



Thursday, 3 March 2022

No. 2 - 2022

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

# QUESTIONS

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**Question 1 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Mines and Energy:

The National Oil Storage Facility situated at the coastal town of Walvis Bay was designed and constructed as a strategic resource by the Namibian government with the primary aim of increasing the country's fuel supply security from the previous seven to ten days to the current 30 to 45 days.

Given its size, funding costs, its complexity and the volume of operations, the project is expected to achieve our economic development stability.

However, all this came at a cost of N\$5,5 billion.

I therefore ask-

1. That the Minister provide this August House with the bill of quantity-detailing all the costs spent from its inception until now.
  2. That the Minister provide an explanation in this House to justify the escalation of its price from the initial estimation of N\$3,7 billion in 2014 to what has been so far spent.
  3. Further that the Minister explain and demonstrates the project's financial status.
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**Question 2 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Van Wyk (PDM) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

It has been reported that fuelling stations of NAMPOL has no fuel available to fill up its fleet. This situation would badly affect the operations of the Namibian Police and therefore private suppliers were requested to assist the Namibian Police with fuel until such time that funds are available.

I shall therefore ask the following:

1. Would Minister brief this August House on the situation at fuelling stations of the Namibian Police country wide and also indicate what measures the Ministry would implement to address the matter until such time that money is availed to the Ministry?
2. Considering the request from suppliers to assist the Namibian Police with fuel, what measures are in place to properly monitor and account for such supply in order to prevent misappropriation of such supply?

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**Question 3 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Van Wyk (PDM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Various Local Authorities under opposition control, claimed a lack of support from the line Ministry. It is claimed that the Ministry delays or continue to delay the approval of various submissions made to your Ministry. None approval of various submissions hinders proper service delivery and development in LA. One such LA, is the Rehoboth Town Council. I had the opportunity to read through submissions made to your Ministry by the Rehoboth Town Council. The Rehoboth Town Council is not in a position to finalize the full implementation of the Rukuro Report as the last allocation of plots were approved by your Ministry during 2018.

I shall therefore ask the following:

1. Could the Minister, brief this August House to what causes the delay in attending to submissions to your Ministry by the Rehoboth Town council?
2. When can the RTC expect to receive feedback on submissions made to your Ministry during 2021?

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**Question 4 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Smit (PDM) asked the Prime Minister:

Last year some 12 Bills were submitted in this August House. However, a mere four were finally passed, of which two had to do with taxes and the budget and thus had to be passed at all costs. During the working year it also happened that a number of bills were tabled and then summarily withdrawn, some of them on more than one occasion, while important bills such as those regarding gender based violence and rape were allowed to lapse.

1. Will the Right Prime Minister agree with me that this August House did not work as hard as it should have last year?
2. Were important Bills allowed to lapse because they were not adequately prepared before being tabled?
3. Was the much criticized Investment Bill tabled and then summarily withdrawn because the Government realized that it was unconstitutional?

4. Does the Right Hon Prime Minister undertake to ensure that all the Bills that are to be tabled this year will be properly prepared so that they can be dealt with by this august House?
5. Lastly, it is common cause that it takes legal drafters at the Ministry of Justice anything between five to ten years to finalise a single Bill. However when the Bill is tabled here in Parliament, the executive expects the legislature to debate that Bill within a very short period of time and bulldoze it through. Does the Prime Minister agree with me that in order for Bills to be properly scrutinized by the legislature, more time needs to be availed to debate the Bill on the floor of the House?

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**Question 5 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Smit (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance:

According to Procurement Tracker, Methealth Namibia has been awarded the Psemas administration contract worth some N\$300 million six times over the past 18 years. This contract is renewable every four years. In the last round of bidding in 2020 questions were raised around the bid specifications, which appeared to have been designed to favour Methealth, thus raising the spectre of bid design corruption. This led to an investigation and an extended bidding process, and the eventual disqualification of all bidders in November 2020.

Although Methealth did not bid for the PSEMAS administration contract in 2020, however, still remains the administrator at this time. This matters because state organs headed by the ruling party, such as the Ministry of Finance, adjudicate and hand contracts to ruling party owned and affiliated commercial entities, raising threats of conflicts of interest and political capture of strategic state resources such as PSEMAS by ruling party affiliated persons and entities.

I thus ask the following:

1. Can the Minister tell this August House how far the mentioned investigation into the 2020 bidding process for the administration contract has progressed?
2. Why was the contract handed to the ruling party-connected Methealth for 18 years in a row?
3. Will the Minister agree with me that the ruling party and/or its affiliates have been lining its pockets from this contract for the past 18 years?
4. Can the Minister explain to this august House why the ruling party and/or its affiliates should be allowed to benefit from the state-run PSEMAS at the cost of similar administrators in the private sector?
5. How much money has the ruling party and/or its affiliates garnered from this contract to run the affairs of the party over the past 18 years and what percentage of the N\$300 million per annum does this represent?
6. Why should this state of affairs not be judged to be state capture as well as a clash of interest?

7. Why should the ruling party and/or its affiliates not be required to repay the money paid to it via its affiliated entities connected to Methealth?
8. Will the Minister agree with me that this process undermines the credibility, fairness and competitiveness and decision-making processes of strategic state resources by ruling party affiliated persons and entities such as Zebra Holdings?

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**Question 6 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Mwilima (PDM) asked the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism:

Kyaramacan Association was established in 2005. It is represented by over 5000 people residents in the Bwabwata West Caprivi Game Reserve - The Association manages the game reserve and benefit from their own natural resources. The inhabitants in this game reserve are predominantly by marginalized people - the conservative drawits revenue from a hunting concession, granted by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism on the park and as well as from tourism related activities in the area.

The other important income stream for residents is the sustainable harvesting of devil's claw, which is used by the pharmaceutical industry. Furthermore, the Association has an obligation to raise, and improve the living standard of one of the most marginalized group in Namibia.

Thus I ask:

1. Minister, are you aware that the signatories to the account of this association includes that of your directors here in Windhoek and no signing powers are given to the community itself?
2. I demand that you provide a full detailed financial audited report of the account of this association as soon as possible?
3. Minister, are you aware that the San community in theBwabwata Game Reserve are struggling for their social wellbeing while they are supposed to benefit from the conservancy revenues?

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**Question 7 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Isaaks (LPM) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

**BACKGROUND**

The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture 2017/18 - 2021/22 Strategic Plan builds on previous Strategic plans that have been implemented since Namibia's Independence in 1990. These include the Strategic Plan of 2001-2006; the Education and Training Sector Improvement Programme (ETSIP) 2005-2020; and the Strategic Plan of the then Ministry of Education for 2012-2017. Through a situation analysis and consultation with a broader spectrum of stakeholders, the Ministry identified three themes for the 2017/18 - 2021/22 Strategic Plan; namely: Quality, Equity and Efficiency.

