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Prosperous Botswana possible - Gaolathe



Vice President and also Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe (left) being appreciated by Hukuntsi residents during a kgotla meeting yesterday. He told the residents that government was resolute on positioning Botswana as the best managed country and a model of unity, fairness and prosperity across the African continent. Photo: Gothusang Lesego

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Mothibe calls for cooperatives revival

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Cooperative societies are an ideal model to diversify the rural economy and improve livelihoods.

Commenting on Minister of Finance, Mr Gaolathe Ndaba's budget proposals presentation in Gaborone on Monday, Customary Court of Appeal president, Kgosi Mothibe Linchwe said it was important to resuscitate the spirit of self-reliance, encourage communities to come together to engage in upliftment of groups.

Even though there was a challenge for members of the community to work in groups, he said it was important for them to establish cooperative

societies such as Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS).

Kgosi Mothibe highlighted that public officers who organised themselves and formed SACCOS such as Motswedi, Thuto and many others in local authorities were now enjoying the benefits of such cooperatives.

"Members were offered loans at affordable interest rates and therefore many of them were able to improve their lives and their growth was in the desired direction," he said.

He said the model of running cooperative societies was benchmarked in countries such as Kenya where SACCOS was doing well and contributing more

to the livelihoods of people in rural areas.

"I encourage our people to follow such a model and do more to improve their lives rather than relying solely on government who was already burdened by financial and resource constraints. There is a SACCOS named Hope which is doing well in Mochudi and that is why I am positive about these ideas of engaging in cooperatives," he said.

On the upliftment of vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, Kgosi Mothibe said they required diverse interventions as they had different needs.

He said financial institutions and other support structures

must have packages aimed at supporting vulnerable groups.

Also, he said it is important to identify and protect heritage sites and other cultural monuments.

He said the Bakgatla who were the custodians of bogwera and bojale must protect sites where such cultural practices were held for the benefit of the tribe.

He said it would be amiss for such heritage locations to only benefit a few, being the leadership of a tribe or a community.

Kgosi Mothibe also appreciated that Mr Gaolathe touched on infrastructural development at dikgotla.

He said the Department of

Tribal Administration was in dire need for its human resource to be empowered to improve the quality of service that was rendered to the people.

He said it was worth noting that the tribes were solely losing confidence in the leadership of dikgosi and therefore it was important for the traditional leaders through support of government to as a matter of urgency work on regaining the trust and confidence of the tribe and ensure that the bogosi was given the respect that it deserved.

"We must work on developing ourselves and demonstrate quality service," he said. **BOPA**



Customary Court of Appeal president, Kgosi Mothibe Linchwe (centre) commenting on Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe's budget proposals presentation in Gaborone on Monday. He said cooperative societies were an ideal model to diversify the rural economy and improve livelihoods.

Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

Red Cross aids North West District flood victims

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - The Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) has started distributing disaster response packages to the flood victims in the North West District.

A number of households in Maun, Nxaraga, Tsau and Semboyo collapsed due to flooding while some yards were not easily accessible to following torrential rains in the area recently.

The BRCS head of operations and business development, Ms Boitumelo Cornelius-Moloi, confirmed that the team was

on the ground providing crucial relief to families affected by the floods.

She said they were distributing 100 relief items consisting of mattresses, blankets and hygiene packs. She said 20 families benefited in Nxaraga, Tsau and Semboyo while 35 packages were distributed in Maun and Morutsha settlement respectively.

She said the response efforts were carried out in accordance with guidance from the District Disaster Response Committee.

In addition, Ms Cornelius-Moloi said BRCS provided cash support to enable families to

get basic supplies such as food, school supplies for children and other needs that may arise.

"This support will be for two months with each family benefiting P1 000," she said.

Also, she said BRCS had extended relief distribution to affected areas in Boteti such as Mokoboxane adding that more relief efforts were planned for Serowe, Mahalapye, Tonota districts as well as Francistown.

This, Ms Cornelius-Moloi said highlighted BRCS's continued commitment to ensuring that assistance reached the most affected communities across the country. **BOPA**

Ministry, UNDP join efforts on biogas promotion

By Goweditswe Kome

MASUNGA - Ministry of Environment and Tourism and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have embarked on a biogas production and promotion project.

Briefing the North East District administration management team on Monday, Principal Energy Engineer, Mr Edwin Khethiwe, said the project which started from 2017 to 2021, was funded at the tune of P35 million.

He said the principal objective of the use of biogas development in Botswana was to promote the production and utilisation of biogas as a clean, renewable energy source derived from agricultural waste (cow dung).

Mr Khethiwe noted that the project was primarily aimed to provide a sustainable fuel for rural communities while simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions that affected the ozone layer.

"The technology uses cow dung and it assists farmers by reducing piling of cow dung in their kraals. The cow dung would be collected while fresh before methane gas escapes into the atmosphere to pollute the environment. The gas could be used for cooking, space heating in poultry houses during winter time and lighting," he said, adding that people who had started the use of the technology had since stopped cutting down trees for firewood.

This, he said, contributed to the country's climate change mitigation efforts while aligning with the National Development Plan (NDP11) to improve energy access and security of supply.

"This is typically implemented through projects focused on capacity building, biogas plant establishment, and knowledge sharing platforms to facilitate widespread adoption of biogas technology across the country, particularly in the southeastern regions where agro-waste is readily available," he noted.

Already, he said 77 graduates from brigades had been trained and were also given 31 digesters to construct as part of their practicals.

He said more training would be conducted in selected brigades so that digester constructors would be within reach.

He further said during the NDP11, the ministry received around P20 million for the expansion of the project, capacity building, awareness creation and conducting biogas study and training of additional 200 youth in the district who did not receive training.

The other target was that during training, trainees should build about 190 digesters in the northern part. In the northern part, they were started in Serowe, Mahalapye, Kasane, Maun, Ghanzi, Nata, Palapye, Letlhakane and Selebi Phikwe and currently the training is ongoing for Zwenshambe Brigade graduates," he said, adding that another training was conducted in Hukuntsi.

"For trainees to be qualified, they should be exposed to three digesters," he said, adding that they provide protective clothing like overalls, boots, goggles, camping equipment as they will be staying at the farm and an allowance of around P2 900.

Responding to questions from the team, the ministry's energy engineer, Mr Jimmy Gabatshwane said they prefer engaging farmers on the biogas project as they already had access to cow dung.

However, he said they were not leaving others out as some could have the potential to collect sludge at the slaughterhouses and feed their digesters.

For her part, North East District Commissioner, Ms Wame Samapipi, acknowledged the importance of the project.

She said there was value chain in the production of biogas as one could use the gas for enhancing their businesses such as catering. **BOPA**

BPS to host crime prevention conference

By Lorato Gaofise

GABORONE - The Botswana Police Service will hold a National Crime Prevention Conference from March 19 to 20.

Updating the nation on the state of public safety, crime situation and measures in place to address crime and criminality in the country during a press conference yesterday, Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa said various experts were expected to share insights and interventions on crime prevention.

Also, Minister Mohwasa, who was accompanied by the Police

Mokgware attends governing council meeting

GABORONE - Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware is in Zambia to attend the 51st African Regional Labour Administration Centre (ARLAC) Governing Council meeting.

The meeting has brought together ministers responsible for labour and employment issues from across Africa.

A press release from the ministry says this year's meeting will feature a ministerial High-Level Symposium, focusing on innovative approaches to tackling informality and promoting transitions towards formality to promote decent work.

The release further says ARLAC is an intergovernmental organisation aimed at strengthening labour administration systems across the continent.

"It provides member countries with training, research, consultancy and advisory services to help improve their labour practices," says the release.

It further explains that the governing council is the highest decision-making body within ARLAC, with meetings held biannually to discuss key labour and employment matters.

He is accompanied by senior government officials and the team is expected back home on Friday. **BOPA**

Commissioner, Ms Dinha Marathe said the BPS would train 1 068 police officers comprising floor managers and frontline officers on customer handling.

In its continuous efforts to fight crime in the country, Minister Mohwasa said BPS had put in place several special operations, such as the Rapid Response Teams, which were strategically positioned to respond promptly on a 24/7 basis, to deal with prevailing crime incidents.

Special operation, he said included, City Police, Air Support Services for aerial patrols and Kgomokhumo Anti-Stock Theft operation, among others.

Through regional cooperation and collaboration, he said BPS continued to cooperate and collaborate with neighbouring countries to fight transnational organised crime through bi-lateral cooperation, joint investigations and joint border patrols.

Furthermore, he said the police service had leveraged on utilising science and technology, as a force multiplier, in its various law enforcement interventions, such as Automated Fingerprints Technology, Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) technology, Cyber Forensics services and others.

Despite efforts put in place to fight crime, the minister said the BPS was faced with shortage of staff. However, he said government was expediting the absorption of all Special Constables into regular police officers and to also improve their general condition of service and welfare.

To improve police officers' welfare issues, he said plans were also at advanced stage to implement a comprehensive psycho-social support programme for police officers.

Meanwhile, Minister Mohwasa said a joint operation by BPS and Botswana Defence Force (BDF), code named Operation Pabalesego, which took place from December 19, 2024 to January 5, resulted in a decrease of 9.8 per cent in overall crime compared to the same period during the previous year.

However, he expressed displeasure that incidents of crime were still a public concern.

Preliminary findings, he said indicated an 8 per cent decrease of total crime (146 526) recorded in the year 2024 compared to 159 680 cases, around the same period in the year 2023.

"In general, all prevalent offences recorded a decrease of 15 per cent in 2024 compared to 2023 from 17 054 in 2023 to 14 560 in 2024 save for murder cases which recorded a 5 per cent increase," he added.

All offences, the minister said recorded a decrease in numbers, except murder, illicit drugs and defilement of persons under 18 years.

Whilst some of the cases were still under investigations, he said since January 1 to date, more than 364 suspects were arrested and some had already appeared before courts of law.

He also pointed out that there had been a modest reduction in gender based violence (GBV) related offences from 331 cases recorded in January 2024 to 317 in January 2025.

Whilst most GBV cases, such as threat to kill and rape have reduced, the minister was concerned on the increase in murder and defilement of children under 18 years.

"In some instances, these defilements are preceded by reports of missing persons who upon return turn out to have been harbored by adults for sexual exploitation. It is important to note that as a result of the police and partnering agencies'

robust community outreach programmes, communities are starting to understand many of these crimes, hence the reports," he added.

