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Happy day for pensioners



Old age pensioners queuing at a post office in Gaborone yesterday to receive their monthly allowance commonly known as Tandabala, which was increased from P830 to P1 400 effective April 1. The increment was announced by Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe in his 2025/26 budget speech in February. While they welcomed the increment, some pensioners in Gaborone expressed frustrations about queuing for long hours, with some saying their social benefits cards were not functioning properly. The allowance meant for citizen aged 65 and above, aims to help senior citizens live a more dignified life. Photo: Gothusang Lesego

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Autism awareness important

By Lechedzani Morapedi

FRANCISTOWN - It is important for members of the community to play a role in spreading the message about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) also known as autism and to treat those living the condition with respect.

Speaking at a World Autism Day commemoration event in Francistown Wednesday, Francistown Assistant District Commissioner, Mr Patrick Toteng said autism awareness was important so that the society could know how to live with those affected.

He added that the community needed to learn to live with each other despite different medical conditions they had.

For his part, Francistown Principal Speech-Language Pathologist, Mr Goitsemodimo Moipei said autism influenced how people experienced and interacted with the world.

Mr Moipei said explained that autism was a neurodevelopmental disorder categorised by repetitive, restricted and inflexible patterns of behaviour, interests and activities.

He added that abnormalities in eye contact , not showing interest in specified tasks, delayed language skills, difficulty playing reciprocal games, hyper or hypo-sensitivity and unusual response to the smell, texture, sound, taste, appearance of things and resistance to changes in routine were some of the signs of autism.

He also noted that repetitive behaviours such as hand flapping, finger flicking, head banging and repeating phrases or sounds were also signs of autism.

He added that people with autism also experienced difficulties in social interaction

and social communication as they preferred to spend most of their time alone. “Being autistic means you may feel things and react to them differently to non-autistic people.

You may find socialising confusing or tiring, and you may become overwhelmed in loud or busy places,” he added.

Mr Moipei further highlighted that people with autism had intense interests, prefer order and routine, and used repeated movements and actions rather than speech to calm themselves or express joy.

“Resistance to change can also be a sign of autism as autistic people prefer a strict adherence to routines such as eating certain foods in a specific order and the person may become distressed if there is a change or disruption to their routine,” he underscored.

He added that autism was a spectrum, which needed assessment as some people with autism were nonverbal, while others had proficient spoken language.

Furthermore, he said difficulties in social interaction and communication, restricted and repetitive behaviours and resistance to changes and restricted interests were some of the factors that are considered when assessing for autism.

He further added that autism differences in verbal communication were noticeable in childhood as many autistic children developed language skills at an uneven pace.

He added that there was no treatment for autism but it can be controlled and managed through medication.

Mr Moipei further advised parents to familiarise themselves with autism so that they could notice it at a young age and get better assistance.**BOPA**

Mohwasa attends Global Disability Summit in Germany

GABORONE - The Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa is in Berlin, Germany, for the Global Disability Summit 2025 (GDS), an international platform which was established in 2017, to advance disability inclusion worldwide.

The summit brings together various organisations dealing with persons with disabilities, governments, civil societies and other stakeholders, to address

gaps in disability-inclusive developments and humanitarian action.

It is also a strategic opportunity for Botswana as it reinforces a human rights approach to development through inclusion and disability rights.

Minister Mohwasa, who is accompanied by government officials is expected back home on Saturday. **BOPA**



Minister of Environment and Tourism, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi (left) interacting with elders after a Kgotla meeting in Kazungula on Tuesday. The minister implored community trusts to uphold highest standards of governance and accountability in managing public funds. Photo: Portia Ikgopoleng

Conflicts destroy community trusts

By Portia Ikgopoleng

KAZUNGULA - Frequent conflicts resulting in court litigations have defeated the purpose of Community Based Organisations (CBOs) in Botswana.

Addressing a Kgotla meeting in Kazungula on Tuesday, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi said government through the Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) policy intended to empower communities to conserve, manage natural resources as well as to generate income from sustainable use of the resources.

However, he said, many CBOs were marred with maladministration and poor governance, which rendered the organisations fruitless.

Mr Mmolotsi pointed out that some communities did not benefit from the funds generated by their CBOs because the boards failed to account for funds.

He remarked that boards were under obligation to call Annual General Meetings to report financial statements and all operations of the community trust.

He said the ministry continued to issue hunting quotas to CBOs, adding that Pandamatenga Lesoma Kazungula (PALEKA) Community Trust generated P8 million in 2024 from hunting.

Mr Mmolotsi said millions generated from hunting could be injected into sustainable projects in communities.

Furthermore, he said Chobe, with its natural resources, could be an epicenter of world class developments because of the two CBOs PALEKA and Chobe Enclave Conservation Trust (CECT) generating over P20 million jointly on annual basis.

He informed residents that the national forensic audit would be extended to CBOs to hold people accountable for misusing and stealing from community.

Mr Mmolotsi implored community trusts to consult the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on all decisions instead of sidelining like it was norm in most CBOs.

Kazungula resident, Mr Sangwana Sangwana requested

the minister to clarify the role of the TAC on CBOs as it seemed the PALEKA board was taking decisions without consulting the TAC headed by district commissioner.

Another resident, Mr Misty Setaung opined that CBOs were embroiled in conflicts because of the millions generated, stating that he believed that if the trusts did not make much profits people would not bother campaigning for positions and fighting for money.

He said Botswana should

promote sustainable tourism like wildlife photography instead of hunting to ensure conservation of animals with good genes.

Chobe MP, Mr Simasiku Mapulanga said the forensic audit would help uncover deals that were done unconstitutionally.

He said it was imperative that Chobe CBOs boards worked closely with TAC, communities and leadership to ensure that funds were channeled into sustainable projects that would elevate Chobe. **BOPA**

Councillors welcome proposed VDC guidelines

By Calviniah Kgautlhe

GOOD HOPE - Good Hope District councillors welcomed the proposed Village Development Committee (VDC) regulations and guidelines.

Currently, the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs is reviewing the VDC regulations and guidelines of 2014.

Briefing councillors during Good Hope District special full council meeting on Tuesday, Deputy Council Secretary for operations, Mr Witness Taziba said they held consultations with all 48 VDCs in the district.

In their consultations, he said a number of proposals were presented such as the barring of politically active person or anyone holding a political office from being a VDC member.

He said another suggestion was that at least a Primary School Leaving Examination certificate be set as a minimum qualification within the age bracket of 18-65.

In addition, he said all aspiring VDC members should be subjected to competency based interviews to ensure that they were qualified enough to hold office.

He said Ipelegeng workers would not be allowed to compete for VDC membership.

Also, another proposal was the

VDC term of office be increased from three to five years and that performance reviews should be introduced for rewards and to be used when one sought re-elections.

In addition, monthly meetings should be held.

He further said there was a proposal that VDC allowance be increased from P600 to P1 000 per month.

The deputy council secretary said another proposal was that disciplinary procedures be clearly stipulated to guard against abuse of power whilst one was holding office.

In case of disqualification or removal from office or resignation, a suggestion, he said was made that filling of vacancies be done by the council instead of members of the community.

For transparency and inclusivity, he said VDC elections should have representation from all wards and nearby lands for fair distribution of ideas and developments.

For his part, nominated councillor, Mr Ketshogile differed with some proposals, saying politically affiliated people should be allowed to stand for positions in VDC.

He further said members should be allowed to participate in tendering for VDC works so as to augment their allowances. **BOPA**

ADS 365 3599

SADC supports SADR decolonisation



SADC Executive Secretary, Mr Elias Magosi (centre) and Ambassador for Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) accredited to Botswana and Permanent Representative to SADC, Mr Bah El Mad Abdellah during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SADC and SADR in Gaborone on Wednesday. The MoU marks milestone in support of SADR's pursuit of decolonisation and self-determination. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE - Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) member states remains steadfast in their commitment to the decolonisation and self-determination of the people of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR)/Western Sahara.

Speaking during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between SADC and SADR, executive secretary of SADC, Mr Elias Magosi said the objective of the MoU was to materialise the decisions adopted by Heads of State and Government of SADC in August 2019 with respect to Western Sahara and the declaration on the SADC solidarity conference with Western Sahara held in March 2019.

He said the SADC summit of heads of state of 2019 in collaboration with counterparts and civil society made a declaration calling for the unconditional implementation of all United Nations and African Union resolutions on Western Sahara. The intention of the conference, he said was to

achieve a positive, peaceful and permanent solution that meets the aspirations and the will of the people of Western Sahara to self-govern. He said it was unfortunate that Western Sahara remained the only territory in Africa still under colonial rule.

“As part of that conference declaration, SADC secretariat developed the MoU, which has gone through all SADC structures with the main structure being the SADC ministerial committee of the organ that oversees peace and security,” he said.

He said it was notable that the SADC region was home to one of the last African countries that gained their independence late in the 1990s with the recent been Namibia.

“As a collective, our struggle for freedom and democracy was fearless as the region fought in solidarity, thus it is this experience that we underpin our empathy and solidarity with the Western Sahara,” he said. Similarly, Ambassador for Western Sahara accredited to Botswana and Permanent Representative to SADC, Mr Bah El Mad Abdellah said the signing of the MoU was a significant step toward fostering cooperation solidarity and mutual development.

He said the agreement symbolised shared commitment to enhance and promote the right and aspirations of the Saharawi society. He also said Saharawi people were seeking for substantial support from the SADC block to advocate for the right to self-determination and independence from Moroccan occupation of Western Sahara.

With the history of anti-colonisation struggle, Mr Abdellah said he remained hopeful that SADC would apply the much-needed pressure on international bodies for the people of Western Sahara to recognise their political aspirations and their quest for sovereignty. **BOPA**

Collaboration vital in economic growth

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - Botswana's future economic growth and innovation depend on collaboration between the education sector and industries, said Minister of Higher Education, Mr Prince Maele.

