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#BwMindsetChange

Government plans use of cattle-herding drones



President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi greeting Maitengwe residents after a kgotla meeting yesterday. He said government would in the near future develop an Application that would assist farmers in herding cattle using drones. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

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Tsabong District Council acting secretary, Ms Boitumelo Pitsane (left), Mr Jacobs (centre) and deputy council chairperson, Mr Baitsewe during a full council session on Monday. Mr Jacobs said there was an upsurge of drug abuse in the district, particularly motokwane (cannabis) and methicathinone (cat) amongst the youth, where a total of 21 cases of unlawful drug dealings had been recorded so far compared to 18 recorded in 2022. Photo: Calviniah Kgautlhe

Escalating cases of dropouts concerns district

By Calviniah Kgautlhe

TSABONG - The escalating number of student dropouts cases in Tsabong District has raised alarm, with 42 cases recorded this year across both elementary and secondary levels.

This figure is considered high and concerning, prompting the district's leadership to take action and address the situation urgently.

The authorities are determined to prevent the occurrence of future leaders abandoning their education at this alarming rate.

During a full council session on Monday, Mr Hendrick Jacobs, the Tsabong District Council chairperson, expressed his distress about the persistence of school dropouts as a significant challenge in the district.

He reported that eight primary school students had discontinued their education, one of whom was a male student compelled to leave due to health issues.

At the Kgolagano Junior Secondary School in Middlepits, a total of 18 students, comprising 13 males and 5 females, deserted their studies. Additionally, one student left due to teenage pregnancy. Similarly, at the Tapologo Junior Secondary School in Werda, seven students, including six males and one female, dropped out, with teenage pregnancy being the reason for the female student's departure.

In Tsabong Unified Senior Secondary School, a total of nine students discontinued their education. Among the reasons cited were ill health and teenage pregnancy.

He said government has expressed its commitment to the development of human capital through education and the provision of special education classes to ensure inclusivity.

The council chairperson said within Tsabong district, Nhake Primary School offers special education classes and has enrolled 25 learners with special needs, including 18 boys and 7 girls.

Additionally, he said Bokspits Primary School had enrolled two girls and one boy with special needs. However, logistical challenges persist, such as one student from Rappelspan who faces consistent difficulties attending school due to transportation issues caused by the parents' official trips outside their duty station.

Three special needs students from Struizendam have also been unable to attend school due to transportation challenges, he said.

The council chairperson called for a feasible solution to ensure that every student had access to education, as it is a fundamental human right.

Responding to the chairperson's remarks, Mr Tirelo Pule, the Gakhibane councillor and member of the community development social protection committee, acknowledged the issue of school dropouts and attributed it to the parental negligence.

Mr Pule identified lack of appropriate parenting care, alcohol and substance abuse as contributing factors to the problem.

He said the committee, comprised of social workers, the Botswana Police Services, teachers, and village authorities, continued to devise strategies to engage with parents and address these concerns effectively.

Adding his perspective, Mr Ronald Baitsewe, the Omaweneno/Kisa/Maraleng councillor and Tsabong District Council vice chairperson, expressed his discontent with the high number of school dropouts as it deprived the nation of potential future leaders. He said parents should fulfill their duties diligently and advocated for the creation of innovative platforms for exchanging ideas to tackle the issue at its root.

Mr Nkatlholang Simane, a specially elected councillor and chairperson of the education and health committee, highlighted the significance of addressing the increasing trend of school dropouts.

This, he said also negatively impacted the number of graduates who could contribute to the country's economic growth through the provision of skilled manpower.

"Dropouts often encounter difficulties in finding jobs due to insufficient qualifications, which can lead to higher unemployment rates among the youth," he said.

Furthermore, he warned of the potential rise in social issues, as some individuals turn to criminal activities in their struggle to earn a living.

Mr Simane stressed the need for collaboration among education stakeholders, as a clear gap exists between children, parents, teachers, and village authorities.

Addressing this gap, he said was crucial in preventing students from taking advantage and subsequently dropping out of school. **BOPA**

Molale appeals to motorists to prioritise road safety

Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga

MATHANGWANE - Road users nationwide have been urged to take road safety awareness messages seriously to reduce the occurrence of road accidents.

Statistics indicate a significant amount of reckless driving on national roads, result in fatal accidents that claim lives and cause lifelong injuries.

Minister of Transport and Public Works, Mr Eric Molale, emphasised that road safety begins with the individual, and road users must prioritise each other's safety.

The minister was officiating at the World Day of Remembrance for road traffic victims in Mathangwane recently.

He also highlighted the responsibility of farmers to remove cattle from the roads to prevent accidents.

Mr Molale attributed roaming cattle to a high number of fatal accidents and called for action from all stakeholders in creating safer roads.

Minister Molale revealed that between January and October 2022 alone, 227 lives were lost, whereas the number rose to 304 lives for the same period this year. He said that these numbers could be significantly reduced if every Motswana took responsibility for improving road safety.

The Minister appealed to citizens across the country to aim for less than 100 casualties in the upcoming year, urging all stakeholders to prioritise and 'kill speed instead of killing lives.'

Regarding road infrastructure, Minister Molale said the A3 road's significant loss of lives last year, particularly public transport buses, claimed 16 and 23 lives in 2022 and 2023, respectively.

He mentioned that the government had secured funds for road improvements, with the Okavango Africa engineering company already starting work on the A3 from Francistown-Nata.

He added that the 200km road would be a dual carriage from Francistown to Mathangwane, redirecting towards the

Mandunyane-Mathangwane road, which is also under construction.

These infrastructure developments, the minister said aimed to boost the economy, generate employment opportunities during and after construction, as well as to prevent fatalities caused by dangerous driving.

Furthermore, Mr Molale said his ministry was implementing new strategies to improve services. This includes ensuring that transport instructors and inspectors prioritise safety when issuing driving licenses to individuals who have passed their tests.

Mr Fidelis Molao, Member of Parliament for Shashe West, commended the progress made in road developments that pass through his constituency, benefiting both the A3 and Mandunyane-Mathangwane roads.

He said that these improvements would enhance the socio-economic status of all villages in the area, including access roads to Makobo. **BOPA**

Trio in custody in connection with death of taxi man

By Lindi Morwaeng

MOLEPOLOLE - Three suspects are in police custody in relation to the death of a taxi driver, 35-year-old Mr Phenylo Jakoba of Molepolole.

Mr Jakoba, who was laid to rest at his home village yesterday, disappeared on November 9.

Police spokesperson, Senior Superintendent Near Bagali, said in an interview that Mr Jakoba's decomposed body was found

on Tuesday by a passer-by at Mosinki near Molepolole. Senior Supt Bagali said the suspects, aged between 20 and 23 years, were two men and a woman.

The three, who were arrested on Tuesday, were the last people who were in contact with the deceased, hence the police taking them in for questioning.

"We, however, have to cast our net wide in search of who is involved," Senior Supt Bagali said, adding the police

had assigned three officers to investigate.

He said since the body was found in a bad state, the police engaged a pathologist to conduct a post-mortem on the spot.

Preliminary suggestions, he added, indicated that this was a possible murder case.

"The reason why we are investigating is that although the post-mortem was done yesterday, we believe that investigations have to be concluded," he said.

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Lifting of hunting ban generates revenue

By Portia Ikgopoleng

MAITENGWE - President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has highlighted the positive impact of lifting the hunting ban on addressing the human-wildlife conflict. Addressing residents

of Maitengwe and surrounding villages yesterday, President Masisi said the decision to resume hunting had allowed communities, who hold wildlife concessions, to generate revenue that could be channeled back into the local economy.

Therefore, he urged Batswana to stand behind the government's stance on responsible hunting, ensuring compliance with animal conservation statutes. The primary objective of lifting the ban was to foster coexistence between humans and wildlife,

particularly in heavily affected areas like Maitengwe.

Giving background on the lifting of the ban, Dr Masisi said government engaged in extensive consultations with the public before lifting the ban.

While some international organizations, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), opposed the decision, President Masisi said it was critical to address the persistent challenge of animal invasions and protecting the well-being of citizens.

Regarding residents safety, President Masisi advised them to remain vigilant and protect themselves, adding, "When your life is at risk because of an animal, kill it.

But do it right, because if you misfire or injure it, you will provoke the animal even more and you may harm yourself." On other government achievements, President Masisi said government was still consulting on how the recent acquired land from Tati company would be used. He said government has acquired 45 000 hectares of land in Francistown and surrounding areas.

The land is now state owned and government is exploring options for allocating the land to Batswana to address the long-standing applications backlog for land. Kgosi Shadrack Mphala-Mengwe of Maitengwe expressed his gratitude for the government's

implementation of the SmartBots project, which would improve access to services through online platforms.

However, he raised concerns about the impact of wildlife invasions on farms, which pose a threat to residents' lives and livelihoods, leading to dependency on social welfare assistance.

Kgosi Mphala-Mengwe also stressed the urgency of expedited land allocation in Maitengwe, as the last allocation occurred in 2014.

He urged government to prioritise this issue and take necessary actions.

Dr Never Tshabang, the Member of Parliament for Nkange constituency, expressed concern about a recent buffalo invasion in the region and its potential implications, particularly in relation to Foot and Mouth Disease outbreaks.

Additionally, Dr Tshabang pleaded with the President to prioritise his constituency when executing his plan to donate 8 000 elephants.

Dr Tshabang also welcomed the upcoming construction of a water treatment plant, which will commence next year, aimed at purifying salinated water through the reverse osmosis process.

He talked about the pressing need for the construction of the Tutume hospital, adding that it currently lacked resources. **BOPA**



President Masisi said the lifting of hunting ban sought to address the human-wildlife conflict in areas such as Maitengwe.

Government plans use of cattle-herding drones

By Goitsemodimo Williams-Madzonga

MATHANGWANE - In an effort to promote digital inclusion, government will, in the near future develop a drone-driving Application to be used by households, especially farmers in their daily businesses.

This technological advancement, President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi said would enable farmers to conveniently manage their animals' movement from the comfort of their homes.

Addressing a kgotla meeting in Maitengwe yesterday, President Masisi said with almost every citizen owning a smartphone, remote cattle herding via App-operated drone would be possible.

"Re tlaa dira phadisanyo ya gore bana ba rona ba ye go dira di Application tse di ntsha tse e leng gore di ka tsena mo [megaleng] gore di kgone go tshwaraganya bannga tsone le drone."

The new technology, President Masisi said would assist farmers in the Maitengwe area prevent their animals from crossing the border into Zimbabwe.

On other issues regarding government's initiative to ensure the nation is digitally connected, Dr Masisi said the success

of the SmartBots project in spreading Internet connectivity to government institutions in various villages was successful.