Given that GBV cut across various sectors of society, Mr

Mohwasa said there was need for multi-sectoral approach to address the scourge.

One such approach, he said was the establishment of One-Stop-Service Centres across the country. **BOPA**



Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa (left) and Botswana Police Service Commissioner, Ms Dinah Marathe during a press conference on public safety and security situation in the country in Gaborone yesterday. Minister Mohwasa said the Botswana Police Service would hold a National Crime Prevention Conference from March 19-20. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgom

VP promises fair, prosperous Botswana

By Thuso Kgakatsi

HUKUNTSI - The Vice President has assured Hukuntsi residents that government is resolute on positioning Botswana as the best managed country and a model of unity, fairness and prosperity across the African continent.

Addressing the residents in a kgotla meeting yesterday, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, who is also Minister of Finance, therefore called on all to take part in resuscitating the economy and bringing the nation together.

"We need to understand that Rome was not built in one day. We will attain all our aspirations gradually," he said.

He acknowledged that the new administration inherited government that was plagued with systematic inefficiencies, which hindered progress. Also, he said government was determined to resuscitate the Botswana Meat Commission through putting in place a strong management team, which would be able to secure partnerships to lead in the revitalisation of the commission.

Mr Gaolathe promised the residents that government would do everything in its power to nip corruption in the bud.

On issues bedeviling people with disabilities (PWDs), Mr Gaolathe said government was committed to

reviewing and enacting disability specific legislation aimed at addressing challenges faced by PWDs.

He said there was a need for a holistic approach to addressing all their grievances and challenges.

"I have to admit that PWDs face challenges on their daily lives, which includes inaccessibility to public buildings and public transport, lack of financial assistance and lack of adequate health care which is an impediment to their lives," he said.

He said current policies were outdated and out of sync with global trends on people with disabilities issues.

"This reduces PWDs into objects of pity and recipients of charity hence the need to focus more on their human rights not discretionary rights," he said.

He said government was therefore on the process of creating laws premised on the principles of universality, equality and non-discriminatory, which were embodied mainly on human rights.

Meanwhile, the Vice President commended the district for the Zutshwa Salt Mine project, adding that the new government was keen on opening market for businesses in Botswana, adding that focus would also be aimed at seeking export market for the project.

For his part, Member of

Parliament for Kgalagadi North, Mr Reason Lekhutlane thanked government for increasing the old age pension allowance from P830 to P1 400.

Though government had promised to increase the allowance to P1 800, he said he was optimistic that it would fulfill its promise once funds permit.

He also pleaded with government to assist in the expansion of Zutshwa Salt Mine project so that it became fully functional.

He said the mine had the potential to create more jobs for Batswana.

In his welcome remarks, Kgosi Merapelo Tshweneyagae decried shortage of water supply and implored government to expedite the plan in availing water in the district.

"We need this project to succeed in order to address the increasing water demand in our constituency, the current water bowsing plans are inefficient and unreliable," he said.

On the poor state of access roads from Hukuntsi to settlements surrounding the village, he pleaded with government to construct the Ncojane-Hukuntsi road, saying it would connect Hukuntsi with other villages such as Hunhukwe, Ukhwi, Maake, among others.

Kgosi Tshweneyagae also decried poor state of infrastructure at Hukuntsi Primary Hospital and clinic. **BOPA**

DailyNews

Published by: Department of Information Services

37795 Wellie Sebony Drive
Private Bag 139 Gaborone

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Online Edition: <https://dailynews.gov.bw>

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Circulation 20 000 per day except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

Government identifies priority areas

GABORONE - Government has identified key strategic priorities for the financial year 2025/2026 to aid in fulfilling the commitments of the new Botswana geared towards a rapid and inclusive economic growth and achieving a social equitable development that benefits all Batswana.

Presenting budget proposals for the financial year 2025/26 in Gaborone on Monday, Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe said the areas included Modernising and Transforming Infrastructure; Improving Quality of Life; Innovation and Digital Transformation; and Supporting a Private Sector Export Led Growth.

Modernising and Transforming Infrastructure

Minister Gaolathe said under this priority area, critical areas such as schools, healthcare facilities and housing were underdeveloped in many areas, particularly in rural and remote areas, calling for a need to upgrade and expand infrastructure ecosystem to unlock economic opportunities and in doing so, enhanced the quality of life for a greater number of citizens.

He also said the state of road networks, rail, power, water and sewage infrastructure was not adequate to facilitate the vision of building a deep and inclusive economy.

In addition, he said the absence of adequate infrastructure to support modern agriculture coupled with the lack of world-class airports, presented a significant barrier to government's ambition of becoming a regional logistics hub.

Mr Gaolathe said a development budget of P11.54 billion was proposed to fund infrastructure development projects however, indicated that modernising and transforming infrastructure could not be achieved in one financial year as it was a process that needed time and money.

In that regard, he said that leveraging Public-Private partnerships (PPPs) would play a vital role in mobilising resources needed to accelerate the agenda and deliver projects effectively.

He further said government was advanced on creating a legal framework for better management of PPP projects, the draft bill of which was expected to be finalised and presented for consideration by Parliament during the 2025/2026 financial year.

He said once it came to effect, it would foster a strong private sector partnership and provide a platform for domestic and international consortia to optimise the full benefit of the PPP delivery model thereby, reducing the fiscal strain on the government budget and improve the growth-investment nexus.

Minister Gaolathe said other key infrastructure development projects under Modernising and Transforming Infrastructure included completion of water supply, network and sanitation

projects at Molepolole, Kanye, Sowa Town, construction of primary hospitals with at least 50 beds in Tsabong, Tonota and Shoshong.

He said solar energy presented a remarkable opportunity for the nation with abundant sunshine throughout the year and Botswana was ideally suited to harness the clean and sustainable resource to power households, industries and communities.

Improving Quality of Life

He said a development budget of P9.81 billion was proposed for this priority which included strengthening human capital development, modernising education and healthcare systems, supporting vulnerable groups as well as availing economic opportunities to ensure long-term prosperity and equality for all.

One of the areas he touched on under this priority was the need to increase excellence in Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions by leveraging on tried and tested Vocational Technical Education Training (TVET) models in countries such as South Korea, Germany and Finland.

He said government was developing a robust TVET Policy with an agenda anchored on various pursuits such as agriculture, jewelry, multimedia, Artificial Intelligence, sports and manufacturing.

Innovation and Digital Transformation

Zooming in on this priority, Minister Gaolathe said a development budget of P1.47 billion was proposed to support this area.

He said the budget would fast track the delivery of the national digital transformation strategy known as SmartBots with a view to accelerate digital transformation across government, the economy and the society.

In order to achieve this initiative, he said government aimed to close the connectivity gap across the country through the implementation of the village connectivity program.

To this end, he said Phases two, three and four of the village connectivity programme connecting over 1 000 public facilities across different villages would be completed during the 2025-2026 financial year.

He also said during the 2025-2026 financial year, government would connect over 500 schools to the internet, expand connectivity of private research and education institutions through the Botswana Research and Education Network and roll out the Digital Competency Framework aimed at building digital literacy.

Supporting Private Sector Export Led Growth

This priority highlights government commitment to advance an export led growth model with a development budget of P0.93 billion proposed to support the agenda.

He said government would



Minister of Water and Human Settlement, Mr Onneetse Ramogapi (second left) and Minister of Health, Dr Stephen Modise (second right) receiving copies of the 2025/26 budget speech after it was delivered by the Minister of Finance, who is also Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe at the Parliamentary building on Monday. Mr Gaolathe said the new Botswana vision recognised that good governance was not only about policy implementation, but also about establishing accountable and transparent institutions that were capable of fulfilling their mandates effectively. Photo: Godfrey Mpuse

support SMEs by addressing existing bottlenecks such as lack of access to finance and markets.

Mr Gaolathe said government would continue to promote entrepreneurial development through implementation of free trade agreements such as the Southern Africa Development Community - Economic

Partnership Agreement (SADC-EPA) and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

He further said that they were determined to attract quality investments and government had completed the feasibility study on the establishment of commercial dispute resolution framework.

Currently, he said Botswana had no court dedicated to resolving commercial disputes and it took an average of 660 days to resolve a commercial case hence would establish commercial courts to reduce turnaround time to resolve commercial cases in 2025/2026 financial year. **BOPA**

Public resources to be managed with responsibility, integrity

GABORONE - In pursuit of good governance, ensuring transparency, fairness and accountability in public sector operations, the government is taking decisive steps to guarantee that public resources are managed with the utmost responsibility and integrity.

In his Budget Speech on Monday, Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, emphasised that the new Botswana vision recognised that good governance was not only about policy implementation, but also about establishing accountable and transparent institutions that were capable of fulfilling their mandates effectively.

Mr Gaolathe said the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) recent evaluations had revealed that the authority had not been able to fully execute its essential role in ensuring fairness and transparency in the procurement system, which led to concerns regarding the integrity of public procurement, often marred by inefficiencies, lack of transparency and potential misuse of public funds.

He said in response to the

challenge, government had prioritised strengthening oversight institutions, with particular emphasis on the revitalisation of PPRA.

"Recognising the importance of PPRA as a strategic State-Owned Enterprise (SOE), the government is taking significant steps to enhance its capacity to oversee procurement processes more effectively."

Mr Gaolathe highlighted that one of the cornerstones of government's plan to strengthen oversight was the introduction of comprehensive audits to evaluate the effectiveness of public procurement.

"These audits will focus on key projects, including those under the Development Manager model, the Central Medical Store and infrastructure projects at key SOEs," explained Mr Gaolathe, highlighting that the audits would be conducted in two phases to ensure a thorough examination of procurement practices.

He said the first phase would focus on evaluating the value, procurement processes and procedures in place, along with ensuring legal compliance.

This phase will assess if the procurement processes followed

by government agencies aligned with established laws and regulations.

He said the second phase would take a deeper dive into financial irregularities and potential signs of fraud, necessitating specialised forensic audits to uncover any financial discrepancies or corrupt practices.

Mr Gaolathe emphasised that those audits would be an integral part of the new oversight framework, establishing a culture of accountability within government institutions, adding that the audits would not be confined to the PPRA alone, but would also involve other oversight bodies such as the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime, the Office of the Auditor General, the Public Enterprises Evaluation and Privatisation Agency, and the Botswana Accountancy Oversight Authority.

