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Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana (centre), Assistant Minister, Mr Augustine Nyatanga (right) and Commissioner of Prisons, Mr Anthony Mokento during a Pitso on legislative reform to prison/correctional service law in Gaborone on Monday. Mr Ramaotwana said prison service should serve as a model institution of correctional excellence, grounded in rehabilitation and imparting life skills to offenders. Photo: Gothusang Lesego



Mascom CEO, Ms Dzene Makhwade-Seboni (left) and Assistant Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr Shawn Nthaile during Mascom Tech Expo in Gaborone recently. Mr Nthaile said through the National Digital Strategy, government had set out a bold path to digitise public services, unify national digital systems and create an ecosystem that nurtured innovation and entrepreneurship. Photo: Teko Letsholo

Govt commits to inclusive digital future

By Benita Magopane

GABORONE - Technology and innovation remain key cornerstones for economic growth, diversification, and job creation, Assistant Minister of Communications and Innovation, Mr Shawn Nthaile has said.

Speaking at this year's annual Mascom Tech Connect Expo in Gaborone, Mr Nthaile said the government, through the National Digital Transformation Strategy aimed to digitise public services, unify national digital systems, and create an ecosystem that nurtures innovation and entrepreneurship.

He noted that the P1.47 billion allocated to support innovation and digital transformation would accelerate SmartBots strategy.

This includes digitisation of government services, expansion of internet connectivity to remote areas and 500 schools, as well as strengthening Botswana's competitiveness in the digital economy through expanded research and education networks.

Highlighting the private sector as the driver of innovation, Mr Nthaile stressed the need for inclusivity as the country journeyed toward a digital future.

"We cannot allow the digital divide to widen between urban and rural communities," he said, affirming government's strong commitment partnerships with the private sector.

Mascom chief executive officer, Ms Dzene Makhwade-Seboni, said Mascom was expanding beyond its traditional role as a telecommunications provider and transforming into a technology company.

"Mascom seeks to be a trusted digital transformation partner for businesses across Botswana," she

She that innovation must solve real business challenges, unlock growth, and create opportunities that once seemed out of reach, adding that Mascom heavily invested in strengthening infrastructure as the backbone of innovation.

Among its milestones are the Mascom Innovation Centre, a Tier 3 Data Centre in Phakalane and the first of its kind in Botswana, launched in 2012 and over 1 400km of long-distance and metro fibre rings in Gaborone and Francistown.

affirmed She Mascom's commitment to complementing the national vision of digitising services, driving purposeful innovation, and fostering a shared digital economy. BOPA

Council registers investment arm

By Manowe Motsaathebe

BOBONONG -Bobirwa District Council is in the process of completing company registration of their special purpose vehicle dubbed BOMMA Investments, which will serve as the business arm of the council.

Speaking during the opening of the council session on Monday, Bobirwa District Council chairperson Johannes Gaosikelwe said that BOMMA Investments would ensure that commercial ventures were managed professionally, efficiently and transparently.

"Strengthened financial oversight is also in place to reduce revenue leakage and ensure value for every Pula collected," he said.

The council, like other districts heavily reliant on government funding, had since taken deliberate steps to unlock local revenue potential.

"Consequently, the district pursuing public partnerships with Bobonong bus rank and mall," the chairperson

Additionally, he said, the district was undertaking a comprehensive audit of the council-owned properties to identify underutilised assets that could be leased or redeveloped for commercial purposes.

"Financial sustainability alone cannot bring about the transformation we desire for our district unless it goes hand in hand with service delivery that directly touches the lives of our people," said Mr Gaosikelwe, who challenged councillors to help build a "Bobirwa that would stand as a beacon of resilience, growth and shared prosperity."

"Bobirwa is not only strategically located but also richly endowed with natural resources that position us as a new frontier for investment and Mr Gaosikelwe development," added. BOPA

Minister advocates innovative funding for local authorities

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - Ministry Local Government and Traditional Affairs is committed to working with local authorities to adopt a proactive approach to maximise and diversify revenue streams, Minister Ketlhalefile Motshegwa said.