The aim, he said, was to ensure that Batswana, regardless of their location, could easily access the internet and stay updated on local and global events.

President Masisi said the expansion of internet connectivity was aligned with the government's efforts to bring services closer to the people and create employment opportunities.

Minister of Defence and Security, Mr Kagiso Mmusi also reaffirmed government's commitment to enhancing security in the area.

Additional officers, including the Special Support Group (SSG), have been deployed to combat cross-border crimes, resulting in a decline in crime rates. Mr Mmusi said the reinforcement followed his visit to Maitengwe in April where he made a promise to beef up security.

Apart from the reinforcement of SSG camp, Minister Mmusi said six more police officers were deployed.

Moreover, he said efforts were being made to finalise the construction of the Maitengwe police station and provide

suitable housing for the expected 40 officers, including the establishment of a newly formed Drug Enforcement Agency to combat drug abuse.

Kgosi Shadrack Mphala-

Mengwe of Maitengwe commended the law enforcement officers for their positive impact on the community.

He also expressed appreciation for the successful completion

of the Nsuswane Bridge, which had been destroyed by flooding in 2017/2018. He suggested that stricter measures be implemented to hold contractors accountable for project delays. **BOPA**



President Masisi addressing a kgotla meeting in Maitengwe yesterday. He said in future, free internet would be availed across the country. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

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Parliament 2023

Question & answer

President Masisi has speech writer

President Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has a speech writer who does intensive research on government policies, to create factual and informative speeches, Assistant Minister for State President, Mr Dumezweni Mthimkhulu has informed Parliament. Responding to a question Mr Mthimkhulu said the speech writer did not, however, write for kgotla meetings, as the President was briefed by the local government ministry on issues affecting the community that he would be addressing at a given time. He said as the relevant ministry, this was to ensure that the President was in touch with issues on the ground and that he addressed kgotla meetings well-informed on the concerns of Botswana. He said as Head of State, most of the pronouncements he made in public gatherings were government policy, adding that, the President was free to comment on social issues like any Motswana without necessarily making policy pronouncements. Mahalapye East MP, Mr Yandani Boko had asked the minister to state if the President had a speech writer who prepared his speeches when he addressed the public on different forums.

College enrolment capacity at 616

The full enrolment capacity of Selebi Phikwe Technical College is 616. The Minister of Education and Skills Development, Dr Douglas Letsholathebe told Parliament that however, the enrolment at the college currently stood at 478 which translated to 77.5 per cent. He said the next intake in January 2024 was expected to increase the enrolment. Selebi-Phikwe East MP Mr Kgoberego Nkawana had asked the minister to state the full enrolment capacity of the technical college and its current enrolment.

MoH to upgrade health facilities

The Ministry of Health has proposed to upgrade of health facilities under Transitional National Development Plan (TNDP). Answering a question in Parliament, the Minister of Health Dr Edwin Dikoloti said the proposed hospitals under the TNDP were Letlhakeng, Gumare, Tsabong, Shoshong, Tonota and Lerala and would be upgraded into 53 beds, Level 1 primary hospitals with a budget of over P11 million each for the period of the TNDP 2023-2025. He said Bobonong, Kasane, Mogoditshane and Palapye would be upgraded into 70-bed primary hospitals with a budget of P20 million each for the TNDP period. Deborah Retief Memorial (Mochudi), Letlhakane and Kanye hospital will be upgraded into district hospitals consisting of 150 beds with a budget of P20 million each for period of TNDP 2023-2025. Parliament was told that the proposed new clinics under TNDP were categorised into 4 levels, Level 1 were clinics without maternity and consists of clinics and health posts in rural areas with population of below 3 000 inclusive of the feeder settlements. Proposed for implementation include Boatlaname, Makgaba, Kudumatse and Mogorosi which have been budgeted at over P11 million for each project for the entire TNDP period. He said clinics under Level 2 were those with maternity with seven beds consisting of facilities in rural villages with population below 3 000, inclusive of the feeder settlements. The facilities proposed are clinics with maternity at Mokubilo, Mogojogojo, Mabule, Ncojane and Pilikwe, budgeted at P14 million while Level 3, are clinics without maternity, consisting of clinics in peri-urban areas, major villages, towns and cities that is above 3 000, inclusive of feeder catchment areas. The proposed facilities proposed for implementation include Kazungula, Modipane and Ghanzi (SHHA) and budget stands at over P11 million. Level 4 which includes maternity with 14 beds consists of clinics in peri-urban areas that is major villages, towns and cities with population above 3 000. The facilities proposed are Borolong, Lentsweletau, Kopong, Takatkwane and Mathangwane, budgeted at P14 million. Parliament was also told about on-going projects that include the construction of 70-bed hospital and 69 staff houses at Moshupa while the staff houses were completed and handed over in May 2023. The Minister said progress for the hospital was at 74 per cent against 100 per cent as there were delays with mechanical works, adding that the hospital was expected in the third quarter of 2024/2025. The contract sum for the project is over P 500 million. Further, he said the refurbishment of old Scottish Livingstone Hospital had been completed and handed over in November 2022 while Old Maun Hospital was still behind as the contractor has abandoned site. Shakawe Primary Hospital has been completed. Kgalagadi South MP, Mr Sam Brooks, had asked the minister to apprise the House on TNDP projects under his ministry considering construction of new hospitals, their size, location and budget as well as upgrading of health post to clinics.

Govt to review importation ban

By Olekantse Sennamose

GABORONE - The ban on importation of horticultural products, which expires next month will be reviewed with the aim of extending it, and even adding more products.

Responding to the State-of-the-Nation Address in Parliament on Tuesday, Shashe West Legislator also the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Fidelis Molao said the likelihood of extending the ban and adding more products would be inspired by its success so far.

“Since the decision to ban such imports, local production has increased and the country has managed to cut its import bill on the particular products by 71 per cent. These are some of the successes that will inform the review,” he said.

Mr Molao also said the ban had helped create employment for locals and create wealth for local horticulturalists.

He noted that the Meat Industry

Regulatory Authority bill, which was adopted by Parliament in its previous sitting would soon be finalised.

“Upon implementation, the bill will help reduce the Botswana Meat Commission monopoly as per Botswana’s pleas,” he said.

On other issues, Mr Molao said all the 16 quarantines in the country had a total carrying capacity of 10 000 cattle, but said over the years they had not been able to fill them to the maximum for purposes of artificial insemination. He said last year, artificial insemination was done on about 6 500 cattle, an improvement from the 3 000 cattle the previous year.

“This year we are targeting full capacity and we will also add six more quarantines across the country. This is an indication that government is serious about increasing the cattle herd count,” he said.

Mr Molao also said since government took a decision

to reduce costs of artificial insemination training from over P6 000 to P500, the centres had been overwhelmed with applications.

He appealed to Botswana to keep up the interests, saying the training could even help graduates start private insemination services.

He said for the last six years, a total of 32 782 semen straws had been sold to Botswana, which was an indication that local farmers understood the importance of artificial insemination.

On issues in his constituency, Mr Molao said the recent upgrading of sub-districts to fully fledged districts should be sped up so that they start operating like they should.

He also appreciated the planned Mandunyane-Shashe-Mathangwane road, but said other vital roads such as the Lepashe-Matsitama-Mokubilo-Mmashoro road should also be considered.

BOPA



Minister Molao told Parliament that the likelihood of extending the ban on importation of horticultural products, which expires in December and adding more products, would be inspired by its success so far.

‘Expedite projects delivery’

By Olekantse Sennamose

GABORONE - Nkange Member of Parliament has called on government to expedite the delivery of projects that were long promised.

Contributing to the State-of-the-Nation Address (SONA) debate on Tuesday, Dr Never Tshabang said his constituents had long waited for major projects such as the Tutume primary hospital, Tutume police station and completion of the Maitengwe police station.

“The Tutume primary hospital has been promised as far back as 2014, but it is not even included in the current Transitional National Development Plan,” he said.

Dr Tshabang also said the current Tutume police station, which was constructed in 1965, was now too small for the area, adding that a new one was long promised during NDP 11, with a plot identified.

He also decried the slow progress of Maitengwe police station, which he said should have been completed in 2019 and was now dilapidated due to non-occupation. Dr Tshabang also requested government to electrify the Botswana-Zimbabwe border along his constituency, saying the constituency was prone to invasion by elephants and buffaloes from the neighbouring country.

“The constituency is home to about 3 000 cattle, which translates to about a billion Pula worth to the economy, but this is at a risk due to dangers of foot and mouth disease,” he said.

Dr Tshabang also said the SONA should have deliberated more on job creation as many Botswana were engaged in menial jobs, which put them at the risk of poverty. “The issue of job creation is an issue that needs to be addressed aggressively, with

emphasis on a living wage rather than a minimum wage,” he said.

The MP complained that even though the Tutume Sub-district was upgraded to a fully-fledged district, it was still operating with a budget of a sub-district, and that most of its assets were still at the former district headquarters in Serowe.

He also called for the urgent upgrading of the new district leadership, especially the deputy district commissioner, sub-tribal administrator and the sub-land board secretary.

Dr Tshabang also requested for an increase in the constituency community projects funding which is currently P10 million annually.

He said that this was because some constituencies like Nkange had now increased in size after the delimitation exercise rendering the funds inadequate. **BOPA**

'Lethakane needs more residential land'

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Lethakane requires a special dispensation development programme to support its growth that is influenced by influx of people seeking employment at the three diamond mines in the area.

Responding to State-Of-the-Nation Address on Tuesday, Boteti East Member of Parliament, Mr Sethomo Lelatisitswe said the village was experiencing pressure in areas of health, education and land allocation.

He said the village's primary hospital and the two clinics were stretched by the increased population. He added that the waiting list for people seeking residential plots was also sky rocketing.

As such Mr Lelatisitswe appealed to the Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs to double efforts and view places like Lethakane as special cases when allocating land.

He added that his constituency had a challenge of marginalised groups of people, who for many years had been staying at cattle posts without land in gazetted places such as Lethakane.

Of recent, Mr Lelatisitswe said most of them have been relocating to Lethakane thus resorting to illegal occupation of land on the outskirts of the village in locations such as Motlhabeng, Phase 1, and Tawana Extension.

He said that denied them access to basic needs such as water, electricity and to qualify for government social programmes.

Additionally, Mr Lelatisitswe said the residents of Makgaba, a settlement that was gazetted some few years ago were likely to miss out on the newly launched Temo Letlotlo arable farming programme as they were yet to be allocated ploughing fields.

He therefore, urged government to attend to the residents' plea as a matter of urgency.

On the human-wildlife conflict, MP Lelatisitswe said Boteti East was equally affected by the influx of elephants. He said farmers in the villages of Mmatshumo, Mosu, Makgaba, Mokubilo and Mmeya were not able to enjoy their harvest, due to elephants destroying their fields.

