BOTSWANA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

(WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER, 2025)

• ADDRESS BY HER EXCELLENCY DROUPADI MURMU, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUPLIC OF INDIA

QUESTIONS HRS/MINS

1445 - 1530

- 1. MR. D. SALESHANDO, MP. (MAUN NORTH): To ask the Minister of Finance (10) if the recently enacted Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill No. 22 of 2025 is now in operation; if so, he should further disclose if any key sector of the economy has made presentations to him on possible adverse impacts of the new law on their operations and how such concerns have been addressed.
- 2. MR. G. KEKGONEGILE, MP. (MAUN EAST): To ask the Minister of Justice (11) and Correctional Services to brief this Honourable House on plans to deal with extreme staff shortage in his Ministry especially at the Judicial Services and Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP), in particular:
 - (i) the number of Magistrates and Prosecutors in Maun versus adequate numbers needed to operate the two institutions in Maun;
 - (ii) the trial turn around and case disposal period at Maun Magistrate Court and DPP; and
 - (iii) Specific plans and timelines in place to fill the vacate posts to facilitate speedy disposal of cases.
- 3. MR. T. B. LUCAS, MP. (BOBIRWA): To ask the Minister of Water and (12) Human Settlement to state the total number of houses completed under the Bonno Housing Programme nationally, in the Bobirwa District and Bobirwa Constituency; he should further state:
 - price ranges for Bonno houses built by private investors as well as speak to the affordability of same especially to low income earners;
 - (ii) measures in place to avert multiple purchases of Bonno Houses by well off individuals; and

- (iii) projections for the Project nationally, in Bobirwa District and Bobirwa Constituency.
- 4. MR. M. MOALOSI, MP. (NKANGE): To ask the Minister of Labour and (13) Home Affairs to state:
 - the total number of employees currently employed by Security and Cleaning Companies engaged by Government across all ministries and district councils;
 - (ii) the average salary for a cleaner and a security guard in those companies; and
 - (iii) the average length of employment contract for the said employees.
- 5. DR. K. GOBOTSWANG, MP. (TSWAPONG SOUTH): To ask the Minister of Minerals and Energy to apprise the Honourable House on the fate of some 500 employees of Meropa Resources; she should further state:
 - (i) if she is aware that employees of the company were issued letters of intent to retrench effective 31st August, 2025 yet there has been no proper communication or progress regarding payment of terminal benefits and the completion of medical exit procedures;
 - (ii) if she aware that the delay has placed the employees at a severe disadvantage, as the lack of medical exit clearance has prevented them from seeking and securing new employment opportunities elsewhere;
 - (iii) whether she is aware that as a result of prolonged uncertainly surrounding their retrenchment and outstanding entitlements employees continue to suffer financial and emotional destress; and
 - (iv) what remedies are in place to assist the employees of Meropa Resources.
- 6. MR. T. FURNITURE, MP. (TATI EAST): To ask the Minister of Water and (15) Human Settlement:
 - (i) how many buildings are rented by Government and its parastatals in Gaborone CBD;
 - (ii) what is the rental payment per month for each of the properties;

- (iii) to state what mode of procurement was used to lease each of these properties; and
- (iv) to state the owners of each of these rented properties (whether citizens or non-citizens).
- 7. MR. A. K. KHAN, MP. (MOLEPOLOLE NORTH): To ask the Minister of (16) Finance whether:
 - (i) they have ever considered allowing Public Officers to access a portion of their Pension Fund while still in active service, through a system similar to our neighboring country's "two pot" retirement scheme;
 - (ii) such a reform would allow fund members to make partial withdrawals from their retirement savings before retirement, while preserving a portion strictly for post-retirement use:
 - (iii) this measure could enable public officers to continue saving for the long term while offering flexibility to address financial distress during their service years;
 - (iv) it is also worth noting that with life expectancy statistically on the decline, many officers retire with a shorter period to enjoy their hard-earned pension; and
 - (v) in view of the ever-increasing unemployment rate in the country, the Ministry has considered introducing an early retirement incentive package for civil servants aged 45 years and above, as a way of creating space for unemployed youth and helping to reduce youth unemployment.
- 8. MR. K. NKAWANA, MP. (SELEBI PHIKWE EAST): To ask the Minister of Local (17) Government and Traditional Affairs if he has any new plans to enhance the provision of municipal services including sanitation to residents of Selebi Phikwe.
- 9. MR. M. M. PULE, MP. (KGATLENG EAST): To ask the Minister of Water and (18) Human Settlementif the Ministry is aware of the problem of water-logging and the formation of wetlands in certain parts of Oodi Village in the Kgatleng East Constituency and further:
 - (i) whether any formal assessment has been carried out (or is currently under way) to determine the causes, extent and risks of such waterlogging and wetland formation in the affected areas; and

(ii) what concrete measures the Ministry will implement to assist the residents of Oodi and within what timeframe these measures will be deployed.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

HRS/MINS

MOTION 1530 – 1800

RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

• "We, the National Assembly of Botswana here assembled, respond to the President's speech."

(Leader of the House)

(Resumed Debate)