Speaking at the City of Francistown Full Council meeting on Thursday, he encouraged local authorities to enhance their financial independence through innovative avenues such as public-private partnerships as well as incomegenerating asset investments.

He said the ministry coordinated a platform for Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE) to present an initiative to the leadership of all local authorities, including council chairpersons. mayors, and executive officers.

notable ongoing development, a collaboration between Gaborone City Council and the BSE.

Mr Motshegwa said the partnership was formalised through a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on August 12 this year.

He said that government intends to roll out the initiative to other local authorities across the country to tap into the opportunity and raise capital to enhance their financial independence and carry out development within their jurisdictions through innovative and sustainable funding.

Further, Mr Motshegwa said the ministry would continue to provide regulatory backing and

policy and legislative alignment necessary to facilitate the This he said, came after a implementation of municipal bonds and other innovative financing instruments. "Once the process is complete, Gaborone City Council experience will be Botswana's first municipal bonds; hence, we stand ready to extend this model to other councils," he said.

To facilitate local authorities, Mr Motshegwa said the ministry found it necessary and imperative to develop a standardised framework template that would guide councils when establishing private entities as investment arms wholly owned by the councils.

The initiative, he said, would ideally address any past challenges experienced investmentcompaniesestablished

by different councils and would create robust mechanisms for functional enterprises with good governance, control, and risk management.

He stated that the standardised framework would guide investments and provide coordination and guidance for sustainable partnerships and investment agreements would harmonise and create a balance between local authority interests and potential investor interests.

For his part, BSE head of product development, Kopano Bolokwe, said that with government facing financial constraints, municipal bonds and other financial instruments would assist local authorities in raising capital.

He noted that BSE has different

entities using this platform to raise capital from the public and investors.

Bolokwe mentioned that municipal bonds were agreements for borrowing between councils and investors.

He stated that governments, parastatals, and private companies used this platform but noted that local authorities were not yet there.

"This is the main reason why we want to bring local authorities into public markets", he added.

He further mentioned that government was preparing a framework enabling local authorities to borrow through innovative instruments.

Mr Bolokwe urged Francistown city Council to consider such financial instruments to fund their projects. **BOPA**

Botswana, France enjoy strong relations

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE, September 15 Botswana remains steadfast to further nurture the already existing bilateral ties with France, President Advocate Duma Boko has said.

The two countries developed a warm and cordial relationship within the framework of a balanced and sustainable relationship partnership,

that was strengthened by the opening of the France embassy in Gaborone in 2001.

Speaking during presentation of letters credence by the incoming France ambassador to Botswana, Ms Valérie Baraban on Monday, President Boko said the two states continued to enjoy good relations forged on common values.

He said Botswana and France cooperated over the years in areas of defense, agriculture and other sectors hence they were look forward to strength some of the agreements concluded between the two countries, with some bilateral agreements dating back as far as 1978 all the way to 2024.

"We now want to see some those agreements taking some kind of shape and form as we look forward to your input in their implementation and we are

hopeful that you will continue the good relations and nurture the ties between the two countries," he said.

President Boko said he remained hopeful to meet with France President Mr Emmanuel Macron to discuss issues of mutual interest for the benefit of the two nations' citizenry.

He said there was a lot that Botswana could learn from France in line with economic growth and he pleaded with the incoming envoy to play her role in closing the economic disparities between the two countries.

For her part, Ms Baraban her appointment to Botswana was a joyful since the country was renowned of good leadership, values and ability to preserve unity and self-reliance. "Above all, I am well aware that Botswana embodies "Botho", a principle that placed humanity

at the very heart of international relations," she said.

Ms Baraban said guided by the spirit of 'Botho', France and Botswana would embark together on a path rooted on friendship, dreams and prosperity based on the already established bilateral

She thus said the two countries were both at a pivotal stage where the world was in transformative stage both at governance stage and economically.