Under the first Pillar of Quality, this Strategic Plan envisages that Namibian learners will achieve much better results in national examinations because of the improved motivation, and professional knowledge and skills of teachers. This implies improved continuing professional development, the provision of sufficient textbooks and other learning resources, including ICT, assistive technology for children with disabilities, and a conducive learning environment. Arts and culture are seen as an integral part of providing quality education through the school curriculum. Schools that embrace cultural diversity through hearts and other social platforms provide for a vibrant learning school community. Under the second Pillar of Equity, access is implied.

Therefore this Strategic Plan foresees that the education system will play a role in redressing the imbalances of the past and ensure access of the estimated 10% of primary school age children who are currently out of school.

Standards of education in remote rural primary schools will be brought on par with schools in urban areas. The number of learners gaining access to senior secondary education will be fairly balanced between rich and poor, amongst regions and sexes. The rollout of pre-primary education in the regions will be equitable in the allocation of qualified teachers, teaching and learning support materials, and infrastructure. Implementation of inclusive education will bring all children into the education system, considering their particular abilities and needs. Lifelong learning will provide opportunities for those individuals and marginalised communities with an educational backlog. This Strategic Plan will ensure that everyone in Namibia has equal access to arts and the fundamental right to express their culture through the arts. Dedicated arts, culture and heritage programmes will increase the number of Namibians promoting art and culture and earning a living in emerging culture industries.

Under the third Pillar of Efficiency, this Strategic Plan will ensure that all staff members have performance agreements in line with the Performance Management System. A coordinated response with clear accountability structures and prudent resource management will drive quality, equity and efficiency. Efficient deployment of teachers will receive priority attention, including through a review of post allocations to schools, and through a reduction in repetition by learners. Arts and culture staff members in the regions will be increased and upskilled, particularly to increase the number of Namibians who make a living in emerging cultural industries. The Ministry will be more efficient in issuing statistical and annual reports, and using such reports for planning and budgeting purposes. A rolling master plan for the development of physical infrastructure with accompanying standards will be put in place. Maintenance of school infrastructure will be improved, partly through engagement of schools in minor maintenance routines. The process of decentralisation and devolution will proceed as per the Government's Decentralisation Implementation Plan 2016-2021. Therefore the following questions.

Capital Projects: Money allocation is limited which only caters for the building of few schools. Existing infrastructures should be maintained and renovated to address access which is unfortunately not the case.

1. How many schools were constructed and completed?
2. What is the total budget for the renovation of the existing infrastructure?

Advance Subsidiary (AS) Level learners need to do research therefore facilities should be upgraded as part of knowledge based society especially in rural areas.

1. How many schools are well resourced and ready for the New Curriculum especially at the previously disadvantaged communities?
  2. How many learners obtained C and above in Science and Mathematics?
  3. Are the teachers adequately skilled to teach on the Advance Subsidiary (AS) Level?
  4. Are the Monitoring and Evaluation systems in place for the Regional and the School Management to track progress and render specialized assistance to schools?
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**Question 8 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Tjeundo (PDM) shall ask the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation:

Last week dozens of workers were unfairly dismissed and evicted from the Erindi Private Game Reserve, and have since been forced to camp in tents and other makeshift structures under difficult weather conditions.

On Thursday, 10 February 2022, the leadership of the PDM went to meet these workers and uncovered the most brutal forms of exploitation of workers that are only reminiscent of the dark days of apartheid.

I say it now, without any fear of contradiction, that the owners and management of the Erindi Private Game Reserve have been allowed to get away with murder by the SWAPO government because of the failure of your ministry in ensuring that the labour laws of this country are abided to.

Allow me to outline just but a few of the exploitative instruments that the Management of the Erindi Private Game Reserve has employed against its workers:

- a) Staff are forced to sign warning letters based on hearsay allegations and rumours, and are continuously been subjected to threats by the HR Manager, one Jolene Jacobs.
- b) There is a pervasive culture of racism within the institution being peddled by the manager of the Game Reserve, Paul Joubert. There are complaints from staff that Mr. Joubert uses tribal undertones and connotations to address internal disputes within the workplace by delineating issues as “white” and “black”.
- c) Even more shocking is that the Erindi Private Game Reserve practices racial segregation by not allowing white staff to interact with their black counterparts, even in terms of facilities. For example, black employees are not allowed to sit and eat at the restaurant and make use of a number of other facilities.
- d) We have also uncovered that the management of the Erindi Private Game Reserve does not have private transport to any black employee who becomes ill or collapses during working hours. This becomes the responsibility of other black employees, who have to use their own vehicles to transport sick employees to and from health care facilities as opposed to their white counterparts.

- e) There are further allegations that some employees at the institution have been brutally tortured by the management. In one case, an employee relayed to us that he was once brutally beaten and tied to a tree by the management. He was lucky not to have been eaten by lions, and survived. However, the scars of that ordeal continue to have a major psychological and emotional toll on his life.

These are just but a few of the exploitative instruments being sanctioned against the employees of the Erindi Private Game Reserve by the management of the institution. The status quo cannot be allowed to continue unabated.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Now that the PDM has brought this issue under your attention, can the Hon. Minister assure this August House that the plight of the employees of the Erindi Private Game Reserve will be looked into with the speed and urgency it deserves, and that the unfairly dismissed employees will be reinstated?
2. Secondly, there seems to be a pervasive culture of non-compliance with the Labour Law transpiring in a lot of private businesses in Namibia. This non-compliance often continues unabated without the knowledge of the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation. Is the Directorate of Labour Services through the Labour Inspectorate doing enough in terms of fulfilling its mandate of conducting periodical workplace inspections at private businesses like the Erindi Private Game Reserve?
3. If not, what are the impediments facing the Labour Inspectorate in terms of fulfilling its mandate outlined in the Labour Act 11 of 2007? And can the workers of this country continue to entrust the Labour Inspectorate to protect them from the grave exploitation similar to what we witnessed at the Erindi Private Game Reserve?
4. Lastly, if the Labour Inspectorate does uncover that there has been serious violations of the Labour Law at the Erindi Private Game Reserve, can the Hon. Minister take this House and the workers of this country into confidence and assure us that the owners and management of the establishment will be dealt with accordingly?

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#### **Question 9 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Mukwiilongo (NEFF) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

1. Minister, Namibians tax revenue is meant to benefit Namibians. State hospitals are failing to effectively manage with their pharmacies; there are not enough medicines in state hospitals. Can the Minister explain to this House as what transpires to the lack of medicines in state hospitals? Does it mean government can only afford to buy paracetamol? Why private pharmacies do have everything patients may need? Who are the owners of private pharmacies in Namibia? All patients nowadays are referred to private pharmacies to buy medicine, how do you feel about this?
2. Minister, state hospitals are dirty. Why do you have cleaners? Why do you pay them? Hospitals are falling apart, renovations is needed to easily manage the health conditions around hospital. The issue of recruiting foreigners



whereas our graduates are on the streets is worrying some. When will you turn your eye on our own graduates to run and control the affairs of our state hospital?