Speaking during the launch of 2025 Tertiary Institutions National Roadshow in Gaborone on Wednesday, Mr Maele underscored collaboration as a central pillar for preparing students to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving job market.

He said such collaborations were crucial for fostering innovation, improving the quality of education, and ensuring students acquired skills necessary to thrive in an increasingly competitive global economy.

As Botswana transit toward a knowledge-based economy, Mr Maele stressed the need for greater cooperation between educational institutions, both public and private and industries that would ultimately employ graduates.

He said by working in unity, Botswana would enhance the quality and relevance of its education system, fostering a more innovative and economically

vibrant future for all citizens.

He also said fostering partnerships between academia and industry created a more dynamic and relevant learning environment.

“When education and industry work together, we create a powerful synergy that benefits both students and employers. Students receive a more practical, hands-on education, while industries gain access to a workforce that is better equipped to meet their evolving needs,” Mr Maele said.

He added that by forging strong connections between educational institutions and industries, Botswana could equip young people with the technical skills increasingly in demand across various sectors from

manufacturing to technology and services. He cited countries such as Germany and Singapore, which invested heavily in education-industry collaborations, as successful examples of how strong partnerships could lead to lower unemployment rates, higher productivity, and a more competitive workforce.

“Botswana is now looking to these models as a blueprint for its own educational transformation.”

He also highlighted that collaboration in education was not just about aligning curricula with industry needs, but also about creating pathways for innovation.

“By bringing together diverse stakeholders, including government, educational institutions, private companies, and international partners,

Botswana can foster a culture of innovation that will drive economic growth and improve the lives of its citizens,” he said.

The minister further said government would continue to prioritise education and skills development, as well as build more robust relationships between academia and industry. “Education is not just about producing graduates; it’s about producing innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders who will drive the economy forward,” he added.

He hailed the Tertiary Institutions National Roadshow, which has already seen success in Northern Botswana, as a critical step in helping students make informed decisions about their educational paths. **BOPA**



Minister of Higher Education, Mr Prince Maele (left), Tertiary Institutions National Roadshow chairperson, Mr Chris Moiketsi (centre) and Botswana Accountancy College executive director, Ms Serty Leburu during the road show launch in Gaborone on Wednesday. Mr Maele said education remained a powerful tool that young people had. Photo: Phenyio Ramatu



Gaolathe acting President

GABORONE – Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe, has assumed the role of acting President.

A press release from Office of the President says this comes after President Advocate Duma Boko’s travel to South Africa on a private visit from Thursday until tomorrow. **BOPA**

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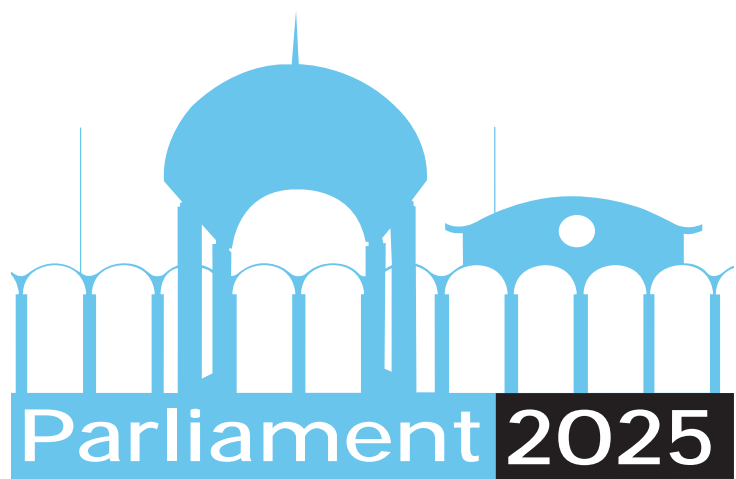
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Ministry unaware of alleged prevailing institutional culture

GABORONE - The Ministry for State President is not aware of the alleged prevailing institutional culture within the disciplined forces.

Answering a question in Parliament on behalf of the Minister for State President on Tuesday, the Minister for International Relations, Dr Phenyio Butale said the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) and Botswana Police Service (BPS) have robust disciplinary process and conflict resolution mechanisms, clearly articulated by law, as provided for in the BDF Act 2018 and Police Act 1972 respectively.

Dr Butale indicated that where a member was found culpable through these internal correctional measures, appropriate action was taken in accordance with the provision of both Acts herein referred to.

He said presently, there were several members in the disciplined forces on interdictions following administration action against offences committed while some had been dismissed depending on the gravity of the offence committed.

Dr Butale said since their formation, the disciplined forces had always maintained mental health support services within their organisational structures including welfare officers, chaplains, and psychologists in all BDF installations that were aimed at averting gender-based violence (GBV).

He said the services were also linked to programmes such as family care plan, suicide prevention programme, mental health mass lectures, GBV awareness programmes and marriage seminars amongst others.

Dr Butale said the ministry was not aware of any cases related to bullying and ill treatment incidents of junior officers by senior officers in the disciplined forces.

Nevertheless, he said it was important to inform Parliament that BDF Act of 2018, Section 133 (a) criminalises such conduct and provides that, a member subject to the act strikes or otherwise ill-treat any person also subject to the act commits an offence and shall on conviction by court

martial or by High Court be liable to imprisonment for two years or any less punishment provided by the act.

He said the act further stated that the aggrieved member may initiate a complaint through Section 241 of the BDF Act 2018, whereupon the matter would be dealt with accordingly with provisions of the act.

Dr Butale said Section 23 (b)(ii) of the Police Act 1972 also dealt with oppressive or tyrannical conduct.

The BDF complaint procedure, he said, provided that if any member was not satisfied with remedies as provided by Section 241(1) (a) the person may seek redress through Section 241(4) (b) and Section 242(1), which provided that, the Defence Council may to such extent and subject to such conditions as they consider appropriate, delegate to a panel of persons (hereinafter referred to as “service complaints and appeals panel”) all or any of the functions conferred on the Defence Council.

BPS on the other hand, he said, had the Internal Affairs Branch mandated to investigate issues of misconduct by any members of the police, including GBV related matters.

He said an independent body, Police Council, was established by Section 62 of the Police Act, with the responsibility for considering any complaint against police service generally, or any of its members, which the commissioner could not successfully resolve.

The MP for Mogoditshane West, Mr Galenawabo Lekau had asked the minister to state action that he would take in relation to the prevailing institutional culture among disciplined forces where there is reluctance to attend to reported incidents concerning their members, protecting each other and encouraging reconciliation of the affected parties even though there were always possibilities of incidents recurring.

He also asked the minister to state plans in place to address the rampant GBV incidents within disciplined forces and if it was not opportune to establish independent bodies to deal with incidents of ill-treatment. **BOPA**

Cannabis trade to create jobs - legislators

By Pako Lebanna

GABORONE - The adoption of policy of the lawful use of cannabis in Botswana for industrial and medicinal purposes is a positive step that is due to assist the country create jobs and diversify revenue streams.

These were the sentiments of some Members of Parliament (MPs) who debated the motion presented by the acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti on Tuesday and approved by Parliament on Wednesday.

Debating the motion, the MP for Gaborone South and also the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana said the draft policy document clearly defined the medicinal and scientific uses of cannabis sativa, which encompassed industrial hemp and medicinal varieties.

He said the policy was comprehensive in detailing the job and commercial opportunities that could be generated through industrial hemp in generating industries such as textiles, construction, food, cooking oil, fibre and pharmaceuticals.

Mr Ramaotwana said local capacity building and community benefits would also accrue to the ordinary Batswana, including downstream activities in the industry value chain such as transportation.

The MP for Francistown West and the Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Mr Ignatius Moswaane said the policy would allow for strict security to ensure hemp production was done for industrial and medicinal purposes and prevent recreational drug usage. He said as a Christian, he was clear in his conscience in supporting the bill and cited the example that some mainstream drugs offered in hospitals, clinics and pharmacies contained alcohol but it was not the same as recreational alcohol consumption.

Similarly, he said medicinal

marijuana, which included healing properties used to address some health conditions including chronic pain, anxiety, cancer-related symptoms, epilepsy, insomnia and multiple sclerosis, would not be the same as recreational drug usage.

Some MPs, particularly those of the official opposition, Botswana Congress Party (BCP) were opposed to the policy of legalising cannabis for industrial and medicinal use.

Nkange MP, Mr Motlhaleemang Moalosi said the requirements in the policy were elitist and would not allow ordinary Batswana to benefit.

He said downstream activities would also be out of bounds for the ordinary people, adding that medicinal marijuana, unlike industrial hemp, contained high levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), an active drug component believed to be the main ingredient that produces psychoactive effect in marijuana.

With the policy allowing for both medicinal and industrial uses, Mr Moalosi said that placed Botswana as the risk of THC drug usage and could be misused for recreational drug purposes

Maun West MP, Mr Carterpillar Hikuama said he would rather prefer the country to focus on investing in mainstream agricultural produce of crops such as sorghum, maize and sunflower to generate large scale commercial farming and food processing instead of focusing on a controversial plant such as marijuana. He said the country should be laser focused on comprehensively assessing the challenges of the agricultural sector and investing in addressing them to make Botswana have a high value agricultural industry. Mr Hikuama said many Batswana associated marijuana with recreational drug usage, and government should be focused on the value chain of mainstream crop production. **BOPA**



Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti said the adoption of the policy on the lawful use of cannabis in Botswana for industrial and medicinal purposes was a positive step that was due to assist the country create jobs and diversify revenue streams.

Act determines councillors terminal benefits

GABORONE - The Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs relies on the Ministers and National Assembly Gratuities and Pensions Act (CAP 02:04) in an effort to determine the scale and scope of terminal benefits for councillors.

Answering a question in Parliament on Wednesday, the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ketlhalefile Motshegwa said that the formula was derived from the aforementioned Act.

He added that 30 per cent of the current monthly salary for the different positions held

was multiplied by the number of months completed by the member in each position during such a term.