He said the collective approach would create a robust governance framework, ensuring that public resources were safeguarded and used for their intended purposes, underlining the importance of a unified effort in ensuring accountability and preventing misuse of public funds. **BOPA**



Namibia and the African Union flags flying at half-mast at Namibia Embassy in Gaborone on Monday, in honour of the late founding father of Namibia, Dr Sam Nujoma. The former president passed away on February 8, at the age of 95. Namibia president, Mr Nangolo Mbumba announced Dr Nujoma's passing in a statement Sunday, saying he had been hospitalised in Windhoek. Dr Nujoma served as president from 1990 to 2005. Funeral arrangements are yet to be communicated.

Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

Old age pensioners celebrate increment

By Portia Ikgopoleng

KAZUNGULA - Old age pensioners have lauded government for increasing their pension to P1 400 effective April 1.

This came after the Minister of Finance Mr Ndaba Gaolathe's announcement during the budget speech on Monday that the old age pension would increase from P830 to P1 400.

Kazungula resident Ms Gaeneelwe Munyanya expressed gratitude highlighting that the money would help close the gaps in her household.

She said she was very optimistic about the new government hence believed it was possible that as the economy stabilised, they would not be left behind.

A former public service employee, Ms Munyanya noted that she received her retirement package after exiting the public service in 2019. A huge difference was made for her when she started receiving old age pension when she turned 65 years.

She highlighted that the cost of living was very high due to inflation and said it rendered survival on the P830 pension difficult.

She said the fact that they were the first to receive a shot in the arm in terms of old age pension increase, showed that government cared for the elderly.

Another Kazungula resident Mr Edwin Mwirima also thanked the government for increasing old age pension. He said the money would help pay utility bills and buy groceries for his household.

He indicated that the increment was good news, noting however that some may still complain that it was too little for them.

He said recent reports from government had shown that the economy had declined with

Labour ministry facilitates ex-miners payout

By Lindi Morwaeng

MOLEPOLOLE - The Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs has successfully facilitated payment of over P19 million to former Batswana miners who worked in South African mines.

This was disclosed by the minister, Maj. Gen. Pius Mokgware during the Mmualebe National Listening Tour programme on Botswana Television on Friday, emphasising government's role in assisting ex-miners to secure their long-awaited financial settlements.

Minister Mokgware elaborated that a total of 179 ex-miners have received their dues thus far, with close to 500 still awaiting medical examinations to qualify for assistance.

The minister also praised the efforts of his government, which had secured the payments for former miners in a short period.

Therefore, Maj. Gen. Mokgware urged those who had not yet received their dues or relatives of deceased miners to reach out to his ministry for assistance.

He further announced that his ministry had passed legislation barring foreign nationals from obtaining work permits to teach in Botswana except for specific qualifications which might be needed for teaching and were not available locally.

The move, he said, were part of government's wider effort to tackle unemployment and prioritise job opportunities for citizens.

Similarly, work permits for heavy duty drivers are no longer being issued due to the availability

of skilled local Batswana drivers.

Maj. Gen. Mokgware underlined that the ministry's efforts were focused on creating job opportunities for citizens and boosting the local economy.

Further, the Minister announced that the ministry was in the process of reviewing various other sectors to develop legislation that would prioritise job opportunities for Batswana.

In addition to enacting the changes to the teaching and heavy duty driving sectors, he shared that they were also looking into overhauling the internship programme to ensure that interns were provided with permanent employment upon completion of the programme. Furthermore, they aim to extend the initiative to the private sector.

The minister's presentation drew various reactions from citizens, who proposed additional initiatives to further enhance the ministry's service delivery.

Many expressed frustrations at unfair labour practices in the private sector, particularly with regards to some employers' reluctance to allow unionisation.

Some also suggested reducing the frequency of national identity card renewals for convenience.

Notably, several citizens praised the minister's efforts in protecting job opportunities for Batswana, which they believe will significantly reduce unemployment.

However, an issue that seemed to resonate with many in the audience was the new government's campaign promise to increase social benefit allowances such as old-age pension and student allowances.

Maj. Gen. Mokgware assured the public that the UDC government remained committed to fulfilling all campaign promises, emphasising that some required legislative amendments which would be addressed in upcoming Parliament sessions.

He also underscored that no employee should be prevented from unionising, highlighting the importance of fair labour practices.

Minister Mokgware further explained that the ministry's role extends beyond labour issues, covering all aspects of human life, including births, marriages, deaths and national registration. **BOPA**

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SPEDU to retain its independence status

By Chendzimu Manyepedza

SELEBI PHIKWE - Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Mr Tiroeaone Ntsima, has confirmed that SPEDU will remain in its present form amid a wave of proposed mergers of other State Owned Enterprises.

Mr Ntsima said this during a meeting with SPEDU officials and its clients.

Mr Ntsima explained that the strategic decision was to allow SPEDU to continue to diversify and revitalise the economy for growth and stability.

He said this would continue to enable and enhance creation of sustainable job opportunities in the Selebi Phikwe region.

"The decision is to allow SPEDU to continue its mandate of job creation, economic diversification and revitalisation particularly in the unfavourable effects, which came along due to the closure of the BCL mine among other factors," he said.

Mr Ntsima highlighted that SPEDU played a pivotal role effort to assist in the establishment

of various business entities, job creation, and attracting new investors.

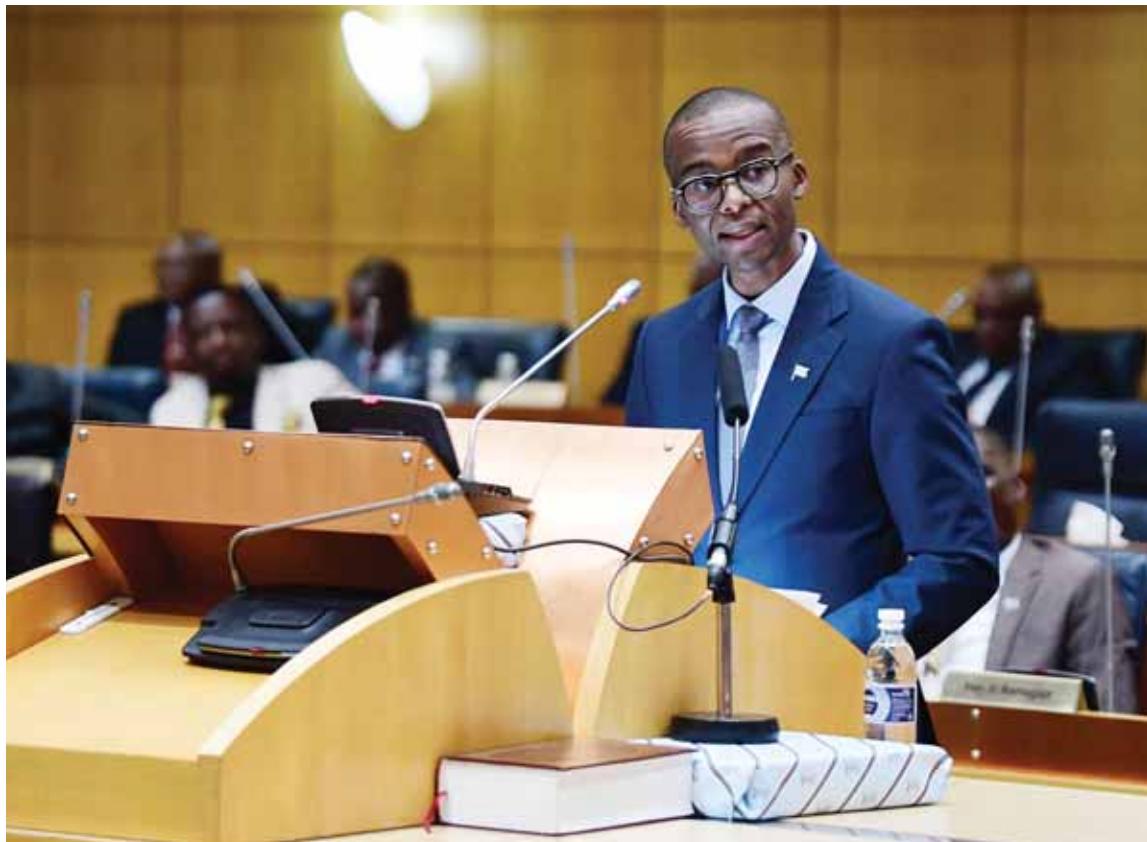
He said the rationalisation exercise that was put in place led to the suspension of some activities within the SPEDU which, he said, crippled the some of the daily business of the entity.

Mr Ntsima shared that currently the government is on an exercise to re-tool SPEDU, and the exercise will include hiring a chief executive officer.

He said the decision to review acts of SOE is to ensure that each operates under specific legal framework tailored to its unique mandate, thereby minimising conflict of interests, enhance accountability, transparency, effective customer service and good governance.

Currently SPEDU has 179 projects of which 152 are privately owned, five are government funded and 21 are community based. The projects are in varying stages of implementation.

The projects' total value is P2.5 billion, and have created 7 185 jobs. **BOPA**



Minister of Finance, who is also Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe delivering the budget speech in Gaborone on Monday. He said the budget was determined to build an economy in which every citizen enjoyed fair access to opportunities. Photo: Pheno Moalosi

Govt commits to economy with opportunities

GABORONE - The dominance of few players in some industries exposes inefficiencies that stifle competition and innovation, Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe says.

Presenting budget estimates on

Monday, he said the budget was determined to build an economy in which every citizen enjoys fair access to opportunities.

Mr Gaolathe said preliminary evidence indicated that citizens were encountering artificial barriers impeding their access to

lucrative sectors such as poultry, automobile, retail, franchising and distribution among others.

"As a government rooted in the principle of fairness, we are going to strengthen institutions responsible for licensing and regulatory oversight to address structural and market barriers," he said.

Mr Gaolathe said one of the challenges hindering effective execution for change in the country was the speed and alignment at which laws were amended to pave way for effective execution of measures pronounced by government.

He said the new administration had set itself a bold objective of facilitating international investment in mega, transformational projects with the potential to create economic value and to dilute the country's over dependence on diamonds.

Mr Gaolathe stated that a landmark achievement was the successful conclusion of negotiations with DeBeers Group, resulting in an enhanced rough diamonds sales agreement and the extension of mining licenses beyond 2029.

"This agreement ensures greater value retention for Botswana and strengthens our position as a global leader in the diamond industry," he said. **BOPA**

SOEs to become engines of wealth creation

GABORONE - Budget allocated to State Owned Enterprises (SOE) will transform them into high performance organisations that deliver on their mandate, Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe says.

