

Thursday, 18 September 2025

No. 9 - 2025

## **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

# **QUESTIONS**

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

14111419	SIEK: QUESTION NO
1.	Prime Minister
2.	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy 20, 64, 77, 111
3.	Minister of Work and Transport 3, 4, 11, 28, 63, 69, 74, 82, 114, 125, 129, 133
4.	Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security 18, 68, 84, 91, 103, 105,
5.	Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs
6.	Minister of International Relations and Trade
7.	Minister of Finance
8.	Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture 53, 75, 78, 90, 98,
9.	Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare
10.	Minister of Health and Social Services 49, 52, 72, 85, 87, 93, 97, 113, 120, 122
11.	Minister of Justice and Labour Relations 29, 48, 56, 57, 58, 66, 70, 99, 104, 138,
12.	Minister of Urban and Rural Development 24, 31, 45, 50, 59, 76, 88, 94, 101, 118,

- 14. Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform ...... 54, 71, 81, 89, 112
- 15. Minister of Information and Communication Technology ... 51, 62, 83, 117, 123, 132

#### Question 3 (2025-03-25)

Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

In recent months, there has been a noticeable increase in the sightings of the number of luxury government vehicles, such as Toyota Prados, for instance, being seen in official government use. This trend has raised questions regarding the government's procurement policies for official vehicles, especially in the context of ongoing fiscal constraints and the need for prudent public expenditure. Given this context, it is imperative to seek clarification on the government's policy regarding the acquisition of official vehicles and to ascertain whether recent purchases, should there have been any, align with principles of fiscal responsibility and transparency.

#### I therefore ask the Minister:

- 1. Can the Minister clarify the official policy governing the procurement of government vehicles?
- 2. Has the government recently procured new vehicles for official use, and if so, could the Minister provide details regarding the types and number of vehicles purchased?
- 3. What has been the total expenditure incurred by the government in acquiring these vehicles, and under which budgetary allocation were these funds sourced?
- 4. What measures, if any, are in place to ensure that government vehicle procurement is conducted in a cost-effective and transparent manner, in line with the principles of fiscal prudence and accountability?

### **Question 4 (2025-03-25)**

Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

The Popular Democratic Movement (PDM) has consistently advocated and championed the clarion call for the establishment of a comprehensive government asset register as a key measure to enhance transparent governance, accountability, and the prudent management of public resources. The importance of such a register cannot be overstated, as it would provide a consolidated record of the government's movable and immovable assets, enabling more effective oversight and ensuring the optimal utilization of State resources.

Therefore I ask the Minister the following:

1. Could the Honourable Minister provide a comprehensive report of the total number and value of movable and immovable assets currently owned by the government?

- 2. Is there presently a centralized or standardized system for tracking governmentowned assets, and if so, could the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of these assets by category, location, and purpose?
- 3. Given the longstanding calls for the establishment of a formal government asset register, does the Ministry have plans to initiate or implement such a register? If so, could the Minister outline the proposed timeline and key milestones for its development and completion?
- 4. Could the Minister clarify the process followed when acquiring new assets or disposing of existing ones, and how these transactions are documented in the absence of a centralised record?
- 5. In the absence of this formalised register, how does the government accurately assess the value and depreciation of its assets, particularly immovable assets such as land and buildings?
- 6. In the absence of a current asset register, what measures does the government employ to monitor and account for its assets, and how does your Ministry ensure that these processes align with standard best practices in the realm of public financial management?

#### Question 11 (2025-03-27)

Hon. Mbinge-Tjeundo (PDM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

It is important for the Namibian government to avoid high rent costs for office space to ensure the efficient use of public funds, financial sustainability, and better service delivery. The Namibian government has incurred significant expenses on office space rentals in recent years with a notable example being the former Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, where the government spent around N\$11 million over the past 10 months to rent an office building in Windhoek without using it.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Why does the government opt to rent office spaces from private companies instead of using or constructing its own buildings?
- 2. What is the total annual expenditure on rented office spaces, and how does this compare to the cost of constructing government-owned offices?
- 3. Are these rental agreements of office space awarded through a competitive bidding process?
- 4. What measures are in place to ensure that the government is not overpaying for rental spaces compared to market rates?
- 5. Why are some government Ministries and Agencies paying significantly higher rent than private companies for similar office spaces?
- 6. Has the government considered utilizing underutilized or abandoned state owned buildings instead of renting?

- 7. Is there a plan to renegotiate existing rental agreements to obtain better/cheaper rental fees?
- 8. Share with us a list of all Ministries, Offices and Agencies that currently rent office space from private companies and what are the monthly rental fees?

#### Question 18 (2025-04-15)

Hon. Mootu (LPM) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

Hon. Minister recently we have seen reports of Ingrid Maasdorp a 5-year-old from Okahandja who was brutally raped and killed in the most gruesome way. She is not the only victim, there are reports of horrific rape and murder cases like that of eight-month-old Simone Rooi, as well as the disappearance of Spencer Nakale in December 2020, among many others.

Hon Minister these acts are not isolated incidents; they are reflection of deeper systemic issues and structural violence that continue to plague our society. They also point to a broader institutional failure to ensure a safe and secure environment for our children. I therefore ask the following:

- 1. What are the specific steps that the Ministry has taken to ensure a thorough and timely investigation into the rape and murder of 5-year-old Ingrid Maasdrop, considering the family's expressed frustration over perceived police inaction?
- 2. Does the Ministry have established protocols for evaluating and acting upon testimonies from child witnesses in criminal investigations, and were these protocols followed in Maasdrop case?
- 3. Recently, Nampol acknowledged their limited progress in solving high-profile murder cases, what measures is the is the Ministry implementing to improve transparency, and keep the public informed about ongoing investigations?
- 4. Considering increasing violence against children, what preventative strategies is the Ministry deploying to enhance child safety, particularly in school environments and public spaces?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 20 (2025-04-16)

Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

The Namibia Industrial Development Agency (NIDA), has invested approximately N\$ l billion in constructing 148 industrial parks and business complexes across Namibia. However, only 118 of these facilities are operational. The remaining 30 are largely inactive, often due to tenants failing to meet rental obligations, which hampers NIDA's ability to maintain and complete these projects. In some cases, these idle facilities have become sites for illicit activities, such as drug use and vandalism.

Additionally, several agro-processing projects under NIDA's management have faced significant challenges. The garment factory in Nkurenkuru, inaugurated in 2022,

remains non-operational due to management inefficiencies and a lack of technical expertise. Similarly, the Ondangwa tannery has been inactive for over a decade, with equipment deteriorating from disuse. The Manyeha Crocodile Leather Processing and Training Centre in Zambezi, constructed in 2014, has been on hold since 2018, and the Biomass project near Otjiwarongo has not commenced due to the departure of its primary investors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These dormant projects have been labeled "white elephants" by lawmakers, who attribute their failure to poor planning, weak policies, and inadequate coordination. For instance, the Biomass project is criticized for lacking proper documentation and inventory, with equipment still sealed in containers without delivery records. Financially, NIDA has faced difficulties, reporting a loss of N\$102 million for the 2024 financial year. Despite an increase in total assets, the agency's liabilities have more than doubled, indicating growing financial strain. This situation raises concerns about NIDA's capacity to manage and complete its projects effectively.

#### I therefore ask the Minister the following:

- 1. Can the Honourable Minister detail the governance structures currently in place to ensure that capital projects under NIDA's purview undergo rigorous feasibility studies and cost-benefit analysis before implementation?
- 2. What mechanisms exist to hold project implementers accountable for non-performance?
- 3. What performance evaluation frameworks are being used to assess the effectiveness and sustainability of agro-processing and industrial initiatives under NIDA?
- 4. Given NIDA's reported operational loss of N\$102 million and its increasing liabi lities, what steps is the Ministry taking to stabilise the agency's financial position and ensure the sustainability of its operations?
- 5. What measures are currently in place to secure dormant or idle infrastructure developed by NIDA? Has the Ministry quantified the cost of vandalism and asset deterioration due to prolonged inactivity?
- 6. What is the Ministry's plan to rehabilitate or repurpose the 30 dormant industrial parks and business units? Can the Minister provide a list of these projects, their current status, and whether any funds have been allocated for their revitalisation in the 2025/26 fiscal year?
- 7. With reference to the Nkurenkuru garment factory, Ondangwa tannery, and Manyeha Crocodile Leather Centre; all of which remain inactive can the Minister explain the root causes of these failures? Were these projects informed by market demand assessments and local value chain analysis?

#### Question 23 (2025-04-16)

Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

It is a cornerstone of good corporate governance, both in Namibia and around the world, that the boards of state-owned enterprises retain the autonomy to appoint executive leadership through transparent, competitive, and merit-based processes. The NamCode (Namibian Code of Corporate Governance), as well as the Public Enterprises Governance Act, explicitly advocate for the minimisation of political interference in SOE governance, especially in the appointment of chief executives.

However, recent developments at the Meat Corporation of Namibia (MeatCo) suggest a concerning departure from these principles and tenets of corporate governance. The Cabinet's decision to overturn the interim board's resolution not to renew the contract of former CEO, Mr. Mwilima Mushokabanji, followed by a directive from the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform to suspend the ongoing recruitment process and reinstate Mr. Mushokabanji, raises serious concerns about executive overreach and the disregard for established corporate governance protocols. This is particularly concerning considering MeatCo's underperformance under Mr. Mushokabanji's leadership, including reported losses of up to N\$4 billion due to underselling exports and rising operational debts exceeding N\$300 million.

I therefore ask the Minister the following:

- 1. Honourable Prime Minister, are you aware of these developments at MeatCo, and if so, could you explain why the Cabinet saw it fit to ovenide the decision of MeatCo's duly appointed interim board which by legal mandate holds the authority to appoint or dismiss the CEO, in favour of reinstating Mr. Mwilima Mushokabanii?
- 2. Does the Cabinet's interference in this recruitment process not constitute a direct violation of the NamCode and the Public Enterprises Governance Act, both of which promote board-level autonomy in executive appointments to avoid political manipulation?
- 3. On what legal basis did the Minister of Agriculture instruct MeatCo to suspend its CEO recruitment process and reinstate a former executive, given that such decisions fall squarely under the purview of the board?
- 4. What message does this precedent send to other state-owned enterprises about the role of boards if their authority can be so easily overturned by political directive?
- 5. Is the Prime Minister concerned that this kind of executive interference may deter competent professionals from applying for leadership positions in SOEs due to a lack of procedural transparency and job security?
- 6. Under Mr. Mushokabanji's leadership, MeatCo reportedly recorded massive losses due to poor pricing strategies and accrued unsustainable debts. \Vhat key performance indicators did the Cabinet consider before deciding to reinstate him?

7. Is the Prime Minister not concerned that such political intervention in the appointment of a CEO at a financially distressed SOE poses a risk to investor confidence and the broader credibility of Namibia's public enterprise reform agenda?

Question 24 (2025-04-16)

Hon. Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Namibia's statistics indicated that approximately 95% of population identified as Christians. I hope including the traditional leaders who are dealing with our cultural matters. But why are they at war fighting the churches? They reject church in Namibians, despite the fact taht they belong to same religious beliefs. They disobey the constitution, if not the case they are in the business of transliterate the constitution, outside the mere fact, they need serious assistance to understand Article 102 (5) N/C.

I always reminds them, that Namibian is not at war with itself, but rather fight the war based on the matter of National building, for a total emancipation of our recourse. As we reject tribalism, corruption and abuse of human rights. Because this violations is law harm, and if it's a law harm, then is what we called a Criminal Act against the innocent citizens of this country. Such crime is detrimental to the Namibian people and it's damaging the future of socio economic development and social welfare of this country.

On August 15, 2015, the Namibians people learned with deep shock of a letter by the traditional leaders in Oshiwambo (OONGELEKA DHIIVEVA DHAVUKA MOSHILONGO SHETU), meaning, the overpopulation of Revival Churches among our nation. This is the indications that religious discrimination in Namibia is alive and well. In addition, the letter stated that Namibia during this time around has numerous religious beliefs, of which are strongly misleading the nation. Further they makes a serious unfounded allegations against the Holly Church alike Nomlnalisms. By started saying, the Church are destroying the peace of livelihoods need to be uprooted, without specifying where the events occured and which Church is that.

The Church can not destroy peace of livelihoods, perhaps human beings in the church can, there are three serious allegations they made against the holly Church, which I'm disagree with unless proven otherwise;

- They said the church told their followers on treatments that they should stop taking their medications;
- They said the Church ecouraged children to just pray, and those with sinners must be saved, so the sins can perish.
- Children should not respect their parents because they are dirty and have not been redeemed.

Even a person with little interectual can not reason this way, this is the critics and the sign of religion discrimination and shows that tribalism still live and well in their hearts, and really personify.

They continue saying "this is a huge challenge to the nation, specifically to them the traditional leaders. The things to be done now "apparent remedy is better than keeping quiet" they said. They wrote further, that in order to regulate these churches, they should set a tight a traditional measure that should be adhered to by everyone in the north,

whoever come to establish a church elsewhere in that part of Namibia, must presents the following documents;

(1) a letter from the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) (2) a letter from the senior headman of the traditional area. (3) a letter from the Regional governor (4) a letter from Regional Councillor. (5) a letter from the Community leader. (6) a letter from the Owner of the sector in the traditional settings. (7) a letter from the country's leadership. (8) a letter from the Ministry of Foreign affairs (Valid Documents) (9) the letter showing the number of the church members. This occurrence is present both in urban and rural development, failure to adhere to those instructions shall result in consequences, they cautioned.

The Church is being humiliated and unfairly treated in Namibia. So far 90 places of worship have been demolished under the supervision of the Namibian police. All this are happening in the four (0) regions of Namibia, such as Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena and Omusati. Since this letter came into effect Church properties are being illegally confiscated to various police stations without charges. Churches is highly being humiliated in Namibia, and illegally arrested and even filmed the church publicly on a false and fabricated statements. When charges is opend they are being dropped before one appears in the court of law. This is evidently and undenial evidence across the social media, this matter caused a big consernt to the members of public.

Because of the aforementioned letter, the children of the Revival opperational zone are not free to exercising their religious rights enshrined in the Namibian Constitution. They find compromise on their admissions in the public schools, and its very hard for them to enter hospitals for medicalcare, police stations for security purposes or in other public institutions for a different purposes. Churches are occasionally being criminalised and gagged due to their different religion beliefs.