He therefore, asked government to ensure that a quarter of the 8 000 elephants that had been donated to Angola be taken from the thousands that had relocated to Boteti. Updating on the constituency development agenda, Mr Lelatisitswe was concerned by the status of the three main gravel roads, being the 41km Mmatshumo-Mosu road, 18km Mokubilo-Mmeya road and the 61km Lethake-Khwee road.

Mr Lelatisitswe said upgrading of Lethakane-Khwee road would also cater for farmers in the Sandveld and Kaka ranches, as production areas for livestock farming.

He also welcomed the proposed upgrading of 25km internal roads in Lethakane with storm water drainage system and street lights.

Mr Lelatisitswe also said the new deal between government and De Beers was a ray of hope

for communities of localities such as Boteti.

He applauded Lucara Diamond

Company through Karowe Diamond Mine for constructing a stadium in Lethakane. **BOPA**



Acting Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) CEO, Ms Tumelo Motsomi (left) and executive director supplies, Mr Lucas Kennekae during a PPRA annual media briefing on the new Public Procurement Act and PPRA mandate in Gaborone on Wednesday. Ms Motsomi said the new public procurement law was meant to empower citizens, improve service delivery as it would reduce delays and complaints, some resulting from an appetite to frustrate the procurement process. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

Billy calls for tolerance in Parliament

By Olekantse Sennamose

GABORONE - Unity and tolerance of political, religious and cultural differences is vital to achieve a peaceful nation. Member of Parliament for Francistown East, Mr Buti Billy said this when debating the SONA on Tuesday.

He said political tolerance especially, was vital as it was a key principle of democracy and a basis for economic growth. "No foreign investor would want to set base here if there is no political stability," said Mr Billy who is also the Assistant Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture. Mr Billy said he was concerned at what he said was the deteriorating political tolerance inside Parliament, which he said made sharing of ideas among members of different political parties difficult.

He said such a division would therefore make it difficult for legislators to collectively work for the electorate. On other issues, he said Francistown internal roads needed reconstruction as most had reached their lifespan.

Mr Billy said efforts were made to fix the roads through the constituency community projects funds, but the funds were not

enough.

He also called for the upgrading of Selepa junior school to a unified one to reduce long distance travel by pupils to Mater Spei College and Francistown senior school.

Mr Billy applauded government for the recent acquisition of land from the Tati Company, and urged government to ensure that the land was redistributed to ordinary people and churches as they had long been on the waiting list.

For his part, Serowe North legislator, Mr Baratiwa Mathoothe decried the increment in application fees for harvesters and exporters' permits for natural resources. He said the move was heavy for his constituents as most of them relied on the harvesting and exporting of phane to make a living.

"At the moment most constituents cannot even afford to buy school uniform for their children because the application fees for both permits are beyond their means," he said.

He therefore urged government to reconsider the fees.

He also complained that most schools in his constituency were in dire need of maintenance. **BOPA**

Nkawana pleads with government to gazette Ralenyetse settlement

By Moshe Galeragwe

GABORONE - Selebi Phikwe East Member of Parliament, Mr Kgoberego Nkawana has appealed to government consider upgrading Ralenyetse, an ungazetted settlement on the outskirts of Selebi Phikwe, to a recognised settlement.

Mr Nkawana said Ralenyetse was believed to have existed before the establishment of Selebi Phikwe.

In his response to State-Of-the-Nation Address on Tuesday, Mr Nkawana said Ralenyetse residents were from time to time threatened with eviction orders, even though they had no other place to call home.

Mr Nkawana nonetheless, applauded government for buying land that was in the hands of Tati Company and wished the same could be extended to his constituency to address shortage of land.

He said the farmers in the area did not have enough grazing land, a situation, which at times resulted in conflicts as cattle from the communal area often found their way into privately owned ranches.

He was hopeful that the proposed plan by government to engage Tuli Block farmers to either sell their ranches or allow government to establish a corridor that would ease patrols along the border would materialise.

On other issues of concern in his constituency, Mr Nkawana appealed to government to consider upgrading Botshabelo Police station.

He said other than its old status, the office was also in need of maintenance.

Mr Nkawana also appealed to government to maintain police officers houses in Botshabelo as they were infested by bats making them inhabitable and a threat to health.

He urged government to investigate the cracking of houses in Selebi Phikwe suspected to have been a result of earth tremor emanating from the mine.

MP Nkawana also said the manufacturing sector in town was appealing to government for support alongside efforts by various companies to resuscitate the economy of the town.

Mr Nkawana mentioned companies manufacturing bulbs, power transformers, books and school chairs.

He said it was important to guard against large scale businesses such as retail stores and other food chain stores which were competing with farmers and other small businesses by growing their own vegetables and running slaughter facilities leaving locals without a market.

However, he said the citrus farm in the area had the potential of growing small businesses in the horticultural value chain. **BOPA**



Poely resorts to horticulture

By Kgotsotalang Botsang

GOJWANE - Farmers in Gojwane have become the torch bearers of "A re Chencheng" slogan under Mindset Change pillar of the Reset Agenda by transitioning from subsistence farming to horticulture farming.

Mr Nkosana Poely aged 53, is among farmers who transitioned from subsistence to horticulture farming.

The former BCL mine employee had to come up with ways of surviving after the mine went under in 2016.

Mr Poely resorted to farming after relocating from Selebi Phikwe to Gojwane in part, to make ends meet and also to play a part in reducing Botswana's import bill for food commodities.

The decision was not one he stumbled upon, it was only a matter of time or a change in

circumstances before he got started.

Not only is he passionate about farming, he long started a backyard garden, a sign that farming perhaps is his true vocation.

"During my tenure as a BCL employee I happened to have a backyard garden where I produced rape, spinach, green pepper, tomatoes and onions. This opened my eyes to the

reality that farming is profitable," said Mr Poely.

Like any other business venture, his first few years in Gojwane were no walk in park as he was faced with a mammoth task of maintaining the fence and proceeds went towards drilling a borehole, a necessity for horticulture farming.

Nonetheless, quitting for him was not an option. He soldiered on. With subsistence farming, Mr

Poely admits that it is cheaper, particularly with the support of ISPAAD but not as profitable as horticulture, due to erratic rainfall.

"I sell my produce to schools in Gojwane and Serule as well as individuals," Mr Poely said.

Clearly, there were no short cuts for Mr Poely but with time things started to look up -- a borehole materialised.

Fact that he is a professional hydrologist worked in his favour, he did not struggle to identify a water point and fortunately, he did not have to drill too deep.

Mr Poely said he could not be happier after equipping his borehole, that he eventually had the most important resource to set his plan in motion, thanks to the Horticulture Impact Accelerator Subsidy.

What remained was to produce good quality vegetables. To achieve that, he resorted to using organic materials though in part to cut costs.

"As an upcoming farmer I do not have enough money to buy inputs such as seeds, fertilisers and pesticides however, I want to produce quality products naturally.

"This is why I have adopted conservation agriculture together with crop rotation, to help increase the fertility of the soil as well and control pests and weeds.

"I recommend conservation agriculture, for farmers who are new to horticulture farming.

"I also recommend that they use open pollinated seeds as opposed to hybrids because the open pollinated seeds can be replanted,"

As a modern farmer, Mr Poely said research was quite important saying "I learn some things through the internet, this has helped me in so many ways, including planning for my day." The income he generates he said, went towards necessities as school fees and utility bills.

As someone who believes in sharing ideas, Mr Poely has been an inspiration to other farmers, including Mr Mabedi Lebang, another horticulture farmer who ditched subsistence crop production for horticulture.

With his help he applied for funding through the Horticulture Impact Accelerator Subsidy, to equip his borehole, and was able to buy solar panels, drip lines and seeds, to the tune of P45 000. The 59 year-old Mr Lebang said, had this funding been there years ago, he would have turned his life around at a young age.

Mr Lebang sells his produce in Tonota, Gojwane and Serule, to government institutions, informal sector and individuals.



Mr Poely was assisted by government through the Horticulture Impact Accelerator Subsidy to equip his borehole, purchase drip lines, fertiliser and other inputs to increase his production. Photo: Kgotsotalang Botsang

Ministry aware of branding - Parliament

GABORONE - Raising the tourism profile of Gaborone city will be achieved through initiatives which are included in the implementation of the recently developed National Tourism Strategy and Master Plan for 2022 - 2032.

The Minister of Environment and Tourism, Ms Philda Kereng, told Parliament that the plan provides short term recovery initiatives and medium-term road map for the sustainable development of tourism in Botswana over the next 10 years.

Ms Kereng said as part of the plan the greater Gaborone area has been designated as one of the tourism development areas, noting that one of the initiatives in the plan is to uplift Gaborone

as a tourist attraction area and the old mall has been identified as a potential urban regeneration project that can offer a distinctive local shopping and cultural experience.

"The intention will be to take advantage of the historical and cultural elements of the old mall that can be coordinated to create a heritage tourism trail for visitors," she said. She said the discovery trail which is under development, will integrate many of the heritage sites of the city as a way of marketing and positioning it as one of the global destinations. Ms Kereng said in uplifting the image of the city to meet the competitive destination standards, both the public and private stakeholders

were working hand in hand with the ministry to develop the trail.

The Gaborone Game Reserve does not distinguish between citizens and non-citizens, she said emphatically pointing the total statistics of visitors in 2021 was 3 120, in 2022 was 3 540 and in 2023 as from January to August is 2 992.

Over and above, she said, most of the tourists were citizens who undertake picnicking and self-drives mainly over weekends and public holidays.

She said her ministry was aware that Gaborone has immense tourism potential and the ministry was committed to working with all relevant stakeholders to explore all possible opportunities during NDP 12. The ministry

is fully aware of the fact that capital cities around the world brand themselves in ways that make them tourist attraction destinations.

Major cities around the world have defining landmarks and events as part of the global community, she said.

Ms Kereng's response follows a question from Member of Parliament for Gaborone North, Mr Mpho Balopi, who had wanted to know if consideration has been made to deliberately promote tourism in Gaborone, citing sites of historical significance such as old prison in Village, houses that were bombed during apartheid South Africa's raid in Gaborone in 1980s, among other things.

BOPA



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President Of The Republic Of Botswana



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Under-Secretary-General-Special
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United Nations



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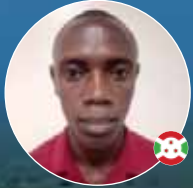
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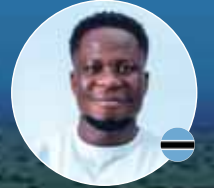
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Constant review of education system important

By Lindi Morwaeng

MOLEPOLOLE - Improved working conditions and better regulation of teaching profession is of utmost importance, Kgosi Kgari III of Bakwena said.