Mr Motshegwa said the 30 per cent of the average of ward allowance was paid in respect of different categories multiplied by the number of months completed by the member during such term.

He further said the total gross payment for councillors' terminal benefits was P284 886 143.52 for 605 councillors for the term of 2019 to 2024.

The minister said the ministry was aware that there had been some queries arising from councillor terminal benefits

paid, and these have been resolved following clarification on the payment method used, except one case registered before courts of law where five former Gaborone City Council councillors were suing the council on the basis that the formula used was inappropriate.

MP for Kgatleng Central, Mr Mpho Morolong had asked the minister to state the criteria and format used to calculate terminal benefits of councillors, the total amount of terminal benefits for the 2019-2024 councillors and whether there were unresolved queries surrounding their terminal benefits. **BOPA**

Ministry assesses drilling of extra boreholes

GABORONE - The Minister of Environment and Tourism, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi says his ministry is assessing the possibility of drilling a minimum of two extra boreholes to enhance water accessibility in the northern Central Kalahari Game Reserve.

Answering a question in Parliament on Wednesday, he said while the reserve currently had seven boreholes positioned to ensure a year-round water supply for wildlife, an increase in elephants in 2016 had caused water shortage for animals in the reserve.

Furthermore, he said the ministry did not intend to gravel the road connecting Matswere, Tsau, and New Xade.

He clarified that this choice was intended to safeguard Botswana's unique wilderness tourism approach, which emphasised limited infrastructure development to ensure a pure wilderness experience highly valued by tourists. Mr Mmolotsi said surfacing the road with gravel would result in increased speeds,

creating a serious threat to both safety and the environmental health of the region.

Additionally, he said the ministry aimed to set up boreholes in the Nxai Pan region before the financial year concluded and intended to drill two additional boreholes in the central section of Makgadikgadi National Park when finances permit.

He said at present, Nxai Pan and Makgadikgadi Pans National Park possessed 15 boreholes managed by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, with two of them being non-functional.

Mr Mmolotsi said Zebras were migratory creatures and that their travels were affected not only by the presence of water but also by

seasonal changes in the amount and quality of available forage.

Okavango East MP, Mr Gabatsholwe Disho had asked the minister as to when would they consider drilling boreholes in Deception Valley to reduce animals walking long distances to Sunday valley and Letlahau in search of water. He also asked

when the road from Matswere, Tsau and New Xade would be gravelled to facilitate easier movement.

Mr Disho also wanted to know if the ministry would drill boreholes in Makgadikgadi for the 50 000 Zebras, elephants and other small animals to relief them from walking long distances in search of water. **BOPA**



Minister for International Relations, Dr Pheny Butale has told Parliament that work was in progress to transform the state media into a public broadcaster with an autonomous board.

Motsamai acknowledges sewerage problem

GABORONE - The Assistant Minister of Water and Human Settlement, Mr Motsamai Motsamai has acknowledged that old sewerage manholes need maintenance.

Answering a question in Parliament on Tuesday, he said that he was aware that sewerage manholes in Tlokweng were old and needed maintenance.

Mr Motsamai said Tlokweng wastewater scheme was thus due for rehabilitation and expansion to replace older components that could no longer be maintained sustainably and to provide access to new areas.

The other challenges with the scheme, he noted, included limited infrastructure capacity, owing to the increased waste generation due to population increase, hence resulting in frequent waste spillages in the area.

He said the other challenges included vandalism and misuse of the infrastructure by throwing foreign materials down the drains, resulting in blockages and frequent waste spillages.

Mr Motsamai conceded that the ministry's budget for 2025/26 financial year was not sufficient to carry out full maintenance of the sewerage infrastructure in Tlokweng.

He shared that Water Utilities Corporation would continue to monitor the infrastructure and replace any vandalised and missing manhole lids through the recurrent budget.

MP for Tlokweng, Mr Pheny Segokgo had asked the minister if he was aware that sewerage manholes in Tlokweng were old and needed maintenance. He had also asked if in his budget, he could not help Tlokweng residents by maintaining the manholes. **BOPA**

State media to transform to public broadcaster

GABORONE - The Umbrella for Democratic Change government does not want to be given special treatment at the expense of other political parties when it comes to state media coverage, hence the intention to covert the state broadcaster into a public broadcaster.

Responding to a parliamentary

question on Tuesday on behalf of the Minister for State President, Minister for International Relations, Dr Pheny Butale said the state president ministry was aware that under the previous administration, the Ombudsman found that the state media coverage of political parties disproportionately favoured the ruling party.

The ministry, he said, was currently transforming the state media to become a public broadcaster with an autonomous broadcasting board, and the work was in progress, with the draft cabinet memorandum having been developed together with the ITT, which had been developed to engage a consultant to further the

transformation.

On the number of persons representing civic organisations and opposition parties interviewed by the state media especially Btv in response to the 2025/26 budget speech, Dr Butale said between February 6 and March 6, 10 interviews were conducted, of which six were for civic organisations, two for the ruling party and two for opposition parties.

He further noted that only one union leader had been invited by Btv between the aforementioned period, to give an insight into the budget speech. Tswapong South MP, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang had asked if the minister was aware that under the previous administration, the Ombudsman found that the state media coverage of political parties disproportionately favoured the ruling party and to state whether the situation had changed.

He had also wanted to know when the state media would become a public broadcaster to ensure editorial independence. **BOPA**

MPs adopt policy on licit use of cannabis

By Pako Lebanna

GABORONE - Botswana is looking to join other nations in exploring the potential contribution of cannabis to economic diversification as well as medical and scientific use, within a regulated environment, acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti has said.

Tabling the Policy on the Licit Use of Cannabis in Botswana, which was adopted by Parliament on Wednesday, Dr Dikoloti said the government had developed a comprehensive framework for the controlled use of cannabis for medical and scientific purposes.

"This policy document establishes the foundational principles, regulatory requirements, and implementation strategies for achieving these objectives while ensuring strict compliance with international obligations and maintaining public safety," Dr Dikoloti said.

He revealed that the medical cannabis market alone was projected to grow from US\$57.18 billion in 2023 to US\$444.34 billion by 2030, and within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, countries including Lesotho, Zimbabwe, and South Africa had already established regulatory frameworks for medicinal use, which provided valuable insights for Botswana's approach.

While the country had no established legal cultivation of

cannabis, Dr Dikoloti disclosed that the country possessed favourable conditions for the cultivation of cannabis sativa, which he said possessed significant potential for industrial, medicinal, and economic applications.

In addition to cannabis cultivation offering significant yield potential, making it a viable crop for Botswana's agricultural sector, Dr Dikoloti said it could contribute to economic diversification by creating new value chains in textiles, food, and pharmaceutical industries.

The minister said rural and urban communities could benefit from job opportunities with the creation of these new industries, while the environment could benefit from cannabis being a sustainable crop that required minimal pesticides and herbicides, and has properties that improve soil health.

He added that cannabis cultivation first required regulatory framework, thereafter infrastructure and expertise as well as the establishment of domestic and international markets, which required strategic partnership and marketing.

Furthermore, Dr Dikoloti said sustainable cultivation practices needed to be enforced to prevent soil degradation, water contamination and biodiversity loss.

In accordance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, an international treaty adopted by the United Nations

that controls activities governing specific narcotic drugs, Botswana would have to put some measures in place, the minister said.

"Botswana's compliance with the convention includes restricting cannabis use to medical and scientific purposes; establishing a national cannabis agency; implementing comprehensive licensing systems; maintaining detailed production and distribution records as well as to submit regular reports to the International Narcotics Control Board," Dr Dikoloti said. **BOPA**

Borolong Clinic to operate as 24-hour facility

GABORONE - The Ministry of Health will consider extending the hours of operation of Borolong Clinic to a 24-hour facility as the facility is upgraded to maternity providing clinic.

Answering a question in Parliament on Tuesday, the Assistant Minister of Health, Mr Lawrence Ookeditse further explained that the project is one of the tasks implemented through the Development Manager Model (DM) and was one of the suspended projects.

However, he said that all the DM projects were under review and the exercise together with the availability of funds for actual construction works would assist in determining the most appropriate mode and timelines for the actual construction works.

MP for Shashe West, Mr Jeremiah Frenzel had asked the minister when would Borolong Clinic start operating as a 24-hour facility, taking into consideration the population size of Borolong and its catchment areas. **BOPA**

BPC restores Morupule B Unit 4

GABORONE - The Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) has restored one of the power generating units, (Unit 4) at Morupule B Power Station.

A public notice from BPC says the development enhances local base load generation capacity and alleviates the current supply deficit.

It says the BPC's generation capacity from Morupule Power Station has increased to 235MW, that is Morupule A 55MW and Morupule B 180MW.

It says the two diesel based emergency power facilities provide a total of 130MW for dispatch under grid constraints to maintain system stability.

While the recovery of the units gradually improves power supply,

the public notice states that a demand shortfall will continue to obtain, with the national electricity demand currently at 640MW during peak hours and 440MW during off peak hours. And, therefore, BPC will continue to implement load management activities to balance supply and demand at a reduced scale compared to the previous week.

"BPC expects the power supply situation to improve with Morupule B unit 2 scheduled to be back in operation on April 17 2025."

However, the public notice says stability is expected by June 2025 with three units (unit 1, 2 and 4) expected to be fully operational at Morupule B, barring any unforeseen circumstances, says the public notice. **BOPA**



Botswana Power Corporation has restored one of the power generating units (Unit 4) at Morupule B Power Station.

Carving wood rewards Batlogeleng

By Tshiamiso Mosetlha

SEROWE - Growing up from a family of woodcarvers, little did young Batlogeleng's son know that his family's craft will one day put food on his table.

The wood carving bug stung so deeply that today Mr Gaolathe Batlogeleng is known in Majwanaadipitse and beyond, solely for his craft.

The 24 year youthful and energetic woodworker has made a name for himself with his creations that includes cabinetry, furniture making, wood carving, joinery, carpentry, and wood turning.