The law allows and recognises any religious group as voluntary association, with the need to register with the government as non-profit or welfare Organizations.

The law also make provisions that a welfare Organization may apply to the Department of NamRA for a tax-exemption status, as an welfare or non-profit Organization. That after Church registration they may seek to access land at a reduced rate for their purpose, either from the Urban areas or Rural Development!!!

As a kin Bible reader or Church gowers, Church is playing a prominent role in this country to promote unity, freedom, peace and Justice, including really reconciliation.

#### I ask the questions;

- Why should they distroy the church?
- Does the church commit any crime?
- Where are they taking church properties?
- Why should they demolish and confiscated properties anyway without a charger?
- Why they think Church can be limited?

Why can't the church operate as free social conscience and as a prophetic voice of God in Namibia?

We demand thorough investigation and prove the wrong doing, honorable Minister, if you are unaware, now you are aware, what is your position in order to stop these dreatful Act, once and for all?

Going forward, everyone in this country is a freedom fighters, who fought for the liberation independence in one way and other, and have brilliantly been the driving force in pushing Namibia towards the ideal of independence, unlike evertone else. In many years Church took to the streets, support massive campaigns, and impacted elections, but our elected leaders are always failing to protect the legitimate of the church. Church will no longer accept it.

Many Namibians are surprised after reading this letter from the traditional leaders whom are also government leadership ought to serve all people equal. The matter it is not is unconstitutionally, but it is also degrading and aggravating to human dignity. People do respect the traditional leaders, however, this abuse of public office, is misplaced, inhuman and degrading. It can't be tolerate any longer in this democratic society. Its one of many tactics the colonisers had to denied blacks access to land, which is a basic need for their purpose.

With reference to the evidence at hand, several Namibians are speaking out on the allegations by this institution as one of the very serious matter of concern. Based on oppressive characteristic. More conflicts are expected to arise, due to how rapidly this matter is escalating into an issue of national interest, if this situation is not under arrest. Our clarion call said "The Christian's freedom is our Mission, We Can't be the Victims of injustice"

In-conclusion: the current status quo on the frontline, is too exacerbates, which portray the current relationship with the systems for a protected period of time. Corruptions, tribalism, religion discrimination and segregation is likely to be favoured because of political favouritism and misguided. It can't be on the basis of sound principles. We know the ppressive behaviour within the traditional seting, is likely to be awarded with untrue support with due diligence at the expense of taxpayers, and we can no longer take it lightly, and it deserve a rightful response.

#### Question 28 (2025-04-16)

Hon. Mootu (LPM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

Hon. Elijah Ngurare, on the brazen corruption and reckless mismanagement of funds by the board and the Interim CEO Darius Nelumbu of RCC. These acts have not only depleted institutional resources but have also created a climate of fear and repression, where former staff members who exposed the immorality of the Interim CEO's actions were systematically targeted and silenced.

The current Interim Chief Executive Officer (ICEO) of Roads Contractor Company Mr Dasius Nelumbu previously served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Following his appointment as an acting CEO, he was later confirmed as the Interim CEO without the post of the CFO being substantively filled for an extended period. During this time, he continued to carry out the functions of CFO while simultaneously assuming responsibilities typically assigned to Procurement as he strategically refused to renew the Procurement Professional's contract against the recommendations of the immediate supervisor. There is information indicating that the ICEO personally sourced quotations

and directly instructed the Procurement Manager to appoint preferred suppliers. This consolidation of roles combining financial oversight with procurement authority constitutes a significant conflict of interest and violates established principles of internal control and segregation of duties. Furthermore, direct engagement with suppliers by the ICEO contravenes procurement regulations and undermines transparency and accountability within the company's supply chain processes. Moreover, the CFO position remained vacant for an extended period, rumour has it that a CFO was only appointed in March 2025, leaving the same individual with unchecked financial authority while serving in the CEO capacity. Therefore, I shall ask the following:

- 1. The appointment of Darius Nelumbu to the role of Acting CEO was not publicly advertised, nor was a transparent, merit-based recruitment process followed. This raises concerns of procedural irregularity and favouritism.
- 2. Furthermore, the appointee does not possess any technical or engineering qualifications or experience, an essential requirement to effectively lead a roads and infrastructure focused company. This calls into question the appropriateness of the appointment and the long-term strategic risks it introduces to the organization.
- 3. There, is credible information suggesting the ICEO continues to engage directly with suppliers, in violation of procurement regulations and the Public Procurement Act, which strictly prohibits such direct involvement by executive leadership in supplier relations.
- 4. There is and earth dam contract that was intended to be awarded to the RCC from the ministry of Agriculture and these talks between the two parties began in November 2023. However, the current ICEO Mr. Dasius Nelumbu who served as the CFO at the time decided to go in Office on December 2023 and make an unauthorized payment of over 4 million to 4 different companies which are believed to be linked to the ICOE as well as the board members including the board Chairperson. These companies got handpicked by Mr. Dasius and millions were paid without any contract awards, designs for the dams moreover a contract award from the Ministry of Agriculture. The construction of the dams only began in June 2024 and the Ministry only paid for the dams in 11 December 2024 meaning the money on the four companies was paid out of RCC coffers.
- 5. Notably, payments continue to be made to an Eco Fuel previously reported on in The Namibian in connection with ongoing investigations by ACC in which the ICEO was implicated.
- 6. In light of the seriousness of the concerns raised, I respectively call for the immediate and independent investigations into the appointment of the ICEO and the financial transactions authorized during his tenure, the procurement practices and the potential abuse of aut horit y.
- 7. Also asking for the suspension of the ICEO and the board.
- 8. It is deeply concerning that despite public scrutiny and ongoing investigations, the ICEO has not been suspended or subjected to the same standards of accountability that have been applied to other executives under similar circumstances. This raise concerns a critical question: why is no disciplinary PR precautionary action been taken top safeguard the company's integrity.

- 9. Moreover, public statements made by the Board chairperson in recent newspapers suggest that the Board may be shielding the ICEO from consequences. This has created the appearance of coordinated effort to downplay or conceal alleged misconduct under the guise of producing annual reports and audited financial statements. Meanwhile, the reality of the ground tells a different story, the company continues to struggle to turn a profit or successfully complete key road infrastructure projects.
- 10. Equally concerning is the pattern of the preferential treatment in supplier appointments. Certain suppliers are consistently awarded contracts despite lacking the operational capacity to deliver. In many cases, the do not even own the necessary equipment and rely on third party rentals. The practice compromises efficiency and value for money, especially in a company that has been dependent on government bailout for over a decade continuously drawing on tax payer's funds without achieving financial sustainability.

\_

#### Question 29 (2025-04-16)

Hon. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

I rise today with a heavy heart and a resolute spirit, compelled to address a matter that strikes at the very core of our nation's commitment to justice and equality under the law.

Namibia, our beloved country, has long prided itself on upholding the rule of law-a principle that ensures every citizen, regardless of status, is subject to the same legal standards. Yet, recent events compel us to question whether this principle is being applied equitably.

Consider the case of Mr. Harry Simon, a former world boxing champion. On November 21, 2002, Mr. Simon was involved in a tragic car accident near Lang strand, resulting in the deaths of three Belgian tourists, including a 22 month-old child. He was charged with culpable homicide and, after due legal process, was convicted and sentenced to four years' imprisonment, with two years suspended. His appeal was dismissed on July 9, 2007, and he served his sentence accordingly.

In April 2001, Mr. Simon was involved in another accident near Nonidas, outside Swakopmund, which resulted in the deaths of a couple. Despite the severity of the incident, charges against Mr. Simon were dropped amid controversies, including missing blood samples and conflicting reports about who was driving.

In November 2006, while serving his sentence for the 2002 incident, Mr. Simon was charged with drunken driving and obstructing the course of justice in Walvis Bay. However, he was acquitted due to insufficient evidence.

- 1. Why was Mr. Simon prosecuted and sentenced in the 2002 case but not held accountable in the 2001 incident?
- 2. What factors contributed to the acquittal in the 2006 case, and were standard procedures followed?

Furthermore, there have been reports of other high-profile individuals involved in fatal accidents who have not faced prosecution. These discrepancies suggest a potential inconsistency in the application of justice.

Honorable Members, the rule of law must be blind to status, race, or political affiliation. It is imperative that we ensure transparency and consistency in our legal processes.

I urge the Minister of Justice to:

Clarify the criteria used to determine prosecution in cases of fatal accidents.

Provide a detailed report on the aforementioned cases, including the reasons for prosecution or lack thereof.

Outline measures being taken to ensure equal application of the law to all citizens.

Question 30 (2025-04-23)

Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

While the Constitution is clear on matters relating to a presidential tenure, the question of the privileges, entitlements, and support afforded to former Presidents falls under various policy decisions and administrative practices, particularly guided by the Presidential Emoluments and Pensions Act, 17 of '2004, which specifies what benefits are due to former Presidents, including office space, staff, transport, and security, all of which is funded by the State.

Although we have rightly chosen to honour former Heads of State, and in doing so, acknowledging their service to our country, it is equally important that such honour must be balanced against principles of fiscal responsibility, especially in light of our current economic constraints and pressing developmental needs. The State has an obligation to ensure that all resources, including immovable property and office infrastructure, are managed efficiently, transparently, and sustainably.

In this regard, it is pertinent to revisit the current framework and practice surrounding the allocation of offices to former Presidents. The passing of two revered former Heads of State - the Founding Father, His Excellency Dr. Sam Nujoma, and late President H.E. Dr. Hage Geingob raises practical questions about the continued utility and future management of their state-provided office infrastructure. Currently, Namibia has two living former Presidents, H.E. Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba and H.E. Dr. Nangolo Mbumba. Reports suggest that H.E. Dr. Pohamba is operating from rented premises, while H.E. Dr. Mbumba, is logically entitled to similar provisions under the existing framework.

I therefore ask the Minister the following:

- 1. Can the government repurpose the offices of the late former Presidents to accommodate the remaining former Presidents, thereby minimising costs associated with office space?
- 2. Can the Right Honourable Prime Minister confirm whether there are plans or budgetary provisions for the construction of a new office for H.E. Dr. Nangolo Mbumba? If so, has a cost-benefit analysis been conducted?
- 3. Is there a plan to construct new office facilities for each former President, and what are the associated costs?

- 4. Can the Prime Minister provide a breakdown of the total annual expenditure for each former President's office, including security, utilities, personnel, and maintenance costs?
- 5. Can the Prime Minister confirm whether the office currently occupied by H.E. Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, is indeed a rental property and if that is the case, what are the annual rental costs and what justified the decision to rent rather than utilise existing state property?
- 6. Given the precedent being set, and considering that future Presidents will also qualify for post-retirement benefits and offices, is the current model of provisioning scalable and fiscally sustainable over the coming decades?
- 7. Does the government intend to review or amend the Former Presidents' Pension and Other Benefits Act (Act No. 18 of 2004) to reflect changing economic realities and a more sustainable approach to managing former Presidents' entitlements?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 31 (2025-04-23)

Hon. Kumbwa (APP) asked the Minister Urban and Rural Development:

#### A. Allocation Formula

The allocation of the development budget to local authorities and regional councils in Namibia supposed to follow a formula-based system designed to ensure transparency, equity, and efficiency. Here are the key components of the formula:

- 1. Equitable Share Formula
  - Basic Services Component: Allocates funds based on the number of households requiring basic services such as water, sanitation, and electricity.
  - Intuitional Component: Provides funding for administrative costs to ensure effective governance and management.
  - Development Component: Supports infrastructure development and maintenance, considering factors like population size, land area, and poverty levels.
  - Poverty Level: The level of poverty in a given region, measured by the national multi-dimensional poverty index.
  - Population Size: The total population of the region or local authority.
  - Geographical Factors: The vastness and distance between the regional capital and Windhoek .
  - Sectoral Needs: Specific needs related to education, health, water supply, and rural services.

From my experience Honorable Speaker, I tend to differ with the current allocation formula and therefore, Honorable Speaker I have the following questions regarding the development budget. For example of Vote, 17:

- 1. What specific criteria are used to determine the allocation of the capital budget to Regional Councils and Local Authorities?
- 2. How does the Ministry ensure that the allocation formula promotes equitable distribution of funds across urban and rural areas?
- 3. Can the Minister provide a detailed explanation of the allocation formula used for distributing of funds to Local Authorities?
- 4. How often is the allocation formula reviewed and adjusted to reflect changing needs and priorities?
- B. Delay in Funds Transfer
- 1. What are the main reasons for the delay in transferring funds to Local Authorities?
- 2. What strategies are being implemented to mitigate delays in fund transfer?
- 3. How have delays in fund transfers affected the implementation of funds to Local Authorities?
- 4. What accountability mechanisms are in place to ensure timely transfer of funds to Local Authorities?
- 5. How does the Ministry communicate with Local Authorities regarding delays and expected timelines for fund transfers?
- 6. What plans does the Ministry have to improve the efficiency of funds transfers to Local Authorities in the future?

These questions aim to address key concerns regarding the allocation formula and delays in fund transfers, enduring transparency and accountability in the budget process.

#### Question 45 (2025-06-10)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Windhoek residents could soon face up to a 3% increase in electricity costs if the Electricity Control Board approves the City of Windhoek's latest tariff proposal. The municipality presented the proposed hike during a recent public consultation organised by the Electricity Control Board. The City is seeking a 4% weighted average increase for the 2025/26 financial year, citing rising maintenance costs, staff shortages, and alignment with NamPower's recently approved 3.8% bulk tariff increase.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

.

- 1. Can the Ministry provide evidence-based justification for the City of Windhoek's proposed 3% residential electricity tariff increase, particularly in light of the City's claim that it already offers the lowest tariffs in the country?
- 2. Given the City's assertion that increased costs are driven by a 67% population growth and maintenance demands, what long-term infrastructure investment plans are in place to sustainably manage these pressures without recurring tariff hikes?
- 3. Has the Ministry independently verified that the proposed tariff increases are proportionate and not being used to cover inefficiencies within the City's electricity supply operations?
- 4. What specific measures will be implemented to shield vulnerable groups, including pensioners and low-income households, from the financial strain of increased electricity tariffs?
- 5. In light of the frequent annual requests for electricity tariff increases where 10.4% was proposed last year and 3% this year, does the Ministry consider introducing a cap on annual tariff adjustments to help ensure affordability and stability for residents?