Officiating at the BOSETU cultural day organized by Kweneng region on Saturday at Fun Farm, Kgosi Kgari said educational policies must be continuously reviewed to keep abreast with the ever evolving profession.

Kgosi Kgari said it was important to review and amend laws and policies time and again to allow the teaching profession to evolve and be at par with modern times.

He said teaching should be given the dignity and respect it deserved so that in turn teachers could produce quality individuals who would then be leaders of Botswana in future.

Before that could happen, he said,

it was important that the education sector be improved and teachers' concerns addressed so that the teaching fraternity could grow to be a desirable profession.

Kgosi Kgari also implored teachers to introspect and be exemplary in the way they handled their matters to give dignity to their profession.

To improve the education system, he said, it was important that decision makers recognize support for teachers as that would result in teachers loving their profession and not compromising it.

Therefore, he said, resourcing teachers and giving them enough facilities as well as improving their working conditions was one way of addressing the matter.

Mr Mogomotsi Motshegwa, the president of BOSETU, said the day promoted the revamping of the teachers' welfare and integrity. The

day was also appropriate in that teachers' welfare and recognition by government as it was at its lowest.

Mr Motshegwa likened the teaching cadre to that of nurses saying most employees in these two professions had stagnated at salary scale C1.

He said slow progression demotivated teachers but indicated that trade unions together with the employer had their faith on PEMANDU which introduced a new fan-shaped reward system.

He however expressed concern that while trade unions and the employer were still at the negotiating table over this new model, the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) sidelined them when they recently held consultations with public employees on some of the pertinent issues which were on the table.

Mr Motshegwa said PEMANDU

was supposed to be implemented on April 1, this year.

For his part, BOSETU Deputy Secretary General, Mr Botshelo Maruatona, outlined several issues concerning teachers including the need for better salaries and benefits for teachers.

He said the teaching fraternity was left behind when other ministries implemented the court order on the judgment of the multi-titled salary scales between the employer and employees of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr Maruatona said they were yet to engage the employer on this matter.

He also said teachers were sidelined on many other issues among them poor working conditions, shortage of resources and facilities and lack of recognition and support for teachers.

He said his organization has been working to address these issues through collective bargaining and lobbying. **BOPA**

'No consent no sex'

By Booster Mogapi

THAMAGA - A midwifery nurse and sexual and reproductive health specialist, Ms Onalenna Moseki-Kago has advised that it was important that consent be sought and given whenever couples engage in sex.

Speaking at a workshop organised for dikgosi and church ministers by Thamaga/Kumakwane Constituency Office at Signature Hotel in Thamaga on Monday, Ms Moseki-Kago cautioned that regardless of the level of the relationship, whether married or not, sexual consent had to be given to avoid violation of the law.

Ms Moseki-Kago's presentation aroused a heated debate among participants who sought clarification on sexual consent especially among married couples as they believed they had a right to conjugal rights whenever possible.

She added that sexual abuse remains evident among pregnant women attended to at health facilities as in some cases the pregnancies resulted from non-consensual sex. She stated that in other cases, the women contracted sexually transmitted infections which pose a threat to their pregnancies.

Ms Moseki-Kago said various tests on pregnant pick signs of sexual abuse, and called on men to respect the decisions of their partners and spouses on sexual matters.

Sub-Inspector Portia Diraditsile of Thamaga Police told the participants that sexual consent remains important between spouses.

She stated that engaging in sex with someone without their consent was against the law, and could lead to arrest if a report is filed with the police.

Kgosi Mmualefe Kgosidibe of Ramaphatle said the workshop was an eye opener as he realised that many things were done out of ignorance.

Kgosi Kgosidibe said sexual abuse remained one of the major headaches in many relationships, and it was important that all stakeholders should work together to address the problem.

Pastor Botsang Mokaba from the Ministers Fraternal said he was thankful for these deliberations as the issues affected members and non-members alike.

He said the workshop opened their minds to learn new strategies of dealing with issues that affect members of their congregations.

Member of Parliament for Thamaga/Kumakwane constituency, Mr Palelo Motaosane, said the objective of the workshop was to capacitate dikgosi and religious leaders with skills to deal with sexually related conflicts.

He said men remained the leading perpetrators of sexual abuse and it was important to educate them. **BOPA**

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Vandalism bedevils Moshupa council

By Thuso Kgakatsi

MOSHUPA - Moshupa District Council leadership has pleaded with the communities to guard against the new type of crime in which infrastructure, especially the solar street lights are being hit by motorists and then stolen.

The public has been advised to report such unscrupulous acts to the council or nearest police stations, as the culprits take the head lamps to use it at their homes.

Council chairman, Mr Sonny Phiri thus pleaded when officially opening the third District Council full session of the financial year 2023/24.

He noted that Moshupa Police Station continued to play a critical role in fighting crime in their area, though they were still faced with a challenge of stock theft with 17 reported cases to date.

Also, 34 cases for common assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, six rape and attempted rape cases, five fatal roads accident were reported, among others.

“This depicts that we have to work together going forward to address these challenges,” he said.

Mr Phiri encouraged all to stay away from corrupt practices, adding that it was a fact that a country where corruption reigned would fail in its efforts to create just and prosperous dispensation for its people.

“Corruption is not only bad for the government and reputation of the district, but it is also harmful to the growth of the economy, job



Electricians installing street lights. Addressing Moshupa District Council, Mr Phiri pleaded with communities to guard against the new type of crime in which infrastructure, especially the solar street lights were being knocked down by motorists so to steal them for domestic use.

creation and the country’s overall development.

We need to fight the culture of corruption.

Let us promote the culture of thinking hard, working hard, and of finding advanced ways of making money,” he said.

Deliberating on the Human and Social Development pillar of Vision 2036, he said the Youth Development Fund (YDF) scheme was a socio-economic programme for start-ups and growing businesses.

“YDF was introduced in the financial year 2009/10 to assist aspirant youth to venture into numerous commercial enterprises funded at 50 per cent loan with 50 per cent being a grant.

The programme was carried out by MYSC in collaboration with other stakeholders such as Local Enterprise Authority to build the spirit of entrepreneurship and parastatals who offer technical support,” he said.

He said Moshupa MYSC had

received and assessed 60 new proposals for youth development projects to be funded in the year 2023/24, adding that the proposals received included; 42 applications from Moshupa/Manyana, 14 from Kanye North, and four Kanye South, totalling to the sum of over P2.4 million.

He said in a bid to improve service delivery, decision-making and project implementation government decided to upgrade all 22 sub-districts into full districts, including Moshupa.

He noted that Decentralisation would promote participatory development.

Moshupa as a district was an important vehicle of bottom up planning and community-driven development.

“The process of filling the 40 new positions is ongoing, currently 22 positions have been filled.

This positions are expected to increase the manpower and subsequently improved service delivery to our communities,” he said. **BOPA**



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

VACANCY CIRCULAR NO: 1 of 2023

REF: DMS 4/8/1 I (49)

DATE: 20th November 2023

VACANCY: TECHNICAL ASSISTANT – B2/B3 X 1-SHAKAWE

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism's overall goal is to develop and implement policies, strategies and programmes to provide leadership and professional guidance on all matters pertaining to the conservation and management of the country's environment and its natural resources for sustainable development and tourism.

A talented, proactive, innovative, and self-driven citizen of Botswana is sought to fill the above-mentioned position in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism tenable in the Department of Meteorological Services in Shakawe.

Salary Scale: B2/B3 (P62 388.00 – P73 236.00 per annum)

Benefits:

- i. Optional Medical Aid Scheme with the Botswana Public Officers Medical Aid Scheme (BPOMAS - Government pays 50% and employee pays 50%)
- ii. Contributory Pension Fund (Government pays 15%, Employee pays 5%)

Leave: 20 working days per annum.

Qualifications: A Certificate in World Meteorological Organisation Class 4 (Artisan Cadre)

Experience: N/A

Main Purpose of the Job

To maintain a continuous watch of weather developments and record meteorological observations as per international relations and procedures prescribed by the World Meteorological Organisation as at a synoptic station (Meteorology Observatory)

Key Performance Areas

- To make visual observation of meteorological parameters laid down by World Meteorological Organisation procedures.
- To issue routine meteorological reports and forward to end users.
- To encode observed meteorological data into standard formats.
- To perform basic quality control on meteorological data.
- To file meteorological journals.
- To launch weather balloon for upper air observations
- To write brief remarks of significant weather developments at the station during and at the end of the

shift.

- To maintain a station logbook to record all occurrences such as power failure, unserviceable instruments, time of commencement and ending of shift.
- To perform minor maintenance of instruments at the station to ensure that readings are obtained.

Required Skills and Competencies

- Customer focus
- Integrity and trust
- Written Communication
- Action Oriented
- Creativity
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- Perseverance

Applications:

Applicants should quote the reference and vacancy circular number and provide the following:

- Detailed and updated Curriculum Vitae
- Certified Copies of Certificates (academic and professional)
- Certified copy of the National Identity Card
- Two (2) recent work related references
- Application should indicate the date of first appointment, present position, date of appointment to the current position and salary scale.

Important:

All applications from serving public officers should be routed through their heads of Department and Permanent Secretaries.

Applications not so routed will not be considered.

Applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements stipulated above will not be responded to.

Applications should be addressed to:

Department of Meteorological Services
P O Box 10100
Gaborone

Closing date: 15th December 2023

For further information please contact: Human Resources at Telephone No: 3612267/12/90



Molaodi o rotloetsa bonatla

Ka Pelonomi Gare

OLIPHANT'S DRIFT - Badirelapuso le maphata a a farologanyeng ba kopilwe go fefosa ditirelo kgotsa mananeo a ba a neelang Batswana, segolobogolo ba dikgaolo tse di kgakala le ditlamelo.

Go ria jalo go tlhalositswe se tsamaelana le lenaneo la ga Tautona Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi la tlhomo ntsha la go fetola ka fa go dirwang dilo ka teng, ka jalo go botlhokwa gore bodiredi bo le sale morago fa ba ntsha dithuso.

Molaodi wa kgaolo ya Kgatleng, Mme Kolobetso Sejakgomo o buile jaana ka Labobedi mo letsatsing le le neng le seegetswe fa thoko go isetsa banni ba motse wa Oliphant's Drift ditlamelo ke maphata a a farologanyeng.

Tiro ya letsatsi le e ne e tshwerwe ka fa tlase ga setlhogo se se reng; Go Isa Ditlamelo Tsa Tlhwatlhwa, Konokono ya go Diragatsa Lenaneo la Tlhomontsha la ga Tautona la go Fetola Dikakanyo."