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**Question 10 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Martin (PDM) asked the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs:

There have been numerous complains of discriminatory promotion against female soldiers and members attached at the other two bases other than at the Headquarter of the Navy Army Base. The allegation is that most promotions in the Navy are only reserved for members based at the Headquarter as opposed to those attached to the other two Bases. It has also been observed that the ratio of gender promotion taking place in Navy mainly favours male soldiers over their female counterparts.

What is even more concerning are the serious allegations that promotions with in the Navy are being influenced by sexual favours between lower ranking female officers and higher ranking officials, leading to incidences whereby some officials are promoted to more than three ranks within the space a single year.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Can the Minister confirm or deny these allegations?
  2. Can the Minister furthermore outline to this august House the criteria on which promotion is based in the Navy?
  3. Thirdly, can the Minister furnish this House with the promotion statistics in the Navy for the last five consecutive years?
  4. Lastly, is the Minister aware that promotions in the Navy are being influenced by other factors apart from merit? What will be your immediate intervention in this regard?
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**Question 11 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Martin (PDM) asked the Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service:

The Deputy Minister in your Ministry, Hon. Emma Kantema-Gaomas undertook what her office termed a “fact finding mission” to Cameroon during the recently concluded African Cup of Nations (AFCON). According to reports, the Deputy Minister was accompanied by the Executive Director in the Ministry of Sports, Youth and National Service, the Chief Administer of the Namibia Sports Commission as well as other senior officials in the ministry. It is reported that the expedition costed around N\$500 000.

However, in a surprising turn of events, the Ministry through a letter sent to The Namibian Newspaper dated 3 February 2022, stated that the Ministry had not “*sent any of its employees to Cameroon and has no plans to do so in the future*”.

This response by the Ministry is very concerning. When one interprets that response on face value, it becomes very clear that there are fundamental problems with in the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, and these contradictions are the ones directly contributing to the fracas that we have been witnessing in our sports fraternity.

That response also supports the narrative that has been doing the rounds that there are ongoing power scuffles and a breakdown in communication between the Minister and the Deputy Minister in the Ministry, which should be of fundamental concern to all of us.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Who authorized the trip?
2. From which vote from the Ministry's budget was the trip paid for?
3. Can the Minister clarify the confusion surrounding the "fact finding" expedition that was undertaken by her Deputy, and can the Minister further shed light as to why the Deputy Minister undertook this fact finding expedition without the approval of the Ministry?
4. Last but not least, can the Minister take this August House into confidence by confirming that there is no bad blood between herself and her Deputy that is badly impacting the mandate entrusted upon them in the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service?

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#### **Question 12 (2021-02-15)**

Ms. Hengari (PDM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

WHEREAS the Road Authority is willing to finance such tertiary education/training for the period, from *\*period withheld\** ... with a view that the STUDENTS will be employed by the RA on completion of such training;'

Minister, this is an extract from a contract between the Roads Authority and a number of students. The Road Authority had been providing financial assistance for civil engineering students through its bursary program and allegedly failed to honor its contractual obligation leaving many on the streets of unemployment.

It is also my understanding that a letter had been written on the same issue from the Namibian Society of Engineers to a certain Mr. Conrad Lutombi, to no avail.

I thus ask:

1. Can the Minister confirm that indeed the Roads Authority had been offering support through its bursary program but failed to honor its contractual obligation? If so, why not?
2. Does the Minister agree, that with the above extract the Roads Authority created legitimate expectation?
3. When will the RA fulfil its obligation towards these unemployed graduate engineers?
4. What has been done to develop a practical and inclusive graduate program (if any) for graduates to gain practical work experience for eligibility to register as Professional Engineers with the Engineering Council of Namibia?

5. Are there any plans to introduce compulsory secondment of a minimum number of graduate engineers from the RA per project to consultants and contractors involved in projects with the Authority, for practical work experience?
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**Question 13 (2021-02-15)**

Ms. Moongo (PDM) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Health and Social Services revealed that it will not be renewing the contracts of around 197 Tuberculosis (TB) field workers who had been employed as casual workers countrywide due to the unavailability of funding of funding from external funders such as the Global Fund (GF).

Needless to say, this represents a blow to our efforts in fighting the tuberculosis virus, which is still lingers as one of the major health epidemics in modern human history.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Will the Ministry of Health and Social Services consider allocating special funds for the 197 field workers countrywide to ensure that the facilitation of the treatment of TB patients continues unabated until a sustainable funding model is found?
  2. What mechanisms has the Ministry put in place to ensure that patients that relied on the services of field workers to receive their treatment continue to do so as is without defaulting on their treatment in the absence of field workers who made sure that patients receive their treatment promptly?
  3. Lastly, is the Ministry engaging NGO's and other external funders in efforts to ensure that this programme is able to be funded in the short, medium to long term?
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**Question 14 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

It had been reported that, the people in Omusati particularly in the surrounding of Etunda until Ruacana, they did not receive the rain shower until today. The community members are at the close road of demonstrating against a certain individual who have planted a plant called asparagus. Minister, as the head of the entity that represents our people in agriculture, what mechanism have you put in place to make sure people either stop the allegations or if it's true to make sure that the device spoken is being done away with? Does the Government of Namibia still depend on the foreign scientific and ecologist people? When can the Minister send a team of scientific and ecologist to go and scientifically / ecologically prove what the community members are claiming to be true?

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**Question 15 (2021-02-15)**

Ms. Dienda (PDM) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

As expected, the 2022 School Year commenced with the usual challenges and hiccups that have come to define the state of our basic education system since Independence. Firstly, there still remains a critical shortage of space at both our primary and high schools. It is concerning that this phenomenon is an annual occurrence, and it appears as though the Ministry has no plan in place to mitigate the crisis. The Ministry often tries to divert the narrative by blaming the shortage on parents who register their children late at schools, but we know that this is just a scapegoat argument for the Governments's failure to ensure that there is sufficient infrastructure to accommodate the growing number of learners entering our basic education system each year.

Further more, the start of the 2022 School Year has been compounded by the usual contradictions found in the implementation of free education that was introduced in 2013 for primary schools and in 2016 for secondary schools. One would be tasked to critically interrogate whether we do have free education at the basic education level, or whether it simply serves as a smoke screen. Despite there being supposedly free primary and secondary education, parents and learners are being coerced into forking out large amounts of money as 'registration fees', stationery and other miscellaneous expenses being demanded by most schools across the country.