#### Question 47 (2025-06-10)

Hon. Hengari (PDM) asked the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

Namibia is home to a substantial number of brilliant young minds, capable individuals with innovative ideas that could drive the development of new industries, enable skills transfer, and generate high-value employment. Despite this untapped potential, our national response to the deepening unemployment crisis continues to rely disproportionately on the security cluster - namely the Namibia Defense Force (NDF), Namibia Correctional Services (NCS), and the Namibian Police (NAMPOL); institutions whose primary mandate is to safeguard national sovereignty, not to act as employment agencies.

Recently, the Right Honourable Prime Minister publicly celebrated the recruitment of 4,310 young people into these security agencies from across all 14 regions. While this may provide temporary relief for a small number of job seekers, it raises deeper concerns about the government long-term vision and economic planning. Therefore, I ask the following:

- 1. When will government shift from using the NDF, NCS, and NAMPOL as default absorption zones for unemployed graduates essentially reducing them to dumping grounds and selling that narrative as 'job creation'?
- 2. What is the new administration's integrated strategy to effectively absorb Namibia's young talent especially graduates with specialized training into sectors where their skills are best applied, rather than defaulting them into roles as security guards or enlisted officers?
- 3. To what extent is this government willing to embrace new economic thinking and implement forward-looking employment strategies that align

with Namibia's development goals, instead of falling back on outdated, low-multiplier approaches?

- 4. What investment has the government made in scaling up sectors such as renewable energy, ICT, agro processing, and creative industries areas with proven potential to employ and retain youth while building a diversified and resilient economy?
- 5. Does the current administration have a roadmap to transition from reactive, consumption-based employment strategies toward proactive, production based job creation models grounded in enterprise development, innovation ecosystems, and regional competitiveness?
- 6. What is the government doing to ensure that public sector recruitment is meritbased and skills-aligned, rather than politically expedient or used to mask the real scale of youth unemployment?
- 7. Is there any plan to work with the private sector, academic institutions, and innovation hubs to co-create programs that can identify, fund, and scale youthled solutions across Namibia's economic value chains?

#### Question 48 (2025-06-10)

Hon. Hengari (PDM) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

In response to high rates of gender-based violence and child abuse and violence, during the 7th Parliament, there was a commitment from the Ministry of Justice to introduce and operationalize a Sex Offenders Register. In fact, a motion was withdrawn after consensus had been reached that such a register would be introduced and operationalized after consultation between the Ministry of Justice and relevant agencies.

I therefore ask the following:

- 1. Can the Hon. Minister furnish this House with an update on the current status of the Sex Offenders Register that was committed to during the 7th Parliament, and whether any concrete steps that have been taken towards implementation and operationalization?
- 2. What specific timelines and milestones have been established for the introduction and operationalization of the Sex Offenders Register, and are these timelines still on track?
- 3. Which relevant agencies and stakeholders have been consulted in the process of developing the Register and what have been the key outcomes from these consultations?
- 4. What mechanisms are in place or being developed to ensure effective coordination between the Ministry of Justice, Law enforcement agencies, social services and the Judiciary in maintaining and utilizing the Register?
- 5. Has the Ministry allocated specific resources towards the development and maintenance of the Register, and what are the projected costs of implementation?

6. What other complementary measures is the Ministry undertaking to ensure that the Register forms part of a broader strategy to combat gender-based violence and child abuse effectively?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 49 (2025-06-11)

Hon. Emvula (LPM) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

Gam settlement is unfortunately served by one under-equipped and short-staffed health clinic that provides health services to approximately 5,000 residents. About 70% of the residents engage in communal farming as means of income.

There are four (4) clinics in the Constituency of Tsumkwe. The nearest fully equipped health facility is 375km (5.30-hour drive) away in the town of Grootfontein. The Gam clinic has no standby means of transport in the form of an ambulance that would enable it to deal with emergency cases. The poor road infrastructure, consisting of primarily a gravel road that becomes impassable during the rainy season, further limits access to proper healthcare for these residents. Moreover, alternative transport options such as private vehicles are unreliable, costly, and often unavailable, leading to fatal delays in medical emergency care.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that in rural Namibia, delays in emergency response increases mortality rates by up to 30% for conditions such as maternal complications, trauma. and stroke. Without a dedicated ambulance and trained paramedics, preventable deaths will continue to rise. Tsumkwe Constituency is not an exception. We are certain that the Minister is in agreement that access to well-equipped medical transport and Paramedic Services is an urgent and life-saving intervention and that such an intervention aligns with Namibia's health and development goals. Failure to integrate transport into programs designed to address the constraints to accessing essential services, shall reduce the effectiveness of any efforts that aim to improve healthcare. We recognize that - like in the case of Gam, most rural areas of Namibia - the availability of transport services is low and where they do exist, cost often presents a major barrier.

Let alone challenge caused by terrains and distances to health facilities. Leaving vulnerable Namibians with no other option than to walk to health facilities or discouraged to travel citing lack of appropriate transport as a major constraint.

Improving the quality of life for all Namibians must be one of the defining priorities of all Ministries, Agencies and Organizations.

I therefore ask the following:

- 1. What is the distribution plan and criteria to be followed for the 36 newly acquired ambulances by the Ministry of Health and Social Services?
- 2. Has the distribution plan and criteria (if that exists) taken into consideration any collaboration stakeholders in health sector? In terms of operationalizing these vehicles and paramedic services?
- 3. Has the Minister made plans in place a community-based health support program in rural areas Training local volunteers as first responders to provide immediate pre-hospital care in areas with fewer health facilities?

4. Can the Minster provide this August House with the statistics pertaining to the number of Mobile Health Outreach clinics per constituency, the frequency of these outreach as well as an overview of success rate of the primary health care program across all 14 Constituencies?

Question 50 (2025-06-11)

Hon. Eigub (LPM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

It is essential that Local Authorities are managed efficiently to respond to the needs of the inhabitants. However, it is evident that Local Authorities, especially Town Councils and Village Councils struggle to keep centralized records of critical municipal infrastructure, indicating a systems failure within our local government system.

The residents who fund Local Authorities through taxation (NamRA) as well as through rates and taxes and other utility charges are ultimately the most affected ones as they are negatively affected by poor service delivery and maintenance of infrastructure. Hon Minister, the poor data management of municipal infrastructure has effectively crippled Local Authority operations, leads to revenue losses - especially in Town Councils and Village Councils who are already challenged with a shortage of technical expertise.

I therefore ask the following:

- 1. What interventions is the Ministry putting in place to improve, strengthen and safeguard infrastructure record-keeping and infrastructure data management in Local Authorities?
- 2. The Minister is vested with executive powers as per the Local Authority Act No. 23 of 1992. How does the Minister use such powers to guide and redirect Local Authorities toward sound data management practises and effective service delivery?
- 3. Has the Minister explored various ways in which technical capacity in Local Authorities can be enhanced to effectively manage Local Authority assets through the development of asset registers, and Geographic Information System solutions (GIS)?
- 4. How does the Minister support and enhance the financial capacity of Local Authorities to deal with data management?

Question 51 (2025-06-11)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology:

As artificial intelligence (Al) technologies become increasingly integrated into public and private sector operations in Namibia. there is a critical gap in its legal and regulatory landscape in our country. Despite the growing use of AI, Namibia is yet to enact a comprehensive legal framework to govern its ethical development and use.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Why has Namibia not yet enacted a comprehensive legal framework to regulate the ethical development and use of artificial intelligence (Al) technologies?
- 2. What steps is the Ministry taking to address the legal and constitutional gaps relating to algorithmic decision-making and the potential violation of citizens' rights?
- 3. Does the Ministry plan to introduce legislation to define liability in cases where Al systems cause harm, such as accidents, financial loss, or discrimination? If so, what is the timeline?
- 4. How does the Ministry plan to ensure that AI systems operating in Namibia comply with data protection and privacy standards. especially in the absence of a comprehensive Data Protection Law?
- 5. Is the Ministry collaborating with the Office of the Ombudsman to assess the potential human rights impacts of AI technologies?
- 6. What legal frameworks from other jurisdictions are being studied or considered as models for Namibia's AI governance?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 52 (2025-06-17)

Hon. Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

I rise with a compelled and astonished heart to address the shocking matters, within the health equipments preferably condoms. A suspicious that there is a danger found in the condoms facing our people in daily life, as we attempts preventing the sexual transmitted deceases.

According to one Doctor in western Australia the Department of Health, however, stipulated that condoms don't protect one from all STIs such as herpes, genital warts, syphilis and mpox which can be spread from skin-to-skin contact.

In 2014 a doctor's research in Danish found over hundreds of toxic ingredients in the condoms' lubricants; these appear to be hormone disruptors. The reseach further discovered that these lubricants contain Carcinogens, Glycerin, Parabens, Derivatives, Phthalates, and non-oxynol spermicide that damages the uterus wall of a woman. The research again indicated that each condom contains about 1.5 ml of lubricant on average for 100 percent infection if a woman is intimate 300 times a year. It's believed that by using condoms, she is putting into her body over half a litre of this toxin every single year.

So my questions, Honourable Minister:

- 1. How is this a reality?
- 2. Are these condoms really safe?
- 3. Are we really informing our peopfe about the side effects or just informing them about the dangers that are emanated from sexual behaviour?

- 4. Are we doing the proper research first for our health sectors before obtaining the right methods?
- 5. Does the user of these products really know what are they putting into their bodies?
- 6. If so, can Honourable Minister explain what machanism are in place to save the lives of our people from danger?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 53 (2025-06-17)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The National Youth Council of Namibia is charged with policy formulation and implementation on issues bordering on youth development in Namibia. It is the umbrella body of the youths of Namibia and was given legal recognition in 1990 at the time of independence. It is affiliated to the Pan-African Youth Union and represents about 1 million Namibian youths. The National Youth Council of Namibia, an important state-owned enterprise founded in terms of its own Act of Parliament, has been embroiled in serious governance challenges in the past few months.

Honourable Minister, soon after independence in our youthful days, the youth advocated for the establishment of this majestic institution, the National Youth Council, to be an autonomous institution whereby youth organisations are able to drive and elect their own leadership. Until December last year, the need for a NYC that is autonomous, and where its young people self-determine has not gone away. We must continue to respect the structures of the NYC; from the General Assembly, to the Representative Council, to its affiliate youth organisations, and its regional and constituency youth forums.

As is public knowledge for many who are familiar with the NYC, in 2020, the former Minister Honourable Tjongarero appointed an interim Board to the NYC, due to a vacuum at the time. The Members that she appointed were nominated for such appointment by the Representative Council. This was generally understood to be sensible, as the NYC is intended to be a unique vehicle for young people at all levels, especially the grassroots, and the Representative Council, per the NYC Act, is the second highest body when the General Assembly is not in session.

In December 2024, the then Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service, Agnes Tjongarero, collectively fired that same Board of Council, and appointed an interim Board chaired by a former member of the Board that was fired, on 20 December 2024. The former Minister said that she made the appointment in terms of Section 10 of the Public Enterprises Governance Act.

The specific provisions of the PEGA state:

- (1) If at any time during the term of office of the board of a public enterprise
  - (a) the offices of all the members of the board become vacant; or
  - (b) the number of members of the board is reduced to less than the number of members required for a quorum of the board, the relevant Minister

may, despite sections 8 and 9 or anythin g to the contrary in any other law contained, and if circumstances of a pressing or urgent nature so require, appoint suitably qualified persons on a temporary basis to serve on the board until new members are appointed.

(2) The appointment of a person as member of a board under subsection (1) ceases to be of effect upon expiry of a period of six months from the date of the appointment, but the Minister may extend the period by an additional period of not more than two months at a time.

Against this backdrop, I shall ask the Honorable Minister the following:

- 1. It has recently been reported that the Chairperson of the Interim Board in question, Ms. Beverly Silas-!Garas, appointed in terms of the Public Enterprises Governance Act, is receiving a monthly salary of over 30,000 Namibia Dollars from the National Youth Council, ostensibly because she is also the Acting Executive Chairperson. Is this true? And if yes: under what provision of the Public Enterprises Governance Act was Ms. Silas-!Garas appointed as an Acting Executive Chairperson, and under what basis in law is she receiving the monthly salary of 30,000 Namibia Dollars?
- 2. It is common knowledge now that the tenure of the Interim Board appointed by the former Minister on 20 December 2024 will efflux / expire on or around 19 June 2024, in line with Section 10(2) of the Public Enterprises Governance Act. Last week, young people representing thirty something of NYC's 53 affiliate youth organisations delivered a letter to your Office, and addressed the Media. According to the media reports, these young people, for whom the NYC exists, are petitioning your Office to consult the Representative Council with respect to the Leadership vacuum at the NYC, post 16 June 2025.

Therefore, Honourable Minister, do you intend to consult the RepresentativeCouncil, the highest decision-making body of the NYC when the General Assembly is not in session, as the tenure of the Interim Board expires this week?

- 3. Honourable Minister, we also understand, from media reports and press statements, that the Director of Council, Calista Schwartz-Gowases, who was suspended in March 2024, re-instated by the Board on March 2025, and then re-suspended again by the Interim Board in June 2025, is refusing to vacate the office and allow for the completion of investigations into her conduct. Is this true? Why is the Minister not acting with urgency to address this organisational paralysis within the NYC? Why is the Minister leaving Mrs. Calista Schwartz to fight her own battle with no interference neither intervention from the Minister. Today she is in tomorrow she is out, is that the type of employment conditions one prefer to work for?
- 4. Finally, Honourable Minister, to my understanding, the regional and constituency executive committees who were elected during the Restructuring Process that took place last year are not being recognised within the current structures of the NYC, and that the expired regional and constituency executive committees, from 2020, are still in leadership. What is the reason for this? Is the Minister planning to sanction another Restructurin g Process, which will cost taxpayers even more money, particularly in light of sky-rocketing youth unemployment

and poverty? Which law authorize the Minister to nullify the NYC restructuring process if the Minister chooses to nullify it?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 54 (2025-06-17)

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

In Namibia, the fishing quota allocation system aims to promote social equity by encouraging companies to include marginalized groups, such as persons living with disabilities, in their applications. However, many companies exploit this requirement by using these individuals solely to secure quotas, without genuine partnership or benefit-sharing. After receiving the quotas, the promised support is often abandoned, and the marginalized groups are excluded from any meaningful involvement or profit.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What specific mechanisms are in place to verify the authenticity of partnerships with NGO's and marginalized groups, particularly persons living with disabilities, in fishing quota applications?
- 2. How does the Ministry monitor compliance with corporate social responsibility commitments made by quota recipients post-allocation?
- 3. What legal or administrative penalties are imposed on companies that fail to honor their social responsibility commitments after obtaining fishing quotas?
- 4. Has the Ministry considered making the inclusion of marginalized groups and NGO's legally binding through formal equity agreements rather than relying on declarations in applications?
- 5. What protections exist for persons living with disabilities who are listed on quota applications but later excluded from decision-making and profit sharing?
- 6. Is there any recourse or complaint mechanism available to marginalized groups who believe they were exploited during the fishing quota allocation process?