A re tiro e, e ba neng ba e tshwere mo dikgaolong tse dingwe tsa Kgatleng di tshwana le ya Kgomodiatshaba, Dikwididi le Dikgonnye e thusitse batho ba metse eo ka ba ne ba nna le tshiamelo ya go neelwa ditirelo tse ba ntseng ba sa kgone go di bona ka mabaka a a farologanyeng.

"Ke kopa maphata a a leng teng fa gore ba seka ba itsapela go direla Bakgatla molemo.

A re ba feng lerato mme re ba thuse re ikobile ka re tsere sekano gore re tlaa direla setshaba ka botswapelo,"g a bua jalo Mme Sejakgomo.

Mme Sejakgomo o tswelitse ka go rotloetsa badirelapuso gore ba seka ba paledisa maiteko a puso a go tlhabolola Batswana ka go gana go ntsha ditlamelo jaaka bangwe ba dira.

A re puso e dira go le gontsi mme selabe se tla le motsaya kgamel, a supa fa go dira jaana go dia ditlhabololo.

Fa atswa la gagwe, modulasetilo wa khansela ya Kgatleng yo gape e leng mokhanselara wa Rasesa, Rre Daniel Molokwe o ne a re go botlhokwa gore mongwe le mongwe a thusiwe ka se a se eletsang ka bontsi jwa banni bo sa kgone go ya Mochudi go kopa dithuso ka mabaka a madi ka go le kgakala le motse wa bone.

Rre Molokwe a re tiro e ke

sekao sa maikano a puso a go isa ditlamelo kwa bathong, ka jalo go le botlhokwa gore baabi ba ditirelo ba fefoge go thusa batho.

A re mokgwa wa go kgobakobisa motho fa a ile go batla dithuso mo diofising ke bodiredi o tshwanetse wa ema, a ba rotloetsa go nna le mowa wa bopelotlhomogi fa ba thusa batho.

Mokhanselara wa kgaolo ya Oliphant's Drift/Ramotlabaki Mme Elizabeth Linchwe o akgoletse bodiredi go bo bo kgonne go tshwara tiro e, a supa fa batho ba kgaolo ya gagwe ba tlaa bona dithuso gautshwane ka tse ba di tlhokang go na le go di latela kgakala kwa Mochudi.

"Ke dumela gore le tlaa itseela sengwe mo letsatsing la gompiano, le tlhokana fela le go nna pelo telele gore le tswa fa le kgotsofetse.

Ke nako ya gore le botse ka mananeo a puso e a ntshitseng go le thusa," ga bua jalo Mokhanselara Linchwe. **BOPA**



Rre Molokwe (molemeng), Kgosi Michael Balebetse wa Mmathubudukwane, (bobedi molemeng), Mme Sejakgomo (bobedi mojang) le bagolwane bangwe ba kgaolo ya Kgatleng ba le kwa letsatsing la go isa ditirelo kwa bathong kwa Oliphant's Drift ka Labobedi. Mme Sejakgomo a re go isa ditirelo kwa bathong ke konokono mo go ruteng batho ka ditirelo dingwe tse ba sa itseng ka tsone le go ba fokoletsa mosepele wa go latela ditirelo kwa Mochudi. Senepa: Pelonomi Gare

Mosele wa pula o epiwa go sa le gale

Ka Patricia Speakson

SEROWE - Go tlogela tiro ka bogodi ke thulaganyo e motho a tshwantseng go e ipaakanyetsa go sale gale, go itsa go etsaetsega fa go setse go diragala.

Se se builwe ke mogolwane wa Food Botswana, Rre Oaitse Goitsemang kwa bokopanong jwa ngwaga le ngwaga jwa lekgotla la Badiri ba Meepo kwa Serowe ka Labobedi.

Rre Goitsemang o gakolotse maloko go itse fa go tswa mo tirong e le tshimologo ya botshelo, a tlatse ka go re ba tshwanetse gore ba itumelele fa ba gololesegile go tswelidisa ditiro tsa bone kwa gae.

Rre Goitsemang yo e leng morui yo motona kwa Mmadinare, o rotloeditse ba ba tlogetseng tiro gore ba inaakanye le thuo ka gore ke kgwebo e a dumelang fa mongwe le mongwe a ka e kgona.

O ba rotloeditse go akaretsa bana ba bone mo go tsothle tse ba di dirang gore e re motlha o ba sa tlholeng ba kgona, bana ba kgone go tswelidisa.

"Tiro ya go ipereka e monate

thata. O e simolola o santse o le mo tirong gore o e tlhologanye sentle, o e iketletse.

Nna yo ke fa, ke sale ke simolola thuo ka ngwaga wa 2007, mo nakong ya gompiano ke setse ka dikgwedi di le ka fa tlase ga lesome le bongwe gore ke tswa mo tirong," Rre Goitsemang a tlhalosa.

O tlhalositse fa a tsamaya a kanotse sehuba ka a ya go tswelidisa se a sa leng a se simolotse e bile e setse e le mantswitwidi mo go sone.

O ne a laletsa ba ba nang le kgatlhego ya go rua go tla go tsaya malebela kwa gagwe.

Rre Goitsemang o tswelitse a rotloetsa ba ba tlogetseng tiro gore ba inaakanye le makalana a a tshwereng madi a bone a a tshwanang le Debswana Pensioners Association (DPF), SACCOS, Mmila Administrators le Batshephiwa ba makalana a (trustees). A re se ke go netefatsa fa ba sa jewe ntsoma le gore ba itse dipelo tse ba di dirang ka madi a bone. "Mo gongwe o fitlhela motho a sa bolo go tlogela tiro ka bogodi mme a sa itse fa a na le madi golo gongwe.

Go na le kgange nneng motho a tlhokafetse bana ba gagwe ba setse mo diatleng tsa bommaboipelego mme morago ga lemogwa fa moswi a tlogetse didikadike tsa pula," Rre Goitsemang a supa.

A re ke boikarabelo jwa batlhokomedi ba matlole gore ba tshware ba ba tlogetseng ditiro ka bogodi ka letsogo, ba ba kaela gore go iwa kae go tlhomamisa fa ba akola mefufutso ya diphatla tsa bone.

Mogolwane wa National Management Committee ya Badiri ba Meepo (NMC), Rre Edward Moganana o gateletse gore ke boikarabelo jwa meepo gore ba tshwara thutopuisanyo ba rute babereki ba bone pele ga ba tlogela tiro, gore ba tshwanetse go tshwara jang madi a ba tlaa bong ba a tsaya ba ya gae.

A re thuto eo e tshwanetse gape ya ya kwa go ba ba santseng ba le mono tirong.

Rre Moganana o kopile dikhamphani tsa meepo tse badiri ba pele ba neng ba direla mo go tsone gore ba ba lemoge ka ba diretse meepo eo ka thata.

O kopile gore ka babereki

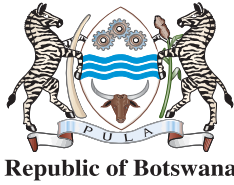
ba pele bontsi jwa bone ba sa tlhole ba le mo botsogong yo bo siameng, ba letlelelwe go itekodisa le go bona kalafi kwa dikokelong tsa meepo jaaka sa Orapa, se a dumelang fa motho a ka bona thuso e fa godimonyana teng.

Modulasetilo wa lekgotla la Badiri ba Meepo la Serowe, Rre Lazarus Botshelo o tlhalositse fa lekgotla le le simolodisitse ka maikaelelo a go imolola le le akaretsang botlhe ba ba berekileng kwa meepo la DPF morwalo.

Rre Botshelo a re lekgotla le le itlamile go sireletsa dikgatlhego le go tsholetsa mewa ya ba ba tlogetseng tiro gore ba itse fa ba santseng ba le botlhokwa mo setshabeng e bile ba ka nna le seabe mo go tlhabololeng Botswana.

A re boloko jwa lekgotla bo akaretsa botlhe ba ba dirileng mo meepo yotlhe mo Botswana.

Bokopano jo bo ne bo tsenwe ke maloko go tswa kwa mafelong a a farologanyeng a Bokone a akaretsa Mmadinare, Bobonong, Tonota, Francistown le Palapye. **BOPA**



Republic of Botswana

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BOTSWANA
TEL: 3958500
Website: www.mtpw.gov.bw
FAX No: 3913303

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

REF: MTPW 1/14/1 (88)

25th October 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

DECENTRALISATION OF ASSESSMENT OF PRIVATE GARAGES FOR REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION

The Ministry informs the public that collection of application forms and requirements for registration and accreditation of private garages can be done at any of the Government Fleet Management (GFM), former Central Transport Organisation, workshops across the country.

The requirements for registration and accreditation are as follows;

- a) Copy of Certificate of Incorporation or Certificate of Registration and Extract
- b) **Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)** and **Tax Certificate** Number for online verification of Tax registration
- c) Copy of valid Insurance cover outlining the risks covered. This should include Cover against Fire on customer vehicles, Theft, Motor Traders Internal, Motor Traders External and Defective Workmanship.
- d) **Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) in any of the following codes (Code 104 sub code 01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08,09 Code 111 sub code 01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08,09 and Code 114 sub code 01)** and any other relevant **Services Codes (Maintenance of Vehicle/Plant)** depending on services rendered. Verification status of PPRA registration for garages will be through **IPMS portal**.

Application forms should be submitted at the following GFM workshops; Lobatse, Tsabong, Gantsi, Maun Auto, Kasane, Francistown Auto, Selebi-Phikwe, Serowe, Mahalapye and Regional Workshop.

The application forms can be collected from GFM workshops from **20th November 2023**.

For clarification please contact the Accreditation Office at **3715886 / 3715879/ 3715890**.

Thank you.

Public Relations Office
For/Permanent Secretary



Telephone: (267) 3950800
Telegrams: PULA
Telex: (267) 3904017



Ministry for State President
Private Bag 001
Gaborone

Ministry for State President

Ref: OPC 4/11/19 XI

20th November 2023

NOTICE OF BEST ADJUDICATED BIDDER - SP/OP/026/2023-2024 – TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO MINISTRY FOR STATE PRESIDENT

The Accounting Officer on her decision dated **16th November 2023** has authorized the Procuring Entity to award the above-mentioned tender to the below stated bidder who passed all the stages of the evaluation (stage 1-Compliance, stage 2- Technical and stage 3- Financial)

Best Adjudicated Bidder	Amount
Motor Centre Botswana (Pty) Ltd	P11,025,357.24 vat inclusive
Date of Display of Notice:	21/11/2023
End of Display of Notice:	29/11/2023

All interested bidders are advised to request for debriefing within the specified days of the display of this notice.

It is the intention of the Procuring Entity to award the contract to the above stated bidder upon end of display of this notice.

Kindly note that this Notice does not constitute an award of contract to the bidder mentioned above. Bid acceptance and contract placement shall be in accordance with the Public Procurement Act, 2021 and Public Procurement Regulations 2023.