As a young boy, Mr Batlogeleng would often watch his father work with raw materials and witnessed the charm of craftsmanship come to life.

Working with wood, he said, was no walk in the park as it required accuracy unlike clay where one could mix until they got the texture right.

Mr Batlogeleng, known to the villagers by the name 'Chelete' of Marokhu ward at Majwanadipitse in Serowe North Constituency, is what you can call the village wood carver, something he started early on in life and learnt from his late father who was equally respected as a wood carver.

He loves how a piece of wood can be transformed into a complex art piece.

He loves wood, sleeps with wood and play with it by curving to what he wanted.

While some youth struggle to come up with viable means of

survival, and others look up to their children to provide for them, he has a different story to tell.

A self-made entrepreneur, Mr Batlogeleng noted that it was not easy to start off as he had to spend time cutting off logs, and that he did not have enough money to purchase advanced cutting tools. As such he had to use an ordinary axe and carry the logs by himself.

He said as a young boy, he carved just to kill time, without any feeling to use the skill to his advantage.

He was fuelled by passion, perseverance, and innovation, which propelled him to dedicate his life to telling stories through his artistic expression.

He channelled his energies towards capturing the essence of his culture, society, and the ever-evolving global landscape.

His business specialises in designing and crafting different items such as wooden chairs, mortars, pestles, drums and others.

The limited resources also hampered the business as he travelled to far places to harvest tree species, which are scarce in the locality, and this resulted in him buying ready-made timber

Mr Batlogeleng markets his work at his home and walking in the street of various villages advertising himself, and also during kgotla meetings and attended market days to sell his crafts.

He uses Motlopi, Morula, Mosokaphala, Morukuru, Mothware and Modumela to carve kitchen utensils such as

cups, spoons, bowls, chairs, sofas, beds frames, wooden tables and moulded human and animal figures.

He said he wished for government to help wood carvers with tools and machines that could make their job easier, noting that he was willing to try out modern technologies to advance his work.

Mr Batlogeleng indicated that lack of advanced cutting machinery proved to be a challenge, as he spends most of the time cutting

logs hence the slow production.

Lack of proper transport to carry logs from one end up to delivery compromises his business, he added.

He appealed to land board to allocate business plots to wood carvers so that they could carry out their wood curving nicely in one place.

His prices ranges from P100 to P2 000. A wooden chair costs P800, table P250, animal picture P200 and an image of a person

P2 000. He said he was also doing drawing using paint.

He encouraged youth in his area to come to him and get free education about wood curving so that they could earn a living without employment.

Apart from wood curving he constructs fences at lands and he is a farmer at Majwanadipitse.

He once curved a duiker 'Phuti' and gave it to the former president, Kgosi Khama IV of Bangwato in kgotla meeting as a present. **BOPA**



Mr Gabolathe Batlogeleng, a wood carver from Majwanaadipitse said his business specialises in designing and crafting different items such as wooden chairs, mortars, pestles and drums. Photo: Baldwin Nyamande

2025

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS NATIONAL

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ROADSHOW SCHEDULE

Team A – Southern & Kgalagadi
Team B – Central, North East & North West

LOCATION	DATE	LOCATION	DATE
MAUN EXPOSITION 2025			
Maun	7-9 April		
TEAM A		TEAM B	
Shakawe	11- 12 April	Kasane	11-12 April
Gantsi	14 April	Nata	14 April
Kang	16 April	Tutume	15 April
Tsabong	22 April	Masunga	16 April
Jwaneng	24 April	Francistown	22 -24 April
Kanye	25 & 26 April	Letlhakane	25 – 26 April
Lobatse	28 April	Serowe	28– 29 April
Molepolole	29 & 30 April	Bobonong	1 May
Mahalapye	2 & 3 May	Selibe Phikwe	2-3 May
Palapye	5 & 6 May		



STARTING TIME FOR ALL VENUES IS 0900HRS! APPLICANTS ARE URGED TO BRING CERTIFIED COPIES OF THEIR RESULTS SLIPS AND IDENTITY DOCUMENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice issued in terms of section 7 of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act Cap 65:07

NOTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS ON THE EIA FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A LODGE AT XHORO (BORO 2) NG 32 BY WILD TRACK SAFARIS (PTY) LTD.

This notification is directed to the communities of Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao and Boro as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation process regarding the proposed construction and operation of a lodge at Xhoro (Boro 2) in NG 32.

Wild Track Safaris (Pty) Ltd intends to construct and operate a lodge at Xhoro (Boro 2) which is an area within the NG 32 concession. Following submission of the project brief to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for review, the DEP subjected the project to a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. It is through the advice from DEP and also in accordance with section 7 of the EA Act that this consultation with the relevant communities and stakeholders is based on. It is also through the dictates of this act that the communities should be made aware of the nature of the activity proposed and its impacts both negative and positive anticipated on the environment and the communities. The act further dictates that the communities should be given a platform to say out their views and opinions regarding the proposed development. Those salient issues should be used to inform the EIA study.

Nature of the activities

The proposed project entails construction and operation of seven (7) standard guest units and a single family unit within a 25ha plot which is allocated to Wild Track Safaris by the land authority, Tawana Land board The 25ha land was initially registered for integrated land use and was later changed by the proponent to a lodge and campsite type of use through the Tribal land law to suit the proposed use.

Anticipated Impacts

Anticipated Positive Impacts	Anticipated Negative Impacts
Increase in revenue	Loss of vegetation cover
Economic empowerment of the local communities	Degradation of air quality
Generation of employment for the locals	Disturbance of Archaeological Features
Skill transfer	Land pollution
Availability of accommodation for tourists	Loss of habitat
Monetary benefit for local supporting businesses.	Potential Human wildlife conflict
	Increase in poaching activities
	Potential Soil and / or ground wa ter contamination due to hydro carbon spillages
	Migration of wildlife

Community Views and opinions

As mentioned above, the consultation includes also gathering the views and opinions of the communities regarding the proposed project, therefore communities are urged to forward their views and opinions to:

WhatsApp or call: 74 534 242 / 75 301 613
Email: loreinnovation@gmail.com

The last day for receiving the views and opinions is the 28/04/25.

KITSISO YA SECHABA

Kitsiso e e anamisiwa go tsamaelana le molao wa Environmental Assessment (Cap, 65:07)

TSHEDIMOSETSO KA MAIKUTLO A SECHABA MABAPI LE TSHEKATSEKOYA TIKOLOGO KA GO AGIWA GA MANTLWANA A BOROKO KO MOTSENG WA XHORO (BORO 2) NG 32 KE BA KOMPONI YA WILD TRACK SAFARIS (Pty) Ltd

Tekodiso e e lebagane le banni ba metse ya Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao le Boro e le tekodiso ya tshekatsheko tikologo mabapi le go agiwa ga matlo a boroko ke ba komponi ya Wild Track Safaris ko Xhoro NG 32.

Komponi ya Wild Track Safaris e na le keletso ya go aga mantlwana a boroko mo kgaolwaneng ya Xhoro e e fitlhelwang mo lefelong la diphologolo, NG 32. Morago ga go isa mokwalo wa project brief ko lekalaneng la Environmental Protection (DEP) go ya go sekasekiwa, ba DEP ba ne ba gakolola gore tiro e e direlwe lenaneo la tshekatsheko tikologo e e tseneletseng (Detailed Environmental Impacts Assessment), ka jalo, ke ka ntlha ya kgakololo go tswa go ba DEP gape e ikaegile ka ditsetlana tsa molao wa tshekatsheko tikologo (section 7) gore go bo go diriwa tekodiso e. Molao o wa Tshekatsheko tikologo o boa gape o tlama gore banni ba metsana e e amegang, (Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao le Boro) ba itsesiwe ka tebeo le bokete ba tiro e e tlang le go itsesiwe ka manokonoko a ditlamorago tse di dikagantseng tiro e, tsotlhe tse di molemo letse di bosula. Gape banni ba metse ba tshwanetse go fiwa monyetla wa go ntsha dikakgelo le dikgakololo mabapi le tiro eo.

Tebego le bokete jwa tiro

Tiro e go bolelwang ka yone ke ya go aga mantlo a boroko jwa bajanala, e leng matlo a boroko a le eisght. Dikago tse di tla agaiwa mo lefelong le le kanang ka 25 ha le le abetsweng kompone ya Wild Track Safaris ke lekgotla la kabo ditsha la Tawana . Lefelo le la 25ha le ne la fetolelwa mo tirisong ya lodge and campsite morago ga gore le abiwe e le la tiriso e e tlhakaneng (integrated land use).

Ditlamorago tsa tiro e

TSE DI MOLEMO	TSE DI BOSULA
Koketsego ya dipoelo mo lefatsheng	Go latlhegelwa ke ditlhare
Go tsholetsega ga itsholelo	Go kgothelesega ga phefo e re e hemang
Go thamela bengae mebereko	Go kgothea ga tikologo
Go abelang dikitso	Go kgotlelesega ga mmu kana metsi a a ko tlase ga lefatshe ka mabaka a go tshologa ga diole
Go oketsega ga matlo a boroko ja bajanala	Go kgothelesega ga metsi a a kotlase ga lefatshe ka mabaka a go sa tshwarega sentle ga metsi a a leswe
Go thama meamuso ya kgolo ya dikgwebo tsa mo gae	Go huduga ga diphologolo

Dipotso le dikakgelo

Jaaka go setse go boletswe, tekodiso e e akaretsa go utlwa/tsaya dikakgelo le dikgakololo tsa merafe mabapi le tiro e, ka jalo morafe o rotloediwa go romela dikakgelo le dikgakololo ko dinomorong tse di latelang:

Whatsapp or call: 74534244/75301613
Email to: loreinnovation@gmail.com

Letsatsi la bofelo la go amogela dikakgelo le dikgakololo ke di 28/04/25

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DEGREE & DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

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Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Telecommunications	8	5 Years
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Bachelor of Engineering in Construction	8	5 Years
Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering	6	3 Years
Diploma in Telecommunication Engineering	6	3 Years
Diploma in Mechanical Engineering	6	3 Years
Diploma in Civil Engineering	6	3 Years
Diploma in Construction Engineering	6	3 Years
Diploma in Computer Engineering	6	3 Years

FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY	NCQF LEVEL	DURATION
Bachelor of Commerce in Financial Management	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing Management	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Supply Chain Management	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Business Information and Technology Management	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Digital Marketing	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Commerce in Entrepreneurship	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Science (Hospital Administration)	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Science in Forensic Financial Accounting	7	4 Years
Bachelor of Business Administration in Logistics and Transport Management	7	4 Years
Diploma in Hospitality Management	6	3 Years
Certificate in Computerised Accounting	5	1 Year

*All Programmes are accredited by the Botswana Qualifications Authority and are available Full-time and Part-time.