Question 55 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Shitana (AR) asked the Minister of Finance:

In accordance with municipal bylaws, municipalities such as the City of Windhoek require institutions that are registered and operating in their jurisdictions to obtain fitness certificates. The purpose of the certificates is to ensure that these institutions meet acceptable standards as far as issues of health, safety, etc., are concerned, in order to allow them to conduct business. Certain categories of businesses, especially the ones that are operating in the hospitality industry, are required to have public toilet facilities. Funny enough, commercial banks do not have public toilet facilities. Customers sometimes spend a substantial amount of time in a bank, which necessitates restroom access. Responding to the call of nature, particularly at places serving the public is not a matter of luxury, fashion, politics or ideology. It is even worse for persons with disabilities.

I would, therefore, like to ask the Honorable Minister. the following:

- 1) How many banks have toilets for their customers?
- 2) How did these banks acquire their fitness certificates?
- As institutions that serve hundreds of customers on a daily basis, why are commercial banks not required to have public toilet facilities?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 56 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Lizazi (IPC) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The Namibian Constitution states in Article 66(1) that; "Both the customary laws and the common laws of Namibia in force on the date of independence shall remain valid to the extent to which such customary or common law does not conflicts with this constitution or any other statutory law". To make sure that the above stipulation is relevant, the Traditional Authorities Act 25 of 2000 and the Community Courts Act 10 of 2003 were enacted, to provide for the recognition and establishment of community courts. These community courts are the first and sometimes the only forum of justice the rural communities have.

Community court justices go through hardships such as transport to and from the traditional authorities (these are aged individuals), housing shortage, dilapidated community court buildings (some under trees) to mention only a few.

In this light, I therefore ask the Hon. Minister of Justice and Labour Relations the following questions;

- 1. What is the Ministry doing to preserve our traditional laws to make them form part of the Namibian jurisprudence?
- 2. Traditional Authorities have rendered on their mandate of promoting peace and welfare amongst the members of the Namibian communities they serve, when is the government going to remunerate them a living wage instead of a mere N\$ 1000.00 allowance they currently receive?
- 3. What is the Ministry doing to alleviate the hardship experienced by our community courts?
- 4. Why is Section 17 of the Traditional Authorities Act a one way traffic? Especially with NamPol officers, Community Court justices are not well protected because Namibian Police stations are very far from the Traditional Authority establishments.
- 5. How is the Hon. Minister intend to assist TAs in matters such as support infrastructures, training for both justices and office administrators in legal recording keeping and more training on traditional laws for community court justices?

#### Question 57 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Lizazi (IPC) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The minimum hourly wage for security guards in Namibia has been set at N\$13.50 effective 1st January 2025, this rate will increase to N\$16.00 per hour on 1st January 2026 and N\$18.00 the following year. This change is part of an amendment to the National Minimum Wage Order according to the Namibian Ministry of Justice and Labour Relations. Reports from all over the country of security companies failing to honor the gazette minimum wage of N\$13.50 per hour have saturated the news agencies in our country.

I therefore would like to ask the Hon. Minister the following;

- 1. What mechanism has been put in place to enforce this wage requirement with labour inspectors not capacitated enough in the regions?
- 2. When are we going to see security company owners prosecuted or stripped of their licenses to operate in Namibia?
- 3. When are you going to table legislation amendment that will restrict a family from owning two security companies in different names, while clients pay the same family?
- 4. Worker's unions representing security guards take long to open labour cases and don't open labour cases at all (this is according to NBC TV news 13th June 2025), what will the Hon. Minister do in this regard?

Question 58 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Lizazi (IPC) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

Of recent we have been hit with so many reports of mining companies retrenching hundreds of their workers. The irony is we don't see these retrenched workers in our streets and villages because they are absorbed by the sub-contractors to go and do the same work they were doing for low wages or peanuts with zero benefits such as medical aid, pension, etc.

It is on this background that I would ask the Hon. Minister the following questions;

- 1. What is the Honorable Minister going to do to address this sad reality our work force is going through?
- 2. When is the labour hire going to see its end in this country? Doing business on another human being is not good at all.
- 3. Can the Hon. Minister furnish this August House on how the Labour Act No. 11 of 2007 regulate basic condition of employment for individuals employed by abour hire companies?

#### Question 59 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Mbinge - Tjeundo (PDM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

In Windhoek and all other towns in our country, street vendors normally face harassment and aggressive crackdowns by municipal police and law enforcement authorities. These operations often result in the confiscation of their goods, forced evictions from trading spots, and, in some cases, arrests. This ongoing conflict underscores a deeper structural tension between the need for informal economic survival and the enforcement of urban regulatory or formalization policies. While municipal by-laws are often cited to justify these actions, they frequently disregard the socio-economic realities facing vendors, many of whom turn to informal trade as a last resort in the face of Namibia's persistently high unemployment rate.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What steps is the government taking to review and harmonize municipal bylaws with the constitutional rights of citizens, particularly the right to dignity and economic participation for informal traders?
- 2. Has the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development conducted any recent assessments to determine whether current urban regulatory frameworks unjustly criminalize poverty and informal economic survival?
- 3. Given the high national unemployment rate, what long-term strategies does the government have to integrate informal vendors into the formal economy without resorting to punitive crackdowns?
- 4. What oversight mechanisms are in place to ensure that law enforcement actions against street vendors are conducted lawfully, proportionately, and humanely?
- 5. What measures are being taken to protect the human rights of infornal traders, particularly vulnerable groups such as women and youth, who dominate the street vending sector?
- 6. What role are local authorities expected to play in supporting, rather than punishing, informal traders as part of broader efforts to stimulate local economies?

#### Question 60 (2025-06-18)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Hon. Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

Honourable Right Prime Minister:

This crime does not exist in the Republic of Namibia only, hence it is global. We have citizens who resides within the country of Namibia with a population of three million and within this population we have the majority of unemployed, poor, marginalized and rich citizens.

Now my questions as follows:

If the crime of corruption has been detected and developed in the Local Authorities and Regional Councils of Namibia's government structures since 1990 when we got independence, there are quite a number of pending cases without any solution while some culprits are known but no action taken against them while new cases continue to be piled without any action or investigations in all mentioned government structures.

While those in the above mentioned government structures are being silent on those matters which we call corruption element. My question is, who is supposed to take action in the Regional and Local Authorities Councils where there are appointed Governors and Chairpersons elected by the electorates?

If both the Local Authorities, Regional Councils, line Ministries and the Office of the Right Hon. Prime Minister as well as the Office of the Anti-Corruption Commission has failed to take action and failed to suspend or to open cases against culprits involved. Who is supposed to take the final action against such corrupt activities where State funds and properties are being stolen, misused and went missing without trace?

As a result, Namibian citizens end up living in poverty and the country's resources are being wasted. So eventually, the country's economy is in a comma stage. What is the way forward in this situation?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 61 (2025-06-19)

Hon. Eigub (LPM) asked the Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs:

It has become increasingly evident that certain line ministries under the current administration are undermining and frustrating the constitutional mandate and financial operations of Local Authorities. This continued practice has a negative impact on service delivery and the well-being of our citizens prompting the need to investigate other line ministries that equally frustrate regional and local governance.

For purposes of illustration, let me highlight the case of Otjiwarongo Municipality. During the 2008 financial year, the Otjiwarongo Municipality and the Namibia Defence Force (NDF) entered into a land sale agreement for a portion of land measuring 66 hectares, valued at N\$13.2 million. To date, the NDF has failed to honor its payment obligations under the agreement.

Like many other local authorities, the Otjiwarongo Municipality depends heavily on utility charges and sales to fund capital development and infrastructure maintenance projects.

It is, therefore, troubling that a key government line Ministry, which remains a regular beneficiary of the national budget appropriation, is failing to meet its legal and financial commitments to another arm of government.

In light of the above, I would like to ask the following questions:

- 1. Is the Minister aware that this long-outstanding debt is frustrating and or sabotaging the local development agenda? If so, why is the Minister failing to take remedial action for over a decade?
- 2. When does the Ministry plan to honor the N\$13.2 million payment or enter into a formal repayment arrangement with the Otjiwarongo Municipality?

3. What steps does the Minister intend to take to improve inter-ministerial cooperation and how will you ensure that such matters are resolved in a timely and constructive manner in future?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Question 62 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Mouton (IPC) asked the Minister of Information and Communications Technology:

Namibia has increasingly become a target for cyberattacks. Kaspersky rates Namibia as a Tier 4 country on the Global Cybersecurity Index in terms of readiness to protect itself against cybercrime. This places us just one tier away from the absolute worst, on par with war-ridden countries like Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. One of the primary reasons for this low ranking is our lack of comprehensive legislation. Without a proper data protection act or cybersecurity act, we remain vulnerable and an easy target. Individuals and entities can exploit and steal our data without fear of prosecution due to the absence of relevant laws. That means someone can steal your information like your identity, use it against you, exploit you and there is nothing we can do to prosecute these criminals.

Furthermore, the absence of a data protection act means our sensitive private data and information are unprotected. This has a direct impact on the private sector, public sector, and individual consumers. Beyond being a significant security threat, this situation also deters foreign investment.

Telecom Namibia recently suffered a major breach exposing sensitive data including that of individuals, ministries, state-owned enterprises and private businesses. Businesses and private individuals have no recourse or mechanism to report and hold to account the custodians of their private data. The Akira ransomware group was implicated in this attack, claiming to possess over 84GB of sensitive corporate data. However, as of now, no evidence has emerged to confirm the release of any data.

Given how vulnerable we are and the fact that our government data is hosted both within and outside the country, 1 would like to pose the following questions to the Honourable Minister:

- 1. How far along is the Cabinet Committee on Legislation with processing the Data Protection Bill?
- 2. Considering all the potential negative ramifications of not having this bill, why has the ministry delayed its progress for years?
- 3. Why can't we host our own data. Where exactly is Namibian government data hosted? Could the Minister kindly provide the nation with the names of the specific companies and countries that provide the servers for hosting Namibian data? Please be specific regarding which entities are hosted where (e.g., NAMRA, ECN, Nampol, Home Affairs, etc.).
- 4. That data protection agreements do we have in place with these companies to ensure our data is secure and protected? What would be the repercussions should these companies leak our data, and how would we be notified if a data breach has occurred?

- 5. How can we begin investing in e-IDs if we are not even hosting our own data? Is this not a significant potential liability?
- 6. How can High-Tech local and foreign investors be expected to invest in Namibia when there are no protections in place to safeguard their businesses and their clients?
- 7. On 1 January 2024, mandatory SIM card registration and data retention regulations under Part 6 of Chapter 5 of the Communications Act of 2009 come into full effect, without a data protection act what assurances does the public have that this sensitive data is being stored safely and what resource would they have if this data is abused?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 63 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Kalangula (IPC) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

I rise to ask on the road of Usakos - Arandis - Swakopmund/Walvis Bay as per Strategic plan of Roads Authority.

#### Background Recap

- 1. Honorable Minister, Roads Authority planned for the Usakos Swakopmund road upgrade for many years, but are behind schedule in view of the regional significance of the B2 corridor which connects Walvis Bay to all landlocked countries in SADC. To indicate that this road upgrade is long overdue, reference is made to past and present RA Strategic Plans as from 2018. On the RA planned projects 2018-2023(Page 40) & 2024-2028(Pages 38-40) it shows that B2 road upgrade has been there for a long time. You will see that the Usakos-Arandis-Swakopmund road upgrade has been planned for implementation in every strategic plan before and now, but never implemented or taking long. Now, even if this road upgrade is implemented soon, at what probability would it be upgraded to dual road?
- 2. That is problematic for Namibia and Walvis Bay as the center of this regional logistics corridor, because that road section is at present already congested with heavy trucks, therefore it is of the view that it's best if Government intervenes by instructing the RA to amend the design to dual standards as the most viable solution. If not dualized now, it will become apparent that there shall be revisitation back to upgrade that road to dual standards in just a short time after wasting money by upgrading it to 2+1 standard as is case with ongoing Karibib Usakos road. To supplement this concern, Walvis Bay Corridor Group through a media report on March 2025 indicated that they expect Walvis Bay port to handle 1500 trucks per day by 2029 which is a mere 4 years from now.
- 3. According to National Road Safety Council, Statistics indicate a total of 5628 road crashes and 112 fatalities in Erongo region as from 2020 to 2024.

Now, HONORABLE MINISTER, it is based on this background that I now add to ask the following questions:

- 1. Why does the GOVERNMENT not intervene to amend the design of these roads to dual standards before it's too late? Same applies to Otavi Otjiwarongo portion.
- 2. What is the purpose of having strategic plans within our SOEs that goes unimplemented and end up transferred to the next strategic plan, is this how projects stall on papers without implementation and accountability?
- 3. Would the Honourable Minister agree that the safety of the road users on the said roads is determined by the commitment of government and SOEs to stick to its plans as per statistics and increasing trends?
- 4. What will the Minister do to avoid such future waste on feasibility studies findings data or recommendations, that leads to Strategic plans, but remains on paper without action?
- 5. With the above given statistics, how many souls must we expect to loose and injuries to occur on this outdated road, while the government continues to be on the watch of the same key projects being shuffled across 5 years of paperwork?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 64 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Hengombe (IPC) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

I rise to ask on the Stampriet ISL Uranium mining:

The "Stampriet uranium saga" in Namibia's Hardap/Omaheke regions refers to growing controversy around proposed in-situ leach (ISL) uranium mining near the critical Stampriet Artesian Aquifer, a shared transboundary groundwater system used by local communities, farms, towns (e.g. Stampriet, Leonardville, Aranas), and cross-border areas in Botswana and South Africa.