She indicated that there were viable opportunities to enhance mutual knowledge and understanding between the two countries through the establishment of consultations as well as through bilateral cooperation.

Ms Baraban therefore affirmed her commitment to continue on the good path set by her predecessor. BOPA

Boteti communities unite against stock theft

By Kabo Keaketswe

RAKOPS- The alarming rate of stock theft cases in Boteti district has led communities to form clusters or associations to combat the problem.

individuals volunteered to collaborate closely with the police by providing information about thieves and occasionally patrolling grazing areas.

In Kgotla meeting addressed by the Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa, accompanied by the Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti, Kgosi Seane Tatolo of Rakops suggested that members of the Botswana Defence Force should be engaged and deployed to augment police efforts in the fight against stock theft.

He said the police were thin on the ground and also faced with challenges such as shortage of transport to promptly and efficiently execute their duties.

Kgosi Tatolo was also sceptical about time taken on stock theft cases by the courts, therefore suggesting a special court to expedite such cases.

One of the farmers, Mr Lawrence Nkisang challenged the 48 hours detention given to suspects, saying it thwarted efforts to curb stock theft because that was the time when people tempered with evidence upon release.

He also called for amendment of the law on the issue of bail for accused persons, highlighting that often times they came back and repeated the offence.

In response to the suggestions or issues presented, Minister Mohwasa acknowledged shortage of police officers in the country and noted that government would continue to try increase their

numbers, funds permitting. He also said that budget for

both the police and soldiers was

not enough in the country for them to be fully resourced and operate effectively. To address the issue of shortage of transport for the police, Mr Mohwasa said there were plans

for a pilot project starting with two police stations where private companies would be engaged to provide transport services. Proving to be effective, the Minister said the project would be rolled out to various parts of the country, and shortage

of transport within the police service would be a thing of the On the issue of bail for offenders, Mr Mohwasa said the Constitution allowed for that, while he concurred with the majority that it was worrisome

because there were many cases of

people committing crimes while

on bail. For his part, Dr Dikoloti, revealed that government would in the near future launch an agricultural revitalisation programme dubbed 'A di tsale' aimed at uplifting small scale farmers by bringing services closer to them.

He also highlighted that government was in the process of reviewing the agricultural policy, which would see some programmes reviewed in an endeavour to build an eco-system that would transform agriculture into an inclusive, competitive, sustainable and transformative sector.

Boteti West Member of Parliament, Mr Sam Digwa pleaded with government to come up with effective measures of addressing human-wildlife conflict in the area.

He said the situation was exacerbated by shortage of watering points, hence now animals such as elephants were encroaching into human settlements. BOPA



President Advocate Duma Boko (left) after receiving letters of credence from the new France ambassador to Botswana, Ms Valérie Baraban at Office of the President on Monday. President Boko welcomed the ambassador's appointment and reaffirmed Botswana's commitment to strengthening relations with France, anchored in shared values of democracy, peace and sustainable development. Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe

Human rights-centric approach key - Ramaotwana

By Bonang Masolotate

GABORONE Minister of Justice and Correctional Services says ongoing efforts to reform laws and policies on the imprisonment and treatment of offenders should adopt a human rights-centric approach.

Mr Nelson Ramaotwana made the remarks, Monday, during a Pitso on legislative reform to prison/correctional service law.

current Prison Act, was 45-years-old, no longer adequately served the country's

The minister noted that the

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interests due to societal evolution.

Thus, he emphasised the need for society to redefine the type of correctional facilities and inmates the country wanted.

"Incarceration does necessarily mean denial of human rights, nor does it mean encouragement to commit offences. Human beings are fallible and commit mistakes, hence the need for correction in a humane way that does not degrade or debase humanity," he said.

The minister added that as a country that believed in the rule of law, individuals were innocent until proven guilty by a competent court through a fair triai.