.....
K. Sehurutshi
For/ PS – Ministry for State President

TELEPHONE: 3950100
FAX: 3956086
TOLL FREE: 0800600773



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
PRIVATE BAG 008
GABORONE

EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT | VACANCY CIRCULAR NO. 21 OF 2023

VACANCY: CHIEF ACCOUNTANT X 2 Positions Tenable at Standard & Inspections and Payroll & Pensions in Gaborone

- SALARY SCALE** : D1 (368,460 – 406,332 per annum)
- LEAVE** : 30 working days per annum
- BENEFITS** : i) Optional contributory medical aid (government pay 50% and employee 50%)
ii) Contributory pension scheme (Government contributes 15% and employee 5%)

QUALIFICATIONS:

Candidates must have Bachelor of Accountancy or Professional Accountancy qualification such as ACCA, CIPFA, CIMA and BICA.

EXPERIENCE

At least twelve (12) years' work experience with 2 years at D2 salary scale or equivalent position in the private sector. Knowledge of Public Sector Accounting and computerized accounting environment preferably Oracle Financials will be an added advantage.

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE JOB

The primary purpose of this job is to coordinate budget execution, procurement, treasury, payroll, pensions and consolidation of Government accounts as well as support and maintain financial systems; ensure compliance with relevant regulatory instruments; advise stakeholders/customers on financial and other policy related matters.

DUTIES

1. Monitor monthly accounts of the Ministry Accounting Units and give advice on detected misallocations.
2. Co-ordinate the allocation and reconciliation of below the line accounts for all Ministries to ensure that accounts are used for intended purposes and that all transactions have been recorded correctly in both below the line registry and the sub ledgers accounts.
3. Monitor Special Funds and ensure that expenditure incurred is as per Fund Orders and also ensure compliance in terms of accounts submission.
4. Ensure timely payments of Government Suppliers of goods, services, employees and pensioners within the set customer service standards.
5. Consolidate the Annual Statement of Accounts (ASA) for submission to Auditor General and prepares tabling notes for MFED Minister to the National Assembly within the statutory timelines.
6. Provide on the job training for the junior staff to ensure that they understand Financial Regulations, Instructions, Procedures and application of basic accounting principles. Identify staff skills gaps and determines relevant development programs.
7. Develop and drives implementation of sectional Annual Performance Plan and coordinates the completion of contracts and reviews

8. Monitor all dormant accounts and non-moving accounts reflected in Government accounts and advise the relevant ministries/departments to take immediate action.
9. Coordinate timely responses to audit reports and implementation of recommendations.
10. Ensure prudent financial management through monitoring budget estimates, execution and Revenue collections and provide guidance.
11. Prepare monthly/ quarterly financial reports for senior management in the ministry for strategic decision making.
12. Ensure adherence/compliance to PFM Act and Financial Instructions and also uptake of ICT financial systems in the ministry
13. Coordinate consolidation of cash forecasts and ensure compliance in terms of submission timeliness.
14. Supervise Treasury Cashiers under the branch to ensure prudent financial management and safe custody of Government cash.
15. Conduct inspections and surprise checks in all Government departments with more emphasis on revenue collection and payments and procurement of government supplies.
16. Undertake any other related duties as may be assigned by management.

KEY COMPETENCIES

- a) Integrity and Trust
- b) Planning and Execution
- c) Managing and Measuring Work
- d) Drive for Results
- e) Customer Focus
- f) Managing Diversity
- g) Decision Quality

APPLICATIONS: Quote the vacancy Circular number and give the following details:

- a) Full name, address and place of birth
- b) Brief summary of career with duties performed (Curriculum Vitae) including date of first appointment, present post and date of appointment thereto.
- c) Certified copies of certificates together with transcripts
- d) Certified copy of the National Identity Card
- e) At least two (2) references from the most recent employment
- f) Date of first appointment and present post and date of appointment thereto.

Applications should be addressed to:

The Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Finance | Private Bag 008, GABORONE

Hand delivered to Ministry of Finance RMU, Old CSO Block, 2nd Floor.

IMPORTANT: All applications should be routed through their Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Department. Applications not so routed will not be considered.

CLOSING DATE: 05th December 2023 at 16:30hrs.

For further information please contact the **Human Resource Office at 3950397/3633651.**

N.B: Applicants who do not meet the requirements of the posts will not be responded to.

ClassifiedAds

AUTOMOTIVES

INTENTION TO TRANSFER to 2nd owner: Red Nissan Pick Up 3.2L Diesel. Chasis No:ADNG30000A086715, Engine No:2D32137521, Reg[B 106 AHE], SG Multi Services. For objections contact:71342727

BUSINESS SERVICES

DNA PATERNITY TESTING, Festive Special. Call 3162449, 73333399

THESIS/DISSERTATIONS, DATA analysis, market research services. Call Data123@71965383

FARM WORKERS

A LADY WANTED AS a Farm Worker Contact A. and N Enterprises Box 119 Tsetsebjuwe. Call: 72110756

3 FARM WORKERS required at Gweta. Apply to G. R. Thapelo 72443706/ 71517470. Expatriates should be in possession of cross boarder documents. Box 1900, Francistown.

SEASONAL FARM WORKER Wanted, Mabutswe farm Tlokweng. BOX 26283 Gaborone

TWO FARM LABOURERS AT Tsamaya. Apply Eletsang Jeremiah. Box 3210, Francistown. 72252696

4 SEASONAL FARM worker's wanted by Kabelonyana Bua Box 960 Mogoditshane.

SEASONAL FARM WORKER needed with 3-4 yrs experience. Call 71300802.

TWO FARMLABOURERS WANTED (Tutube Lands). Motsei Moruakgomo. Box 1001, Tonota. 71910221

FARM WORKER WANTED at Mmasegotso lands. Apply to P O Box 1165 Mahalapye. Call: Ntshimo 73883561.

URGENTLY WANTED HERD Boy at Mothwane. Contact 72273861

FARM WORKERS WANTED for details contact 73296701 or 72202244

FARM WORKER WANTED at Ramaphatle, call Mokganedi Kethoilwe 72978757. P O Box 48876, Tlokweng

DOMESTIC/ FARM WORKER- Female, Mokatako Village, Diretsana land. Domestic chores, gardening, chickens, small stock and horticulture. Apply: Kemoneiloe Pheresi/ WHATSAPP 73657896/ 71657896. Closing date 08/12/2023.

FARM WORKERS WANTED at Dikonye-Dikukama farm. Contact:Tololo Sebeso at P.O Box 385 Lobatse.Cell 71329274

PROPERTIES

HOUSE PLANS, BUILDING construction 73149537.

VACANCIES

QUANTITY SURVEYOR WANTED with Diploma or above, 5years experience or above. Apply CADAR VILLE (Pty)Ltd. Box 20573, Francistown.

WHISPERS OF LOVE Pre-School invites applications for teaching position, Diploma/ Degree in early childhood. Apply to Box 20343 Gaborone.

BELIEVERS DESTINY ACADEMY invites application for teaching position in Education with 3 years experience. Apply to Box 20343 Gaborone

BELIEVERS DESTINY PREPARATORY Invites application for teaching position. Diploma/ Degree in Education with 3 years experience. Apply to Box 20343 Gaborone

WHISPERS OF JOY preschool invites application for teaching position;diploma/degree in early childhood apply to Box 20343 Gaborone.

ECHOES OF MERCY pre-school invites application for teaching positions, Diploma/ Degree in early childhood apply to Box 20343 Gaborone.

EXECUTIVE CHEF WANTED with 5 yrs experience in leadership also in Thai and Italian cuisine to Palarer Pty Ltd Box 202542 Gaborone.

GATES OF GRACE preschool invites applications for teaching positions: Diploma/ Degree in early childhood. Apply to Box 20343 Gaborone

LILY OF THE Valley preschool invites application for teaching position: Diploma/ Degree in early childhood. Apply to Box 20343 Gaborone

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

TSHIAMO SIGWELE OF plot 33962 changes land use from residential to multi-residential in Palapye, Lotsane ward. Any objection contact Palapye Physical planning office.

IL.BOTTOMANSAT Boikago ward in Palapye would like to consult my neighbours about change of land use from single family residential to commercial on plot 6244/21061. For any objections contact Palapye Council, Physical Planning Office on 4930821.

I L.SOLOMON AT Ratholo Village would like to consult my neighbours about change of land use from Industrial to Commercial. For any objections please contact Palapye Council Physical Planning Office on 4930821.

I PHEMELO MOSWEU Owner of plot 209 Metsimothabe Block1 Kweneng, wishes to construct a boundary wall for a multi residential. For objections, contact Mogoditshane physical planning on 3105615

I JOSEPH S.MOEMI owner of plot 3553 Jwaneng Unit 5,notifying owners of plot 3531,3532 and 3552 intention of building boundary wall. Any objection consult council planning office in writing within of this notice/call 5880303

GOLEBETWE P. NTSHOMA, owner of plot 13346 Palapye Extension 11, want to build a boundary wall at her plot. Any objection from neighbouring plots please call 71487951 or Palapye physical planning office.

OWNERS OF PLOT 12295, 12297 and 12308 at Lobatse airstrip. Contact owner of plot 12296 regarding the construction of boundary wall on 72986109 or any objection contact the building control office at Lobatse Town Council.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ESHFT-000054-21
IN THE ESTATE of the Late Obamelang O Malema who died at A15 Road Moshakabela Cattle post 23rd May 2020
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within **twenty-one (21) days** after the publication hereof.
 Executor Dative
 TheGreat Prince Malema
 P.O.Box 2184 AAD Poso House, Gaborone | CELL: 72272862

H/W BUSANG
IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF GABORONE
 HELD AT VILLAGE
 CASE NO. CCMVL-000539-23
 In the matter between:
 CAPITALWISE INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD t/a PLAINTIFF
 AUTOCASH PAWN SHOP
 And
 SHADRECK ADVICE DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

Be pleased to take notice that pursuant to the judgment granted by the above Honorable Court the following movable property of the above named Defendant will be sold by public auction sale to the highest bidder by the Deputy Sheriff MESHACK MOSHABI as follows:
 DATE: 07TH DECEMBER 2023
 TIME: 10:00 AM
 PLACE OF SALE: GABORONE, BROADHURST MAGISTRATE COURT
 PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: 1x Lenovo laptop, 1x printer, 1x office desk, 1x office chair, 1x bar fridge, 1x base bed, 1x plasma TV, 1x fan.
 TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEE CHEQUES ONLY.
 DATED AT GABORONE THIS 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023
 DUBULA ATTORNEYS
 PLOT 51410, KGALEVIEW
 P O BOX 201037,
 GABORONE
 TEL: 3119986/7