Delivering his maiden budget speech yesterday, he said government was focused on paying delicate and special attention to SOEs with a view to bring out the best in them and use them as a lever to significantly reduce costs of doing business.

"We are also determined to transform our SOEs into engines of wealth creation for the larger population by re-configuring and up-scaling some of them into becoming truly global players," he said.

He said the intention was also to curtail gross wastage and

duplication that takes place at some of the enterprises.

Mr Gaolathe said the neglect and sometimes outright callous mismanagement of the enterprises by political principals cultivated a culture of wastage and stagnation.

"We are determined to fan the embers for a new progressive culture of good governance, integrity, efficiency, effectiveness and excellence," he said.

Mr Gaolathe said government was in the process to overhaul the power sector's legislative framework to separate power generation from power transmission, and repurpose Botswana Power Corporation.

In relation to Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB), he said farmers had come up with proposals to re-

imagine, refocus and reposition BAMB in order to drive an effective, enabling model and facilitate equitable and fair market access for all farmers.

He pointed out that government was determined to stabilise Botswana Meat Commission by putting in place strong management and securing investment partners to revitalise the company to become a global player.

Mr Gaolathe said government had started a process to facilitate Botswana Unified Revenue Services, to unlock its revenue collection potential, aiming to surpass the annual average of P26 billion collection in non-mineral and non-SACU revenue achieved over the past five years.

He said a well managed and efficient BURS could boost revenue collection efficiency by at least 30 to 40 per cent in the next five years. **BOPA**



MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT

Department of Broadcasting Services

NOTICE OF BEST EVALUATED BIDDER

TITLE OF THE TENDER PROCUREMENT FOR PROVISION OF GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF BROADCASTING SERVICES.

Name of the Procuring Entity	Department of Broadcasting Services
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Bidders are hereby informed that the technical evaluation and adjudication process of the above mentioned tender have been concluded and the details of the Best technical evaluated bidders are listed below.

Tender Reference Number	SP/DBS/002/2023-2024	Bidders score
Title of Procurement	Procurement for provision of gardening and landscaping maintenance services for the department of broadcasting services	
Method of Procurement	Open Domestic Method	
Name of the Best Technical		
Evaluated Bidders	1. Newvents Investments 2. Summit Landscaping and cleaning associates 3. Motem Holdings (Pty)Ltd 4. Cliel Investmets (Pty)Ltd	84% 93% 100% 82%

Should any Bidder who participated in the tender require to be debriefed on the outcome of their bid, they may make such request in writing to the Department of Broadcasting Services, P/bag 0060, Mass Media Complex, Gaborone.

K. S. Boikanyo
Office of the Government Buyer
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VACANCY: Senior Retail Planner

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As a Retail Planner, you will play a key role in managing inventory and developing strategic plans to optimize our retail operations. You will work closely with cross-functional teams, including merchandising, buying, and logistics, to ensure our product offerings are aligned with market trends, customer demand, and company objectives.

Key Responsibilities:

- Analyse sales data to forecast trends, customer demand, and inventory requirements
- Develop and implement strategic retail plans to optimize product assortment and stock levels
- Collaborate with buying teams to manage stock allocation across multiple locations
- Monitor and adjust inventory levels to maintain optimal stock turnover while minimizing excess stock
- Work closely with merchandising and marketing teams to ensure product availability and promotions align with sales strategies
- Provide regular performance reports and recommendations for improving sales and profitability
- Analyse competitor performance and market trends to identify opportunities and challenges
- Assist in the creation and implementation of seasonal planning strategies
- Collaborate with suppliers to ensure timely delivery and replenishment of stock/ merchandise

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in business, Retail, Supply Chain, Operations research or a related field. A Master's degree will be an added advantage.
- Minimum of 10 years experience in retail planning, merchandising, or buying is prerequisite.
- Strong analytical skills with experience in forecasting and inventory management
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Excel and retail planning software
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment
- Strong attention to detail and problem-solving skills

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- Lebatse mall at Yufobia (Pty) Ltd.
- Lethakane, Orapa at A-Mosa Cash & Carry
- Lethakane, Orapa at Tofael Investments (Pty)Ltd
- Mopipi at M&J Butchery
- Mopipi, Hong Fu Trading
- Ghanzi- Mr German
- Mogoditshane-Hong Fu Trading by Supa Save area
- Gaborone, Mobile Zone at Main Mall, Riverwalk Mall and Sebele Centre Mall
- Pilane- Kgabo Centre Mall
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BDP leadership urges party unity

By Lindi Morwaeng

MOLEPOLOLE - Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) leadership has urged discipline among members, acknowledging that internal disunity was a significant factor in its historic electoral defeat last year.

Speaking during a regional consultation tour of the Kweneng West region in Molepolole on Saturday, BDP President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi emphasised the importance of unity within the party, particularly in light of their recent loss.

Although Dr Masisi conceded that he accepts responsibility for the party's loss, he implored fellow party members to reconsider their approach, stating, "I may be to blame for our defeat, but does that mean we should abandon the party rather than defend it?"

The former President urged party members to unify behind the BDP, emphasising that internal disunity only weakened their collective strength.

Emphasising the importance of discipline, Dr Masisi remarked, "If you are not disciplined, you cannot go far."

He went on to acknowledge the concerns raised by party members regarding the previous primary election process, including the late primary election date, limited opportunities for appeal, and

delayed issuance of campaign materials and membership cards.

Dr Masisi explained the cause of these issues, stating that the party leadership had made a decision to upgrade its voting system to a new software in order to strengthen its security features to deter infiltration, which inadvertently resulted in missing names on the voter rolls during the migration process.

He stressed the importance of learning from the challenges to avoid similar problems in future elections.

Despite acknowledging these challenges and many others, Dr Masisi remained firm in his belief that party unity was crucial for the its future success, emphasising that focusing on internal disagreements would only distract BDP from the larger goal of winning back the support of the electorate.

The BDP chairperson, Mr Slumber Tsogwane echoed the importance of party discipline and unity.

He emphasised the need for party members to unite and build the party within its structures, warning against using WhatsApp groups as a platform for spreading divisive or disrespectful messages about the party and its leadership.

Mr Tsogwane highlighted that the party's election loss had been gradually mounting

over the years, which suggests that internal disunity had been an issue for some time.

Acting secretary general, Mr Ngaka Ngaka warned that "even if we win back the government,

if we don't forgive each other, our party will not move forward". **BOPA**



BDP president, Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi (right) and chairperson, Mr Slumber Tsogwane at one of the previous BDP events.



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship

PUBLIC NOTICE

The under listed companies are urgently requested to contact the Department of Industry Development, Licensing and Protection Division in connection with their Industrial Licenses and Registration Certificates by 7th March 2025.

No.	COMPANY NAME	CONTACT PERSON
1.	Kalabe Ditshotlo (Pty) Ltd T/A Gaborone Canvas	Ditshotlo Daka
2.	Phakisa Africa Enterprise (Pty) Ltd	
3.	Pyramid Holdings (Pty) Ltd	
4.	Pereko Construction (Pty) Ltd T/A Temple Industries	Kelebogile Isaac
5.	Sand Supplies (Pty) Ltd	H.P Du Toit
6.	Urban Agro (Pty) Ltd	K. Ramokate

The public is informed that manufacturing enterprises are required by law to acquire an Industrial license or Registration certificate. The Industrial license and Registration certificate are valid for an indefinite period **subject to payment of annual fee**. This is in accordance with Section 9 (3b) and Section 21 (1b) of Industrial Development Act, 2019.

Failure to pay annual fee may lead to the following:

- Revocation or suspension of an Industrial license or Registration certificate;
- Removal from the Register
- Other services may be hampered such as the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD) application.

Contact the Department of Industry Development located at Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship Head Office, Central Business District (CBD), Plot 54380 Gaborone, First floor or call 3957406/3995260. You can also email sletsoga@gov.bw, rkeetsaletse@gov.bw and kegobagoba@gov.bw or visit Commercial Affairs office in your local council for further information or clarity.

Disinformation triggers economic uncertainty

JOHANNESBURG - South African and U.S. business communities should intervene and correct the disinformation that has resulted in the diplomatic spat between both countries, a South African expert said Monday.

Raymond Parsons, an economist from the North-West University's Business School, urged companies in both countries to mobilise their suppliers and customers to correct the disinformation.

"Disinformation about the situation in South Africa and negative U.S. statements about South African policies have triggered a worrying spike in

economic uncertainty, which is not only bad for business but also for the country more broadly," he said.

The row between the two countries began last week when U.S. President Donald Trump threatened to withdraw funding for South Africa due to the recently signed Expropriation Act, which allows public institutions to expropriate land in the public interest.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa dismissed claims that the Expropriation Act was aimed at seizing land, expressing willingness to engage with the Trump administration on land reform policies and other

bilateral issues.

"We should not underestimate what may ultimately be at stake for the South African economy and business in the face of the current sharp breach in bilateral political and diplomatic relations between the U.S. and South Africa," noted Parsons. He explained that the business community should contribute their efforts to the ongoing political and diplomatic initiatives.

The business community has to be united in mounting its case to the Trump administration and other stakeholders, said Parsons, urging affected companies in both countries to enlarge their spheres of influence.

"Intervention by business should be conducted in a calm and focused manner which proposes better ways supported by facts to manage and preserve U.S.-South Africa economic relations in the short and longer terms," he said.

Parsons further noted the spat had put the renewal of African Growth and Opportunity

Act (AGOA), set to expire in September 2025, in jeopardy. AGOA allows African products to the U.S. markets with no tariffs.

Trump signed an executive order on Friday to cut financial assistance to South Africa and offered refugee status to Afrikaners in South Africa, which they turned down. *Xinhua*

Ivorian artist seeks funds to help children with cancer

ABIDJAN - In a bid to raise funds for children with cancers, Ivorian artist Mylene Francoise Amon is seeking a Guinness World Record by creating 130 portraits in 120 hours, Abidjan.net has reported recently.

Using a similar technique involving optical illusions on paper in creation, Amon aimed to surpass the previous record of 100 portraits.

The artist fell short of her initial goal of 150 works within the allotted time as the progress was impeded by adverse weather conditions, but with an extension granted, she was able to continue her challenge.