"The correctional system should provide correction for criminal tendencies, enabling offenders to contribute to national life and become lawabiding citizens upon release," he said.

Ramaotwana further emphasised the importance of rehabilitating ex-convicts and not subjecting them to stigma or demeaning innuendos.

also encouraged stakeholders to recommend rights and privileges for offenders in correctional facilities, including decency, health and general consideration.

The minister highlighted the need for correctional facilities to impart vocational and life skills to offenders to empower them upon release.

For his part, Commissioner of Prisons, Mr Anthony Mokento said the Pitso aimed to consider and recommend legislative reforms to improve the prison and correctional system.

He added that there are currently 4 320 prisoners in the country, with 293 serving sentences for serious offenses, 163 requiring mental care, and another 163 on non-custodial sentences.

explained that correctional system was meant to serve society and all key players within the criminal justice system. The system's goal, he said, was to achieve peace, foster integration and empower inmates to resist the temptation to return to criminal activities.

Deputy Commissioner of Prisons, Keneilwe Ms Mokwenaotsile decried challenges faced by correctional facilities, including shortages, skills gaps and overcrowding, which she said defeated rehabilitation efforts.

Meanwhile, the Pitso, which was attended by participants from academia, ex-offenders, religious organisations and Dikgosi, among others, was held under the theme: Reimagining Custodial Care and Correctional Services for Botswana. BOPA

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Wednesday September 17, 2025 No. 175

Abattoir eyes global market

By Mmoniemang Motsamai

MATEBELENG - THATOKAO Abattoir, a wholly Motswana-owned company located in Matebeleng, is set to become one of the major players in the meat industry.

The company offers slaughter services for a diverse clientele and top meat retailers in Gaborone and surrounding villages.

Founder and Managing Director Ms Kefilwe Moeng expressed pride in the company's growth, noting that the business had carved out a niche in the market.

Situated strategically near the city, THATOKAO abattoir's success stems not only from serving local individuals and butchers but also from its commitment to upholding halal principles, enabling it to establish reliable supply chains with major retailers like Choppies, which operates nationwide.

"The abattoir has the capacity to slaughter 300 cattle daily. On good days, we slaughter up to 150 cattle, also providing services for small stock," she said.

Another family representative, Ms Thato Moeng, announced ambitious plans for expansion into regional and international beef export markets.

She highlighted that the company's expanding supplier networks and growing brand presence demonstrated that a local enterprise could achieve global reach.

"As we celebrate five years of THATOKAO's Investments, we are now ready to export, to scale, and to represent Botswana on the world stage," Ms Moeng stated.

She called on the business community and the public to support the facility to help it evolve into a major meat hub in the region.

The occasion was also graced by Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti, who praised THATOKAO's Investment as an example of generational wealth creation. He emphasised the need for a comprehensive agriculture financing strategy, which would support the growth of the sector and help informal farmers access funding for value addition and expansion.

"The lack of a clear financing strategy has hindered agriculture's development and deprived informal sectors of opportunities to create more jobs. This strategy can be integrated into the ongoing review of the National Agriculture Policy to enhance value addition across

the sector," Dr Dikoloti said.

The Minister further revealed that government planned to increase the cattle population through a new initiative called 'A Ditsale', aiming to reach five million cattle. The programme hopes to revitalise the beef industry, which remains a cornerstone of Botswana's economy.

Member of Parliament for Mochudi East, Mr Mabuse Pule, also commended THATOKAO Investments for its bold decision to build the first modern abattoir of its kind in Kgatleng East, marking a significant milestone in local meat processing capabilities.

Mr Pule added that the abattoir contributed to the economy by creating jobs for 52 people.