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000312/22
IN THE ESTATE of the late **KGAKGAMATSO AND JOSEPHINE RATHOBOLO** who died at Lotsane Ward, Palapye District on the 09th June 2022 and at Nyangabgwe Referral Hospital, Francistown District, Botswana on the 27th day of June 2022 respectively.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.
 DATED at _____ on this _____ Day of _____ 2023
 The Executor
 Rathobolo Omphile Rathobolo
 P O Box 1135 PALAPYE
 Cell: 77895047/78180707

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000530.22
IN THE ESTATE of the late **LORRAINE M.C. SAMU** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 28th October 2022.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.
 DATED at _____ on this _____ Day of _____ 2023.
 The Executor
 Chimbidzani Samu
 P.O BOX 502811
 GABORONE
 Tel: 727490150

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

ESHFT 000108-22
FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT
IN THE ESTATE of the late **OWAFHA MOTLHAGODI -ESHFT 000108-22** who died at Selibe Phikwe, Plot no; 1011 Tshabantsa, Central District on the 08th May 2022.
NOTICE IS HEREBY First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.
DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023
 OOKEDITSE MOTLHAGODI AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT
 EXECUTOR DATIVE Private Bag F13
 P O Box 7552425 Francistown
 Selibe Phikwe

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000315/21
IN THE ESTATE of the late **Agnes Batsalelwang** who died at Sir Ketumile Masire Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 18th day of August 2021.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within **thirty (30) days** after the publication hereof.
 DATED at _____ on this _____ day of _____ 2023.
 The Executor
 Mmakgotla M. Batsalelwang
 Plot 50591, New Canada, Gaborone | P O Box V357 RAMOTSWA
 TEL: 72 569 920 / 75 967 414

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB 000312/22
IN THE ESTATE of the late **KGAKGAMATSO AND JOSEPHINE RATHOBOLO** who died at Lotsane Ward, Palapye District on the 09th June 2022 and at Nyangabgwe Referral Hospital, Francistown District, Botswana on the 27th day of June 2022 respectively.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.
 DATED at _____ on this _____ Day of _____ 2023
 The Executor
 Rathobolo Omphile Rathobolo
 P O Box 1135 PALAPYE
 Cell: 77895047/78180707

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ESHFT- 000263-23
IN THE ESTATE of the late **MERRIAM MOGOROSI** who died at NYANGABWE REFERAL HOSPITAL, FRANCISTOWN, FRANCISTOWN DISTRICT, Botswana on the 25th September 2021.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and Creditors of the above mentioned Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within **(30) days** after the **publication** hereof. Creditors are advised to deliver proof of their claims against the Estate to the Executor/ Executrix prior to the date of the meeting.
DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 6TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023
Isaac Mogorosi AND TO: Deputy Registrar & Master
Private Bag 52 Francistown
SEBINA

Change of Land Use | Neighbour Consultation

I, PILOT & LILLIAN LEKOBA owner of Tribal Lot No.10446 Kanye, Maabakgomo ward inform neighbours of **change of land use** from single to multi-family residential.
 I also intend to develop double-storey multi-residential structure on this plot.
 For any objection to this development, contact Kanye District Physical Planning Office @Telephone No. 544 3319/544 0217, in writing within **fourteen (14) days** of publication of this notice.
PAPAPELE INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD,
 Mobile#. 770 322 70 / 719 608 93



Application for Lost Title Deed

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of a Deed of Transfer No. TL 321/2020 dated 3rd March 2020 passed in favour of Gaone Geoffrey Seleka in respect of the following;

CERTAIN: Piece of Land bearing Lot 36344 Mogoditshane
SITUATED: Situated at Mogoditshane (cadre 89) in Bakwena Tribal Territory
MEASURING: 820 SQM (Eight hundred and twenty square metres)

All persons having objection to the issuance of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same, in writing, with the Register of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, within three weeks (3) of publication of this notice.

DATED at Gaborone this 3rd Day of November, 2023.

Gaone Geoffrey Seleka, Plot 26475, Block 9 Gaborone, Private Bag AE 232 AEH, Gaborone, Botswana

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000217/22

IN THE ESTATE of the late Barayang Augustine Mokalake who died at Nyangabgwe Referral Hospital, Francistown, Francistown District, Botswana on the 11th day of November 2012.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Debtors and creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their debts and file their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within thirty (30) days after the publication hereof.

DATED at Francistown On this 17day of November 2023

The Executrix,
 Lorato Mokalake
 Mokwenanyana Ward
 P O Box 1925, SEROWE
 TEL: 74412381

VACANCY

We have following job vacancy at our Company in Gaborone:

1) Pharmacist

Qualification: Pharmacy Degree and Registered with BHPC as a Pharmacist.

Experience: Minimum 5 years experience as a retail Pharmacist in Botswana or Abroad . Have to work under Direct Supervision of Director Pharmacist.

For this position private practice license is not Mandatory.

Kindly send your CV to:
The Managing Director
Al Shifa Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 45578, Riverwalk, Gaborone, Botswana
email: pharmjaved@gmail.com

Closing date : 2 weeks from date of publishing this advert.

DailyNews THE PAPER THAT INFORMS AND EDUCATES

Loose Inserts Back by popular demand.

INSERTS (loose)

- Up to two sheets (per thousand) **P635.00**
- 4 to 8 sheets (per thousand) **P665.00**
- 9 to 12 sheets (per thousand) **P730.00**
- 13 to 16 sheets (per thousand) **P800.00**
- Rates for larger inserts available on request

Contact: **3653592, 3653620, 3653591, 3653587, 3653593, 3653599**



Kutlwano
Magazine

Kutlwano Magazine is Botswana's oldest Magazine with the widest readership and highest circulation and has been revitalized to reach a broader readership.
 Circulation: 2, 500 copies, monthly

KUTLWANO ADVERTISING RATES

PRIME PAGES	PRICE
INSIDE FRONT COVER	3250
BACK COVER	3500
CENTRE SPREAD	5000
INSIDE BACK COVER	3000

NORMAL PAGES

INSIDE PAGES	B/W	1SPOT	2SPOT	FULL COLOUR
FULL PAGE	2000	2200	2400	2600
HALF PAGE	1000	1200	1400	1600
QUARTER PAGE	500	700	900	1100

FOR ADVERTISING SPACE CALL: 3653500
3653592 3653587 3653620 3653591 3653593 3653599





Molebatsi (left) and Senna during a panel discussion at a film festival in Gaborone on Tuesday. Molebatsi emphasised the need for the establishment of a film commission as it would help attract film productions, thereby promoting tourism and creating jobs.

Photo: Gothusang Lesego

Exhibition stimulates art development

By Esther Mmolai

MAUN - The Botswana Art Fair Association (BONAFa) chairperson, Kgari Mokgatlane has hailed the participation of art teachers in the Maun International Arts Festival (MIAF) as a welcome move that will stimulate art development.

Mokgatlane made the remarks when officially opening the exhibition to the public on Tuesday night appreciating that teachers did exceptionally well to make the exhibition a reality.

He acknowledged that for a long time, only students had been taking part in the festival, but this time, teachers were given an opportunity to display their artistic and creative works during a spontaneous creativity session.

This is when a group of storytellers, poets and visual artists created artworks on a provided theme without prior preparations.

Later, their artworks were displayed in the visual arts exhibition held at the Nhabe Museum.

He said teachers demonstrated dedication and managed to showcase their creativity, diversity and produce quality art works and encouraged them to keep up the momentum and produce more during their leisure time to sustain themselves.

"I have realised that some teachers are sitting on their talents and yet they can produce quality artworks to better their lives. I urge you not to only focus on teaching

art but you should also explore your talents, nurture it and make a living out of it," he added.

He said it was essential that art teachers remain artists themselves, nurturing their work alongside their students.

Mokgatlane encouraged other teachers who did not participate to up their game next year and bring their artworks.

Association of Botswana Practical Subjects (ABOPRASU) also appreciated the teachers' excellent performance and awarded them some medals as motivation.

Meanwhile, the festival is an annual activity that takes place in Maun and organised by Poetavango.

Legodile Seganabeng, Poetavango chairperson said they were celebrating their 10th anniversary and noted that the festival started small but it has now grown in leaps and bounds and gave credit to their partners for rallying behind them through thick and thin.

"We had a difficult journey as we struggled to secure sponsors over the years but we did not lose hope and did our best despite the challenges.

This year they secured sponsorship from the Orange Foundation to specifically support the music component during the festival.

He also appreciated their partnership with BONAFa and the Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Fund. **BOPA**

Botswana needs film commission

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE - There is need for the establishment of a film commission in Botswana for the development and promotion of the film and television industry.

This was revealed by the Policy Specialist at the Ministry of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture, Dean Molebatsi during a panel discussion on Tuesday.

The moderator of the discussion, Tiro Kganelo had asked him about the intention of the establishment of a film commission in Botswana at the ongoing first ever Botswana International Film Festival at the Protea Hotel.

Molebatsi stated that the film commission was essential for attracting productions, generating economic growth, creating jobs, promoting tourism, preserving cultural heritage, and developing a thriving film and television industry in the country.

He said it was always a challenge to change the law or policy in a certain direction and in this case, it was particularly difficult.

Recently, he said he had a discussion with the Minister of Finance, who informed him that there is no room for new State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) as the existing ones were struggling financially.

"My response to this was that we should shut down these SOEs and open new ones that will generate profit," he said.

Molebatsi emphasised the importance of engaging with Members of Parliament and Ministers about the set up of the commission for this to be effective.

"It is crucial to communicate with them in order to achieve our goals," he said.

A panelist from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Sonny Mokgwathi mentioned the concept of film-induced tourism, where tourists are attracted to destinations they have seen in films.

Expanding on the promotion of film, Mokgwathi stated that they utilise filming as a means to promote tourism.

He pointed out that many tourists visit Botswana because they have seen the locations they wish to visit on films.

Another panelist from South Africa, Victor Senna from KwaZulu Natal (KZN) Film Commission explained that the strategy that they have adopted involved a dedicated unit focused on attracting investment in the film industry.

The services offered under this programme, he said, included a familiarisation talk, where international producers are invited to come and experience what the province has to offer.

He said they cover all expenses for these visits, taking the producers to various film locations available in the province.

Additionally, he said an incentive was provided to encourage filmmakers to choose KZN as their filming destination.

"This includes assisting with permits and engaging with municipalities to obtain the necessary permits. KZN also has a database of crew members that they share with the producers when they arrive," he said.

Shedding more light about what Botswana could learn from them, he said as the province, they have various incentives and agreements in place for the crew that is available in the province. "We have established Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with different establishments such as hotels and car hire companies, providing discounted rates to minimise the cost for the crew coming to the province, he said.

Furthermore, he said they had recently introduced the film investment facilitation fee, which allows productions to request additional support from them.