Her efforts of intense creation during the period from February 5-to-10, an event taking place at the BAE stadium in Yopougon, the largest commune in the Abidjan district, drew attention and support from the public and media across Cote d'Ivoire as well as the artistic community and political figures, said the report. Amon's portrait works depicting

political leaders, well-known entrepreneurs and cultural icons in the western African country have been known for vividness. The report says proceeds from the sale of the portraits created in her Guinness record challenge will be donated to children suffering from cancers, in a move in partnership with the Ivorian Ministry of Health. *Xinhua*

Biya targets over 10 000 jobs

YAOUNDE - Cameroonian President Paul Biya has unveiled a series of measures aimed at reforming the nation's employment system, with a goal of improving job access for young people.

The government will establish a regulatory framework to support the recruitment of first-time jobseekers, Biya said in a televised message on Monday evening. He said the framework would help consolidate, analyse and disseminate information on available job opportunities.

To preserve the environment and combat climate change, the government has created the Green Jobs Promotion Program, which will "ultimately help to create over 10,000 jobs through income-generating activities in areas such as sanitation, waste recycling and organic farming," said the president.

The government is also working to employ more health workers and ensure that training opportunities mirror actual labor market needs, he added. According to data from the National Institute of Statistics in Cameroon, the unemployment rate in the country in 2024 was 3.6 percent.

Biya's speech was televised on National Youth Day, celebrated annually on February 11 in the Central African country. *Xinhua*



WASHINGTON - People attending a protest in support of the US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) at the CFPB headquarters in Washington D.C. on Monday. CFPB will be closed from Monday to Friday, according to local media. The closure comes days after Elon Musk, CEO of social platform X and head of the newly created US Department of Government Efficiency, wrote "CFPB RIP" with a tombstone emoji on X. Photo: Xinhua

Angola opens new fuel storage terminal

LUANDA - Angola has opened a fuel storage terminal in northern province of Bengo on Monday which is expected to increase the country's onshore storage capacity for diesel, gasoline and other refined petroleum products by more than

80 per cent.

The Barra do Dande Ocean Terminal, a strategic infrastructure project owned by the state-run oil company Sonangol, has an initial storage capacity of 580,000 cubic meters.

Built at a cost of US\$642 million the facility was constructed by the Brazilian company Odebrecht Engineering and Construction.

Before the new terminal became operational, Angola's onshore fuel storage capacity

stood at 676,968 cubic meters, according to an October 2024 report by the Angola Petroleum Derivatives Regulatory Institute.

Despite being one of Africa's major crude oil producers, Angola still imports about 70 percent of its fuel supply. *Xinhua*



LUANDA - A fuel storage terminal in northern province of Bengo was opened on Monday and is expected to increase Angola's onshore storage capacity for diesel, gasoline and other refined petroleum products by more than 80 per cent. Photo: Xinhua

'Ntshang Omang mo diatleng tsa batswakwa'

Ka Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - Batswana ke bone ba thusang batswakwa go nna le dikarata tsa Omang, tlolo molao e e tshwanetseng ya begwa

Puso e tlaa sekaseka molao wa bogosi

Ka Chendzimu Manyepedza

SEFHOPHE - Puso e tlaa sekaseka molao wa bogosi (Bogosi Act), wa 2008.

Se se builwe ke Mopalamente wa kgaolo ya Mmadinare, Rre Kethalefile Motshegwa, fa a buisa phuthego ya kgotla kwa Sefhophe bosheng.

Rre Motshegwa yo gape e leng Tona wa tsa Selegae le Ngwao, a re tshekatsheko e, e lemoga boleng jwa bogosi mme e tlaa oketsa dithata tsa bogosi ga mmogo le go tokafatsa tiro ya bogosi go itepatepanya le diphetogo tsa sesha.

Rre Motshegwa o supile fa ditsetlana dingwe mo molaong o o mo tirisong di siiwlwe ke nako, a re dingwe di baya bogosi ka fa mosing, ka jalo a gatelela bothokwa jwa tshekatsheko ya molao oo.

Tona Motshegwa o supile fa bogosi e le pilara ya setshaba, e bile bo na le seabe se se bonalang go aga setshaba se se kitlanyeng se tsibogela dikgang jaaka go lwantsha kgokgontsho ya bong, pabalelo ya ngwao, kagisano le tse dingwe ka go farologana.

A re puso e tsaya tsia e bile e lemoga maiteko otlhe a a dirwang ke bogosi, ka jalo a re go shafatsa molao ke go lemoga boleng le dithata tsa bogosi mo mererong.

Go sale foo, Rre Motshegwa o supile fa lenaneo la Ipelegeng le tlaa tokafadiwa, a re badiri ba Ipelegeng ba tlaa tswelela ba rutuntshiwa ditiro tsa diatlal ka go farologana, se e le go ba fa sebaka sa go tlhabolola dikitsi tse ba ka ikaeng ka tsone fa dingwaga di sa tlhole di ba letla go tswelela le lenaneo.

O tlhalositse gape fa puso e tlaa sekaseka go isa dingwe ditirelo kwa dikhanseleng, go imolola goromente yo motona morwalo.

kwa mapodising.

Moglwane kwa ofising ya Matsalo le Dintsho, Mme Gotshwanetse Kikanyane o buile jalo kwa phuthegong ya kgotla e buisiwa ke Mopalamente wa Gaborone Legare, Dr Phenyo Butale kwa kgaolwaneng ya botlhophi ya Boikhutso.

Mme Kikanyane a re bontsi jwa batho ba ba tsayang Omang ka tsela e e fosagetseng ke ba Zimbabwe, ba ba tlang ba gogwa ka mabogo ke Batswana ba bo ba ba supela ba ba bitsa bana ba bone ba madi.

"Ga go na gore motho o ka nna le Omang fa batsadi ba gagwe e se Batswana. Fela fa o bona motswakwa a na le Omang, o itse gore go na le mongwe Motswana yo o tswang go itira motsadi wa gagwe. A tswa go fa badirelapuso dikgang tse e seng tsone, a re ke nna mmaagwe," a tlhalosa.

Mme Kikanyane a re mo bosuping jwa tsalo jo ba a bong ba bo beilwe pele, go a tlhomamisega gore motho yoo o na le tshwanelo ya go nna le Omang.

O ne a tlhalosa gore go dira jalo ke go rontsha Batswana ditshwanelo ka gore batswakwa bao, ba akola mananeo a a sa ba lebanang a diretswe beng-gae.

"A re emise go rekisa bo Omang. Faorekisetsamotswakwa Omang, o mo rekisetsa lefatshe, o ya Land board o ya go kopa setsha a phadisanya le wena. Kamoso o ikopela go duelelwa sekole o phadisanya le bana ba gago. Kamoso fa ba fetsa kwa bo mmadikole, o phadisanya le bana ba gago. Re kile ra utlwalela magatwe a gore ba tsaya madi a bo CEDA ba bo ba nyelela ba ya mafatsheng ba tlogetse dikoloto, e le rona re ba thusitseng," a digela.

A re bontsi jwa dikgang di tswa fa batho ba tlhoka kutlwisanano mme yo mongwe a simolole go bege ise dikgang kwa ofising ya Matsalo le Dintsho.

Mo dikgannyeng tse dingwe a re ga ba itumedisive ke Batswana ba ba kwadisang ntshafatso ya Omang ba bo ba sa ye go mo tsaya.

A re batho bangwe ba ntshafatso dikarata tsa Omang fa gongwe ba sa itse kwa ba beileng Omang teng mme e re ba mmona ba tlhokomologe yo ba mo kopileng. A re go dira jalo ke tlolo molao.

Mme Kikanyane o ne a arabu potso e e neng e boditswe ke Mme Grace Monakwe yo o neng a tlhalosa fa a tshwentswe ke batswakwa ba ba nang le Omang.

BOPA



Mothusa tona wa Metsi le Bonno, Rre Motsamai Motsamai (mojeng), Mopalamente wa Kgatleng Bophirima, Dr Unity Dow (bobedi mojeng) le mokwaledi wa khansele ya Kgatleng, Rre Poloko Mojalemotho ba le kwa phuthegong ya kgotla kwa Kgomodiatshaba bosheng. Rre Motsamai o lekodisitse banni ka ditiro tsa lephata le gore puso e ikaelala go diragatsa maitlam a a dirileng fa go ipapaletswa ditlhopho. Senepe: Mmoniemang Motsamai

Motsamai o rurifatsa maitlam a puso

Ka Mmoniemang Motsamai

KGOMODIATSHABA - Banni ba Kgomodiatshaba ba netefaleditswe fa puso e tlaa diragatsa maitlam a a a beileng Batswana pele a go tokafatsa matshelo a bone.

Mothusa tona wa Metsi le Bonno, Rre Motsamai Motsamai o boletse jaana fa a ne a ile go lekola banni ba Kgomodiatshaba, e le bontlha jwa leeto la gagwe go lekola metse, metsana le bonno jwa batho ba ba kgakala le ditlamelo.

Rre Motsamai e re ntswa puso e lebagane le dikgwetlh tsa madi tse di paledisang go tsamaisa puso, go dirwa go le gontsi go netefatsa gore botshelo ba a tswelela.

O boletse fa puso e tlaa tlhabolola mananeo a tshwana le la Ipelegeng go leka gore batho ba ithute sengwe mo go one ka jaana e le one a tsweletseng ka go tshegetsa malwapa a le mantsi kwa magaeng ka ditiro tse di thapelwang batho ka go ba refosanya.

Rre Motsamai o ba bolelsetse fa matlo a Self Help Housing Agency (SHHA) le a bothoki a a agwang ka lenaneo la ga Tautona (Presidential Housing Appeal) le a mangwe a kago jaanong a tlaa seke a dirwe ka mokgwa o o tlwaelesegileng, e le go leka go sireletsa seriti sa ba ba agetsweng ka jaana gompieno matlo a mofuta oo a tshwana fela netefatsa ka bophara.

Mothusa Tona o ne a ba netefatsa fa puso e tlhaloganya

matshwenyego otthe a ba tshelang mo go one a tshwana le letlhoko la ditiro mo bananeng, mme a bolela fa puso e tlaa tsiboga ka go fokotsa banana ba ba sa dirang sentle kwa dikoleng go ba isa kwa go tsa ithutelo tiro ya diatlal.

Mopalamente wa Kgatleng Bophirima, Dr Unity Dow o rotloeditse puso gore e itse kwa Motswana mongwe le mongwe a leng teng, le gore fa batho ba leng teng, ba ka dira eng se ka ba tshetsang.

O buile jaana bogolo segolo a bua ka metsana ya Kgatleng Bophirima e akaretsa Kgomodiatshaba, Bodungwane le Khurutshe, kwa a reng batho ba a sokola ka jaana ba le kgakala le ditlamelo.