*All programme durations are inclusive of mandatory 6 months industrial based learning.

*All programmes are ERB recognised.

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Bachelor of Science in Geology	7	4 Years

FACULTY OF SOCIETAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	NCQF LEVEL	DURATION
Bachelor of Education In Inclusive Education	7	4 Years

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Painting	80
Tiling	80
Ceiling Installations & Design	80

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Optical Fibre Installation & Maintenance Skills	160
PBX Systems Installation, Configuration & Maintenance	80
CCTV Systems Installation, Configuration & Maintenance Skills	80
Professional Mobile Radio (PMR) Systems & Microwave (MW) links Installation, Configuration & Maintenance Skills	48
Electronic Equipment Repair & Maintenance Skills	40

*Non Credit Bearing Short Courses are HRDC Approved.

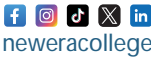


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REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
Ministry of Health



**THIBELA
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JWA MALARIA**

Dikai tsa bolwetse jwa malaria di akaretsa go nna le mogote o feteletseng, tlhogo e opang, go fufula, go feroa sebetse, letlhatso le letshololo, le ditlhabi mo mmeleng.

Fa o itemogela dikai tse, etela kokelo e gaufi le wena ka bofelo go itekodisa.

Ministry of Health
Tel: 363 2500
Call Centre: 16649
<http://www.moh.gov.bw/>

Vision: A Healthy Nation by 2036

Values: Customer Focus, Botho, Timeliness, Equity, Teamwork, Accountability.



Ba Mooko ba kopiwa go ipelega

Ka Tshiamiso Mosetlha

MOOKO - Lenaneo la Ipelegeng le le mo ditshekatshelong, le itebagantse le go fa batho sebaka sa go dira ditirelo tsa dikgaolo tsa bone tse ba di tlhokang mo dikgaolong tsa bone mme ba atswiwa ka sengwe gore ba tlhagafale.

Mopalamente wa Serowe Borwa, Rre Leepetswe Lesedi, o buile se kwa phuthegong ya kgotla kwa merakeng ya Mooko ka Laboraro.

Rre Lesedi o ne a ba lekodisa ka dikgang tsa kgaolo ebile a ba lebogela tlhopho ya bone go mmusetsa mo bopalameteng lekgetho la bobedi.

O ba kopile gore ba dirise lenaneo la Ipelegeng go dira ditlhabololo kwa metseng ya bone.

A re ba tshwanetse ba dirisa Ipelegeng go dira ditsela tse di yang kwa masimo le meraka ka gore ke gone kwa dijo di tswang teng.

“Mokoduo go tsosiwa yo o itsosang, Rre Lesedi a tlhalosa. Ka jalo o boletse fa puso fa e lemoga maiteko a bone e kgona go rotloetsega go nna le seabe.

Rre Lesedi o tlhalositse fa go dira ditsela tse di yang Mookong go tshwanetse ga dirwa ka boithaopo ka gore go emela mananeo mangwe a puso go ka tsaya lebaka.

O ba solofediste gore o tlaa ba ema nokeng fa le bone ba ipelega eseng go baya mo pusong fela.

A re o tlaa thusa go baakanya ntlo e e mo kgaolong ya bone e ba tlholwang ke dingaka teng (Mobile stop) ka malatsi aa farologaneng mme go ntse go emisitswe ka gore lefelo lene le senyegile.

O ba kgothatitse go tsenelela diphuthego tsa dikgotla gore ba utlwe ka mananeo a puso sentle ka e bile e le puso e ntsha go utlwa sentle ka ditsholofetso tsa yone.

Fa ba mo mokgwa dikgaba banni ba kopile gore ba thusiwe

thata ka ko letamong la bone la Mooko lele tshwarang metsi lobaka e bile le phaillelwa.

O ne gape a ba tlhalosetsa ka maikaelelo a puso go okeletsa bagodi madi le gore dikokelwana jaanong di boela kwa lephateng la dikgaolo jaaka pele.

Modulasetilo wa komiti ya balemi-barui, Rre Mosinyi Mosinyi o boletse fa letamo le tlhatsetsa mo molapong mme go oka dikgomo go tlaa kwa letamong leo ka jalo lebota le tshwanetse la agiwa seshago le thatafatsa.

O tlhalositse terata ya go feleletsa go agelela letamo e tlhaetse.

Selo se a supileng fa se ba jesetsa mo kgobedung mo go ka gore bangwe barui ba nosa e se ka fa tumalanong le komiti e bile leruo la matimela le a senya.

O kopile puso go ba thusa go gopa ditsela tse di yang kwa merakeng le masimo le go dira metshelakgabo mo ditseleng.

Leloko le lengwe la komiti, Rre Oaiti Maphakela, o boletse fa ba tshwenngwa thata ke bogodu ja leruo, a supa gore le fa ba bega dikgang kwa go ba sepodisi mme go sena nko e tswan lemina.

O tlhalositse fa gape fa ba tshwenngwa ke matimela aa senyang mo letamong la bone ebile a ngoka magodu.

O boletse fa ba batla ditsela di bulega gore ditirelo jaaka tsa



Mopalamente wa Serowe Borwa, Rre Leepetswe Lesedi a buisa phuthego ya kgotla kwa merakeng ya Mooko. Mopalamente a re lenaneo la Ipelegeng le a sekasekwa go netefatsa gore le tlhabolola matshelo a Batswana.

botsogo, sepodisi le tse dingwe di goroke kwa motsing wa bone. Mogolwane wa mapodisi, Assistant Superintendent Eric Dambe, o rotloeditse barui ba

Mookong go nna seopo sengwe go lwantsha dirukutlhi tse di ba amogang leruo ka e bile ba a ba itse.

O ba kgothatitse go dira

dikomiti tsa ntebela ke go lebele, ba emane nokeng mo go lwantsheng borukutlhi ja leruo jo bo ba apesitseng kobo ka letshoba. **BOPA**

Bagodi ba itumeletse koketso ya madi

Ka Kefilwe Selotlegeng

PALAPYE - Go boitumelo mo bagoding ba lefatshe leno ka puso e diragaditse tsholofetso e e neng ya e dira pele ga ditlhopho tsa setshaba ngogola, go oketsa dituelo tsa bone go tswa kwa go P830 go nna P1 400 ka kgwedi.

Ba ba setseng ba bone dituelo ba supa se, e le sesupo sa gore puso e kgathala ka matshelo a bone.

Koketso e, e simolotse kgwedi eno, fela jaaka go ne go tshephisitswe. Mo potsolotsong le bangwe ba ba neng ba ile go tsaya dituelo tsa bone kwa posong ya Pota kwa Palapye ka diphetogo tse, Rre Richard Sentle a re ga baaka ba fela pelo ka ba ne ba tlhaloseditswe gore lefatshe ga lena madi. A re ba ne ba tlhaloganya gore e tlaare kwa dilo di siamang teng, ba okelediwe gape gore madi e nne P1 800

jaaka fa go ne go solofeditswe.

Rre Lebopo Malema o supile fa madi a, a tlaa dira pharologanyo mo matshelong a bone ka ba tlaa kgona go ituelelela metsi le motlakase, go reka dijo gammogo le go ipolokela madi a go iphitlha (funeral cover). A re P830 yo ba neng ba mo amogela, o ne a sa lekana e bile ba dumela fa puso e tlaa oketsa mo isagong. Mme Keatlatsetse Ramathomane a re o sa le a nametsega fela ka

nako e neng puso e solofetsa go ba okeletsa dituelo mme o ntse a letile ka tsholofelo.

A re o na le tshepho ya gore ba tlaa goroga kwa go P1 800 yo ba mo solofetditsweng.

Le fa gone bagodi ba itumeletse go okelediwa madi, ba kopile gore go tokofadiwe maranyane, go itsa gore ba nne mo meleng lobaka, mo bangwe ba ka feletsang ba itlhoboga ba boela malwapeng ba sa amogela. **BOPA**

Chedza Solar Backpacks handy for learners

By Marvin Motlhabane

KANYE - Have you ever thought of an innovative solution to support students’ academic performance during severe power outages?

In Botswana and many other regions, frequent power cuts hinder learning progress, leading to poor performance.

In an interview with *BOPA* on Thursday, Mr Kedumetse Liphi, CEO Ked-LiphiBw and Innovator of Chedza Solar Backpacks, acknowledged that power outages were not unique to Botswana but represented a global crisis where electricity demand consistently exceeded supply.

He pointed out the financial and operational challenges faced by Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) in generating sufficient power to meet national needs and potentially sell surplus to neighbouring countries within the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

Mr Liphi highlighted the profound impact of load management on students, disrupting learning, limiting study time, and reducing productivity, particularly at night.

To address these challenges, he said, his company had developed the Chedza Solar Backpack, designed to provide a reliable and affordable energy source for students and individuals especially in rural areas where there is no electrical connectivity.

He said these solar backpacks had been developed with the aim of supporting learning during power outages, adding that he was committed to providing them at subsidized rates to enhance affordability.