He, however, encouraged THATOKAO abattoir to not only focus on halal but also explore other markets, such as the kosher products, which he said could lead to exports to the lucrative Israeli market. *BOPA*



Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti (left), Kgatleng East MP Mr Mabuse Pule (second left), Kgosi Masego Semele of Oodi (centre), THATOKAO Investment managing director, Ms Kefilwe Moeng (right) and other dignitaries at the official launch and fifth-anniversary celebration of THATOKAO's Investments recently. Dr Dikoloti hailed the investment as a model, which most Batswana should look up to. Photo: Mmonie Motsamai

Minister applauds Orange venture initiative

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Ms Lesego Chombo, has lauded the Orange Social Venture Prize (OSVP) as

a vital initiative in building the capacity of young people across various business sectors.

Minister Chombo expressed said this at the 15th edition of the OSVP crowning ceremony held

P30 000.00

Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Ms Lesego Chombo (right) and Orange Botswana CEO, Ms Nene Maiga (left) presenting P30 000 to Don't Q Vendors co-founder, Mr Morulaganyi Chamme during the 15th edition of Orange Social Venture Prize 2025 in Gaborone recently. Maarifa scooped the P50 000 grand prize, Don't Q Vendors came second and Letlotlo la Rona got third position with P20 000. Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

in Gaborone on Friday, where the top three youth-led ventures were recognised and awarded.

Since its inception in 2011, OSVP has been committed to fostering the development of impactful startups leveraging Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to enhance livelihoods.

In her address, Ms Chombo emphasised her ministry's advocacy for the creative and digital economy, viewing it as a crucial platform for young Batswana to participate in emerging industries.

She highlighted the occasion as a celebration of innovation, entrepreneurship, and the bright ideas of young entrepreneurs driving progress through their ingenuity.

She also stressed the importance of inclusivity and gender sensitivity in youth empowerment initiatives, noting that women faced significant social barriers, with unemployment rates among women standing at 58 percent.

"Despite the impressive performances by young girls in education, employment trends show a disparity, with males currently taking the lead. Gender disparities remain a challenge both locally and globally," she said.

Orange Botswana's Director of People and Social Impact, Ms Nlanda described the initiative as a platform that empowered young minds to propose solutions addressing community challenges. She stated that the initiative also seeks to boost youths' confidence, resources, and visibility to turn their ideas into tangible outcomes.

"Aligning with Botswana's ambition to develop a knowledge-based economy, reduce unemployment, and position itself as a leader in digital innovation on the continent, OSVP is a timely initiative," she noted.

Ms Nlanda added that Orange Botswana's commitment to innovation paves the way for a prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive future, highlighting that creativity and ingenuity are alive in the aspirations of young people who see opportunities in every challenge.

Three innovative ventures were recognised; Maarifa emerged as the winner, walking away with P50,000 for its AI-powered online learning platform designed for secondary school learners nationwide.

Second place went to Don't Q Vendors, a digital procurement and logistics platform, which received P30,000.

The third position was secured by Letlotlo La Rona, an initiative aimed at bridging the gap between skilled young graduates and employment opportunities across public, private, and nongovernmental sectors; it was awarded P20,000. BOPA

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Thapelo e thusa go fetola mekgwa e e sa siamang

Ka Goweditswe Kome

JACKALAS II

Mopalamente wa Tati East Rre Tlhabologo Furniture a re go botlhokwa go laletsa Modimo go thusa go rarabolola mathata le matshwenyego a apesisteng lefatshe kobo ka letshoba.

O buile jalo bosheng fa a simolodisa kgwedi ya merapelo kwa Jackalas II.

A re Batswana ba tshwanetse go fetola mekgwa, maikutlo le megopolo go emisa kanamo ya megare wa HIV.

"Re tshwanetse gore re gane re menne phata maitsholo a a ka re bakelang go tsenwa ke mogare," ga tlhalosa Rre Furniture.

A re kanamo ya mogare wa HIV e busetsa kwa morago maiteko a puso bolwetse jwa AIDS, ka jalo o kopile setshaba go ineela mo Modimong go lwantsha seemo se.

Rre Furniture a re merapelo e tla ka ditshegofatso le maatla a go fenya mmaba wa HIV gore kwa bofelong go nne le botshelo le botsogo jo bo siameng.