What's at stake here is that, over 3.3 million hacters (~53% of the basin) are under uranium exploration licences. The aquifer is the only year-round freshwater in this semi-arid region. In-situ leach mining i.e (injecting acid solutions to dissolve uranium underground) risks contaminating drinking water with uranium, toxic heavy metals, sulphates, and radionuclides.

The affected communities seek the following:

- 1. Can the Ministry show results from the borehole sampling campaign and have a release of data to the public and especially the affected communities?
- 2. What are the final recommendations and decisions from inter-ministerial taskforces and parliamentary review?
- 3. Has the Ministry allowed any permit renewals or expansions of ISL mining in or near the Stampriet basin?

#### Question 65 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Likando (IPC) asked the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism:

According to the policy on Tourism and Wildlife concessions on state land of 2007, Section 4, sub section 4.1.1, in the interest of ensuring transparency and fairness, a just and fair competitive process should be applied to award concessions.

#### Honourable Minister:

- 1. Ownership clarification
  - Could the Honourable Minister clarify for the record, who is the recognised legal owner or beneficiary of the Sossusvlei shuttle and Kiosk concession as currently awarded and implemented?
  - ls the concession vested in the government of the Republic of Namibia, in the named community beneficiaries, or in the concession holding company as per publicly issued notice of award?
- 2. Community benefit from concession operations
  - In accordance with the community-based tourism principles, under which this concession was awarded, could the Honourable Minister indicate the total financial benefit on income that has to date accrued to the named beneficiary communities from the concession's operation?
- 3. NWR's operational role and associated government benefits
  - It has been publicly observed that Namibia Wildlife Resorts (NWR) continues to operate transport services within Sossusvlei area, specifically in proximity to the 2x4 and 4x4 parking zones.
  - Could the Honourable Minister confirm under what authority or agreement NWR continues to offer such services during the concession's implementation period?
  - What amount of income or benefit, if any, has been received by the Government or the Ministry from NWR for operating these services since the commencement of the current concessions?

#### Question 66 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Jonas (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

In January 2025, the Government of the Republic of Namibia introduced a national minimum wage aimed at addressing pressing socio-economic challenges. The policy seeks to reduce income inequality, alleviate poverty, and promote gender equity. Its introduction marks a significant step toward achieving social justice, gender equality, and inclusive economic growth.

Since its implementation, there have been both positive and negative responses regarding compliance, particularly in the retail, charcoal, transport and logistics sectors, among others. While commendable progress has been observed in compliance within certain

sectors such as construction, domestic work, and security there are increasing reports of non-compliance by some employers, undermining the overall objectives of the policy.

In light of the above, I respectfully pose the following questions to the Honourable Minister:

- 1. Since the implementation of the national minimum wage in January 2025, how many employers have complied with the National Minimum Wage Act?
- 2. How many employers have failed to comply, and what enforcement measures has the Ministry undertaken to ensure compliance?
- 3. What public awareness initiatives has the Ministry introduced to educate employers and employees about the national minimum wage?
- 4. How is compliance with sectoral minimum wages being monitored across different sectors? Could the Honourable Minister provide data on compliance and non-compliance per sector, and the measures being taken to improve enforcement?
- 5. Who is responsible for enforcing compliance with the minimum wage, and what procedures must be followed to ensure that non-compliant employers are held accountable?
- 6. Where can workers report cases of non-compliance with national or sectoral minimum wages, and what protections are in place to ensure their safety when doing so?
- 7. Where and how can workers, especially those in remote or rural areas access official information and documents detailing national and sectoral minimum wage provisions?

#### Question 67 (2025-06-24)

Hon. Jonas (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare:

#### INTEGRATING GENDER EQUALITY INTO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Namibia is recognised for its strong legal and constitutional foundation promoting gender equality, aimed at eliminating gender-based discrimination across all spheres of society. The country has ratified various international conventions, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the ILO Convention on Violence and Harassment in the Workplace. These legal frameworks provide a firm basis for incorporating gender considerations into collective bargaining processes.

Integrating gender equality into collective bargaining yields far-reaching benefits that extend beyond the workplace. Through negotiated agreements between employers and employees, gender-sensitive bargaining addresses systemic inequalities, promotes inclusive and equitable workplaces, and fosters social and economic progress.

Namibia has earned continental recognition as a leader in gender equality, recently ranked as the most gender-equal country in Africa and eighth globally. These achievements are the result .,of progressive policies championed by the SWAPO-led Government, including the Affirmative Action Act, strong political will, and institutional reforms that have shifted gender dynamics nationwide.

However, despite these advances, many working women in Namibia still face significant barriers, including:

Persistent gender bias and stereotypes.

The "broken rung" phenomenon impeding career advancement.

Pay gaps and financial inequities.

Work-life imbalance and caregiving burdens.

Workplace harassment and safety concerns.

Burnout and mental health challenges.

Lack of mentorship and sponsorship opportunities.

In light of the above, I respectfully direct the following questions to the Honourable Minister:

- 1. What development programs such as skilling, upskilling, and reskilling are currently offered or supported by the Ministry to empower women in the workforce?
- 2. How is the Ministry working with the labour movement to increase women's participation in male-dominated sectors, such as mining, construction, marine engineering, motor, wood and metal industries?
- 3. Does the Ministry offer any funding or grant programs to support the career growth of working women, especially in underrepresented or emerging sectors?
- 4. What measures has the Ministry implemented to address and reduce gender-based harassment in the workplace?
- 5. Are there any existing or planned programs promoting flexible work arrangements to support workers with caregiving responsibilities?
- 6. What initiatives are being promoted by the Ministry to ensure workplace accessibility and inclusion for women with disabilities?
- 7. Does the Ministry have a mechanism in place to monitor gender pay gaps, and how are related complaints or violations being handled?
- 8. Beyond the Ministry of Justice and Labour, does the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare collaborate in the enforcement and advocacy of equal pay for equal work?
- 9. Has the Ministry developed any educational or advocacy programs to help women negotiate and integrate gender-related issues such as childcare facilities, access to free sanitary products, menstrual leave, or flexible schedules into collective bargaining agreements?

#### Question 68 (2025-06-25)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

Namibia is facing a troubling trend of unresolved child murders and disappearances, with several high-profile cases remaining unsolved over the years. Notable cases include the 2010 rape and murder of Magdalena Stoffels, the 2018 killing of Avihe Cheryl Ujaha, the 2020 disappearance of Mandela "Spencer" Nakale, and the 2022 murder of Oswyn Myne Seibeb, just to name a few. More recently, the 2025 killings of Ingrid Maasdorp, Rosalind Dinelao Fabian, and Beyoncé! Kharuxas have further highlighted law enforcement's ongoing struggles to resolve cases involving vulnerable children and deliver justice.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What specific strategic reforms has the Ministry implemented to improve the investigation and resolution of these sensitive unresolved cases?
- 2. Does the Namibian police force possess adequate forensic capabilities to investigate these cases, and if there are challenges, what are they?
- 3. Can you provide an update on the current status of investigations into high profile unresolved cases, such as those of Magdalena Stoffels, Avihe Cheryl Ujaha, and Mandela Nakale and what obstacles have law enforcement encountered?
- 4. What measures ensure accountability and transparency m police investigations of child murders and disappearances?
- 5. Given the recent murder cases this year involving Ingrid Maasdorp, Rosalind Dinelao Fabian, and Beyoncé !Kharuxas, what is the progress regarding these investigations?
- 6. Are any legislative or policy changes being considered to strengthen child protection and law enforcement accountability in Namibia?

#### Question 69 (2025-06-25)

Hon. Emvula (LPM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

In 2013 the size of government employees stood at 107 000 including the security cluster - in 2023 (New Era, 03 Mar 2023) and growing. According to projections, the civil service employment size is projected to increase by 10 000 (9.34%) over the next 10 years.

On 11 March 2020, cabinet passed an urgent decision for the implementation of Resolution No. 3rd/03.03.20/004 - that allows for civil servants to purchase GRN houses at a sliding scale discount (15% to 30%) depending on their earnings. The resolution directed the Ministry of Works to provide alternative housing offers to 8 residents of ERF 6596. Our latest update is that only 5 of the 8 residents of ERF 6596 have been allocated plots and their houses have been constructed and they now reside in those houses in areas of Suiderhof, Academia and Pioneers Park Extension 1 at a tune of N\$7.5 million. This translates into N\$1.5 million spent per house.

These five residents with their families are given offers to purchase those houses based on the open market value determined by the department of works and in line with the cabinet Resolution.

Three (3) more residents continue to reside on R/ERF 6596 on Lewis Street, Windhoek, an area behind GRN stores. Two (2) are in possession of temporary allocations letter whiles one (1) is possession of an eight (8) year old letter of permanent allocation. None of the three residents have been given offers to buy these houses they residing in, to date.

In a communication dated 15th July 2021 the residents in question addressed to the then Executive Director Ms. Esther N Kaapanda of the Ministry of Works, formally requested these occupants to be granted an opportunity to purchase these houses. Their legitimate request has to date not been favourably responded to.

The three occupants on ERF 6596, Lewis Street - Windhoek received eviction letters dated 15th May 2025 signed by the ED Titus Dove. I therefor ask the Hon Minister the following:

#### **OUESTION 1**

What criteria and process are applied by the ministry in arriving at a decision to evict government employees that reside in GRN houses as tenants, be it temporary or otherwise?

#### **QUESTION 2**

When a government employee is evicted from a government house, what is the possibility of allocating such a family with an alternative accommodation by your Ministry?

#### **QUESTION 3**

How many GRN houses are occupied by government tenants - under temporary or different arrangements across the country?

#### **QUESTION 4**

How many government houses/flats have to date been sold to;

- a) Civil Servants since the inception of the Alienation Policy and Cabinet Resolutions No. 5th/22.02.00/004 and No. 03rd /03.03.20/004? and
- b) None-civil servants and on what valuation criteria?

#### **QUESTION 5**

Can the Honorable Minister inform this august House the duration it takes for an accommodation application to be adjudicated finalized?

#### **QUESTION 6**

Can the Minister deny or confirm that Cabinet Resolutions are valid, or that Cabinet Resolutions are only valid at the behest of an individual member of the Executive?

#### **QUESTION 7**

Lastly, Honourable Minister, when will these three (3) residents of R/ERF: 6596 be given offers to purchase these houses or given alternative houses? Question four (4) applies to all affected government houses tenants across the country.

Question 70 (2025-06-25)

Hon. Jonas (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The Labour Act No. 11 of 2007 and the Social Security Act currently do not mandate paternity benefits for employees in either the public or private sectors. As a result, working fathers are compelled to rely on annual leave or unpaid leave to support the care of their newborns.

Paternity leave is becoming increasingly important in our evolving social structure, which is predominantly composed of young workers. Introducing a clear paternity leave policy would benefit not only fathers and families but also workplaces and society at large. It enables fathers to build early emotional bonds with their newborns, positively influencing a child's long term social and emotional development. Moreover, paternity leave promotes shared parenting responsibilities, fosters gender equity, and contributes to the well-being of mothers by reducing postpartum stress through shared caregiving responsibilities.

In summary, paternity leave is not merely a personal benefit but a societal necessity. It contributes to healthier families, more equitable workplaces, and stronger economies.

I acknowledge the prior discussions in this House that recognised the importance of including paternity leave in the Labour Act, which is currently under review. I also note that the Office of the Prime Minister announced last year that the Government, as an employer, is exploring ways to improve benefits for public servants including the possibility of introducing paternity leave.

Accordingly, I wish to ask the following questions:

- 1. What is the current status of the investigation into the inclusion of paternity leave as a benefit for public servants? If the investigation has been completed, could you kindly share its findings and recommendations?
- 2. When can public servants expect to begin receiving paternity leave benefits?
- 3. What is the current progress in the review of the Labour Act No. No. 11 of 2007, and will the amended Act include provisions for paternity leave?
- 4. How many private companies in Namibia currently offer paternity leave as an employee benefit?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 71 (2025-06-25)

Hon. Mulunga (IPC) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform:

Honorable Minister,

In recent public statements and reports, it has come to light that over the past four years, the government has generated about N\$ 1.2 billion from auctioning of "Government Objective Quotas" within the fisheries industry - an initiative originally established to respond to emergencies such as drought, floods and other humanitarian disasters.

However, the repeated and now institutionalized auctioning of these quotas has raised very serious concerns, both in terms of policy and constitutional equality.

Article 95 (L) states that the maintenance of the ecosystem, essential ecological process and biological diversity of Namibia and utilization of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians. This means that all Natural resources are public goods, and their management must be equitable, accountable and transparent.

Relying on auctioning fishing quotas as a default fundraising mechanism, while other extractive sectors are exempted, not only creates policy inconsistency, but raised profound equity and governance concerns.

The fisheries sector, which supports thousands of Namibians directly and indirectly, must not be turned into a budget - filler at the expense of the long term sustainability and community empowerment that benefits all the Namibians.

Despite the significant revenue generated from the auctioning of the fishing quotas over the years, the fisherman's problems that are at what is known as "Okapale" in Walvisbay has not been solved to date, quotas that were allocated to follow the employees that lost their jobs at various factories are not genuinely benefiting them.

I therefore ask the following questions:

- 1. What is the original legal and policy framework under which "Government Objectives Quotas" were created, and does it authorize the repeated auctioning of such quotas for the general revenue-raising purpose?
- 2. Why has government turned the auctioning of fishing quotas into a fiscal norm, while other similar extractive resources such as diamonds, uranium, gold and copper are not auctioned in a similar fashion?
- 3. How does the Ministry ensure that funds that are raised from quota auctions are transparently accounted for and directly applied to the original objectives? (e.g. drought or flood relief)
- 4. What criteria's are used to determine who is awarded Government Objectives quotas, and does the Ministry ensure that the elites and politically connected do not misuse such allocations?
- 5. In the current auctioning system, what percentage of fishing rights are reserved for genuine fishing cooperatives, small-scale fishers and communities in the coastal regions versus the large corporate interest?

- 6. We are appreciate the Ministers recent effort to have a group of fishing employees integrated back at work, however when will the Ministry solve the issue of the fisherman who are at Okapale?
- 7. How is the Ministry monitoring the quotas allocated to factories on conditions of absorbing employees, and how is the Ministry making sure that such employees are genuinely benefiting from such quotas?
- 8. What system is the Ministry using when allocating such quotas to factories who are mandated to provide employment to our people?