Each backpack harness solar energy from a full day of sunlight and powers for up to seven hours, equipped with an LED bulb, a solar panel, a USB charging port, and a lightweight backup battery, he said.

“Our business model includes two revenue streams. Firstly, we collaborate with NGOs, corporations, foundations, and governments to manufacture and co-brand backpacks for donation to students in African communities.

We also operate a retail store that sells backpacks to tourists, hikers, and campers, as well as offering repair services and component resale,” Mr Liphi explained.

With confirmed interest from potential customers, he said, the market for Chedza Solar Backpacks spans both local and export sectors, addressing the energy needs of over 60 per cent of Africans. On a global platform, Mr Liphi said, his design was recognised as the overall winner in a category for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Technology at the COP28 held in Dubai.

The international recognition of his product extends beyond borders, with many Africans purchasing these backpacks as interim solutions to ongoing load-shedding issues.

He cited a recent partnership with NTT Data in South Africa,

where the initiative had aided over 1 000 learners annually in a region where only 28 per cent had access to electricity, thus enhancing education and promoting the use of renewable energy.

Mr Liphi emphasised that this initiative not only champions quality education but also promotes economic growth and climate action, empowering the next generation to thrive sustainably. **BOPA**



Ked-LiphiBw Chief Executive Officer and innovator of the Chedza Solar Backpacks, Mr Kedumetse Liphi said the backpacks harness solar energy from a full day of sunlight and powers for up to seven hours.



27 March 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE COMPLIANCE

The Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) reminds all taxpayers of their obligation to remain compliant with their tax affairs even after being issued with a Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC).

Important Information:

- 1. Purpose of TCC:** The TCC serves as a compliance requirement for individuals and businesses participating in tenders or other non-tender-related applications.
- 2. Eligibility:** A Tax Clearance Certificate is issued only to taxpayers who are fully compliant with their tax obligations (i.e. registration, filing, declaration and payment).
- 3. Validity:** The certificate remains valid for 12 months from the date of issuance provided the taxpayer's tax obligations are in order.
- 4. Revocation:** BURS reserves the right to revoke a Tax Clearance Certificate at any time if the taxpayer fails to comply with tax obligations.

All taxpayers whose tax obligations are not in order run the risk of their tax clearance certificates revoked by BURS. To rectify your tax obligations visit BURS regional offices or use any of our channels e.g. e-filing, M-Tax App.

For further assistance, please contact our Call Centre at 17649.



ClassifiedAds

AUTOMOTIVES

NOTICE OF CHANGE of ownership. Vehicle registration B 304 BTY. Previous owner Congolese Kadim Mpate, new owner Meriam Galeboe. Contact 75 478 584.

FARM WORKERS

FARM WORKERS WANTED Matebele Village P O Box 25 Oodi 72 530 654 / 73 500 319

I AM LOOKING for farm workers in Senamane village the name of the farm Veggie King.Contact # 77118018

MOAGI G. MOTSATSI. Herdboy wanted, 5 years experience. 72104769 / 71 213 181

FARM WORKER WANTED at Ga-Mosusu in Gabane, Mimis Organics (PTY) LTD P O Box 45830 Gaborone.

LOOKING FOR FARM worker at Masokwe lands; 72 204 385, Southern District Kanye.

MODISA WANTED AT Mohage lands,near Molepolole.Please contact 75 11 699

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

CHANGE OF LAND Use:Neighbors of plot 1968,Ranaka Village are informed of proposed change of land use from single residential to commercial plot.Any objection should be forwarded to Moshupa District Council,Physical Planning Office on Telephone no. 5449808 within fourteen (14) days of this publication of this notice.

OWNER OF PLOT 3230 Rasesa wishes to inform neighbours concerning erection of boundary wall.Contact Kgatleng District Council Building Control at 5777411 or 76 118 167 within 14 days of this notice.

I OWNER OF plot 77658 wish to construct a boundary wall. For objections neighbors consult Gaborone City Council Physical Planning at 3657400 within 14 days after publication of this advert.

I PHILLIP RAMPAGE, of plot no: 7320 located in Mmaratanang Tlokweng would like to change land from single residential plot to multi residential plot. Whoever has objection to the proposal should contact Tlokweng District Council on telephone no: 392 5242, within fourteen (14) days of publication

OWNER OF LOT 77835 Gaborone North , Kabelo Kgongwana informs neighbours the intent to erect a boundary wall. Any objections can be sent to Gaborone City Council building control at telephone No 3657400 within a period of fourteen (14) days of this publication.

OWNER WISHES TO change use of lot 8959 in Mahalapye from single family to multi-family. Any objection should be forwarded to Mahalapye planning office or call 73 779 362, 14 days after published notice.

OWNER OF PLOT No: 6551, Mmaratanang Tlokweng informs neighbours of this plot of the intention to build a boundary wall. Anyone with objection should contact Tlokweng District Council, Physical Planning office at Telephone No, 369 5000, within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

VACANCIES

PROFESSIONAL CAB DRIVERS needed. Must have at least 2 years driving experience and prdp (special) 71 242 556

ATTENTION: GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Do you have a private practice license?
Are you interested in starting a medical practice in Ghanzi?
If interested, please contact

lorethelawork@gmail.com or duncanthela.dt@gmail.com

THE OWNER OF Plot 1537 Metlhabeng, Tlokweng wishes to construct a boundary wall. Any objections from neighbors especially owners of Plots 1536, 1538 and 9672 should be made to Building Control Tlokweng Sub District Council, P Bag T05 Tlokweng. Tel 369 5000.

CHANGE OF LAND use. Owner Plot 14427 in Mogoditshane- Maulane would like to change land use of plot from residential to multi-family residential. For any objections, contact Mogoditshane- Thamaga Physical Planning Department 31056165 or in writing within 14 days after publication of this notice.

STEVE TEFO RANKWANE of Lot 66271, Gaborone would like to erect a boundary wall on the same plot. For queries contact 72 534 131.

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT ESHGB-000045/22

IN THE ESTATE OF THE LATE MOSES MOLLY SEGAE TSHO who died at Senyedimane, Molepolole, Kweneng District, Botswana on the 14th day of May 2021.

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the **Master of High Court at Gaborone** for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged to the Master.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THE 2ND DAY OF APRIL 2025.

The Executor
Kaelo Bile
P. O. Box 510
MOLEPOLOLE
Contact: 72 629 247 / 73 351 394

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: **ESHGB- 000762-23**
IN THE STATE of the **LATE MMATALENTA T. T. MAPHOSA** who died at Sandton Med clinic Hospital, Johannesburg, Gauteng District, South Africa on the 16th day of October 2023.

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 -----2025

The Executor
Boitshwarelo Maphosa
P. O Box 501886 GABORONE
Cell: 75768509/74152618/76509810

NOTICE FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed NO: MA 161/2019 dated 07th day of March 2019 made in favour of Emmanuel Setlhako In respect of:

CERTAIN: Piece of land being Tribal Lot 30417 Molepolole
SITUATE: At Molepolole in the Bakwena Tribal Territory
MEASURING: 1134m2 (One Thousand One Hundred And Thirty Four Square Metres)
HELD UNDER: MA 161/2019 Made in favour of Emmanuel Setlhako

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, PRIVATE BAG 0020 GABORONE within three (3) weeks of the last publication of this notice hereof.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 26TH DAY OF MARCH 2025

E. Setlhako
APPLICANT
(75 210 110 / 74 208 306)

advertise with us



ask marketing office
Gaborone 365 3500



<https://dailynews.gov.bw>



DailyNewsbw

05 March 2025

A diamond cutting and polishing manufacturing company based in Gaborone is looking for a skilled **Diamond Planner** with a keen eye for precision and excellence.
We are looking for a **highly experienced professional** to join our dynamic team and help us maximize the value of every diamond.

Key Responsibilities:

- Analyze and plan rough diamonds for optimal yield and quality.
- Utilize advanced diamond planning software (Sarin, Helium, etc.)
- Assess inclusions and determine the best cutting strategies.
- Collaborate with diamond cutters to ensure precision.
- Maintain quality control and optimize production efficiency.

Requirements:

- * **Proven experience** as a Diamond Planner in a professional setting
- * Expertise in **diamond planning software and 3D scanning tools**
- * Strong understanding of **diamond grading, symmetry, and proportions**
- * Attention to detail and ability to work with high-value materials
- * Excellent problem-solving skills and teamwork

Please post your detailed CV to:

The Recruiter
P.O. Box 2039ABG
Sebele Mall
GABORONE

Only applications received by post will be accepted.

Closing date: 17th April 2025
Preference will be given to Botswana citizens.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ENTER INTO SALE BETWEEN A CITIZEN AND A NON-CITIZEN INTERMS OF SECTION 34(1) OF THE TRIBAL LAND ACT, CAP 32:02

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that the following transaction is proposed, namely donation/ transfer of the lease rights in the following property from **FOREST HILL ENGLISH MEDIUM UNIFIED SCHOOL PROPRIETARY LIMITED** (the 'transferor') to MWIMBE AND MIA INVESTMENTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED (the 'transferee') for consideration in the sum of **P710,000,00 (Seven Hundred and Ten Thousand Pula Only)**.

THE TRANSFEROR: **FOREST HILL ENGLISH MEDIUM UNIFIED SCHOOL PROPRIETARY LIMITED**
THE TRANSFEE: **MWIMBE AND MIA INVESTMENTS PROPRIETARY LIMITED**

CERTAIN: piece of land being lot 35930 Kanye
SITUATE: in the Bangwaketse Tribal Territory
MEASURING: 2.0559 hectares of land

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT:

- (a) Any person Botswana citizen interested in entering into similar transaction in respect of the above property shall be given priority notwithstanding the agreement reached by the abovementioned parties
- (b) Should any person wish to object the proposed transaction, notice of objection with reason thereof should be addressed to the **Board Secretary, Kanye Sub Land Board**, with copies to the undersigned within 30 (thirty) days from the date of publication hereof

Job Vacancy Market & Administrative Assistant

Location: Gaborone

Job Description:

We are seeking a detail-oriented and proactive **female candidate** to join our team as a **Marketing & Administrative Assistant**. The ideal candidate will support our daily operations by collecting market information, handling document, and assisting with other routine business activities such procurement/visa application etc.