A re puso e tshwanetse go ipeela seelo sa gore metsana e, mo dingwageng tse some, e tshwanetse ya bo e le fa kae mo go tlhabologeng.

Dr Dow o ne a bolela fa a itumelela mafoko a ga tona a a reng dikgaolo di tlaa ithulaganya gore di batla madi a dikgaolo a Constituency Community Projects a dirisiwa jang.

A re go dira jalo go tlaa akaretsa matlhoko otthe a metsana ka jaana bangwe le bangwe ba na le matlhoko a a pharologanyo le a ba bangwe.

Magolwane wa ditsela kwa Kgatleng, Mme Mosetsana Tabengwa, o bolelsetse banni fa puso e sa ikgatholosa seemo sa tsela e ba lelang ka yone ya Kgomodiatshaba-Artesia.

A re fa seemo sa madi se letla,

e tlaa baakanngwa.

Modulasetilo wa lekgotlana la kabu ditsha la Artesia, Rre Babopi Malope ene o itsesitse banni fa go segilwe ditsha di le 622, go balelwla le lebala la motse le banni ba neng ba lela ka gore le tserwe mo morafeng go sena morero.

Mokwaledi wa khansele ya Kgatleng, Rre Poloko Mojalemotho ene o boletse fa khansele e tlaa tokafatsa ditirelo tsa dikokelo fa dikokelo di sena go rolelwla khansele semmuso.

A re khansele e tlaa tsibogela seemo sa go gokela motlakase wa letsatsi kwa sebotlana ka jaana banni ba ne ba ngongoregela gore sefetla motlakase ga se bereke.

Moglwane wa Water Utilities Cooperation, Rre Moses Dikgang ene o soloeditsi banni fa khamphani eo e tlaa oketsa ditanka tsa metsi le gore di tlaa batlelwla modisa dikago, ka jaana banni ba ne ba ngongoregela gore metsi a ba a nwang ga a a babalesega.

Rre Dikgang o ne gape a ba soloefetsa fa lekalana leo le tlaa nna le tla go duedisa morafe go ba fokoletsa mosepele wa go ya kwa Mochudi.

Modulasetilo wa ditlhabololo tsa motse, Rre Tshegofatso Keokilwe o kopile molaodi wa kgaolo, Mme Kolobetsa Sejakgomo gore a ba thuse gore badirelapuso ba duele madi a a kolotwang a matlo a boroko, e leng palo gotlhe ya P38 000. **BOPA**

Lepotlapotla le ja phokwana...

Ka Portia Rapitsenyanne

MALAKA Bomme ba kgothaditswe go sa iphelela pelo le go dira ka natla go fitlhelela ditoro tsa bone.

Se se builwe ke mongwe wa bakgothatsi yo e bileng e le mogwebi Mme Tshepiso Marumo kwa Malaka ka Mathatso kwa bomme ba kereke ya Mercy House International Ministries ba neng ba tshwere bokopano jwa bomme.

Bokopano jo e ne e le jwa ntlha mme kereke eo e ikaeleta go re bo tshwara ngwaga le ngwaga.

Mme Marumo o ne a supa fa go le gantsi bomme ba felela ba itlhoboga ba bo ba tlogela se ba neng ba se dira fa ba nna le dikgwetlho.

Ka jalo mme Marumo yo o tlwaelesegileng ka leina la Mmammidi ka a simolotse kgwebo ya gagwe a rekisa mmidi kwa toropong ya Gaborone, o ne a arogana le bomme ba kereke ya Mercy House International Ministries ka fa a neng a simolola kgwebo ya gagwe ka teng.

A re bomme ba tshwanetse ba itsa fa go simolola kgwebo kana go simolola se se mo pelong



Maloko a kereke ya Mercy House International kwa bokopanong jwa bomme kwa Malaka bosheng, Mogwebi, Mme Tshepiso Marumo o kgothaditswe bomme go sa iphelela pelo le go dira ka natla go fitlhelela ditoro tsa bone. Senepe: Portia Rapitsenyanne

go kgona go simolola go na le dikgwetlho mme fa motho a na le maikaelelo o felela a kgona.

A re o ne a simolola a rekisa

mmidi a tsamaya ka dinao kwa Gaborone mme a sa itsape go dira jalo.

A re e re ntswa batho ba ne ba

bua thata ka tiro ya gagwe ya go rekisa mmidi e bile ba dumela fa a paletswe ke botshelo, o ne a sa kgathale ka a ne a dira se a se ratang e bile a itse fa se tlaa mo tswela molemo.

A re o ne a reka mmidi o o neng a o rekisa kwa baleming ka go farologana mme a o reka ka ditlhwathlwa tse di kwa tlase a bo a itsenetsa madinyana fa godimo fa a o rekisa.

Mme Marumo a re e ne ya re go ntse go tsweletse a reka kiriba gore tiro ya gagwe e tlhofofale ka a ne a tsamaya malwapa ka go farologana.

Mme Marumo a re e re ntswa a tsene sekole mme a feletse ka dithuto tsa Degree o ne a rekisa mmidi jalo ka kitso ya gore bangwe ba tlaa lebela tiro ya ya go rekisa mmidi kwa tlase.

A re o ne a ralela dikgwetlho tse dintsinyana mme a kgona go di fenza ke ka moo a feletseng a kgona go tlhabolola kgwebo ya gagwe a felela a rekisa dij tsa Setswana.

Mme Marumo a re mo nakong eno o na le mafelo a marekisetso a le mabedi mme a soloftsa fa mo ngwageng ono a tlaa bulu

lefelo la boraro.

A re o na le batho ba le masome a mane ba ba dirang le ene.

Mme Marumo a re mo nakong eno ba na le dikoloi tse ba di dirisang mo kgwebong e bile ba a itsge mme ba simolotse fela ka go reka kiriba gore e ba thus

Moruti wa kereke eo Moruti Debora Moeletsi o ne a supa fa maikaelelo a bokopano joo e le go letla bomme ba kereke ya gagwe go buisanya ka dikitsa tse ba nang le tsone le gone go di amogana le bomme ba bangwe.

A re go bothokwa thata gore bomme ba nonotshiwe e bile ba buisanya ka matshelo a bone ka ba lebanwe ke dikgwetlho di le dints.

A re mosadi mongwe le mongwe ga a a tshwanelo go nna fela mme a dire sengwe, a supa fa dipaka di fetogile bomme e sa tlholo e le ba ba nnang mo lwapeng tiro ya bone e le go tshola le go tlhokomela bana.

Moruti Moeletsi a re bomme ba tshwanetse ba kgothatsane ka ba kgona go nna le dikgwetlho di tshwana le tsa kgokgontsho ka jalo go botlhokwa gore ba buisanya. **BOPA**

Lephata la metsi le tlhalosa ditirelo tsa lone

Ka Cathrine Simane

TSABONG - Batswana ba tshwanetse go itlwaetsa go etela kwa diofising tsa lephata la metsi le kgopho metsi a a leswe go ithuta ka ditirelo tsa bone botoka, go itsa go felela ba tlola molao mabapi le metsi.

Mogolwane go tswa mo ofising ya lephata la metsi le kgopho ya metsi a a leswe kwa Tsabong, Rre Phillipon Nguazireko o kgothaditswe setshaba jalo fa a buisa phuthego ya kgotla kwa Tsabong bosheng.

O ne a tlhalosa fa go le botlhokwa go tlhodumela metsi a a kwa tlase ga lefatshe go thusa puso mabapi le tse di tlaa tlhokeng le gone go tsaya ditshwetsa tse di maleba mo ditogamaanong tsa puso ba lebeletse seemo sa metsi le selekanyo sa one.

Rre Nguazireko ne a supa fa go le botlhokwa gore beng ba didiba ba nne le diteseletso tsa didiba, a supa fa go dira teseletso ya sediba go lopa P200 go simolola ka 2010, e le koketsego go tswa mo go P60 yo o neng a duelwa go le pele.

A re ditumalano di akaretsa diteseletso tsa didiba, selekanyo se se dumalanweng go dirisiwa ke mong wa sediba ka letsatsi se tshwanetse go salwa morago ka dinako tsotlhe mme fa go sa diragale jalo lephata le ka tsaya dikgato tse di maleba.

O boletse fa go na le didiba di le masome a fera bobedi le bongwe mo kgaolong eo tse lephata le di tlhoketseng, mme mo go tsone de le lesome le borataro ba di tlhodumela gararo mo ngwageng go tlhatlhoba selekanyo sa metsi gore a ka

dirisiwa lebaka le le kae le gone go tlhatlhoba borai jwa one mo lerusong le mo bathong.

Mabapi le seemo sa go kgotlela tikologo, Rre Nguazireko o ne a gakolola beng ba didiba go ela tlhoko gore ba aga masaka kgakala le didiba le gone go gogela metsi kgakala le tsone go itsa kgotlelesego ya metsi.

Rre Elijah Makwana go tswa mo ofising ya metsi ene o ne a kgothatsa beng ba didiba go ntsha matlho mo dikgapheng mme ba sale morago ditsamaiso tsotlhe tsa kepo ya didiba le diteseletso go itsa kgothang le puso, le gone go jewa ntsoma ke beng ba dikhamphani tse di epang didiba.

O boletse gore go tlhodumelwa didiba gore di na le selekanyo sa metsi se se kae, go lebeletswe le selekanyo sa pula go thusa mo ditshekatshekong tsa kgolo ya motse le morafe gore metsi a ka tsaya lebaka le le kae.

O ne a ne a tlhalosa fa go ikopela go reka kana go adima didiba tsa puso go letlelelwa Motswana mongwe le mongwe mme o tshwanetse gore a bo a se bone ka matlho e bile a itse le nomoro ya sone.

Rre Makwana o ne a bolela fa dingwe tsa dikgwetlho tse ba kopanang le tsone e le badiri ba lephata la metsi fa ba ntse ba lekola didiba mo Kgalagadi e le gore bangwe ba beng ba didiba ga ba na diteseletso tsa metsi.

Kgosi Baetsing Ntau wa Bogosing o ne a supa fa ba tswa kgakala ba jewa ntsoma ke beng ba diboro ka lebaka la go tlhoka kitso le go tlhaloganya ditsamaiso tsa kepo ya didiba.

Kgosi Ntau o ne a supa fa barui ba eletsa gore puso e ka

ba epela didiba ka go ntsha bontla bongwe jwa madi a beng ba diboro go tsibogela seemo sa go tsiediwa ka puso e tlaa tlhomamisa gore ditsamaiso di salwa morago ka dinako tsotlhe.