Question 72 (	(2025-06-25)	

Hon. Susiku (IPC) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

I rise today with deep concern on behalf of the thousands of Namibians across the country who are suffering in silence due to a severe shortage of doctors in our public health sector. This situation is not only alarming but also dangerous to the health and wellbeing of our citizens - particularly those in rural and underserved areas.

One of the pressing reasons for this shortage is the unattractive remuneration offered to our public doctors. The salary packages currently being paid to these highly skilled professionals do not reflect the gravity of their responsibility nor the length and rigour of their training. Let us not forget that many of these doctors were sponsored by the Namibian Students Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF) to study abroad - often in countries like Russia, China, Ukraine, and Cuba - where they trained for 6 to 7 years, sometimes under difficult conditions.

Yet, when they return to serve their country, these doctors are often demoralised by working environments that lack proper infrastructure and offer little in terms of financial incentive or professional development.

As a result, we are witnessing a troubling trend: doctors serving the government for the minimum required years and then resigning to establish private practices, leaving the public sector in crisis.

We must ask ourselves: What is the cost of neglecting our health professionals? We cannot afford a situation where lives are lost because there is no doctor on duty, or where patients in remote clinics wait days to be seen by a professional. The people of Namibia deserve better, and our doctors deserve to be treated with dignity.

Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services, I would like to respectfully ask:

- 1. What plans are in place to revise the salary structures of public doctors to make them more competitive and attractive?
- 2. What measures has the Ministry undertaken to retain these doctors in the public service after they complete their obligated service years?
- 3. Has the government considered a long-term incentive and retention scheme that rewards commitment to the public health sector, especially for those who serve in rural and hard-to-reach areas?

4. And lastly, is there any collaboration between the Ministry of Health and NSFAF to create contractual conditions that encourage longer-term service for government trained doctors?

The World Health Organization recommends a doctor-to-patient ratio of 1:1.000, yet Namibia still lags far behind this standard. We must act decisively and urgently to reverse this trend. A healthy nation is a productive nation. If we are to make Vision 2030 and our national development goals a reality, we must invest in those who hold the lives of our people in their hands.

Let us not continue to send doctors abroad only to lose them to the private sector once they return. Let us show, through action and policy, that we value the medical profession not only in words but in tangible support. In doing so, we will be safeguarding the health of this great Republic and the future of our people.

I take the Hon. Minister in confidence that as she is a medical practitioner herself, she will understand the problems/dilemma our doctors in the public sector are facing.

\_\_\_\_

# Question 73 (2025-06-25)

Hon. Kangulu (IPC) asked the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs:

Honourable Minister,

I rise today not only as a representative of the people but as a voice for those whose sacrifices laid the foundation of our independence, our veterans of the liberation struggle, who gave their youth and energy in sacrifices for the liberation of our mother land Namibia, yet many of them to this end live in poverty, in shacks, in forgotten corners of our society.

The Veterans Act of Namibia clearly outlines the rights, dignity, and recognition owed to our veterans. It was established to ensure that those who fought for this nation are not only remembered but supported through structured benefits and programs. However, what we are witnessing is a situation where the recognition of a veteran is dependent on a process that often excludes the most vulnerable, a process that requires community identification, which is prone to bias, delay, and unfair omission.

Hon Minister, I respectfully ask the following Questions.

- 1. What mechanisms does the Ministry have in place to ensure that all veterans, including those living in informal settlements and deep down rural areas, are properly identified and included in veteran support programmes?
- 2. Can the Minister explain the criteria currently used to verify an individual's status as a veteran, and whether this process is accessible, credible, transparent, and inclusive to all regions?
- 3. What is the Ministry position to this end in considering direct family of veterans who have passed away without receiving recognition or benefits, yet their contribution are well known.
- 4. Can the Ministry consider revising the identification process to include a more

inclusive, evidence-based approach rather than relying primarily on reference identification methodology, which may lead to exclusion and injustice?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 74 (2025-06-26)

Hon. Kalangula (IPC) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

I rise to ask on the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) for the Meteorological services, for Hosea Kutako, Walvis bay, and Eros Airport.

Honorable Minister, AWOS is a fully configurable airport weather system that provides continuous, real-time information and reports on airport weather conditions. AWOS systems are designed to provide accurate, reliable, and standardized weather information to support safe and efficient air navigation, aligning with the global standards by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)/World Meteorological Organization standards (WMO), Namibia not yet in compliance. A tender worth N\$30 million for the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) for installation at Hosea Kutako, Eros and Walvis Bay Airport was awarded back in 2022, and to date no installation was done.

The consignment is reported to be in Walvis Bay for almost a year (uninstalled) and 60% of payment was done already. It is one of the findings during the ICAO audits as well that might lead to the downgrading of the International Airports if not installed. In light of the significant rise in failures of meteorological equipment over the past years which undermine trust in aviation safety, especially during the rainy season. It has become alarming that we have meteorological equipment that are needed for Aviation safety and they are stored uninstalled at the coast (The coast weather can have a depreciation and malfunctional effect on the equipment over time). Air transport remains a very important mode of transport for tourists to Namibia, and thus also enables our fellow Namibians connect and conduct business with the entire world. Safety is paramount in Aviation.

HONOURABLE MINISTER, it is based on this background that I now add to ask the following questions:

- 1. What concrete plans are in place to restore and maintain reliable weather services? This concern is compounded by the reported runway excursion incident in April, which was linked to inadequate weather data.
- 2. Can the Honorable Minister, clarify the current status regarding the installation and payment of the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS), which remains uninstalled and in the custody of the Ministry of Works and Transport due to the absence of required technical personnel from China? What assurances can you provide concerning after-sales support, particularly given that the same system is reportedly non-functional at present?
- 3. While on Meteorology, Honourable Minister, is there an Action Plan for the Meteorological Services as per the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' initiative at Climate of Parties (CoP27) in Egypt in 2022, regarding Early Warning for ALL to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected from hazardous weather, water, or climate events through life-early warning systems by end 2027?

#### Question 75 (2025-06-26)

Hon. Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

According to the Observer newspaper report, the Ministry of Education paid N\$1.68 million to a supplier for emergency procurement of tents without following the required procedures between 2022 and 2023. Head Office transferred an amount of N\$1 million to the regional account to procure tents, but the quote was higher than the budgetary provision.

"No proof was provided on the amount of N\$1 million that was transferred to the Regional Account to procure tents, since the payment was made by the head office".

The report further stated that the procurement process did not involve the Procurement Management Unit or the Procurement Committee. Dispute the planner of the directorate did the sourcing of the quotation at the regional level. There are no bidding documents and other mandatory documents such as a certificate of good standing, tax certificate, good standing certificate from the Social Security Commission, and affirmative action compliance certificate or exemption, and it was discovered that the accounting officer failed to show any evidence of disciplinary action taken against the officials involved.

#### My Questions:

- 1. Honorable Minister, are you aware of this incident?
- 2. How factual is this report?
- 3. Perhaps you can explain why the procurement procedure was not followed.
- 4. What further mechanisms are in place for the Ministry to interdict the same scenario from repeating itself in the future?

# Question 76 (2025-06-26)

Hon. Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

One road in Ondangwa town goes from behind the fire station via Onguta location to Ondangwa open market This road was established three years ago, but this road is neither done nor finished. The pave interlocked that was started but left unfinished is being vandalized. The road is now in use but looks like it's been forgotten for 100 years.

#### My Questions is:

- 1. What is happening there?
- 2. What was the period given to the contractor to finish the work?
- 3. Why was the pavements left unfinished?
- 4. Was this road underbudgeted?

5. Can you investigate that road and explain the step?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Question 77 (2025-07-01)

Hon. Thomas (BCP) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

One hundred days, in the office, still no clear direction about all production, all dependence on the government objective (policy insight, investment analysis, environmental concerns, governance and transparency): The importation of all in Namibia is still the same and it has been that way for years. many African countries had diverted from that dependence. The parable by a great Africa president Thomas Sankala, "Whoever feeds you controls you" is an example of Zambia's energy shift. From importing to Coowning the source in a landmark move for regional cooperation, Zambia has secured a 26% stake in Angola's Lobito oil refinery, Benguela province, signalling a bold shift in Africa's development strategy. No longer content remain a passive consumer or a mere transit corridor. Zambia is stepping up as a co-investor in one of the continent's most stragic energy assets. The route of the pipeline is presumed to follow the Lobito Corridor railway trap. Set to be operational by 2026, this partnership reflects a broader, more ambitous vision intra-Africa collabration grounded in equity, not aid. Coupled with the planned Lobito Corridor and Lusaka oil pipeline to Zambia, it's laying the foundation for energy security, reduced fuel cost and long-term economic resilience. It's a transformative model that retains value within the continent, empowering African nations to extract refine and distribute their own resources on their own terms.

- 1. What is the Namibian government's long-term strategy for oil production in light of global energy transitions?
- 2. How does the Ministry plan to balance national energy security with export and import commitments?
- 3. Is there a plan to diversify revenue streams away from oil dependence? If so, how soon?

#### Oil Production and Reserves

- 4. What is the current proven oil reserve estimate, and how is it being managed for sustainability?
- 5. Are there quick plans to open up new exploration blocks or invite direct investment in upstream activities?
- 6. How is the Ministry ensuring transparency in oil reserve reporting and production figures?

# Revenue and Economic Impact

- 7. What percentage of national revenue is currently derived from oil and how is this revenue allocated?
- 8. How will the Minister ensure that oil wealth translate into tangible economic development for citizens?

9. Are there reform planned for fuel subsidies or pricing policies that affect public and private sectors?

Governance and Transparency

- 13. How will contracts with oil companies be negotiated and monitored for compliances?
- 14. What measures are in place to combat corruption in the sector?

\_\_\_\_\_

# **Question 78 (2025-07-01)**

Hon. Mootu (LPM) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts, and Culture:

Despite repeated commitments to professionalize sports in Namibia, as stated in the Ministry's budget speech, the sector remains in a precarious state, marked by poor remuneration, irregular payments, and lack of structural investment particularly toward referees and officials, who are foundational to upholding the integrity and fairness of the game.

Recent reports indicate that match referees and assessors have not been paid for over four months, with the 3rd Division and Women's Regional Leagues unpaid since March 2025, the Debmarine Premiership unpaid since April, and the 1st and 2nd Divisions as well as the FNB Women Super League unpaid for two months. These individuals are paid as little as N\$50 to N\$400 per game, despite the physical, emotional, and professional demands of their work. Match officials have repeatedly inquired about their salaries and have been met with the response that "there is no money." This amounts to institutional neglect and places livelihoods at risk.

Furthermore, the Ministry has stated its intention to professionalize sports, but no tangible blueprint has been submitted to Parliament. This raises the following questions:

- 1. When will the Ministry table a comprehensive blueprint for the professionalization of sports in Namibia, as committed to in the 2025/2026 budget speech?
- 2. What research or feasibility studies have been conducted to inform this professionalization agenda?
  - Who are the contracted consultants, researchers, or institutions responsible for compiling this data?
  - How were these stakeholders selected, and what are the key findings?
- 3. Can the Minister confirm whether they have consulted the Namibia Football Association (NFA) and are aware that referees, match assessors, and other officials remain unpaid for extended periods?
  - Beyond referees, who else is owed outstanding payments, and what timelines have been committed for their payment?

- 4. What immediate steps will the Ministry take to resolve the crisis of unpaid referees, given that this is no longer a technical or administrative issue but a bread-and butter matter affecting individuals who support households, children, and broader communities?
- 5. What systems or policy frameworks will be introduced under the professionalization plan to ensure that all sports participants referees, players, coaches receive prompt and transparent payments, particularly during national and international competitions?
- 6. While respecting the independence of the NFA, what oversight mechanisms will the Ministry employ to safeguard accountability, financial transparency, and institutional integrity in the administration of sports?
  - And how will the Ministry mitigate concerns about political interference while still upholding its public duty to intervene when public funds and livelihoods are at stake?

Referees are guardians of fair play, and by undervaluing their role, we undermine the credibility of our sports system.

Ouestion 79 (2025-07-01)	

Hon. Likando (IPC) asked the Minister of of Environment Forestry and Tourism:

The Human wildlife conflict self reliance scheme was introduced as a measure of relief, but it had been widely criticized for inadequate compensation, delay in pay outs and bureaucratic hurdles, leaving many victims without the support they deserve. The current compensation of N\$100,000 for a human life is not only insufficient but also undermines the dignity of the affected families. In addition, the tourism sector which significantly supports conservation funding and rural livelihoods, remains fragile and underdeveloped, especially after the COVID -19 pandemic. Underinvestment in infrastructure, over reliance on international tourists, and lack of support for community based tourism initiatives continues to limit the sector's potential.

In light of these pressing issues and Namibia's vision for inclusive and sustainable development as outlined in Vision 2030, NDP6, and the sustainable development goals, I hereby pose the following questions:

- 1. What immediate and long term measures is the Ministry implementing to effectively address the increasing human wildlife conflict, particularly in high risk regions such as Zambezi, Kunene and Kavango, where communities continue to suffer loss of life, crops and livestock?
- 2. Given the public concern over the inadequate and inefficiency of the Human wildlife conflict self reliance scheme, is the Ministry reviewing the current compensation framework to ensure that it reflects the actual value of human life and economic losses, and that the process is made more accessible and timely?
- 3. In light of the continued fragility of the tourism sector, what strategies has the Ministry developed to revitalize tourism, particularly through investment in infrastructure, promotion of domestic tourism, and support to community based tourism enterprises?

4. What measures are in place to ensure that the local communities benefit meaningfully from conservation and tourism activities, so they are not merely victims of environmental policies, but active beneficiaries and partners in sustainable development?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 80 (2025-07-01)

Hon. Prof. Dr. Amupanda (AR) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister:

We are elected Members of Parliament and one of our duties is to make laws. Next week Parliament will go on recess, only to return in September, six months down the line, since were elected.

It has been almost four months since we took an Oath as Members of the 8th Parliament. There is real possibility that the year 2025 will go by without a single law passed by Parliament.

To date, the Executive have not tabled a single Bill. It is also absolutely clear that the Executive have a historical culture of bulldozing numerous Bills and forcing them down the throats of Members of Parliament in the shortest period of time. This will not be tolerated in the 8th Parliament.

