

PROVISION OF QUALITY EDUCATION

1. Learner's automatic promotion need to be abolished. This will encourage learners to learn very hard as they know they will not be promoted to the next grade without passing their examinations.
 2. Need for the establishment of sick bays at schools. Comrade Speaker I am aware of the limited human resources in terms of health staff but considering the amount of time lost by learners, leaving schools to visit hospitals and clinics just for minor problems such as headache or stomachache, I thus propose that sick bays be introduced in boarding schools. This will in my view limit if not stop the unnesacary absenteeism by learners from classes. The government may consider retired nurses who may wish to volunteer their services in return government will only provide them with an allowance for their services.
 3. Learner motivation for schools to make positive impacts on learner performances ^{there} is a great need for regular motivation through ^{out the year by} other stakeholders in education apart from school teachers. I thus encourage school management committees in consultation with their regional and local councilors to invite speakers at various levels in our society to encourage learners and boost their educational moral ^{and} values as well as their discipline.
- We ^{all} are aware of the many things that negatively affects our children, therefore ^{the} needs us all to be ^{closer} together to participate in the success and development of our children and not blame teachers only.

GENDER EQUALITY

Honourable Speaker,

Allow me to congratulate the former Secretary General of the SWAPO Party Cde Pendukeni ^{Ithana} Iivula –Ithana who paved the way forward for us Namibian women and girls and thus encouraged ^{us} that senior position can also be occupied by women as well and not only men. She served on very high portfolios in the Party, ^{former SG.} internationally and in government as well. ^{she was also courageous enough to change the government} Cde Jerry Ekandjo even though not ^{successfully} for the Vice –Presidency. This lesson from Comrade Iivula –Ithana is to encourage us as women to be brave and be ready at any given time to take up high positions , I am proud of you . In the same vein would like to congratulate the SWAPO Party Vice-President Comrade Dr Hage Geingob and Comrade Nangolo Mbumba ^{SWAPO SC} and the Governor of the Khomas Region comrade Laura McLeod Katjirua ^{to be} elected as the ^{Deputy} Secretary General of the SWAPO Party. The same to all other comrades who were promoted and those who emerge victorious after competing for certain positions of power ^{within our SWAPO Party.}

Comrade Speaker

Honorable Members, as previously entrusted to spearhead women advancement and empowerment in our country through the Women Parliamentary Caucus, I am shocked that the body is not functional, Comrade Speaker the Caucus is one of the many instruments that played a major role in the promotion, advancement and empowerment of women in our society. I am thus happy to also be informed that it will be revived very soon. Once it's off the ground, all our support is needed. We all know that Namibia is a country which through the leadership of the SWAPO Party government, ^{under the able leadership of the Honorable Father S.N. and that of the current President Dr. Pohamba} has established a department of Women Affairs that was transformed into the Ministry of Women Affairs but because we believe in gender equality and child welfare in order for it to cater not only for women issues but also the whole family, both men and women. ^{I was annexed to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare} Among others the aspiration of the Republic of Namibia, NDP'S and Vision 2030 are championed through this ministry.

Namibia is a signatory to the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development which calls for 50/50 representation of men and women in government by 2015. Further more the government of the Republic of Namibia has ratified various regional and international legal instruments to advance gender equality such as, the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women.

² The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

We also as a country made provision in our constitution for international instruments automatically to be part of our Namibian laws.

We signed in 200 a Millennium Declaration and participated in the process of achieving the MDG'S particularly the ones that promotes and strengthens the women's rights.

Women in Namibia like all other women in the globe, ^{therefore} needs encouragements to be prepared to ^{take part} ~~partake at any time~~ at any level of authority, it is against this background that I support the unopposed Motion introduced by the Speaker on Gender based violence and eventually ^{will be} moved by Honorable Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana.

Appropriation Bill

It is gratifying to note that the SWAPO Party government is looking ahead not only on the next few years, but also over the next generation and that we are taking major steps to build on a strong foundation we laid since independence. Government should be commended for avoiding foreseeable problems while ^esizing new opportunities in global economy. Many thanks to the visionary leadership of our government.

The budget honorable speaker, honorable members as tabled by the honorable minister, comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila in this house is giving our Nation confidence in facing the future as it reflects people centered and development orientation which the SWAPO Party government has consistently and persistently pursued over the years. The allocation of the large portion to the social sector is a proof in this regards. Further more, the maintenance of peace security and the rule of law eg political stability that our country has enjoyed thus far is another testimony. Therefore we should commend ourselves as a nation and vow to continue keeping Namibia free and peaceful as we know that peace is a very important facilitator of all positive developments.

Comrade Speaker, honorable members the catering of our senior citizens and that of our veterans of our country's liberation struggle is a reminder to all generations of our nations that we should never forget those heroes and heroines who sacrificed their lives in order for us to have bread on our table today. We are all aware and know ^{very well} that our freedom and independence did not come on a silver platter but their blood watered our freedom.

With this few words I would like to congratulate Honorable comrade Saara Kuugongelwa –Amadhila and all stakeholders involved in the preparations the formulation as well as the organization of the budget ^{and I support} the appropriation bill and MTEF for 2013/14 to 2015/16.

~~I support the bill and~~ I thank you