - (i)    how much churches are charged for leases;
  - (ii)   what criteria is used to arrive at that figure;
  - (iii)  if he is aware that the amounts charged are way too much such that churches are struggling to pay; and
  - (iv)   to state plans to rectify this.
  
2.     **MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN NORTH):** To ask the Minister of Water and Human Settlement to state: (451)
  - (i)    how many of the pledged 100,000 houses that are to be constructed before October 2029 will be constructed in each of the three (3) Maun constituencies;
  - (ii)   if land for the construction of the houses has been secured in Maun North Constituency or earmarked; and
  - (iii)  when construction is expected to commence and the expected completion date.
  
3.     **MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST):** To ask the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs to indicate when the minimum wage will increase to P4000.00 as promised by the current Government and further: (295)
  - (i)    provide a clear plan with assurances that the increase will be sustainable;
  - (ii)   explain how the planned increase will impact small and medium-sized businesses;
  - (iii)  describe any support or incentives the Government will offer to help businesses sustain these wage increases without resorting to job cuts;

- (iv) confirm if the Government is committed to regular reviews of the minimum wage in response to changing economic conditions, ensuring it remains a true "living wage" over time; and
  - (v) indicate how the Government plans to address regional disparities in the cost of living, particularly in rural or less-developed areas.
4. **DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (TSWAPONG SOUTH):** To ask the Minister of Lands and Agriculture to apprise this Honourable House on the relationship between African Agriculture (AA) PTY LTD and National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (NARDI) in the spirit of citizen inclusion. The Minister should specifically state: **(374)**
- (i) if he is aware that African Agriculture was given a tender to supply agriculture and scientific equipment to NARDI;
  - (ii) whether it was an open or competitive bidding;
  - (iii) if he is happy with the quality of equipment supplied by AA; and
  - (iv) the circumstances under which AA was offered land for rice trials and a Government warehouse worth P100 000 monthly rental but offered for a paltry P10 000.
5. **DR. U. DOW, MP. (KGATLENG WEST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education if she would agree that many pre-schools are small businesses with a very narrow profit margin and if she agrees: **(297)**
- (i) would she be willing to consider reviewing and removing requirements that make such businesses expensive to run, such as the requirement for toddler toilets, a spare room for rest and a canvas shade;
  - (ii) that holding up a small business such as a pre-school to standards that Government itself is not able to uphold is unfair and anti-business; and
  - (iii) that with the high incidence of child abandonment by fathers in this country, high child-care costs disproportionately affect women.
6. **MR. T. BOGATSU, MP. (LENTSWELETAU-LEPHEPHE):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education if she is aware of the Government Savigram dated 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, that made reference to a prior Circular Savigram DP4/75/8 XI dated 6th May 2022, which instructed that Officers who were on study leave prior to the coming into effect of Public Service Management Directive No.8 of 2014, which introduced full salary while on training, are entitled to half of their salary arrears for such period; if so: **(486)**

- (i) the affected teachers have not yet been paid; and
  - (ii) would the Minister pay the owed teachers their accrued half salary arrears.
7. **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.
8. **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.

9. **MR. G. LEKAU, MP. (MOGODITSHANE WEST):** To ask the Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education to state: (470)
- (i) who between Botswana Examinations Council (BEC) and Ministry of Higher Education pays for French course work; and
  - (ii) when the teachers will be paid for the 2023 French examinations.
10. **MR. P. M. SEGOKGO, MP. (TLOKWENG):** To ask the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs: (356)
- (i) if he is aware:
    - (a) of a sewerage tender that was awarded by the Council in Ramfurwa Ward in 2011;
    - (b) that the company did not complete the work;
    - (c) that the P4 Million that was budgeted for the tender is still in Government coffers; and
  - (ii) if he will consider sending this money to Water Department to continue with the project and help Ramfurwa residents.
11. **MR. M. MOALOSI, MP. (NKANGE):** To ask the Minister of Sports and Arts: (342)
- (i) when his Ministry intends to fully resume school sports and co-curricular activities which have been on hold since 2019;
  - (ii) what measures are being taken to address the welfare concerns of teachers who serve as coaches, ensuring that they are motivated and adequately supported to manage school sports programmes effectively;
  - (iii) to provide clarity on the utilisation of the P55 million allocated to school sports last year and why sports activities were not implemented despite this funding; and
  - (iv) if he will consider reallocation of the school sports budget back to the Ministry of Child welfare and Basic Education, where teacher coaches are employed to ensure better coordination, accountability and inclusivity in this programme.