I therefore ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia, the following:

- 1. What type of business unusual that resulted in six months without tabling of a single legislation by the Executive? What is the hold up?
- 2. We were promised that laws such as the Land Bill, would be tabled in this House. When is the Bill going to be tabled? We know that 1,2 million hectares of our land is owned by foreigners and land continues to be given to foreigners. This legislation has been promised to be one of those legislation that are going to address these problems. When is that legislation going to be tabled?

It is not that we are not capable of developing and submitting laws. We have been told clearly that the National Assembly lacks the necessary capacities but we thank the office of the Speaker for the efforts to try and address these problems of capacity in the National Assembly.

3. What is the general approach? Or it is just another promises of the laws that are coming and cannot come? What concrete days can we receive these laws?

•

#### Question 81 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform:

Witvlei Meat was established in August 2006. A year later, on 25 July 2007, export approval was obtained for becoming a European Union (EU) Beef Export Abattoir and processing facility in the town of Witvlei. Since then, Witvlei Meat has employed approximately 100 permanent staff members on an equal opportunity base to supply customers in Europe and the Scandinavian countries. For almost 10 years, between

2006 and 2015, the Witvlei abattoir was the main and biggest employer of over 200 workers at the small settlement, which falls under the Okorukambe Constituency and enjoys village status.

However, the situation at the settlement changed when the abattoir, which was operated by Witvlei Meat, had to close shop due to the severe reduction in the company's Norwegian beef quota - and that led to the wholesale retrenchment of the over 200 workers.

In 2022 there was a glimmer of hope for Witvlei residents as Agribank invited tenders to sell the abattoir, by early 2023 the Agribank's spokesperson Fillemon Nangonya equally confirmed to New Era there was great development around the reopening of the abattoir, saying the bank and the successful bidder were now in the process of finalising payment and the eventual takeover of the facility. Furthermore, Okorukambe Constituency Councillor Rocco Nguvauva also shared at that time (2023) that over 250 permanent and seasonal jobs would be guaranteed for the residents in the coming months. I am sure this was not a campaign strategy.

Unfortunately, the hopes for progress and employment on the revival Witvlei abattoir for the Witvlei community was short lived because as of now, it is 12 years later, and the abattoir remains not operational. The building is standing there and about to be dilapidated and lose value.

- 1. What is the current status quo on the Witvlei abattoir?
- 2. Who currently owns the Witvlei abattoir?
- 3. What happened to the foreign and local investors?
- 4. What are the prospects of the abattoir being operational again and provide employment?
- 5. What is the loss in terms of income, either to Agribank or the Development Bank?
- 6. When are you going to visit the abattoir and the community of Witvlei and brief the nation about the steps to be taken to open this abattoir.

# Question 82 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

The fundamental factors which determine the ability of the economy to achieve economic growth are economic resources available to the society and efficiency of their use. These questions address one of the issues of state and regional development, such as the road infrastructure, which is a key prerequisite of social and economic development of any country. This is particularly true in Namibia where the road transport is the most widely used mode of travel vastness and lack of rail ways and airstrip in most of part of the country. Since the importance of the road network transcends national boundaries, the expansion and upgrade of the road network is vital to increase economic performance. Hence, poor road infrastructure poses hindrance to both local and foreign investments in countries depending on them in terms of their economic performance and competitiveness enhancement.

The road infrastructure comprises all types of roads in each area, including various structures and serves to transport passengers and goods. The road infrastructure includes all road categories, facilities, structures, signage and markings, and so on needed to provide for safe, trouble-free and efficient traffic. Extensive network of roads of high quality is essential for trouble-free road transport, which supposed to be most widely used mode of transport in Namibia. The advantages of road transport include transporting passengers and carrying goods regardless of distance directly to a destination, the relatively high speed and no time restrictions. Road transport and its infrastructure enable to carry people as well as materials, raw materials, semi-finished and finished products intended for sale. Road infrastructure affects the flexibility and mobility of the workforce, which is reflected in the employment level. Moreover, higher employment level makes the standard of living grow. The degree to which the road infrastructure is developed has an impact on several areas, such as for instance the development of tourism, influx of foreign investments, regional development and rural local economic development. Eventually, all the indicators - employment, wages, consumption, savings, investment, benefits of tourism - will have an impact on the volume of gross domestic product, the key macroeconomic indicator, which measures the economic output of the State. In addition, transport is significant in international context in terms of foreign trade and cooperation in different areas. In this respect, a well-developed network of roads and superior road infrastructure are required. However, all categories of roads are needed in the country and its regions.

Hon. Minister, the government has prioritised upgrading the Okahandja-Hochfeld Otjozondu-Okondjatu MR112 road to bitumen level as part of the Roads Authority's Integrated Business Plan - Road Authority's Strategic Plan for 2018/19 to 2022/23. The distance of MR112 from Okahandja to Okondjatu is 190km, that this road is critically important as it can link important towns and regions such as Okahandja, Okondjatu, Otjivanda, Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Kavango East and Zambezi region respectively. Take note that the Otjozondu Manganese and the Purity Manganese mines are located on this road, as well as a school and a health facility. The upgrading of the MR112 road to better standards removes a substantial amount of heavy traffic load from the Bl Okahandja-Otavi road that has significantly recorded high number of accident, crutches, injuries and fatalities and is the leading accident prone road in Namibia.

The MR112 road will not only link various commercial towns but will also link regions, for example Otjozondjupa region, the two Kavango regions as well as Zambezi region to SADC countries such Botswana and Zambia. From Okahandja to Rietfontein MR112 is shorter with about 60Km meaning motorist will save on fuel cost and both roads will reduce car crashes to minimal consequently to fatalities and injuries. The MR112 road is very crucial in ensuring road safety, social economic development, and growth and it will serve as a safe haven for motorist in Namibia going to North-eastern part of Namibia.

Hon. Minister if this road is upgraded to bitumen standard the Walvis Bay Corridor Group or any investor will set up a warehouses in Okondjatu where the deliveries of goods will be done as well as a pick-up point for the coastal line, northern, southern parts of Namibia and Angola including other parts of southern Africa. During the following financial years 2024/2025 an amount of 5 million was budgeted for and 2025/2026 an amount of 3 million was budgeted for while 2026/2027 a 50 million and 2027/2028 110 million respectively is budgeted for MR112 road.

1. Why has the upgrading of the MR112 road between Okahandja-Okondjatu not yet commenced and when will it commence?

- 2. If MR112 is not upgraded will the Minister take full responsibility of all the accident that will happen on Bl road from Windhoek to Otavi, for failing to create a safe heaven detour via MR112 road?
- 3. Hon. Minister, your Ministry in collaboration with Road Fund Administration and Road Authority has impacted upon the apportioning of roads concept into Bituman standard of 10 KM per annum, this concept is being observed at the Road between Du Plessies plaas to Epukiro with the distance of 48 Km and Road Authority is constructing this Road 10 or less Km per annum and up to date only 20km has been done for the past 3 years, the remaining 28 km is projected to be completed in 2027/2028 financial year. The same concept of apportioning is being observed at the road from road to Buitepos road to Otjombinde-Tallismanus for about 150 km, only 10 Km have been done so far. Meaning this road will be completed after 16 years' time frame if the apportioning policy prevail. Why can't these roads be completed in less than three years? Were Du Plessis Plaas Epukiro road of 28 km can be completed this year and Otjimbinde road you cover at least 50km per annum?
- 4. The community of Otjimbingue are asking me when will Hon. Minister Nekundi upgrade our road from Karibib to Otjimbingue of only 60km into bitumen standard even to low volume seal?
- 5. The community of Omatjete send me a SMS requesting me to ask Hon. Minister Nekundi of their road from Omaruru to Omatjete of about 70km that when will the Minister upgrade their road into bitumen standard of low volume seal?
- 6. Will Minister inform the nation which roads will be upgraded into bitumen standard during this financial year? Please tell them in which region and constituency, from which place to which, how many kilometres, at what stage are they like detail design, consultant and the contractors appointments and when is the site handover and when will the work commence?

#### Question 83 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the of Minister Information and Communication Technology:

Telecom Namibia's mobile service, TN Mobile, continues to face constant service disruptions, including network outages, slow internet speeds, and billing system challenges. These issues have led to significant customer dissatisfaction and raised concerns about the company's infrastructure and service delivery. Despite nonstop public apologies and promises of improvement, many users feel that the TN Mobile's responses are insufficient, especially when outages result in financial losses or missed educational opportunities.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What specific measures is Telecom Namibia implementing to prevent frequent network outages and service disruptions?
- 2. How does the Ministry ensure that Telecom Namibia meets minimum service quality standards, especially in critical sectors such as healthcare and education, where network outages have severe consequences?

- 3. What assessments has the Ministry conducted on the economic and social impact of prolonged network outages on businesses and essential services such as pharmacies, schools, and government institutions?
- 4. How is the Ministry supporting affected sectors to mitigate the negative effects of these telecom service disruptions?
- 5. Given the frequent service interruptions, does Telecom Namibia have a policy to compensate customers for periods of service unavailability, especially for prepaid users who have fully paid for services?
- 6. How does the Ministry hold Telecom Namibia accountable for repeated service failures, and what penalties or corrective actions are in place to ensure prompt resolution and compensation for affected customers?

# Question 84 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Itope (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

The Karasburg West is strategically located but is a resource-constrained area in Southern Namibia, it is facing more challenges specifically with shortages of electricity and water scarcity.

Its economy is tied to transportation with (Bl highway) and farming trading activities across the border with South Africa.

I do recognize the effort of SWAPO Party led government. which implemented several measures to mitigate crime in Karasburg West Constituency, with focus on more visible patrols, especially along the B1 highway and near informal settlements. The police station was built to mitigate crime in Noordoewer. But in the Aussenhker we need to do more regarding generators to help when the electricity outrage occurs.

The main crime prevention by the police are focusing on stock theft and illegal boarder crossing.

The government have taken steps to address crimes in Karasburg West but Aussenkher Police station is facing several challenges which hinders the effective crime control and community safety.

In light of the above, I respectfully direct the following questions to the Honourable Minister.

- 1. Is the Minister aware that the Aussenkher and Karasburg Police Station operates without a backup generator which is compromising the operations of the Police Officers who are experiencing daily power outages?
- 2. Can the Hon. Minister enlighten the House whether the Ministry will take immediate steps to provide a generator to ensure uninterrupted power supply for critical operations, including; holding cell security, evidence storage, communication system (radio, computers and lighting for night time patrols and emergencies)?

3. How many other Police Stations in Namibia face similar generators shortage and can the Minister assure the House that the issue will receive urgent attention?

\_\_\_\_

# **Question 85 (2025-07-02)**

Hon. Itope (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

Lack of basic accommodation for mothers of infants admitted in public hospitals - a public health and dignity concern.

The well-being of women, particularly mothers accompanying their sick or hospitalized toddlers, is a critical issue that deserves attention in our public healthcare system. In several public hospitals across Namibia, especially in rural and semi-urban settings, there is currently no enough provision for mothers or guardians who are required to stay at the hospital while their toddlers receive medical treatment.

As a result, many of these mothers are forced to sleep on the floor, in corridors, or in open waiting areas, Onandjokwe and oshakati State hospital, they often sleep without mattresses, blankets, or even basic sanitation access. This is not only physically and emotionally tiring for the caregivers but also poses a significant health risk for both mother and child, especially in cases involving toddlers.

While I recognize and appreciate the Ministry's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of healthcare infrastructure, this challenge calls for urgent intervention as it relates to dignity, safety, and maternal health.

Considering the above, I respectfully direct the following questions to the Honourable Minister:

- 1. Is the Minister aware that in many public hospitals, mothers of admitted toddlers are sleeping on hospital floors due to the lack of prepared resting or sleeping facilities?
- 2. What plans does the Ministry have to ensure that mothers and guardians who accompany their hospitalized toddlers are provided with safe, hygienic, and dignified accommodation within or near hospital premises?
- 3. Can the Minister provide a timeline or roadmap for addressing this issue, and does the Ministry intend to integrate mother-and-child rest shelters as part of future hospital infrastructure development or renovation projects?

·<del>\_\_\_\_</del>

#### **Question 86 (2025-07-02)**

Hon. Kanyemba (IPC) asked the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs:

I rise on a matter of grave concern affecting the backbone of our national security. the men and women of our Nambian Defence Force who serve with dedication, yet face systemic neglect.

The Namibian public deserves answers about why:

- Junior soldiers languish for a decade without promotion,
- Our promotion rates lack behind of our regional peers,
- No transparent criteria exist for career progression.

This is not just about fairness, it's about combat readiness. When soldiers see no future in uniform, they leave for better-paying jobs in private security, taking their training with them.

Honourable Speaker, we cannot defend Namibia with a demoralized force. I therefore put the following questions to the Minister of Defence.

Given the growing public concern about career stagnation in our Defence Force, can the Minister provide this House with:

- 1. What are the standard criteria for promoting military personnel across different ranks?
- 2. Can Minister provide a detailed breakdown of promotion rates over the years (2022-2024), showing: The number of soldiers promoted annually from private to Warrant Officer Level?
- 3. The average time-in-rank before promotion at each level, how these figures are compared to the regional benchmarks?
- 4. What specific reforms are being implemented to address this morale crisis?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 87 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Brinkman (IPC) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

The Hon. Minister Dr. Esperance Luvindao on June 30, 2025, announced the decongestion strategy aiming to reduce overcrowding and long patient waiting times at key health facilities, especially in Windhoek by:

- Increasing night shift staffing for Katutura Health Centre (KHC) which will now have five doctors on night duty. up from three, to handle peak demand between 19:00 and midnight2.
- Okuryangava and Otjomuise Clinics will operate daily from 07h00 to 19h00, starting July 1, 2025.
- Okuryangava Clinic will transition to 24-hour service from August 1, 2025 with Maxuilili the next in line.

We commend the Minister of Health for initiating this bold and timely decongestion strategy-it's a clear sign of responsiveness to the real pressures faced by frontline staff and patients all over the country. However, while we welcome these immediate interventions there are burning questions I want clarity from the Hon. Minister:

1. Is there a formal policy outlining roles, responsibilities. and resource commitments?

- 2. Will the Ministry define standards, monitor compliance, and manage malpractice risk?
- 3. Which categories of services and specialities are included in this initiative?
- 4. How does the Ministry plan to sustain the volunteer program in the long term without risking burnout or reduced morale?
- 5. Given that only 15 18% of Namibians can currently access private healthcare. predominantly in urban Areas, is there a plan to include rural and under served areas where private presence is minimal?
- 6. What support mechanisms (e.g. security, transportation, meals) will be in place for the volunteer doctors?