Rre Baboloki Baeme go tswa kwa lekalaneng la tsa maranyane ene o ne a tlhalosa fa lephata le rotloetsa barui go tlhatlhoba metsi a didiba go tlhomamisa gore a siametse go ka nowa.

Rre Baeme o ne a supa fa mabotlele a a tshelang metsi a a yang go tlhatlhjwa a rekwa mo lephateng mme go le mo maruding a mong wa sediba go a isa kwa ofising kgolo kwa Gaborone ka ditshenyegelo tsa gagwe. **BOPA**

MAUN - Monna wa dingwaga tse di masome a mane le borataro o mo diatleng tsa mapodisi go ba thusa ka ditlholtlhomiso mabapi le loso la mokapelo wa gagwe wa dingwaga tse di masome mararo le boraro.

Motshwarelela mookamela mapodisi a kgaolo ya No. 5, Senior Superintendent Molefhe Molefhe o tlhomamisitse se mo potsolosong a supa fa ba tshegeditse rre yo e leng mmelaelwa mo polaong ya mokapelo wa gagwe e e diragetseng ka mafelo a beke kwa kgotleng ya Disana kwa Maun.

A re e ne ya re Matlhatso motshegare ba amogela pego ka moagisanyi a supa fa ba gakgamadiwa ke go bona madi a elela mo ntlong, mme ba ragogela

ba epela didiba ka go ntsha bontla bongwe jwa madi a beng ba diboro go tsibogela seemo sa go tsiediwa ka puso e tlaa tlhomamisa gore ditsamaiso di salwa morago ka dinako tsotlhe.

Rre Baeme o ne a supa fa mabotlele a a tshelang metsi a a yang go tlhatlhjwa a rekwa mo lephateng mme go le mo maruding a mong wa sediba go a isa kwa ofising kgolo kwa Gaborone ka ditshenyegelo tsa gagwe. **BOPA**

Mme Marumo a re mo nakong eno o na le mafelo a marekisetso a le mabedi mme a soloftsa fa mo ngwageng ono a tlaa bulu

ba epela didiba ka go ntsha bontla bongwe jwa madi a beng ba diboro go tsibogela seemo sa go tsiediwa ka puso e tlaa tlhomamisa gore ditsamaiso di salwa morago ka dinako tsotlhe.

Molefhe Molefhe o boletse gape fa ba tlhotlhomisa tiragalo e nngwe e mosimanyana wa dingwaga tse di lesome le bobedi a tlhokafetseng morago ga gore koloi e thule ntlo e a neng a robetse mo go yone kwa Botshabelo kwa Maun.

A re tiragalo e, e diragetseng makuku ka letsatsi la Tshipi a supa fa ba belaela fa mokgweetsi a ne a latlhegelsa ke taolo mo ya koloi mme ya tswa mo tseleng ya tsena mo lelwapeng leo ya gobatsa batho ba le bane mo go masisi fa mosimanyana ene a ne a tlhokafala.

O boletse fa mokgweetsi le ene a bone dikgobalo tse di masisi e bile a robaditswe kwa kokelang fa ditlholtlhomiso di tsweleletse. **BOPA**

Mapodisi a tlhotlhomisa polao

Ka Esther Mmolai

Okavango, o kwa setsidifatsing sa kokelo ya Letsholathebe fa ditlholtlhomiso tsone di tsweleletse.

Senior Superintendent Molefhe o boletse gape fa ba tlhotlhomisa tiragalo e nngwe e mosimanyana wa dingwaga tse di lesome le bobedi a tlhokafetseng morago ga gore koloi e thule ntlo e a neng a robetse mo go yone kwa Botshabelo kwa Maun.

A re tiragalo e, e diragetseng makuku ka letsatsi la Tshipi a supa fa ba belaela fa mokgweetsi a ne a latlhegelsa ke taolo mo ya koloi mme ya tswa mo tseleng ya tsena mo lelwapeng leo ya gobatsa batho ba le bane mo go masisi fa mosimanyana ene a ne a tlhokafala.

O boletse fa mokgweetsi le ene a bone dikgobalo tse di masisi e bile a robaditswe kwa kokelang fa ditlholtlhomiso di tsweleletse. **BOPA**

Classified Ads

BUSINESS SERVICES

BOREHOLE DRILLING AT low rates. Call 76274598/ 5921684/ 76834659

FARM WORKERS

HERD BOY WANTED at Shashe Bridge. Fabian Makgaka. Box 1537 Francistown. 71976440

FARMWORKER WANTED AT Mogapi. Box 10520 Selibe Phikwe

FARMWORKER WANTED AT Nokaneng Box 600 Nokaneng

KE BATA MODISA KO Sefhophe. Call: 71416406

FARM WORKER WANTED. Apply to Joseph Kuaho. Box 45029 Gaborone

FARM WORKER WANTED in Otse, South-East. Contact: Box 200, Mogoditshane or 75003355

FARM WORKER URGENTLY wanted at Mmaothate lands, Kweneng area. Write to P. O. Box 602427 Gaborone, Closing date 24/02/25

FARM WORKER WANTED by Olebogeng Molatlhegi Box 402716 Gaborone

SEASONAL FARM WORKERS needed at Lenganeng in Mogobane. Apply to: Ms Abueng Mmamonene Mogapi, Box 17 Mogobane. Closing date 15/02/2025

FARMER WORKERS WANTED in Mosolotshane\Nhate fields, Shoshong. Contact Mr Otsile Ramaribana P O Box 402025 Gaborone

FARMWORKER WANTED IN Selebi Phikwe. Call: Kemmonye Motshiemang 74239102

FARMWORKER WANTED IN Bobonong. 77152636 / 71865966 / 72798656

HOUSE MAIDS

LOOKING FOR A maid in Serule. 76608572/ 72371804.

MISCELLANEOUS

BOERBOEL PUPPIES FOR sale male & female 7 weeks vaccinated P1500. 8 months male puppy P1000. Whatsapp/call 76006318

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

THE OWNER OF plot 4428 Mmopane Block 1 wishes to change landuse from single residential to multi-residential and erection of boundary wall. Any objections contact Mogoditshane District Council, Physical Planning office at 3105615 within 14 days of this publication,

FINE TEXTILE (PTY) LTD owner of plot 82493, would like to change land use from commercial to multi-family residential land use. For any objection contact Gaborone Physical Planning Office on telephone 3657496 within fourteen (14) days of publication of notice.

OWNER OF PLOT 31846 G, North intends to construct wall fence. Plot 31845 owner is notified to consult Building Control 369500 within 14 days.

PLOT 1180 CHANGE of landuse. Mothusi Opelo Ankhoma wants to change landuse of Plot 1180 at Bokaa, from residential to multi-family residential. Any objections should be directed to Physical Planning Office, Kgatleng District Council at Telephone No. 5777411 within fourteen days from the date of publication of this notice.

THE OWNER OF plot 11823 Mogoditshane, Nkoyaphiri wishes to change landuse from single residential to multi-residential. Any objections contact Mogoditshane District Council, Physical Planning Office at 3105615 within 14 days of this publication.

OWNER OF PLOT 37249 in Block 8 would like to change land use of their plot from residential to multi-residential. For any objection please contact Gaborone City Council Physical planning Department Office at 3657550 or in writing within 14 days after publication of this notice.

BOTHO TOPOYAME PHIRI, of plot no 1777, Jwaneng intends to change land use from single-family residential to multi-family residential. Any objections to the above proposal should be forwarded to Jwaneng Town Council, physical planning office or call telephone no. (+267) 588 0303 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

PLOT 25878 MOGODITSHANE Block 10 wishes to erect boundary wall concerned neighbours contact 72815042.

OWNER OF PORTION 3 of portion 2 of the farm Doornlaagte No.24-JO wishes to subdivide plot into two(2) portions and change use of the other portion to mixed-use (commercial & industrial) Any objection contact Ramotswa District Council, Physical Planning Office 5381200 within 14 days of publication of this notice.

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF DEED OF TRANSFER
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Deed of Transfer No. 434/1982 dated 27th day of September 1982 made in favour of Estate Late Boniface Calib Masete in respect of:

1. CERTAIN : piece of land being Portion 7 of the Farm Notwane Estate;

SITUATE : in Central District of Botswana Tuli Block;

MEASURING : 809, 3582 Ha (Eight Zero Nine Comma Three Five Eight Two Hectares);

Any person having objection to the issue of such a copy is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Gaborone within 3 (three) weeks of the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

MORIBAME MATTHEWS Mowana Mews, Unit 6, Plot 74769 Western Commercial Road, CBD P O Box 46271 GABORONE

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF LEASE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 177/2004 dated 5th day of May 2004 made in favour of Mositi Watlala Mutsehah in respect of:

CERTAIN : piece of land being Tribal Lot 1103, Tlokweng;

SITUATE : at Tlokweng in the Batlokwa Tribal Territory;

MEASURING : 2590m² (Two Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety Square Metres);

Any person having objection to the issue of such a copy is hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Gaborone within 3 (three) weeks of the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

MORIBAME MATTHEWS Mowana Mews, Unit 6, Plot 74769 Western Commercial Road, CBD P O Box 46271 GABORONE

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PRIVATE BAG 0060
GABORONE

MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT Department of Broadcasting Services

Ref: BS 5/6/1 I [56]

29th January 2025

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE NOTICE

- The Department of Broadcasting will dispose-off by auction Unserviceable Goods: Furniture, Electronic Equipment, Metal Scraps, Broadcast Equipment and Others materials on the **15th February 2025**.
- All items are sold in their present condition as they stand, and the Purchaser accepts them as such. Items are sold with no guarantees or warranties, either express or implied.
- Goods will be viewed during working hours between **0730-1245** and **1345 -1600 hours** with effect from **10th February 2024** to **14th February 2025**. No viewing will be done on auction day.
- The Seller and/or its Agent shall have the right to accept or reject any offer received, and all items are subject to a reserve/upset price.
- The Purchaser warrants that all items have been inspected.
- The Purchaser hereby waives any right of recourse against the Seller and/or its Agent, who have no duty to repair.
- The Seller and/or its Agent shall not be responsible for errors in advertising material
- Ownership of all items shall remain vested in the Seller until such time as full payment of the purchase price has been received.
- Risk shall pass to the Purchaser on payment of the full purchase price and items must be removed from seller premises within three (3) days. The hand-over procedure and any documentation to be transferred will be done within these three days at Department of Broadcasting Services.
- Payment for goods purchased should be done at **Revenue Office, 029, Administration Block, Mass Media Complex, Plot 37795, Wellie Seboni Road, G/West Phase 2, Gaborone** within **24 hours**.
- Invoices shall be payable in full on presentation.
- The Seller and/or its Agent shall reserve the right to cancel forthwith and without notice all sales in default **within 24 hours** of failure to pay. The Seller and/or its Agent shall have the right to consider the 2nd highest bidder and possible the 3rd highest bidder.
- Outcome of auction will be made oral and will be made to the highest bidder and the successful bid shall be declared at the time of bidding at the auction.
- The Purchaser shall take delivery of the items purchased within 3 days of receipt of an issued Release Note. The Purchaser shall be responsible for the loading, collection and transportation costs of all items purchased.
- The Seller and/or its Agent reserves the right to withdraw any item from auction at any time without notice.
- Queries relating to the issue of this public notice may be addressed to **Manake Russell M. Matula or N. Kula: Tel: 365 3000 ext 3099/ 3117 Fax No. 365 3341**
- All bidders who want to view the items must report at Procurement Unit who will direct them. Any bidder who does not abide to this instruction will be deemed to have been trespassing and evading into DBS property without permission.
- The signatory hereof binds himself as surety and co-principal debtor for all obligations of the entity that he represents.

