

Wednesday, 13 March 2019

No. 10 – 2019

NINTH SESSION, SIXTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2019

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **Announcement by the Speaker in terms of Rule 20(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**
 - (i) The Speaker announced the passing on of Hon. Adv. Bethel Nnaemeka Amadi, a national of Nigeria and former President of Pan-African Parliament (PAP) from 2012 to 2015. He passed on in London on 10 February 2019 and is due to be buried early April 2019. The House stood in a moment of silence.
 - (ii) He announced that the Honourable Minister of Finance was due to give notice today, 13 March 2019 to table the National Budget, however due to other pressing matters, the Minister will only give notice on Tuesday, 19 March 2019.
 - (iii) The Speaker announced that the National Assembly was in the process of planning an event for Wednesday, 20 March 2019, with the topic being “Kudu energizing the Nation”. The Speaker made mention of the upcoming Independence Celebrations to which the House agreed that this event be put on hold for now.
3. **The Deputy Minister of Finance laid upon the Table:**

Reports of the Auditor-General on the Accounts of the –

Regional Council of the Oshana Region for the financial year ended 31 March 2017.
4. **ORAL QUESTION:**

Mr. Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance (No. 5) – *The Speaker ruled that it be put in writing.*

5. **NOTICE OF A QUESTION:**

Mr. Nauyoma (APP) to ask the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 37).

6. **Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 98 of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

The Minister of Health and Social Services made a Ministerial Statement referring to the remarkable achievements the Ministry has made in the control of communicable and non-communicable diseases. He elaborated on the current situation recorded at the different Health Centres of which the Hepatitis E virus; maternal and women's health are amongst the few, concluding that Namibia has far much better health status indicators than the Africa average. He however, also highlighted on the chronic challenges faced and the deliberate decision taken by the Ministry to train staff at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels to address the above-mentioned problems.

7. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Mr. Venaani moved, seconded by Ms. Dienda:

That this Assembly –

Discusses the plight of foreign-trained medical doctors who have graduated from universities in countries such as China, Russia and Ukraine.

It is often said that education is the Greatest Equalizer, yet thousands of our youth have not found that Equalizer. I am aware that 240 students who finished the course work, studied on Government grants to the value of N\$125 million. While another 500 more students are expected to graduate, which Government has spent an additional of close to N\$300 million.

The Health Professional Council has for some times now been calling these graduates sub-standard and their demands is to be tested consistently and fairly.

That a Parliamentary Inquiry be set up on these important matters that confronts the future of our youth.

On the motion of the Minister of Higher Education, Training and Innovation, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, debate adjourned until Thursday, 14 March 2019.

8. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Mr. Venaani moved, seconded by Ms. Dienda:

That this Assembly –

Discusses the precarious situation prevailing at the Public Service Medical Aid Scheme (PSEMAS).

According to the IMF report, our country is losing close to N\$900 million yearly, due to corruption and malpractices taking place at the Medical Aid Fund. If this is indeed true, then this is the greatest looting ever in our society.

Therefore, that this Assembly be given a mandate to refer this Motion to a relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for investigation and report back.

9. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:45 until Thursday, 14 March 2019.

MS. L. KANDETU
Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by H. Christiaans