Last but not least, the Ministry still continues to hire unqualified teachers despite the glaring reality that thousands of our education graduates are roaming the streets. There is no longer a shortage of qualified teachers. Hence, it is unjustified and irrational that the ministry continues with its practice of hiring unqualified teachers while the number of qualified and unemployed teaching graduates continues to spiral out of control.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Can the Minister kindly provide this August House with a comprehensive update on the state of enrolment in our primary and secondary schools for the 2022 School Year? How many students have been enrolled and how many are still awaiting placement?
2. Furthermore, will the Minister agree with me that there has not been an effective implementation of free primary and secondary education? If the Minister disagrees, then can the Minister provide this House with an acceptable explanation as to why parents and learners are still being coerced by schools across the country into forking out large amounts of money as 'registration fees', stationery and other miscellaneous expenses at primary and secondary schools across the country?
3. Thirdly, can the Minister please explain to this House why the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture continues to hire unqualified teachers while thousands of teaching graduates roam the streets looking for teaching posts?
4. Can the Minister explain to this august House on the lack of chairs and tables which delayed teaching in some schools in the !Kharas, 2 Kavango and Erongo Regions respectively, just to mention a few.

5. Last but not least, the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture for the period 2017/22 will end this year. Can the Minister please outline to this House whether the Ministry has been able to implement all the key objectives listed in its Strategic Plan 2017/22? If not, can the Minister kindly explain why this is the case, and what challenges the Ministry has encountered in the successful implementation of the key objectives in the Strategic Plan?
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**Question 16 (2021-02-15)**

Ms. Dienda (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance:

As of this year, Namibia owes around N\$1 ,9 billion to China in both concessional and interest free loans. This rising debt seems to be of no concern to the Namibian Government, and Government has in fact vowed to keep seeking assistance from China through loans and other interventions.

During a telephone call with Chinese President Xi Jinping in April 2020, President Hage Geingob welcomed Chinese loans, and was quoted saying that “substantial in vestments, increased grants and favourable loan assistance from our all-weather friend China will be crucial and most welcome to complement our ongoing internal efforts, to help revive the growth of our economy and save expected massive employment loses”. President Geingob’s words during that telephonic interview clearly illustrates that Government has no intention to curb the borrowing from China. In fact, we can expect more borrowing within the medium to long term.

This consistent trend of borrowing from China adopted by Government should be a concern to each and every Namibian. There are sufficient examples on the African continent which demonstrate the unsustainable nature of Chinese borrowing. A number of countries on the African continent have found themselves in very precarious positions when they defaulted on their sovereign debt to China. For example, countries such as Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria and Kenya have made to make numerous concessions and adjustments to their loan agreements with China after defaulting, which serves as the perfect warning for the Namibian Government that continuous borrowing from China is not sustainable in the long term.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Is the Minister in agreement with the Head of State that Namibia should keep borrowing unabated from the Chinese Government?
  2. Is the Minister confident that the Namibian Government will be able to honour all its financial obligations to the Chinese Government without defaulting?
  3. Last but not least, the Minister prides himself in upholding the values of transparency and accountability. Therefore, can the Minister take this House into his confidence and provide us with all the loan agreements entered into between Namibia and China?
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**Question 17 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

It is common cause that Government avails at least one tractor per constituency to subsidise communal, resettlement and affirmative action loan scheme farmers for horticulture farming. Even with this intervention, the significant majority of farmers are still not able to afford the high cost of renting government and private tractors for ploughing.

Farmers are paying on average N\$350 for government tractors, and N\$950 per hour to hire private tractors. Therefore, the majority of horticultural farmers have since resorted to going to conventional methods of ploughing using cattle and other traditional tools.

This status quo is regressive to the developmental targets that we have set for ourselves in terms of agricultural mechanization and modernization, and the objectives we have earmarked for ourselves to being a food secure nation in terms of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. Are there any interventions within the short to medium term to ensure that the Ministry does increase the rate of tractors available to communal, resettlement and affirmative action loan scheme farmers for Horticulture farming in all 121 constituencies in the country?
2. Apart from making provisions for tractors, what other interventions has the Ministry undertaken to ensure agricultural mechanization and modernization for our communal, resettlement and affirmative loan scheme farmers in the short, medium to long term to ensure increased production and food security?
3. Lastly, does the Minister agree that the current assistance being rendered to farmers is regressive, and does not complement our targets of being a food secure nation?

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**Question 18 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Smit (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance:

Way back in 2011 a development plan called the Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment and Economic Growth (TIPEEG for short) was introduced as the saviour of Namibia. This programme was expected to create 104 000 jobs, while former Minister of Finance, Calle Schlettwein said in 2016 that he did not regret spending N\$14 billion on Tipeeg at that stage. It is now 2022 and Namibia's unemployment rate stands at something like 46%, while the economy is on its knees and we are all aware of the influence of Covid- 19 in the recent past.

I thus ask:

1. Has Tipeeg ended and if so, when?
2. How much has the government spent on Tipeeg at this time?

3. Will you provide this august House with a complete audit of Tipeeg to date, so that the Namibian public can see exactly what benefits or otherwise, this ambitious programme produced for the tax payers' money?
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**Question 19 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Smit (PDM) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

Now that the results for the 5000 learners who wrote the NSSCAS exams have been released, many questions remain regarding this controversial system.

I thus ask:

1. Can the Minister tell this august House exactly how many of the 5 000 learners who wrote the AS exams achieved the required result in the 4 subjects that would allow them access to a tertiary institution outside Namibia?
  2. Will those learners who have had their hopes dashed of studying outside Namibia be able to register at Namco! in 2022 in order to repeat the subjects they failed to pass at the required level as set out in question 1?
  3. Does Namcol have the necessary teachers and study materials to offer subjects at AS level?
  4. Can the Minister explain to this august House why replacing the old higher grade with this AS system was a good idea?
  5. Was introducing the AS system a disguised way of forcing more Namibian learners to study locally?
  6. Is it true that Government schools did not inform grade 10 and 11 learners to choose their subjects to satisfy the requirements of tertiary institutions as far as their direction of further study was concerned, i.e. science subjects for a medical field etc.
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**Question 20 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Kavekatora (RDP) asked the Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs:

Regarding the debate this august House concluded last year on the draft Joint Declaration between the Republic of Namibia and the Federal Republic of Germany. In his replying statement, the Minister made a remark to say that he has no doubt that our presentations as parliamentarians will be helpful to the Executive in dealing with this matter going forward.

The debate of last year revealed clearly that the Government is eager to endorse the joint declaration disregarding views and opinions expressed both by the opposition parliamentarians and the majority of the affected communities. The only item Government is prepared to open for negotiation is the so-called quantum that is termed as a grant in the Joint declaration.