Requirements:

Gender: Female.

Education: Bachelor's degree or above in Civil Engineering or a related field. Experience: Candidates with relevant work experience will be given preference.

Skills: Strong organizational and communication skills, attention to detail, and proficiency in office software.

If you meet the above qualifications and are interested in joining our team, please send your **resume and cover letter** to bzyrcrb2024@gmail.com

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: **ESHGB- 000060-24**
IN THE STATE of the **LATE ELLEN KHUWE** who died at Deborah Retief Hospital, Mochudi, Kgatleng District Botswana on the 02nd day of October 2023.

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.....2025

Executrix
Betty Mokwena
P O Box 356
BOKAA Cell: 71190448/78161573

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference: **ESHGB 000019/24**
IN THE STATE of the late **ELLEN MOKOPI** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 22nd December 2023.

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 ____ 2025.

Executrix
Edith G. Kgosimore
P.O Box 150168
TONOTA TEL: 71833742

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice issued in terms of section 7 of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act Cap 65:07

NOTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS ON THE EIA FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A LODGE AT DAUNARA NG 32 BY DELTA PLANS.

This notification is directed to the communities of Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao and Boro as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation process regarding the proposed construction and operation of a lodge at Daunara in NG 32.

Delta Plans (Pty) Ltd intends to construct and operate a lodge at Daunara which is an area within the NG 32 concession. Following submission of the project brief to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for review, the DEP subjected the project to a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. It is through the advice from DEP and also in accordance with section 7 of the EA Act that this consultation with the relevant communities and stakeholders is based on. It is also through the dictates of this act that the communities should be made aware of the nature of the activity proposed and its impacts both negative and positive anticipated on the environment and the communities. The act further dictates that the communities should be given a platform to say out their views and opinions regarding the proposed development. Those salient issues should be used to inform the EIA study.

Nature of the activities

The proposed project entails construction and operation of a eleven (11) standard guest units and a single family unit within a 25ha plot which is allocated to Delta Plans by the land authority, Tawana Land board The 25ha land was initially registered for integrated land use and was later changed by the proponent to a lodge and campsite type of use through the Tribal land law to suit the proposed use.

Anticipated Impacts

Anticipated Positive Impacts	Anticipated Negative Impacts
Increase in revenue	Loss of vegetation cover
Economic empowerment of the local communities	Degradation of air quality
Generation of employment for the locals	Disturbance of Archaeological Features
Skill transfer	Land pollution
Availability of accommodation for tourists	Loss of habitat
Monetary benefit for local supporting businesses.	Potential Human wildlife conflict
	Increase in poaching activities
	Potential ground water pollution due to improper handling of liquid waste (Sewage)
	Migration of wildlife

Community Views and opinions

As mentioned above, the consultation includes also gathering the views and opinions of the communities regarding the proposed project, therefore communities are urged to forward their views and opinions to:

WhatsApp: 74 534 242
Tel: 75 301 613
Email: loreinnovation@gmail.com

The last day for receiving the views and opinions is the 28/04/25

KITSISO YA SECHABA

Kitsiso e e anamisiwa go tsamaelana le molao wa Environmental Assessment (Cap, 65:07)

TSHEDIMOSETSO KA MAIKUTLO A SECHABA MABAPI LE TSHEKATSHEKO YA TIKOLOGO KA GO AGIWA GA MANTLWANA A BOROKO KO MOTSENG WA DAUNARA (NG 32) KE BA KOMPONI YA DELTA PLANS (Pty) Ltd

Tekodiso e e lebagane le banni ba metse ya Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao le Boro e le tekodiso ya tshekatsheko tikologo mabapi le go agiwa ga matlo a boroko ke ba komponi ya Delta Plans ko Daunara NG 32.

Komponi ya Delta Plans e na le keletso ya go aga mantlwana a boroko mo kgaolwaneng ya Daunara e e fitlhelwang mo lefelong la diphologolo, NG 32. Morago ga go isa mokwalo wa project brief ko lekalaneng la Environmental Protection (DEP) go ya go sekasekiwa, ba DEP ba ne ba gakolola gore tiro e e direlwe lenaneo la tshekatsheko tikologo e e tseneletseng (Detailed Environmental Impacts Assessment), ka jalo, ke ka ntlha ya kgakololo go tswa go ba DEP gape e ikaegile ka ditsetlana tsa molao wa tshekatsheko tikologo (section 7) gore go bo go diriwa tekolodiso e. Molao o wa Tshekatsheko tikologo o boa gape o tlama gore banni ba metsana e e amegang, (Xaxaba, Xharaxao, Daunara, Quoqao le Boro) ba itsesiwe ka tebego le bokete ba tiro e e tlang le go itsesiwe ka manokonoko a ditlamorago tse di dikagantseng tiro e, tsotlhe tse di molemo letse di bosula. Gape banni ba metse ba tshwanetse go fiwa tetla ya go ntsha dikakgelo le dikgakololo mabapi le tiro eo.

Tebego le bokete jwa tiro

Tiro e go boelwang ka yone ke ya go aga mantlo a boroko a bajanala, e leng matlo a boroko a le lesome le motso. Dikago tse di tla agaiwa mo lefelong le le kanang ka 25 ha le le abetsweng kompone ya Delta Plans ke lekgotla la kabo ditsha la Tawana . Lefelo le la 25ha le ne la fetolelwa mo tirisong ya lodge and campsite morago ga gore le abiwe e le la tiriso e e tlhakaneng (integrated land use).

Ditlamorago tsa tiro e

TSE DI MOLEMO	TSE DI BOSULA
Koketsego ya dipoelo mo lefatsheng	Go latlhegelwa ke ditlhare
Go tsholetsega ga itsholelo	Go kgothelesega ga phefo e re e hemang
Go thamela bengae mebereko	Go kgothega ga tikologo
Go abelang dikitso	Go kgotlelesega ga mmu kana metsi a a ko tlase ga lefatshe ka mabaka a go tshologa ga diole
Go oketsega ga matlo a boroko ja bajanala	Go kgothelesega ga metsi a a kotlase ga lefatshe ka mabaka a go sa tshwarega sentle ga metsi a a leswe
Go thama meamuso ya kgolo ya dikgwebo tsa mo gae	Go huduga ga diphologolo

Dipotso le dikakgelo

Jaaka go setse go boletswe, tekodiso e e akaretsa go utlwa/tsaya dikakgelo le dikgakololo tsa merafe mabapi le tiro e, ka jalo morafe o rotloediswa go romela dikakgelo le dikgakololo ko dinomorong tse di latelang:

Whatsapp: 74 534 242
Tel: 75 301 613
Email to: loreinnovation@gmail.com

Letsatsi la bofelo la go amogela dikakgelo le dikgakololo ke di 28/04/25





Khama III Memorial Museum in collaboration with the University of Toronto Libraries has engaged in an innovative partnership to digitise, preserve and share its holdings with scholars around the world, while ensuring that the physical items remained at the museum.

Khama III Memorial Museum embarks on digitisation

By Keith Ketl

SEROWE – In the heart of Serowe sprawls Khama III Memorial Museum, located at the base of Thataganyane Hill with a bright red roof that holds stories about the nation.

The museum in collaboration

with the University of Toronto Libraries has engaged in an innovative partnership to digitise, preserve and share its holdings with scholars around the world, while ensuring that the physical items remain at the museum.

In a recent interview Khama III Memorial Museum's Digital Project

Implementing officer, Nametso Manyepedza said the University of Botswana's Library and Information Studies department would assist with experts in the field of digitisation while the University of Toronto was funding the project that would start by digitising Kgosi Khama III, Kgosi Sekgoma II and Kgosi Tshekedi Khama historical documents.

The documents include letters of Botswana World War II veterans, that were sent to Kgosi Tshekedi Khama during the war.

Manyepedza said the move was to ensure that important collections were preserved and accessed in a secure and hosting platform.

Furthermore, she argued that the initiative strengthened cultural education, supported policy advocacy for heritage preservation at a national level and most importantly, helped to position Botswana as a trailblazer in the space of digital heritage management.

She also said the project resonated well with the newly established Botswana Data Protection Act of 2024 that sought to safeguard personal information.

Manyepedza opined that integrating the act into the project helped to ensure compliance and protect personal information.

A recent issue of University of Toronto journal was quoted as saying; the project covers a collection dating from 1876 to 1959 that includes government letters, invitations and photos that document Botswana's journey to self-determination.

It further says that the two-year project funded by the University of Toronto would digitise 100 000 items in total, providing long term preservation and global research access.

Museum curator, Gase Kediseng concurred with the journal in that the project that started in March, was expected to be complete in two years' time of which the digitisation process would take shape in two different stages.

She said such would involve

needs assessment, to identify those documents that needed conservation, a process that would be done by the University of Botswana and some documents still in good condition, would be digitised straightaway.

"Digital cataloguing and metadata creation as well as cyber security and data protection as well as training and capacity building for museum staff were the phases expected during the project implementation," said Kediseng said and explained that as for hardcopy documents, the museum safeguarded such treasures in fire-proof and flood-proof vaults.

She spoke of the need to further reinforce safeguarding of treasures

through erecting buildings that were fire-proof using materials such as gypsum board or drywall which were effective fire-resistant interior wall finish.

Underscoring the economic value of the project, she said that it would contribute significantly to the economy because the museum was a pivot to research needed to aid economic performance.

It would also contribute to tourism, as a source of revenue.

Moreover, she said museums had potential to impact lives in a positive way and also helped people have a deeper understanding of culture and cultural heritage, inspired a sense of pride and bonded communities together. **BOPA**

Fashion show hosts industry players

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - Fashion industry players will unleash their potential during the third edition of Kelly's Angels Modeling Agency (KAMA) Fashion show billed for Term Manoir Guest Lodge in Gaborone on Saturday.