"A re fetogeng betsho, Modimo o tla re utlwela botlhoko, a re neele tse re di lopang.

A re rapeleng kgatlhanong le dipolaano, kgokgontsho, dikotsi tsa tsela, malwetse a a sa tshelanweng le go rapelela pula," ga tlhalosa Rre Furniture.

Modulasetilo wa lekgotla la baruti, Bishop Savy Toitoi a re merapelo e rotloetsa phetolo maitsholo mo go ka tsisang boikgapho kgatlhanong le go tsenwa ke mogare wa HIV le malwetse a a sa alafesegeng jaaka sukiri, madi a matona le bolwetse ja pelo.

Bishop Toitoi a re malwetse a a sa alafesegeng e bile a sa tshelwanwe a ka thibelwa ka go ja dijo tse di itekanetseng. **BOPA**



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Maloko a dikereke ka go farologana kwa tshimolodisong ya kgwedi ya merapelo kwa Jakalas II bosheng. Mopalamente wa Tati East Rre Tlhabologo Furniture a re go botlhokwa go laletsa Modimo go thusa go rarabolola mathata le matshwenyego a a apesisteng lefatshe kobo ka letshoba. Senepe: Goweditswe Kome

'Bomme pinagare ya lelapa'

Tshiamiso Mosetlha

SEROWE - Bomme ke baeteledipele ba motia ba ba botlhokwa mo ditirong le ditsamaiso tsa setshaba, ka jalo go botlhokwa gore ba tshegetsane gore ba kgone go tswelela ka ditiro tsa boeteledipele le go tshegetsa motheo wa malwapa.

Mothusa motsamaisa dipuisanyo tsa Palamente, Mme-Helen Manyeneng a re bomme ba itshupile fa ba na le bokgoni jwa go aga setshaba, ba le boitshoko ka nako tsotlhe.

Mme Manyaneng o buile jalo morago ga go wetsa mogwanto wa sekgele sa dikhilomethara tse di lesome wa kereke ya Methodist kwa Serowe bosheng.

A re motheo wa lelapa ke selo sa botlhokwa fa pele ga sefatlhego sa Modimo ka jalo go botlhokwa gore monna le mosadi ba nyalane gore ba kgone go godisetsa bana mo tikologong e nang le tlhokomelo le kaedi ya batsadi.

O tsweletse a re katlego ya malwapa e tlhomamisiwa le go babalelwa ke melawana ya tumelo mo Modimong e akaretsang thapelo, boikotlhao, boitshwarelo, tlotlo, lorato le bopelotlhomogi.

Mme Manyeneng a re ka thulaganyo ya Modimo, borre ba tshwanetse ba okamela malapa a bone ka lorato le tshiamo mme ba na le maikarabelo a go a tlamela ka tsotlhe tsa botshelo le go ba sireletsa

A re maikarabelo a konokono a bomme ke go tlhokomela bana ba bone. O tsweletse a re le fa go ntse jalo, bobedi jo, e leng mme le rre ba tlamega go thusana go godisa bana.

O tsweletse a re mo lenyalong kana botshelo ka kakaretso go nna le dikgwetlho. A re le fa batho ba agile mmogo, ba utlwana, ba ka direlana diphoso mme seo se ka rarabololwa ke go itshwarelelana le go ipaya fa pele ga Modimo.

Mme Manyeneng a re banyalani ba seka ba dirisa dikgwetlho tsa lenyalo jaaka seipato sa go phuaganya manyalo, a supa fa boitshoko, boineelo le tumelo e le konokono ya botshelo. O supile fa bontsi jwa malwapa a felela a thubega a dirwa ke go tlhoka go tshephagala mo lenyalong le go tlhoka go supa ka nako ya tshimologo ya lenyalo dilo di tshwana le dikoloto tse e a reng mo tsamaong di felele di imela lelapa.