Hence the following questions:

1. You stated that “in respect of pillar 1 and 2 namely acknowledgement of genocide and proposed tendering of an apology a significant progress has undeniably been made in the negotiation process”.
  - a) Does it mean the Executive is still going to negotiate on these two pillars and build on the so-called progress made?
  - b) What items are still outstanding that could lead to the logical conclusion of these two pillars?
2. How does your government interpret the statement by the German Government as stated in paragraph 10 of the joint declaration that says “the German government acknowledges that the atrocities committed during periods of the colonial war, culminated in events that, from today’s perspective, would be called genocide”
3. You mention in your statement that some members of the affected communities decided not to be part of government process presumably because at that point some members preferred to address the matter through the then ongoing litigation in New York. That statement is very economical with the truth. But be that as it may, why do you want the affected communities to be part of the government negotiation team, while resolutions of the 2006 motion call for two parties from the Namibian side namely the affected communities and the Namibian government as an interested party in any discussions between its nationals and the German Government.
4. In your statement you indicated that the Namibian Government raised issues with Germany particularly on the quantum and the disbursement period. What is the link between reparation as per the 2006 motion and a grant as expressed in the joint declaration?
5. The affected communities arrived at a realistic and quantifiable figure of between N\$11 to N\$13 trillion, while your government and Germany suggested a baseless grant of N\$ 18 billion over 30 years.
  - a) Does your Government have a realistic quantifiable figure different from the ones I mentioned above that will form the basis for future negotiations with Germany?
  - b) How can you convince anybody that Germany acknowledged to have committed genocide if both your government and theirs failed to call the disbursements reparations but rather opted to call it a grant?
6. Please explain in detail why the government in your opinion is not obliged to bring this matter to the National Assembly prior to the signing of the Joint Declaration while this matter originated from the Nation Assembly?
7. You cautioned us and the affected communities that one must be alive to the fact that because of various political and economic dynamics it could be a serious mistake for Namibia to naively abandon the negotiation process all together. Do you have a contingency plan should these negotiation fail or are you just a recipient of what Germany offers?



8. Is the Government prepared to host a genocide conference to obtain views from the affected communities and their leaders before the next round of negotiations to iron out some outstanding matters?

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**Question 21 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Van Wyk (PDM) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water & Land Reform:

Four families under the leadership of Sebulon Uiseb are camping with their live stock along the C23 to Dordabis for the past (8) eight months. These families for the past years applied to be resettled but without any success.

They initially applied to be resettled at Welgemoed. It is however, alleged that the former Minister resettled his relatives at Welgemoed instead, despite the request and application by these families to be settled there. They were than requested to leave the area. They then moved to farm Doornboom, No. 316 in the Hardap Region and again applied to be resettled there. They stayed at Doornboom for two years before someone else was resettled there which resulted in their subsequent eviction.

After several months they moved to farm Tsa-tsaxas, No. 87, near Marulaboom after consultation with the Khomanin Traditional Authority. They were however again evicted from there as the farm apparently is used by the owners of farm Maroelaboom and has since then been camping along the C23 to Dordabis. They were requested by Roads Authority recently to vacate the place they currently occupy and was requested to move to Nauaspoort. They however indicated that that farm is already overcrowded as many people were moved there as a temporary solution.

They further informed your Ministry that farm Andstadt No. A & B is currently vacant as the people resettled there initially is no more interested in fanning. It is further alleged that form Andstadt No. A & B is under sublease with the consent of your Ministry. These families also recently applied to be resettled on vacant government farms, either in the Hochfeld area or on farm Osombahe in the Omaheke Region.

I shall therefore ask the following:

1. Why is it that your Ministry after so many requests fail to attend to these applicants as they apparently start applying for resettlement since 2012?
2. Why is it so difficult for your Ministry to at least provide these applicants with a place as a temporary solution whilst you HOPEFULLY attend to their requests and applications for resettlement?
3. Can you brief this august House on the alleged favouritism which resulted in the resettlement of relatives of the former Minister Nmuseb on farm Welgemoed?
4. What is the status orf farm Tsa-tsaxas, No. 87, which belongs to an absentee foreign landlord?
5. With regard to claims that farm Nauspoort is overcrowded, would you please brief this House on the situation at the said form?

6. Would you also brief the House on the situation at Farm Andstadt A & B and provide reasons as to why your Ministry allow the sublease of resettlement forms?
7. Would you confirm the receipt of applications for resettlement by Mr. Sebulon Uiseb, Wilfried Kei-nub Gert Kei-nub and Anton Goagoseb for resettlement in the Hochfeld area and farm Osombuhe in the Omaheke Region, and also inform us on the status with regard to the allocation of these forms?

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**Question 22 (2021-02-16)**

Ms. Witboot (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

A motion was tabled in Parliament in 2017 on the Use and Accessibility of Hookah pipe, or well known as Hubbly Bubbly a smoking device/pipe to be banned in Namibia.

This motion received good support from this august House.

Informal evidence suggests that smoking Hubbly Bubbly or “Hookah Pipe “as it is sometimes referred to, is 10x more damaging to the lungs, than smoking cigarettes. A medical research has found that hubbly bubbly is a major contributor in the transmission of diseases such as

- tuberculosis,
- viral hepatitis and
- oral herpes infections, through the sharing of the same mouth piece.

This device also has particular serious consequences on two (2) vital, organs of the body namely, the lungs and the heart which may result to

- Lung cancer
- Cancer of the food pipe
- Low birth weight
- Asthma attacks and
- Pneumonia, inflammation of the air space in the lungs.

According to the Child Offender Programme within the Ministry of Gender Equality and Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, children start as young as 13 years old with Hubbly Bubbly. Thereafter they then move to “dagga” or start smoking cigarettes. So smoking Hubbly Bubbly is the entry gates to dagga etc.

Hubbly Bubbly is becoming a problem amongst our youth, who smoke this, even at times adding other drugs to it, such as cannabis and other substances.

The youth smoke Hubbly Bubbly even at school. One would find groups of learners, sharing the same pipe. The sharing of the pipe is dangerously unhygienic and could have numerous consequences as mentioned already.

It is worrisome as this is not only detrimental to their health) but there is a concern pertaining, to the possible spread of diseases, especially now during the Covid-19 pandemic.

With that said, I would like to know, following the proposal of having “Hubbly Bubbly” banned in Namibia.

1. How far is the Ministry of Health and Social Services, in regards to assisting us with a comprehensive research on the health risks of smoking “Hubbly Bubbly”, so that Parliament can come up with a law to ban Hubbly Bubbly in the country and by so doing saving our youth and the nation from a very deadly and addictive substance.
2. What are the current regulations around the use of Hubbly Bubbly in Namibia? Is there a termination and management strategy put in place to oversee the comprehension of such regulation?
3. Hubbly Bubbly has been identified as more harmful than cigarettes. Hubbly bubbly is currently being sold to under aged youth, can this be regulated the same way as the sale of cigarette is regulated.