Mr. Buyani Zongwani
Ag. Director, Department of Broadcasting Services



Wednesday February 12, 2025 No. 027

DJ Gouveia releases spiritually inspired album

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE - Radio Botswana presenter, music producer, actor and club DJ, Gouveia Mutasa, popularly known as DJ Gouveia's newest single album, *Mvura*, is more of a prayer, a message of hope and a call for divine intervention for those in need.

"For me, music is spiritual. I don't just create; I listen to the guidance of the spiritual realm. This album was greatly spiritually influenced and within a week, the song was done," said DJ Gouveia in an interview recently.

He said *Mvura* carries a message of renewal and divine justice.

The song *Rain* (Latter Rain) symbolises new beginnings, provision, and Yahweh's wrath upon those with evil intentions," he said.

DJ Gouveia said he sees the song as a prayer for those struggling to pray, a voice for the voiceless.

Response from fans and radio listeners he said was overwhelming, with listeners reaching out to share how deeply the song resonated with them.

"Some calls have even come from people in high places of power. That does not happen easily," he said.

His commitment to creating soul-stirring music has been evident

throughout his career.

DJ Gouveia has produced songs such as *Mudana*, *Ambuye*, *Falling in Love*, *Haye*, and *Ngirozi*.

He also runs Gouveia Soundz Ent and has previously worked on an album titled *Alpha & Omega*, which featured artistes from Botswana, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, eSwatini and Zambia.

Despite his continued impact in the industry, DJ Gouveia hinted at uncertainty regarding his future in entertainment.

"As it stands, things are blurry. I might be ending my entertainment journey soon to focus on something more quiet and private. A good dancer knows when to leave the stage," he said.

For now, DJ Gouveia remains dedicated to his craft, creating music that heals, uplifts and brings people closer to their spiritual essence. **BOPA**



DJ Gouveia on the ones and twos. His latest single album, *Mvura*, is more of a prayer, a message of hope and a call for divine intervention for those in need. Photo: Dimpho Buisanyang

Rebagago lives vision

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - A vision never dies, it never leaves the person who has it, whether working on it or not, it always remains with them, that is David Rebagago's belief.

Born and bred in Makaba, Rebagago's love for music started when he was still young.

While a pupil, he was inspired by artistes often invited to play the keyboards during prize giving ceremony and at church, he would keep busy with arranging music instruments for those performing during the service.

Rebagago, aged 26, relocated to Francistown to work as a music teacher and it was then that he was able to save money and purchase music equipment that would aid him realise his dream of becoming a music producer.

He said the journey was

marred with hurdles but he would not give up, even after his equipment was destroyed by an electric fault, he had his eyes on the ball.

Rebagago said he was living his vision as a music producer and video editor, hosting podcast for others and doing live interviews.

The first song he produced, he said was *Go tlaa siama*, which he did featuring Boago Boemetsemang in Francistown, a pop music, produced in December 2024.

He said he had also produced a song for one artist by the name Promise in January this year. Rebagago has an initiative to assist youth who are into music but do not have enough funds to pay for production.

"There are people who are gifted, who can sing, the problem is they lack inspiration, many youth are home sitting on talents, the challenge is funds," he said.

BOPA

Power struggle engulfs karate association

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Botswana Karate Association (BOKA) is embroiled in power struggles, which saw some members of the association convening a special general meeting on Saturday at Yarona Lodge in Mogoditshane.

The meeting was said to deliberate on what was considered serious concerns with regard to the current BOKA executive committee led by Sensei Mpho Bakwadi.

Conveners of the meeting alleged that the leadership disregarded the principle of good governance and violated the constitution on several occasions, hence they passed a motion of no confidence against the committee.

This led to the election of a new committee, which is expected to stay at the helm until June before the annual general assembly.

Keorapetse Mogopodi was elected as president, assisted by Moemedi Mpebe as vice president technical, while Veronica Tshube was elected the vice president administration.

Boitumelo Koone is elected as the secretary general and will be assisted by Etellang Serumola,

Moses Hirschfield is the treasurer, while Moses Tubego is entrusted with the role of publicity secretary.

However, Bakwadi took no notice of the new developments on the basis that the special general assembly was unconstitutional, and it was a circle of friends whose aim was to destabilise karate.

"What I can tell you is that I am still BOKA president and nothing has changed. If people are aggrieved they have to follow the constitution," said Bakwadi in an interview.

Asked why he was adamant that he was still BOKA president despite a motion of no confidence against his committee, Bakwadi said prior to the unconstitutional special general meeting, he received letters from six out of eight affiliates disassociating themselves from the special general assembly.

Bakwadi said all was well at BOKA and were busy with national team selection in the northern and southern parts of the country.

Meanwhile, concerns raised against Bakwadi and his team were that they had over time violated the constitution by failing to appoint BOKA commission, and failed to hold regular meetings as stipulated in the constitution.

Those disgruntled also

complained of lack of financial transparency, arbitrary termination of members, unlawful appointments of coaches without following the prescribed procedures.

Botswana National Sport Commission (BNSC), director for Sport Development, Peaceful Seleka said at the moment it was early for them to comment because there was nothing on their table from both parties.

"Also you must remember that karate is governing itself and we cannot jump to conclusion that the motion of no confidence was constitutional or not. As BNSC, in the event they both approach us, the role that we can play is that of mediation," said Seleka.

BOPA



Tlotso Tumagole (right) blocking a kick from Ezekiel Matekane during Botswana Karate Association team selection boys U12 individual kumite in Gaborone recently. Tumagole won 2-0.

Photo: Gothusang Lesego

Chadibe FC registers first win

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - FNB Premiership debutants, Chadibe FC has secured its first win of the season by beating NICO United

by 2-1 at Francistown old stadium on Sunday.

After playing 18 games, Chadibe FC managed a win, eight draws and nine defeats.

The team is currently lingering

in the relegation zone, on position 15 with 11 points.

Chadibe FC started the game on a positive mood, getting the lead through Malvern Moyo on the fourth minute.

However, trailing NICO United were determined to get an equaliser but their efforts were dealt with by their opponent.

As the game progressed, both teams attacked each other with Chadibe FC playing long aerial balls while NICO United were playing ground football, passing the ball around.

On the 19th minute, Moyo got his brace, increasing Chadibe FC's lead after scoring with a header.

However, NICO United were equally determined to reduce the score margin before half time and their efforts materialised in the 34th minute through Nigel Mlauzi.

In the dying minutes of the game, Chadibe FC was forced to back peddle and congested the backline to defend their lead.

In the post match interview, coach Christopher Mwanza of Chadibe FC was impressed with his team's performance, which handed him the first win of the season.

"We needed that win to get all the points. We prepared well. Our focus going forward is to get all the three points," said Mwanza.

As for NICO United coach, Botshelo Pelokgosi, his team did not do well, adding that Chadibe FC's second goal was a result of a mistake by his goal keeper.

Pelokgosi said the team had fielded a second choice keeper as he wanted to relieve their first choice keeper who has been doing all the work between the poles.

However, Pelokgosi said it was unfortunate that mistakes do happen and were at times costly.

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NICO United player, Ronald Kaunda (left) and Chadibe FC's, Keepile Akanyang locked in a battle for possession during the FNB Premiership encounter in Francistown on Sunday. Chadibe played to the home-ground advantage and won 2-1. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata



The Mares in training preparing for their WAFCON 2026 qualifier clash against the Leopards Dames of DRC. The two teams will lock horns at the Obed Itani Chilume Stadium in Francistown on February 20. Photo: Phenyo Ramatu

Players eager for win

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - Individual players making up the senior national women football team, The Mares have vowed to put their best foot forward.

The Mares is busy preparing for their Women's Africa Cup of Nations 2026 qualifier clash against the Leopards Dames of the Democratic Republic of Congo

They meet on February 20 at

the Obed Itani Chilume Stadium with the second leg scheduled for February 26 at the Pentacost Martyrs Stadium, in Kinshasa.

The winner between the two nations will have a date with South Africa's Banyana Banyana who got a bye to the second round.

One of the players, Nondi Mahlasela said their intention as players is to win the two-legged clash and move to the next round.

She said they are putting a

lot of effort in training, adding that the DRC game was very important given that if they win, it could motivate them to go all the way. Another player, Kesegofetse Mochawe said they have been preparing well, and she is happy that they are also adapting to the coach's tactics.

She said they are aware that their opponents have speedy wingers and physically they are better than them, however, she said they would deal with that

area decisively.

The Mares coach, Alex Malete said he is expecting his foreign-based players to join the camp on different dates beginning this week.

He said Turkey-based duo of Lone Gaofetoge and Keitumetse Dithebe would only join the camp after February 16 after their games at their respective clubs. "We are playing on the 20th, and it takes two days to travel from Turkey, but the good

thing is that we are in touch with them, in terms of how we want to play, and they were part of the 10 games we played last year, and they understand what is needed," he said.

He said the only worry for them would be to manage the fatigue, to make sure they are fresh for the game.

"But I am sure our performance team will be ready to make sure that they are fresh for the game," he said. **BOPA**