"Go tswelela re ruta ka boleng jwa bomme mo setshabeng le mo ditirong tse dingwe ka go farologana go balelwa tsa sepolotiki, thuto, itsholelo, itshireletso, Palamente le dikhansele ke maikemosetso a rona," ga tlhalosa Mme Manyeneng.

Mme Segametsi Tebatso o tlhalositse gore maikaelelo a mogwanto ke go kokotletsa madi go shafatsa ntlo ya kobamelo e a boletseng fa e setse ele kgologolo. A re madi ao, a tla thusa le dikereke tse dingwe tsa Methodist mo kgaolong ya bone le go thusa bangwe ba ba tlhokileng lesego mo setshabeng.

Mme Tebatso o tlhalositse gape gore mogwanto o dirisiwa gape e le tsela ya go rotloetsa itshidilo mmele go lwantsha malwetse a sa tshelanweneg, a gateletseng batho ka bontsi. *BOPA*

Tshere o kopa baithuti go ikgapha

Ka Kefilwe Selotlegeng

MAHALAPYE - Mopalamante wa Mahalapye West, Rre David Tshere o kgothaditse bana ba dikole tse di botlana tsa, Tshikinyega, Leetile, Tamocha le St James go nna le boitshwaro jo bo eletsegang.

Rre Tshere o ba kgothaditse jalo fa a ne a lekotse dikole tsa Mahalapye bosheng.

O boletse fa maikaelelo a loeto la gagwe ele go kgothatsa baithuti ka boitshwaro le go eleletsa ba kwalang dtlhatlhobo tsa makgaolakgang tsa lekwalo la bosupa katlego.

O gakolotse bana ba dikole tseo gore go botlhokwa gore ba nne le boitshwaro, ba tsepame mo thutong le go bereka ka natla a tlhalosa gore fa ba dira jalo baka fenya dithuto tsa bone.

O ba gwetlhile gore ba seka ba ikamanya le botlhoka tsebe le tiriso ya dinno le ditagi tse areng disenya bo kamoso jwa motho.

Rre Tshere a re fa ngwana a reetsa ditaelo tsa batsadi le barutabana e bile a dira tiro ya gagwe ya sekole a sa iteiwe tsebe ke sepe o fenya ditlhatlhobo.

O ne gape a ba lekodisa gore lenaneo la ofisi ya Mopalamente la go rotloetsa thuto ka go abela sekole se se gaisitseng tse dingwe seetsele le a tswelela.

Rre Tshere a re go tlaa bo go fiwa sekole se se gaisitseng tse dingwe mo kgaolong ya Mahalapye Bophirima, moithuti, morutabana le sekole se se tokafaditseng maduo.

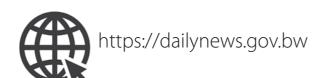
A re thulaganyo e, e tlaa akaretsa le dtlhatlhobo tsa lekwalo la bone (Standard 4) maikaelelo e le go rotloetsa thuto kwa moding.

Bagokgo ba dikole tse nne tse ba ne rolela Mopalamente matshwenyego le matlhoko a dikole tsa bone ka go farologana ga tsone. Matshwenyego a bone a akaretsa tlhaelo ya matlo a borutelo, matlwana a boitiketso, boroko jwa barutabana le dirisiwa tsa thuto ka kakaretso.

Ba ne ba lekodisa mopalamente ka maduo a dikole tsa bone ba bo ba solofetsa gore ba tlaa dira go feta foo, ba supa fa ba lebogela thotoetso le kgothatso e mopalamente a ba e fileng go ba tiisa moko. *BOPA*

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Wednesday September 17, 2025 No. 175



Culture expo attracts over 2 000 exhibitors

The Nna Le ba Ntlo Yame gospel concert line-up will feature among others, Joyous Celebration, Tshego Mhex and Johnson Pheto.

WUHAN - The 2025 China Culture and Tourism Industries Expo, which opened Friday in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province, has attracted more than 2 000 domestic exhibitors and 50 overseas travel agencies.