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**Question 23 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Mwilima (PDM) shall ask the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

The Zambezi region has vast fertile land, and a very good rainfall pattern. It has always been a potential for agricultural production. It is therefore important to initiate and encourage the development of irrigation based on agronomic production within the agro-industry in Namibia with the aim of achieving various economic objectives such as job creation and food security.

Five years ago, the traditional authorities in the Zambezi region had availed 19 600 hectares of land for possible green schemes. These proposed schemes are:

1. Singalamwe area with 5000 hectares
2. Muyako area with 5000 hectares
3. Liselo area with 1699 hectare and;
4. Kongola area with 8000 hectares

With the current economic crisis, disasters and outbreaks such as Covid-19, it remains imperative and in the best interest of Namibia to be reliant in the agricultural sector in efforts to ensure food security and sustainability.

I thus ask the Minister:

1. When will your Ministry facilitate the setting up of agricultural schemes on the 19 600 hectares of land availed by the traditional authorities in the Zambezi region?
  2. What is the plan of your Ministry to revive the rest of the existing green schemes across the country which have since become unproductive white hors es while a staggering 26% of the population remains food insecure?
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**Question 24 (2021-02-15)**

Mr. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Mines and Energy:

1. We have policies that are outlined to guide the employment industry. Why do we allow our people to be decolonised after we have achieved our political freedom? Mine workers are being exploited of which their living is equal to every worker at the mines. Workers are underpaid and this has a negative impact on the living of our people. Hon minister, when did you last visit Chinese mines (Swakop Uranium and Langhenrich) here in Namibia? What policy is in place to pay salaries and what is the minimum wage that is paid particularly by the Chinese mining company?
2. The workers at NANDED had been for the past 16-20 year going through a body search screening (X-ray Radiator). Why are the people not accommodated at the old accommodation facilities (ubufrei/3 plant) like they used to be in the past? Are you aware of the health hazard the screening machine (X-ray) is contributing to the health of our people? Do you know that pregnant women at Namdeb don't go to work as the radiation has a negative impact on their health? NAMDEB has cameras everywhere and for no reason the screening should happen each and every day since this will have our people's health compromised. I am sure there should be a statistic as to, how many employees of Namdeb get retrenched because of the Screening process.
3. The mining industry is one among others key sectors that contribute to many lives of our people and this sector should be seriously taken care of. The Minister needs to occasionally oversee not only the work done but also to see the wages of our people. When will the old accommodation facilities be renovated and allow workers to stay there?

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**Question 25 (2021-02-16)**

Mr. Shihumbu (PDM) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

During December recess, McHenry Venaani and myself undertook a working visit trip to the green schemes in the Kavango East.

We observed that worth of billions of Namibian dollars of Government agricultural implements are either broken, expensive machineries are isolated, left in the sun and everything is in total disarray and disorganised.

Regrettably, despite these huge investments in terms of infrastructures of this magnitude, Namibia as a country still cannot generate any source of revenue streams into government coffer and we can only deduce that Government through your Ministry is not reliable at all and cannot be trusted with multimillion dollars' properties.

Your Ministry procured a fleet of Agriale tractors from Brazil some 9 years ago and most of these tractors are already not in good working condition and their service parts cannot be sourced local here or else were in Africa.

I thus ask:

1. How many Agriale tractors were bought and imported into the country from Brazil?
2. What was the market value including shipment government paid for these tractors?
3. Who in your Ministry sourced for these tractors knowing that service parts will not be found in Namibia or Africa?
4. Why local tractors suppliers who have played a crucial and helped reduce unemployment was disregarded and choose to buy in Brazil?
5. Will you hold responsible for any of your staff members who procured these tractors, spending millions of dollars of Namibian tax payer's money knowing that service parts will not be accessible in Namibia or Africa?
6. What is your position as head of department for these tractors that are idling and doing nothing as a result of minor problems like replacement of clutch and other mechanical parts that can only be found in Brazil?

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**Question 26 (2021-02-17)**

Mr. Muharukua (PDM) asked the Minister of Justice:

“Appropriate strict bail conditions serve, the proper administration of Justice, the constitutional values and the general tenets of allowing an accused out on bail...” Oosthuizen J, held this in case *Gustavo v The State* (CC 06/2021 and CC 07//2021) [2021] NAHCMD 591 (15 December 2021)

He held this after dissecting the court's discretion in terms of Section 61 of the CPA 1977, in a very well-reasoned and articulated Judgment where he summed up the real meaning of 61 and 60 public interest consideration in bail matters.

In his own words ‘to serve as an incentive to acquire easy monitoring capability as soon as possible in the interest of the proper administration of justice, the state is then allowed to: “affix a personal GPS device to the wrist and ankle of the accused in order to acquire the ability to monitor the movement of the accused 24/7 (at all hours), alternatively[...] affix an advanced GPS device to the vehicle(s) which the accused is going to use while on bail, and accused is obliged to identify such vehicles.

As a result of the foregoing, kindly provide the answers to the infra:

1. Has the state affixed any of the personal GPS device as suggested, at par 42.14 of the cited bail ruling?
2. If so, who is charged with monitoring the accused at ‘all hours’ 24/7, the state security services or a private entity?
3. If not, does the state plan to use such personal device on the particular accused person?
4. What is the technology used in such personal devices, and why should we deem the state to have the technical ability to use and monitor such personal device?

5. Further, if not in the affirmative, the court has given an option of alternative GPS device, has this been affixed?
6. If not, why not?

The learned judge holds the view that public interest is guarded best when our constitutional values, and limitations as provided for in the constitution itself and the legislation of the land is zealously upheld and practiced.

7. In light of that the supra how does the state intent to utilize the said 24 / 7 personal GPS device whilst guaranteeing Article 8, 13 and 14 of our constitution?
8. Should this august house anticipate constitutional amendments, or bill of legislation to cater for the protections supra?

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**Question 27 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Van Wyk (PDM) asked the Minister of Mines and Energy:

It has been reported that Recon Africa is in the process to acquire 5% of the shares Government held through Namcor in its joined operation with Recon Africa.

It is further reported that consultations to conclude this deal are in an advanced stage.

I shall therefore ask the following:

1. What is the rationale behind selling off resources of the Namibian nation to foreign companies?
2. Considering the various allegation against Recon Africa, should we as Namibians assume that the proposed deal is an indication that such complaints are not regarded as relevant in considering Recon Africa's operations in Namibia?
3. Should Namibia and her nation assume, that the selling of natural resources is a new "Government Policy" considering similar actions in some other industries?

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**Question 28 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Van Wyk (PDM) asked the Minister of Mines and Energy:

Maltahohe in the Daweb Constituency of the Hardap Region. a former town now a village, situated close to the Swartrand escarpment is challenged by poor economic growth, a high unemployment rate among the youth and high a poverty rate, notwithstanding untapped natural and mineral resources.