"We strive to meet their needs and make their filming experience in the province as affordable as possible," Senna added.

To aid in promoting their film destinations, he said they had developed an online map on their website, showcasing all the available locations in the province.

This he said allowed filmmakers to easily access information about the various filming locations from anywhere.

"We have also utilised different festivals and international events

to promote the province and highlight the benefits of shooting here," he said.

As for how they work with international productions, he said to promote their offerings and attract international productions, they actively participated in various festivals, events, and international gatherings.

"Through these platforms, we showcase what KZN has to offer and highlight the benefits of choosing our province as a filming location. We are committed to lobbying and persuading filmmakers to consider our province and not let competition sway their decision," said Senna.

Regarding the number of productions they have in a year, on average, he said they attracted approximately three international productions to the province.

These productions vary in terms of their budgets, but typically they have substantial funding.

"For instance, one production might have a budget of around R500 million. We recognise that when these productions choose our province, a significant portion of their budget will be spent locally, benefiting our economy," he said.

Another panelist, Bokang Dithokwa, who is the director at Ditiragalo Media said in 2012, he recognised the challenges in the film and television industry and decided to focus on the legal aspect of it.

He said he negotiated with the government to establish a regulatory body for the industry, as he discovered that other countries had multiple bodies overseeing filmmaking activities. **BOPA**



Minister of Youth, Gender, Sport and Culture, Tumiso Rakgare (left) and wife, Hilda during the opening of the inaugural Botswana International Film Festival in Gaborone on Monday. Two short films from Botswana and South Africa were screened as part of the film festival opening. Photo: Tshoganetso Mokowe

Zebras break 29-year Guinea jinx

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - November 21 will always be engraved in the hearts of Batswana, as the Zebras salvaged a historic win against a highly ranked and more fancied western African country, Guinea in a World Cup qualifier game played in Francistown.

The last time Zebras upset another West African side was in 2010 when they stole a surprise 2-0 win against Togo in an AFCON qualifiers game played at the University of Botswana Stadium.

Their latest win was even sweeter given that they won against a team that has tormented the local lads for a very long time.

The two sides met in AFCON qualifiers games twice previously, and on both occasions Guinea emerged victorious.

In 1994, Guinea won 1-0, while in 1995 they embarrassed the Zebras with a 5-0 scoreline.

The two met again in the World Cup qualifiers twice.

In 2004, Guinea won 4-0, and the domination continued in 2005 when they won 2-1.

In 2012, during the AFCON games, it was Guinea that caused people to call give the Zebras a mocking moniker of 'Six Pack' after a 6-1 drubbing.

Tuesday was a different ball game, and Kabelo Seakanyeng's of his 79th minute goal was loaded with meaning.

He got a yellow card for removing his jersey, but who could blame him after he scored what would prove to be the decisive goal against a team that included Diawara Amadou, who plays for Belgian Pro League club Anderlecht, Camara AGuibou, who plays for a Greece Super League side Atromitos, Guirassy Serhou, who is a regular for the German Bundesliga club VfB Stuttgart and Moriba Kourouma Kourouma, who plays for another Bundesliga club RB Leipzig.

The Zebras head coach, Didier Gomes Da Rosa took a brave

gamble when he changed his line-up just within seven days before the game.

He later told *BOPA* that he drew inspiration from former Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger who once said: "If you are not ready to take risks don't take this job."

He said against Guinea, he had to change the team that faced Mozambique because he wanted results.

"We have to be pragmatic," he said. "I am very clear and frank. Yes, against Mozambique we made some mistakes and we needed to correct that."

Da Rosa said Mogakolodi Ngele was on good form against Mozambique, hence he started.

He said Seakanyeng had been tired against Mozambique after arriving late from Morocco, but was ready for the clash against Guinea. Da Rosa said he planned for Guinea by watching their videos and analysing them, which helped him to understand and appreciate their style of play.

"I also picked their strength and weaknesses," he explained.

"If you look at the team, a lot of them play in their Premier League and compete in the European Championship, so we decided to be compact and play 4-1-4-1 system and to be very complimentary in the wings."

He admitted that there was a lot of work to be done in his team, adding that he was happy that Botswana Football Association was supportive.

He said his biggest assignment was to identify more players who play both in Botswana and outside the country.

"Bottom line is that we have to improve the team and organise more camps and there is a need for more competitive friendly matches," he said.

The Zebras win has now opened up Group G, which is currently led by Algeria with six points, while Guinea, Botswana, Mozambique all have three points while Somalia is at the bottom of the log without any point. *BOPA*



Fans appreciating Seakanyeng after his goal salvaged a historic win against Guinea in a 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifier in Francistown on Tuesday. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata

Canada looks to retain Davis Cup

MADRID - Canada look to retain the Davis Cup, the world's top-level men's team tennis tournament, having started their title defense in Malaga, Spain on Tuesday.

The Canadian women had won the Billy Jean King Cup, the world's top-level women's team tennis tournament, in nearby Seville a fortnight ago.

Missing Denis Shapovalov for the Davis Cup, Canada captain Frank Dancevic has called up Milos Raonic, along with Gabriel Diallo, Alexis Galarneau and the veteran Vasek Pospisil, who helped them qualify for the finals after tough qualification rounds against Italy, Sweden and Chile.


Canada will be spearheaded by Felix-Auger Aliassime, who returns to action after not playing

in September and slipping down in the world rankings from No. 6 at the start of the year to outside the top-20.

Aliassime will play on an indoor hard court, which is arguably his favorite surface, and places a lot of value on Canada as a team, rather than a collection of individual talents.

"Whenever we come together as a team, we always believe we can win," Aliassime commented on the eve of the tournament.

Meanwhile, Novak Djokovic arrived in Malaga on Monday after completing an incredible seventh win in the ATP Finals and in his 400th week as world No.1. Djokovic will lead Serbia in their quarterfinal against Britain, who are led by World No.18 Cameron Norrie. *Xinhua*



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

ACCOMODATION WANTED

1. The Ministry wishes to invite interested individuals, Estate Agents and Property Development Companies for registration of their residential accommodation for possible leasing by government
2. **Required Accommodation:**
 - (a) 2 or 3 bedroomed **Houses/Flats/Town Houses, Cluster/Multi Residence**, 3 bedroomed **Medium Cost Houses**, and 3 bedroomed **High Cost Houses** in Gaborone, Francistown, Selebi-Phikwe, Serowe, Palapye, Maun, Jwaneng, Lobatse, Tsabong, Molepolole, Mahalapye, Kanye, Ghanzi, Bobonong, Ramotswa, Letlhakane, Orapa, Mochudi and other villages.
 - (b) **Executive houses, preferably with guard house in Gaborone and Francistown only**
3. All units of accommodation must be complete with all standard fittings, fixtures, power and water should be in a good state of repair and decoration.
4. The terms and conditions of the lease will be in accordance with the standard lease agreement approved by Attorney General's chambers, a copy of which could be obtained from the Department of Housing.
5. Please note that the Department of Housing nor the Government of Botswana is obliged to accept any offer, neither should it be construed that there would be a commitment to lease any property registered with the Department. Those who offer/register their properties in response to this invitation are free to withdraw their offer anytime if they so wish, or find alternative tenants but must inform the Department of Housing.

Those interested in registering their properties are required to complete the **accommodation offer forms** and they must attach proof of ownership; Lease Agreement/Certificate of Right or Title Deed.

Collection and Submission of completed forms must be made at the following offices:-

<p>GABORONE Department of Housing P/BAG 00138 GABORONE 4th floor, National Development Bank Building, Main Mall</p>	<p>FRANCISTOWN Regional Office Department of Housing, Former BGI Building P/BAG F228 Francistown</p>
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ALL OTHER AREAS –
Respective District Commissioners/District Officer

6. We wish to advice our clients who have offered their properties before but were not leased to re-apply for registration. Failure to re-apply will result in cancellation of their previously made offers.
7. The closing date for registration of offers will be on or before 16:30 hours on the **31st December 2023**.
8. Please note that offers will be invited every six (6) months to accommodate new properties that may come into the market.
9. For further information, please contact the following:-

<p>FRANCISTOWN Mrs S.B. Radithupa/ Mr. A. Mabuella Phone: 2455480/2414054, Fax: 2417994</p>	<p>GABORONE Mr T.R. Kruger / Mrs K.M. Tshobo Phone: 3985600, Fax: 3906535</p>
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MTB features pump track

By Ketshepile More

GABORONE - The Botswana Cycling Association will hold national championships in the Mountain Bike (MTB) and Individual Time Trial (ITT) at Domius Maria and Fikeng respectively on Saturday and Sunday from 6am.

Of interest in this year's MTB Nationals is the 'pump track' section, a new feature that crosses a small stream and some hard uneven soil, which creates a pump track effect, with a challenging drop.

"We are acting on feedback we received from our officials and athletes who attended similar events internationally, and the idea is to increase the technicality of the route to match what our athletes' experience in

international competitions," BCA president Kagiso Potongwane said in an interview.

However, the route remains the same as in previous years. Riders will start off and turn into the old Saddle track, and go up the gradual incline that leads away from the Saddle track.

They will then descend back to the Saddle track, and go up, then make a turn to ride through the technical rock bed.

Then they will descend to the Batman Returns section, which is a demanding descent through big and small rocks and requires a lot of caution and skill.

From Batman Returns, the route finishes off with this new pump section.

Potongwane said this new feature is a good test for the riders, as the association is on a

quest to make the nationals track more challenging and demanding for cyclists.

He appealed to cycling clubs to field cyclists with good MTB handling skills and ability to compete in an intense race of this nature that requires tactical and power riding.

The ITT race will see female youth and junior categories riding for improved times on 14km distance, whilst under-23, veteran, master, grand master and elite categories will do their time on 30.11 km distance.

For the male, the youth and junior will also do 14 km while the under-23, elite, veteran, master and grand master will ride 42 km.

The 14 km distance is registered at P150 and all race distances go for P200.

For the MTB race discipline, cyclists will do loops according to their categories.

The youth category will ride three loops which will total 18.3 km, the junior alongside under-23 ladies, elite ladies, vets ladies, masters ladies and masters men will compete on a 24 km distance of four loops.

The 36.6 km distance, which is six loops, will be for the under-23 men alongside elite men and vets men.

All MTB categories are registered at P200. The cycling nationals are supported by Motor Vehicle Accident Fund, Water Utilities Corporation, ER24/7, Hydrate Still Water, Botswana National Sport Commission, Cycle4Life Cycling Club and Lifecycle Events and Timing. **BOPA.**

Botswana Cycling Association will this weekend hold national championships in the Mountain Bike and Individual Time Trial at Domius Maria and Fikeng respectively near Gaborone.

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