The expo features a 40 000-square-meter outdoor area with a cultural and tourism IP parade of floats. Its 60

000-square-meter indoor exhibition hall showcases new business models, scenarios, and products in the cultural and tourism sectors, including digital clusters, low-altitude tourism, and intangible cultural heritage creative products.

The highlight of this year's expo is the combination of high technology and cultural tourism.

Robots not only provide services such as venue introductions and catering but also perform as musicians and dancers.

Five well-known Chinese museums, including the National Museum of China and the Palace Museum, are located on site and feature more than 400 popular cultural and creative products.

Gao Zheng, vice minister of

culture and tourism, said in the first half of this year, 80 000 large-scale cultural and related industry enterprises in the country achieved operating income of about US\$1 trillion, up 7.4 per cent year on year.

Chinese residents made more than 3.28 billion trips, spending 3.15 trillion yuan, up 20.6 per cent and 15.2 per cent respectively,

fully demonstrating the strong vitality and broad prospects of China's cultural and tourism industries, according to Gao.

The three-day expo is hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and organised by the Hubei provincial department of culture and tourism and the Wuhan municipal government. *Xinhua*

Athletes continue medal hunt

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - The trio of Letsile Tebogo, Victor Ntweng and Kemorena Tisang carry Botswana's hopes on the global stage, with each athlete looking to make a mark in their respective events today at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Japan.

After a disappointing disqualification in the 100-metre dash, all eyes will be on Tebogo as he prepares for the 200-metre rounds

The sensational sprinter is a fan favourite, known for his blistering speed and potential to redeem himself and his country's pride.

At the last World Championships in Budapest, Tebogo made history by winning Botswana's first-ever bronze medal in the 200m, finishing behind American giants, Noah Lyles and Erriyon Knighton.

On paper Tebogo is the clear

Knighton.
On paper, Tebogo is the clear favourite to win his heat. His

S e a s o n's Best time of 19.76 seconds is a full second faster than most of his competitors.

He will race from lane nine in heat six against a stacked field of international athletes, including Filippo Tortu (Italy), Towa Uzawa (Japan), Darion Skerritt (Antigua and Barbuda), José Figueroa (Puerto Rico), Lidio Andrés Feliz (Dominican Republic), Elham Naghiyev (Azerbaijan),

Jaleel Croal (British
Virgin Islands) and
Xavi Mo-Ajok
(Netherlands).
In an

interview, c o a c h C h i l u m e Ntshwarang said Tebogo was in good spirits and focused on the race. "The 100 metres disappointment is water under the bridge. Our focus is now on the 200 metres," Ntshwarang said.

The coach added that the hurdlers,
Tisang and Ntweng, were
also ready to face their own
challenges.

Tisang advanced to the 400m hurdles semi-finals as a non-automatic qualifier with a time of 48.72 seconds.

His mental toughness

will be tested as he lines up against formidable opponents, including world record holder and defending champion Karsten

Warholm (Norway), Matic Ian

BOTSWANA

Gucek (Slovenia), Emil Agyekum (Germany), Chris Robinson (USA), Tyri Donovan (Great Britain), Abderrahman Samba (Qatar) and Francisco Guilherme dos Reis Viana (Brazil).

Ntweng also qualified for the semifinals after finishing third and setting a new Personal Best time of 48.54 seconds.

He will compete in heat three against a competitive group that includes Roshawn Clarke (Jamaica), Alastair Chalmers (Great Britain), Gerald Drummond (Costa Rica), three-time Olympic champion Rai Benjamin (USA), Bassem Hemeida (Qatar), Berke Akçam (Turkey) and Alison Dos Santos (Brazil).

Coach Ntshwarang said
he was confident
in the hurdlers,
saying, "they
prepared well,
and we expect
them to run
good times in their
different heats."

BOPA

Victor Ntweng

Kemorena Tisang

awin Omtrac

Nelco

Letsile Tebogo