About 14 years ago in 2008 /2009 seismic surveys were conducted by a Croatian oil company in the Maltahohe district, then Gibeon constituency. There was much excitement and hope at the time, that 'oil was found' (or the possibility of oil being found whether then or in the future).

In the New Era newspaper article of 08 November 2009, it was reported as follows and I quote: “Huge amounts of potential oil-bearing substrate have been found in the Maltahohe district, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Joseph Iita, told New Era yesterday’ (07 November 2009).

“A seismic survey identified a source rock believed to contain about 200 million barrels of oil, a discovery if proven right, will see Namibia featuring among the oil producing countries of the world. This is an offshore discovery in the Mariental area of the Hardap Region. Seismographic measurements over an area of approximately 6 400 square kilometres (Zaris Block) started end of 2007 and by March 2008, there were rumours of oil find in that area.

Mr. Iita said it is too early to determine how successful the dig for oil in the area will be by the Croatia oil exploring company INA Industrija Nafta. He was also confident this time Namibia could actually have oil flowing in the near future. Drilling is penciled for early 2010 depending on the availability of a drilling rig.

The Permanent Secretary says it is time for Namibia to invest in data collection in fields such as these. as that would increase the country’s chances of knowing where there is potential for oil and gas deposits”

Another article in The Namibian newspaper dated 14 March 2011 titled “Oil and gas explorers expected back – then the Minister Katali reported as follows and I quote: “Croatian company INA Industrija up its exploration license for gas and oil in the Maltahohe area on November IO last year (2010) when it failed to find partners to fund a drilling exercise.

I shall therefore ask the following

1. Can the Minister confirm that the oil exploration indeed took place during that period as reported in the newspapers?
  2. If yes, provide this august House with the main findings of this important exploration?
  3. From the Ministry’s perspective, what is the way forward and is there still hope for possible successful oil exploration in the (Zaris Block)?
  4. What did the Ministry of Mines and Energy do since then, to encourage potential investors to restart or continue with oil exploration or drilling in the Maltahohe area?
  5. Furthermore, in general, what is the Ministry’s communication and consultation policy with regional and local authorities, and leadership, including community-based and traditional leadership to ensure that communities; and the people are beneficiaries of mineral and natural resources?.
  6. Could you inform this august House as to what efforts were made and what measures were implemented, if any to ensure proper data collection that would increase the country’s chances of identifying places of potential oil and gas deposits?”
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**Question 29 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Kaundenge (NUDO) asked the Minister of Sport, Youth And National Service:

What is the status of the failed and postponed Representative Council meeting of the National Youth Council? My understanding is that the RC meeting should take place once a year as per the National Youth Council Act No. 3 of 2009 particularly section 11 sub-section 1, but I have it on good record that there was no ordinary session for the last two years. I was broadly informed that the RC meeting which was to take place in December 2021 tax payers money closed to N\$ 500 000 was put at waste as only less than 10 people tested positive and the RC Meeting couldn't proceed, I understand that your Ministry was called by delegates seeking your intervention to ensure that tax payers money is not put into waste but for the meeting to processed as planned. There were provisions made for those who tested positive to attend the RC virtually but the NYC Board ignored.

1. I have it on good record that a letter dated the 8th of February was written to you by Mr. Nguvauva, a head of one of the Affiliates, requesting you to step in, but response to that is still to come from you, when do you intend to engage him?
2. When will the postponed RC reconvene as it was agreed to take place in February but nothing happened?
3. How does the board and the Executive Chairperson account in absentia of RC. In actual fact, to whom do they account? How is it possible, under your watchful eyes as the line Minister that NYC is operating without an Accountant for more than a year now? Are you aware of that?
4. Is there check and balance in this institution? Under whose instructions does the NYC Board operate for the past two years?

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**Question 30 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Shuumbwa (APP) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

I rise to voice my concern of Eyambithidho Junior Primary School located in the Oshikoto Region (Iiyamini Village) that has been closed in 2020.

Some of the learners who were enrolled at this school are currently at home now and do not attend school because the next nearest school is 20km from the village and transport is a problem.

1. Is the Ministry of Education aware of this matter and if yes, what is the Ministry's plan with the school?
  2. Did the Ministry of Education consider any possible ways for example: Hostel accommodation and transport for those learners that are currently based at home?
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**Question 31 (2022-02-22)**

Ms. Hengari ( PDM) asked the Minister of Finance:

Several countries have over the years instituted directed lending programmes or policy-based lending to assist SMEs with financing. India, for example has a Priority Sector Lending programme that directs the public and private banks to earmark 40% of their net credit to sectors like the SME sector. The Philippines have a mandatory requirement for banks to set aside 8% and at least 2% of their total portfolios for SME loans. Pakistan, Thailand amongst others established dedicated SME banks. These efforts towards reducing supply side constraints for SME lending, involved the formation of special development funds or banks for SMEs and also cooperation with commercial banks through directed sector lending policies.

In 2019, Cabinet approved the establishment and operationalisation of a skills-based lending facility for the youth that would ensure access to affordable finance for potential and emerging entrepreneurs. The Ministry of Finance was directed to oversee the facility, while the Development Bank of Namibia administers it.

The following are the requirements for skills-based finance for Young Artisans:

- Certified copy of ID/passport (not more than 3 months old)
- Proof of residence (municipal bills, rental agreement, etc)
- Proof of income (6 months' bank statement bank stamped)
- Certified copy of most recent NQF qualification
- Proof of registration of CC or sole proprietorship
- If ANY: Marriage Certificate or divorce certificate
- Proof of at least 6 months' employment / experience after the most recent NQF qualification
- Verifiable letters of reference
- Quotations for assets / vehicles / stock to be financed
- Business plan
- Projected cash flow statement for the duration of the new loan for new business (minimum 36 months)
- Good standing certificate from SSC
- Good standing certificate from the Ministry of Finance
- Income Tax Registration Certificate
- Certificate of Fitness from the Municipality/Councils

- Statement of Personal Assets and Liabilities
- CV
- If ANY: Copy of life insurance policy
- \*If ANY: Copy of short-term insurance policy

I thus ask:

1. When will the Bank revisit this tall orders to make it easier for young people to access this facility?
2. Who is the target market for this particular facility?
3. At a time when most artisans are young and unemployed, why is job experience a requirement to qualify for this loan?
4. Of the 121 youth owned rural enterprises, how many have been established and how many have developed bankable proposals for funding and operationalization?
5. Is it true that only 10% of women have been able to access funding through DBN this far, is your Ministry satisfied with this rate? If not, what mechanisms have you put in place to ensure more women, youth and those living with special needs access this facilities?
6. In terms of employment created from loans approved, are there any mechanisms to ensure the authenticity of information provided by lenders, what are those?
7. Apart from support from GIZ, what is Government's contribution to the Mentoring and Coaching program which is expected to benefit at least 200 SMEs?
8. Does Minister believe in building rural economies? What do you think the relationship of the Development Bank of Namibia and the informal traders/sector should look like in the medium-to-long term?