The Fashion Show themed: Urban Jungle-Street wear meets high fashion will bring all the industry players under one roof, including models, designers, make-up artists, hairstylists, photographers and performing arts.

Organised and directed by 24-year-old, Keletso Seebela, who is also a model, the event is open to everyone from above-mentioned categories, to come and tell their story through their talents. Speaking in an interview recently, Seebela said KAMA fashion show was a good opportunity for job creation as well as business especially for the youth.

"It exposes artists to potential clients and employers, models get booked by different brands, photographers get bookings from individuals and other brands as

well. There are those who always sell food and beverages for income," she explained. While some artists gotbooked for gigs, designers, made sales from their readily made clothing brands.

Seebela who is self-sponsoring the event was optimistic about attracting sponsors to help grow the event. She noted that since the establishment of the fashion show, response from those who attended had been amazing, as she got positive feedback. "They loved it as they learned a lot, got business, collaborated with others and found different opportunities," she stated.

As for the growth, she pointed out that with the years, the show had been pulling a good number, adding that this year they were expecting a large audience and by far the double tickets were sold out. Seebela further said the intention was to host the show around the country because she realised there was talent out there.

She said she believed Batswana were creative and just needed exposure to display such creativity, hence the need to extend the event to other parts of the country. **BOPA**



Some of the artefacts displayed at Khama III Memorial Museum. The museum's Digital Project Implementing officer, Nametso Manyepedza said the project was to ensure that important collections were preserved and accessed in a secure hosting platform.

Race for FNB Premiership title intensifies

By Kelebogile Taolo

FRANCISTOWN - With only eight games left before the end of FNB Premiership 2024/2025 season, the race to win the tittle intensifies for the top four teams.

Each week, TAFIC FC, Jwaneng Galaxy, Gaborone United and Township Rollers keep on changing position one, with a slight difference of either one or two points between them. Currently as the log stands, all the four teams are on 42 points and are only separated by goal differences.

This weekend, all eyes will be set on these four teams to see how they play and how the results will affect the log standing after the 23 matches played.

The northern giants, TAFIC, commonly known as Matjimenyenga, which tops the log, will be hosting relegation candidates, Chadibe FC, which is on position 15 with 15 points from 22 games.

The game will be played at the Obed Itani Chilume Stadium in Francistown on Saturday.

Both teams come from securing a point from their last matches.

This encounter is expected to produce sparks as they will be looking forward to get positive results.

On the same day, Morupule Wanderers will host second placed Jwaneng Galaxy at the Palapye Stadium. The game will not be easy for both teams.

Jwaneng Galaxy is pushing to be in position one, while on the other hand, Morupule Wanderers will be fighting to ensure they stay in the top eight or better their position on the log.

The two teams will also be looking forward to secure three points after they drew their last games.

Still on Saturday, Gaborone United will visit Orapa United at the Itsekeng Stadium in Orapa.

Sitting on position three, The Reds will have a big mountain to climb to get three points from the Ostriches in their home ground despite getting maximum points from the last match they played.

Orapa United is currently sealing the top eight with 30 points from 22 games they have played so far.

The game promises to be a spectacular encounter, as the Ostriches always take advantage of their home grounds to outplay their opponents.

Another crucial encounter will be between Township Rollers and Nico United at the Sam Sono Stadium in Selebi-Phikwe.

After suffering a two-nil defeat against Sua Flamingoes, which landed them in position four from, Mapalastina, as Rollers are affectionately called, will be looking to redeem themselves and get positive results to move up the log.

Against Nico United, who is steps away from the relegation zone, it is not going to be a walk in the park for Mapalastina as the boys from the copper mining town will have the home ground

advantage and their supporters.

At the Sowa Town Council Stadium, Sua Flamingoes will welcome Mochudi Centre Chiefs.

So far, the two teams have collected 39 points each with Sua Flamingoes on position five whereas Mochudi Centre Chiefs are nestled at position six.

This will also be a thrilling encounter, as both teams will be seeking to increase their points to better their log position.

Another mouthwatering encounter will take place at the Lobatse Sports Complex, where Extension Gunners will play against Matebele FC on Saturday.

The two teams are on positions 10 and 9 respectively, with the same 26 points (26) from 22 matches they have played so far.

BDF XI will be hosting Uniao Flamengo Santos at the Royal Aria Stadium in Tlokweng on Saturday.

The two are battling relegation, hence it is important for them to secure maximum points to escape the dreaded relegation axe.

On Sunday, there will be only one fixture at the VTM arena in Gamononyane.

The hosts, VTM FC will be basking in the base of their supporters as they take on Security Systems. VTM won their last game against Santos with a margin of 3-0.

As for Security Systems, it is going to be a tough one as they suffered a 2-0 loss in their last match with Gaborone United.

BOPA



Jwaneng Galaxy and Township Rollers battling it out. The race to win the FNB Premiership title has intensified for the top four teams, TAFIC FC, Jwaneng Galaxy, Gaborone United and Township Rollers. Currently as the log stands, all the four teams are on 42 points, separated by goal differences.



Pegged at position six on the log standing, Mochudi Centre Chiefs will be welcomed by Sua Flamingoes at the Sowa Town Council Stadium while Tatic FC which tops the log is expected to host relegation candidates Chadibe FC on Saturday.

Stadium handover extended by two days

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE - The late arrival of top surface granules has pushed the handover of the National Stadium by two days to April 8, just four days before the venue hosts the FNB Botswana Golden Grand Prix on April 12.



The handover of the National stadium earmarked to host the FNB Botswana Golden Grand Prix on April 12 has been extended by two days due to late delivery of top surface granules. Director of Business Development and Property Management Services at Botswana National Sport Commission, Makuke Makuke said the stadium would be handed on April 8. Photo: Gothusang Lesego

Director of Business Development and Property Management Services at Botswana National Sport Commission (BNSC), Makuke Makuke said in an interview that the stadium was to be handed on April 6, but there was delay in delivery of the materials.

He said they had hoped to receive the top surface granules on March 28, but the delay was beyond their control.

However, he said the blue top surface granules would arrive tomorrow and delivered to the stadium to start the process of laying the track. He said they had

planned to lay the track in four days.

Makuke said they had now bought two machines to speed up the process, adding that after laying the track, they would start the process of lane marking. He expressed happiness that they finished laying the black rubber on time.

“From our side, I think the biggest risk is the material from overseas, if the material arrives, this track will be available for the Botswana Golden Grand Prix,” he said.

He said there was no “Plan B” because Obed Itani Chilume Stadium was not certified for the Botswana Golden Grand Prix.

The track certification, he said, expired last year, and in that regard the plan was that after finishing with the National Stadium, government would seek funds to also rehabilitate the Obed Itani Chilume Stadium track.

Golden Door Sports Agency director, Glody Dube said the extension by two days would not adversely affect them.

“But we just keep our fingers crossed for the event to take place in April, because if we fail to host, people will lose money,” he said.

Dube said athletes had started buying flight tickets and booking accommodation, adding that spectators had already bought tickets.

BOPA



Olympic gold medalist, Letsile Tebogo with pupils from South East District during the Kids Athletics Day in Gaborone on Wednesday. He encouraged them to pursue their passion and participate in sport from grassroots level. Tebogo also inspired the young athletes to follow in his footsteps, dream big and always strive for excellence. Photo: Phenyo Ramatu

Tebogo kids athletics ambassador

By Lorato Gaofise

GABORONE - World Athletics has appointed Olympic gold medalist and World Athlete of the Year, Letsile ‘School-Boy’ Tebogo as the ambassador for Kids’ Athletics Programme, which is one of the biggest grassroots development initiative in the world of sport that uses the power of athletics to inspire children across the world to be more active.

This was revealed Wednesday by Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) regional chairperson, Tebatso Omphithetse during the Kids’ Athletics Day launch in Gaborone.

Omphithetse said the

collaboration would involve Tebogo taking part in the Relay Around the World Challenge ahead of this year’s Kids’ Athletics Day scheduled for May 7.

She said the Kids’ Athletics Day was an annual celebration of children being active and participating in athletics as the foundation of all sporting codes.

“The Relay Around the World Challenge is the biggest, most inclusive Kids’ Athletics participation activity designed to inspire the athletes of tomorrow and get kids moving everywhere,” she explained.

Omphithetse also explained that the event that was jointly organised by the BAA in collaboration with World

Athletics featured about 1 000 kids, from across the school district, who participated in the day’s activities.

Speaking in an interview, Tebogo expressed excitement for having been afforded an opportunity to inspire children to venture into sport by being appointed as an Ambassador for the Kids’ Athletics Programme.

Additionally, Tebogo said it was important for children to be involved in sport from a young age, as it would encourage them to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

He also encouraged the children to believe in themselves and never give up in achieving their dreams.

Matlhagolatsela Sport Programme sports specific athletics, Olebogeng Oitebetse

also explained that the launch was meant to officially announce Tebogo as the Kids’ Athletics Programme ambassador.

Oitebetse said the Kids’ Athletics Programme uses children aged between six and 15 years, adding that the day’s activities were meant to improve speed, endurance and agility skills, through stepladder, skip hop, shuttle run and hurdles.

“We selected nine primary schools that participated in the Matlhagolatsela Sport Programme Competitions, last week, on March 25,” Oitebetse said.

Seven primary schools, namely, Morula, Tlhabologo, Bophirima, Tshwaragano,

Boswa, Itumeleng and Phillip Moshotle participated in the competition.

In addition, she said Mophane and Marulamantsi Primary Schools also took part in the competitions.

Matlhagolatsela Sport Programme was introduced as a temporary measure to address challenges posed by the suspension of formal school sports.

The programme is meant to afford children an opportunity to realise their full potential through sport.

It is also aimed at providing a structured environment for young athletes to explore and develop their potential, with a focus on inclusivity and accessibility. **BOPA**