**AMENDMENT OF EXISTING LAWS TO LEGALISE CULTIVATION  
AND PROCESSING OF INDUSTRIAL HEMP**

1. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending the existing laws in order to legalise cultivation and processing of industrial hemp."

(Mr. M. Moalosi, MP. – Nkange)

(Resumed Debate)

**FORENSIC LAND AUDIT COVERING ALL LAND ALLOCATION**

2. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider instituting a Forensic Land Audit in Mogoditshane covering all land allocation in the past 15 years to past and current Land Board officials and employees; Councillors, Members of Parliament and Tribal Administration Senior staff."

(Mr. L. Barongwang, MP. – Mogoditshane East)

**REVIEW AND STRENGTHENING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LAWS**

3. "That this Honourable House requests Government to review and strengthen existing environmental protection laws in view of prevailing harsh climate change conditions that have affected food production with debilitating conditions, particularly for subsistence farmers."

(Mr. K. Nkawana, MP. – Selebi Phikwe East)

**GOVERNMENT TO RE-ALIGN THE TENURE OF  
PARLIAMENTARIANS TO BE 60 MONTHS**

4. "That this Honourable House requests Government to re-align the tenure of Parliamentarians to be 60 months as per the Constitution and in similar patterns to Cabinet and Councillors in an effort to close a vacuum and create uniformity in political representation and responsibility."

(Mr. G. Kekgonegile, MP. – Maun East)

**INTRODUCTION OF SIGN LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

5. "That this Honourable House resolves to introduce and adopt sign language as an official language in Botswana."

(Mr. M. M. Morolong, MP. – Kgatleng Central)

**SETTING UP OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

6. "That this Honourable House requests Government to institute a Commission of Inquiry into the alleged corruption at Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS)."

(Mr. P. M. Segokgo, MP. – Tlokweng)

**INTRODUCTION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AS  
A COMPULSORY COMPONENT OF BASIC EDUCATION**

7. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce Early Childhood Education as a compulsory component of Basic Education to open access to Basic Education Programme to every three-year old child."

(Dr. K. Gobotswang, MP. – Tswapong South)

**GOVERNMENT TO COMMIT TO ALLOCATE PLOTS TO  
HALF OF ALL PERSONS ON THE WAITING LIST**

8. "That this Honourable House requests Government to commit to allocate residential plots to half of all persons on the waiting list for such plots in the next 3 years to facilitate home ownership for a significant proportion of the people of Botswana."

(Mr. T. B. Lucas, MP. – Bobirwa)

**NGOMA TO SEDUDU TRANSIT ROUTE TO OPERATE ON A 24HRS BASIS**

9. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to have the Ngoma to Sedudu transit route operate on a 24hrs basis, remove the request for permits system and introduce Police officers to man and manage the 2 gates."

(Mr. S. O. Mapulanga, MP. – Chobe)

**LOCAL PAYMENT OF HOTELS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE DELTA**

10. "That this Honourable House resolves that all payments for hotels and activities in the delta, parks and tourism attraction areas should be fully paid for in Botswana."

(Mr. G. Lekau, MP. – Mogoditshane West)

**RENAMING A GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION**

11. "That this Honourable House resolves to rename one of the Government institutions in honour of the late Dr. Kenneth Goabamong Shololo Koma."