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**Question 32 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

The percentage scored by grade 10 and 11 should not make you feel you are doing effective work. The Senior Secondary phase in which grade 10-11 were introduced or extended to the combined schools in the rural areas was placed there without proper preparations for education facilities such as hostels, laboratories, furniture, text books, and permanent classrooms in some areas without qualified teachers. Learners have no alternatives but to squatter at nearby cuca shops renting behind shebeens. In regions like Ohangwena and Omusati the directorates of education are renting privately owned buildings instead of catering for the learners population. Pregnancies among learners and drugs usages are increasing among learners due to vulnerability and levels of poverty-stricken, and thus I ask:

1. How many schools offering grade 10-11 without hostels?
  2. When will the regions stop extending grade 10-11 to unplanned combined schools?
  3. Can the Minister deny or agree that the condition of our schools produces unproductive and less market competitive products?
  4. Whereas you are empowering your connected people, our children are increasingly becoming and subjected to all types of exploitations (labour and sexual).
  5. When people challenge your weak leadership, it does not mean defending yourselves will solve the school problem, this is the time you should double your efforts and produce better as that is our main goal we are expected to achieve.
  6. When will you put an end to unqualified teachers and employ the qualified Namibian teachers?
  7. What is your take on our qualified Namibian teachers, whereas you have employed a higher number of foreigners?
  8. When do you regard a Namibian qualified teacher, a Namibian qualified teacher? Is it when they are roaming in the streets or what is your take on this?
  9. How many qualified Namibian teachers are on the street as of today?
  10. What is your Ministry producing for the future? Is it quantity or quality?
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**Question 33 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Mukwilongo (NEFF) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

We have noticed with great concern the town of Rundu going to worse. This town is one of the towns with a higher population and economic activities and this town could advance the economic position of our people. Rundu is an economic hub of both Kavango west and East, and thus I ask:

1. When will this town be shaped as a town, Rundu town is dirty and there are no roads as other towns. When will we see Rundu town streets roads being tyred?
  2. What do you say about the current picture of Rundu as a Minister that is responsible?
  3. What is your involvement in the squabbles that had been going on in this town or did you resolve the matter?
  4. Water rates in Rundu town should be regulated as water is from within and it should be cheap for the people to be able to afford.
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**Question 34 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Isaaks (LMP) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform:

The Poultry Value Chain Development scheme (PVCDS) is an initiative of the MAWLR in line with the Fifth National Development Plan, and Ministry's strategic Plan to empower the least privileged communities and reduce disparity in income.

The overall objective is to provide poultry producers with subsidized inputs and capacity building along the value chain for income generation, employment creation in order to improve their socio economic situation.

Thus the following questions.

1. Was the subsidy successfully implemented in all 14 Regions?
2. How many producers benefitted from the previously disadvantaged communities?
3. Appointment regional focal person in the //Kharas, how was that done in terms of appropriate criteria, previously disadvantaged producers? //Kharas Region hardly absorbs 30 percent of the total budget of PVCDS.
4. Did the producers receive any training on poultry production and marketing?
5. Do these producers receive any project support and monitoring?

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**Question 35 (2022-02-22)**

Mr. Shihumbu (PDM) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation:

Last year when I took a stand here in this chamber to support your motion on the Ratification of the two International Labour Organization Conventions, I raised several issues regarding how your Ministry is failing to administer legislation that govern your Ministry, after which I called upon your office to advance policies of labour relations that are conducive to economic growth, commercial stability and labour productivity which would then promote an orderly system of free collective bargaining by implementing all government regulations to improve wages and conditions of employment, enforcing minimum basic conditions of service for all employees, ensuring the health, safety and welfare of employees at work, as well as prohibiting, preventing and eliminating the abuse of child labour in Namibia.

To that end, one of the key factors I premised my argument was the lack of capacity at your Ministry to effectively respond to the growing legal needs in the labour markets. I averred that your regional offices around the country are sitting with tens of thousands of labour disputes and deliberations waiting for execution, and nothing is being done to address this backlog of labour cases. I also lamented that too often judgments granted in favour of applicants in those tribunals do not realize their full execution for various administrative and procedural reasons, including lack of personnel.

It is a pity that you do not as a Minister or through your representatives visit your offices to familiarize yourself with the situation faced by our people to determine whether the current laws regulating labour markets are enforced by your officials when complaints arise or not.

It is because of a lack of capacity and your unwillingness to enforce labour laws that regulate the labour markets that some private companies have regarded your Ministry as a toothless dog and found perfect opportunities to further exploit Namibian workers.

These defiant companies are now operating without any regards or whatsoever according to law, and are now disregarding trade unions that are lawfully established in terms of section 53 and 57 of the Labour Act of 2007 that ought to protect the interest of employees in Namibia.

Now I ask:

1. Are you aware that the office of the Labour Commissioner under your Ministry has lost relevance and workers have lost trust in it as a result of its inability to handle labour disputes in a reasonable period and to the satisfaction of powerless employees who find themselves at the receiving end of merciless capitalist employers?
  2. If you are aware, what explanation can you give to this chamber of honourable lawmakers as to why the office of Labour Commissioner takes very long to finalize cases which are being referred there? Don't you think that employers have identified this weakness and are exploiting this loophole and in the process frustrating our people?
  3. As the Minister of labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation, how do you justify the situation whereby Namibian trade unions have lost confidence in your Ministry where industrial relations is concerned, with this state of affairs mostly manifesting during your tenure as Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation?
  4. I have learned that truck drivers across the country, after their employers have for quite long shown complete disregard and disrespect for their rights as spelled out in the Labour Act, are threatening a NATIONAL STRIKE. What is your intervention as the custodian of Labour Laws in order to avert this impending calamity?
  5. As Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation, don't you think that it is your Ministry's mandate to oversee and ensure that there's conducive working environment for all employees in this country, including those in the trucking sector?
  6. Irrespective of how the threat is coming, the National Strike of all Trucks that transport goods within the country and across our borders is something which Namibia as a country cannot afford to have during this time when the economy is trying to recovery from the hard knocks of Covid-19. Can you put this honourable house in confidence that you will for the first time intervene and bring the unions and other stakeholders to the table and resolve whatever matter is there?
  7. When people see that the labour laws are not respected by others, anarchy and all sorts of lawlessness actions kick in; and so, do you want to see what happens in South Africa from time to time also to start happening in Namibia before reality kicks in?
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