(Mr. A. K. Khan, MP. – Molepolole North)

**GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A REGULATORY BODY FOR PROFESSIONALS  
IN THE FIELD OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

12. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider establishing a regulatory body for professionals in the field of Construction Project Management as a move towards greater recognition of the unique skills and knowledge required in Construction Project Management, to serve as an oversight entity, setting standards, providing certifications, and enforcing ethical conduct to ensure the competence and integrity of construction project managers in Botswana."

(Mr. R. M. Lekutlane, MP. – Kgalagadi North)

#### **URGENT CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOHEMBO-GUDIGWA ROAD**

13. "That this Honourable House requests Government to commence and complete the construction of the road from Mohembo River Bridge to Gudigwa within a period not exceeding twelve (12) months."

(Mr. G. Disho, MP. – Okavango East)

#### **AMENDMENT OF SECTION 201 (A) OF THE PENAL CODE OF 2018**

14. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider amending Section 201 (A) of the Penal Code 18 of 2018 and charge with murder any person found guilty of unlawful possession of human flesh, body parts or human remains."

(Mr. C. K. Jacobs, MP. – Lobatse)

#### **INTRODUCTION OF A RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME**

15. "That this Honourable House requests Government to introduce a Rural Water Supply Scheme in order to promote economic and social upliftment of the rural communities."

(Mr. K. C. Hikuama, MP. – Maun West)

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH FOCUSED JOB CREATION PROGRAMMES**

16. "That this Honourable House requests Government to develop youth focused job creation programmes, entrepreneurship initiatives and vocational training to address the high rates of youth unemployment."

(Mr. M. Moalosi, MP. – Nkange)

#### **SCHOOL SPORT AND TAKING YOUTH OUT OF STREETS**

17. "That this Honourable House requests Government to develop and pilot basic sport facilities in Mogoditshane by upgrading Solomon Dihutso football grounds and commence a development programme for pre-primary, primary and secondary schools."

(Mr. L. Barongwang, MP. – Mogoditshane East)

#### **GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE THE PASSPORT FEE**

18. "That this Honourable House resolves to request Government to reduce the passport penalty fee by 50% or to P600 to make it affordable for Batswana."

(Mr. S. O. Mapulanga, MP. – Chobe)

**GOVERNMENT TO HUMANITARIANLY COMPENSATE FORMER  
BCL EMPLOYEES WHO LOST THEIR JOBS DUE TO THE  
ABRUPT CLOSURE OF THE BCL MINE**

19. "That this Honourable House requests Government to humanitarily compensate former BCL employees who lost their jobs due to the abrupt closure of the BCL Mine retrenchment packages as per section 25 of the employment Act."

(Mr. R. W. Kaizer, MP. – Selebi Phikwe West)

**CREATION OF A NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUDGET**

20. "That this Honourable House requests Government to create a detailed and disaggregated national children's budget, which must first be reviewed and passed through the National Children's Forum and Council before being considered and approved by Parliament."

(Mr. M. M. Pule, MP. – Kgatleng East)

**DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAMME AIMED AT ABSORBING  
ALL GRADUATES INTO THE JOB MARKET**

21. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider developing a programme aimed at absorbing all graduates into the job market."

(Mr. P. M. Segokgo, MP. – Tlokweng)

**REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION**

22. "That this Honourable House requests Government to start a process of review of the constitution of Botswana to bring an inclusive, progressive and transformative constitution for Botswana."

(Mr. A. K. Khan, MP. – Molepolole North)

**AMENDMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATIONS AND COMPLIANCE AT COMPANIES  
AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AUTHORITY (CIPA)**

23. "That this Honourable House requests Government to consider exempting registered non-operating businesses or shelf companies from filing fees or paying annual returns as well as to reduce filing fees for annual returns of operating business entities, restoration fees for businesses and companies deactivated and removed from CIPA register."

(Mr. C. K. Jacobs, MP. – Lobatse)