#### Question 88 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kaaronda (SWANU) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

There is a community called Ounongo Uoje Ngaukujame Group B, resident at Greenwell Matongo, Eveline Street 3218. This community group purchased plot 3218 from the City of Windhoek in 2004 as an unserviced residential plot. The group consists of 46 households which translates to 675 inhabitants of whom 321 are old age pensioners, minors and persons living with disability. They have built themselves one toilet for the male members of the group and another for the female members of the group as well as one communal water tap. The City of Windhoek had disconnected the water supply and the communal tap stands dry and without running water. This is due to an outstanding water debt.

In 2006 the City of Windhoek started to charge the residents a penalty fee for failing to build brick houses.

- 1. Is there a way your Ministry can intervene and come to the rescue of this community by directing the City of Windhoek to serve the plot, reconnect the supply of water and in so doing open the possibility for the households to have water taps?
- 2. Considering the fact that over 300 inhabitants of this plot are old age pensioners and minors as well as people living with disabilities, will your Ministry be in a position to help the community with debt cancelation?
- 3. Servicing of the plot will result in each household to acquire its own plot or erf number which ultimately will leave each household with its own title deed, is this something your Ministry can assist with?

#### Question 89 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kaaronda (SWANU) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform:

Namibian land owned by foreign nationals is one way through which many dispossessed Namibians are continually deprived of a dignified living as well as the right to benefit from what ancestrally belongs to them.

250 farms, measuring about 1,2 million hectors are owned by foreigners.

- 1. When are you going to expropriate these farms?
- 2. Do you have any pending requests or applications by foreigners to acquire any form of land in Namibia, agricultural or otherwise?
- 3. The ancestral land of indigenous Namibians stolen from them by white people who now are considered to be Namibians, remains one of the most burning issues our struggle for freedom has not resolved. When are you going to expropriate our land in the hands of these white people?
- 4. Is the restoration of the dignity of black Namibians on your radar or are you just about the maintenance of the status quo?
- 5. What is fair and just compensation to you and why does it appear as if the requirement to pay a fair and just compensation is an impediment to land reform, or is it not?
- 6. Please share a comprehensive list of all land owned by foreign nationals, indicating the purpose for which the said land is owned by such foreign nationals and the time they were granted authorization to own such land by your predecessors and by yourself if indeed you granted such authorization?

## Question 90 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Nghifikwa (IPC) asked the Minister of Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

#### **PRELUDE**

Honourable Minister the recent revision of our basic education curriculum led to the introduction of the Advance Subsidiary (AS), replacing Higher Level.

Although this change is a welcomed development, opening up more study opportunities for our young people both locally and internationally, perceived poor implementation may just deny our youth potential study opportunities that comes with it.

Through NIED coordinated programs, subject teachers were taken through tailored workshops and subject meetings in order to capacitate them to implement the revised curriculum smoothly. However, school laboratories are not prepared at all, leaving them largely not responsive to the needs of the new curriculum. The Ministry is simply putting "new wine in old bottles" and expect it to work.

This is factual for subjects like Physics, Chemistry and Biology. These subjects have laboratory based lessons and final practical examinations (paper 3) to be written in a laboratory setting. However, instead of using laboratories, learners write their final practical examinations using ordinary and dining halls and normal classrooms, which affect their results, but also put their lives and that of their teachers at risk because of the hazardous nature of the chemicals being used.

According to various examiner's report, since the inception of the AS curriculum implementation, most practical work could not be conducted throughout the year, in order to develop the skills that can be applied to the requirements of the examination and consequently the majority of learners did not show understanding of scientific method, as well as the ability to design, carry out and evaluate experiments with confidence and competence as stipulated in the syllabus.

It is therefore against this backgroung that I ask the Honourable Minister the following questions:

- 1. Is the Minister aware and able to admit to this House that our school laboratory facilities are not responsive to the needs of the new curriculum in Physics, Chemistry and Biology?
- 2. Does the Hon. Minister know that the AS learners in Physics, Chemistry and Biology write their final examinations not fully well prepared because of lack of laboratory facilities in AS designated schools?
- 3. Hon. Minister, are you aware that the limited capacity of existing laboratory facilities affects the performance of AS learners in the above mentioned subjects? In such a way that:
  - Some schools have to make learners write in sessions. While others are writing, the remaining group of learners are quarantined somewhere waiting for their turn, a situation that can take up to the night depending on the number of leaners in a given school. How can the Minister expect learners to prepare for their next examinations in this situation?
- 4. Is the Hon. Minister aware that using hazardous substances for practical exams in unsafe venues like halls risks injury, loss of lives, property damage, and costly lawsuits against the State?
- 5. Does the Hon. Minister know that at the moments, it is risky for the regions to give some much needed chemicals to majority of our schools in fear of harming people because there are no laboratory facilities to keep them?
- 6. What are the plans does the Ministry has in place to address the critical shortage of laboratory facilities in our secondary schools and ensure that the revised curriculum is being implemented fully as well as ensuring the safety and performance of our people?

#### Question 91 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

- 1. Can the Honourable Minister confirm or deny the existence of a well organized syndicate within the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, that is allegedly involved in the illegal sale of national documents such as identity cards, work permits and passports (an issues that has been widely reported in the media in the rcent years).
- 2. Could the Honourable Minister provide a comprehensive update on the following: In line with Namibia's commitment to combating corruption and upholding the rule of law.
- 3. What specific investigations, internal or in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), have been initiated by the Ministry since these allegations first emerged, and what are the current findings and progress of these investigations, including the number of cases referred to the Prosecutor-General for prosecution?
- 4. In accordance with the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 (Act No. 8 of 2003) and the Public Service Act, 1995 (Act No. 13 of 1995), how many Ministry officials have been suspended, or subjected to disciplinary action, or criminally charged in connection with the illegal sale of national documents over the past five years, and what measures are in place to ensure that all implicated individuals face appropriate legal and disciplinary consequences, including asset recovery, where applicable?
- 4. What systemic vulnerabilities within the processes of application, verification, and issuance of national documents have been identified as contributing factors to this alleged syndicate's operation, and what concrete, time-bound measures is the Ministry implementing to strengthen these systems, enhance security features of national documents, and prevent future occurrences of such fraudulent activities?

# Question 92 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kondorozu (NUDO) asked the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

The Namibian Police Act, 1990 (Act No. 19 of 1990), establishes, organizes, and administers the Namibian Police Force. It regulates the force's powers, duties, and procedures for maintaining law and order and ensuring internal security. The Act also covers the discipline, appointment, promotion, and discharge of police officers.

The Act establishes the Namibian Police Force, outlining its structure and membership. It defines the specific powers and responsibilities of the police force in carrying out their duties. The Act prescribes procedures for maintaining internal security and upholding law and order. The Act regulates the procedures for managing police personnel. It also addresses other related issues.

\_\_\_\_

Furthermore, the Public Office-Bearers (Remuneration and Benefits) Commission Act, 2005 (Act No. 3 of 2005) establishes the Public Office Bearers (Remuneration and Benefits) Commission in Namibia. This Commission is responsible for advising the President on the remuneration and benefits of public office holders.

The Act formally establishes the Public Office-Bearers (Remuneration and Benefits) Commission. The Commission's main role is to investigate and make recommendations to the President regarding the remuneration and benefits of public office holders. This includes conducting research and publishing an annual report on its activities.

The President ultimately determines the remuneration and benefits of public office bearers based on the Commission's recommendations. The Act also outlines procedural matters related to the Commission's operations, such as meetings and reporting.

The Act defines a public office-bearer as a Member of Parliament, a member of a Regional Council, or any other person declared as such by the President through a proclamation. It does not talk about an Secretary-General of a political party.

What must the Commission recommend?

The terms of reference are set out in the enabling legislation. The President must take into consideration inter alia the recommendation of the Commission and obtain advice as to what the remuneration and benefits ought to be for Public Office Bearers. The Commission must investigate and consider any matters relating to remuneration, benefits, and other conditions of public office bearers, consult with the Minister responsible for finance, and then make the necessary recommendations to the President.

In making its recommendations, the Commission must take cognisance of the roles, duties, and responsibilities of different categories of Public Office Bearers, consider current principles of remuneration in society in general, as well as current inflation trends

In terms of Section 8 (1), the President shall by proclamation in the Gazette, determine the remuneration and benefits payable to public office bearers.

Having said this, I have been reliably informed and personally observed that the Secretary-General of SWAPO Hon. Sophia Shaningwa has been accorded with the VVIP protection status without following the due process.

I have checked there is no correspondence from POBC to the President to that effect, the Presidency never issued any proclamation in Gazzette, to give that VIP protect to an ordinary Secretary-General of one political party in Namibia.

The police also confirmed that there was no case of threat to the live of Hon. Shaningwa to be accorded that protection. She is free and happy, and we love her. No harm will be done to her.

Questions to the Right Hon. Prime Minister.

- 1. What criteria did the Government use to give VVIP protection status to the incumbent SWAPO Secretary-General Hon. Sophia Shaningwa?
- 2. How much State money have been illegally spent from the State coffer just to protect a SWAPO Secretary-General since she was illegally accorded that status?

- 3. Is this not part of gratification which is tantamount to corruption and treason in your own voice and that of the President?
- 4. When will your Office instruct the Namibia police to detach the VVIP status that was illegally accorded to a SWAPO Secretary-General and what are the consequence to be followed to all the culprits?
- 5. When will the VVIP status be accorded to all the leaders of different political parties and their Secretary-General in Parliament and benefits related to protection?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Question 93 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Ministry of Health and Social Services recruited approximately 948 volunteers in the Grade 12 to Grade 15 posts to assist with the outbreak on contract basis. The contracts were terminated on 30 December 2022, upon termination of the contract the volunteers were informed that they would be absorbed into the various positions within the Ministry and would be called to be placed accordingly. These volunteers are well acquainted with the health care system in the Ministry as they worked in the respective job categories for approximately two (2) years since the outbreak of the COVID - 19 pandemic and further the Ministry was facing a shortage of staff with over eight hundred and seventy-one (871) vacant posts available in 2022. On 4th October 2022, the Ministry wrote a letter to the Cabinet requesting the Cabinet to allow the Ministry to fill in some of the posts in critical areas to boost the healthcare system services. The request was for the Ministry to make use of internal recruitment to fill various positions at the level of Grade 12 to Grade 15 and to specifically give preferences to the COVID-19 volunteers to internally compete for some posts in critical areas. The Ministry further stated that budgetary provision was made for the 2022/2023 financial year.

In response to the Ministry's letter the then Secretary of Cabinet Mr. Simataa, confirmed the Cabinet position that granted the Ministry permission in a letter dated 19 October 2022, to go ahead with their request, provided that the vacant posts to be used have already been approved for filling and that budgetary provision has been made to this effect. Furthermore, exemption to advertise the vacant posts was granted by the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation in a letter dated 25 October 2022, to give preference for the COVID-19 volunteers to internally compete for the vacant Grade 12 to Grade 15 posts at the Ministry.

The issue at hand now is that the Ministry has not followed through with this request since the permission was granted by Cabinet. Many of the COVID-19 volunteers are still unemployed despite having experience working in health related environment, as the Ministry failed to follow through on its word.

Despite the ongoing staffing shortfall within the Ministry and budgetary constraints, these COVID-19 volunteers were promised these job placements back in 2022 and there was a budgetary provision for 2022/2023 allocated for them to fill in the relevant posts. It has recently been reported in print media that the mortuaries within the country are also facing a shortage of staff. This is a good opportunity to have the COVID-19 volunteers employed as mortuary staff and hereby absorbing them through an internal recruitment process as they have the relevant skills and experience.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services is a critical sector of the economy of the country and should be operating at maximum capacity to improve and maintain the quality of healthcare in Namibia, hence why addressing the shortages of healthcare workers, is deemed a high priority for the nation.

- 1. When will the COVID-19 volunteers be employed into the vacant posts for the Grades 12 to 15 as per the Ministry's request to Cabinet, a request that was granted in 2022?
- 2. Why were the COVID-19 volunteers not absorbed into the various posts as per the Ministry's request, reason being?
- 3. Will there be a provision for a new budget for the employment of the COVID-19 volunteers?
- 4. How does the Ministry intend on addressing the shortage of healthcare workers in the country?

# \_\_\_\_

#### Question 94 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Haitota (IPC) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

I rise to ask the following questions regarding Kombat Town, a historic mining settlement in the Otjozondjupa Region that continues to operate in a legal and governance vacuum despite its economic significance and renewed mining activities.

While comparable mining towns such as Oranjemund, Arandis, Rosh Pinah, and Tsumeb have received formal town or local authority status, Kombat has not. The town remains under-serviced and largely unregulated, raising serious concerns about public accountability, equitable development and access to basic services.

Of particular concern are reports that private individuals are collecting funds from residents and businesses in Kombat Town without any visible legal basis or public audit mechanism. Despite these collections, there is no clear evidence of reinvestment into essential services or infrastructure improvements.

#### I therefore ask the Honourable Minister:

- 1. What is the official legal and governance status of Kombat Town? Has it been considered for proclamation as a town or village council? If not, what are the constraints?
- 2. Who owns the land and infrastructure in Kombat Town and under what legal basis are private individuals or entities permitted to collect funds from residents or businesses?
- 3. How much money has been collected from residents or businesses in Kombat Town since the resumption of mining activities or private control?
- 4. What structures or legal provisions exist to audit suh financial activities and protect the ommunity's interest.

- 5. Why has Kombat not been declared a town or local authority, despite its historical relevance and current economic activity?
- 6. What actions is the Ministry taking to ensure Kombat residents are protected from informal governance, financial exploitation, and service neglect?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 95 (2025-07-02)

Hon. Cloete (IPC) asked the Minister of International Relations and Trade:

Namibia signed the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement on July 2, 2018, ratified it on February 1, 2019, yet only gazetted its tariff schedules nearly six years later, on December 20, 2024. Our first export under this agreement, comprising 45,000 tonnes of salt destined for Nigeria, was dispatched on June 30, 2025. This marks a protracted seven-year journey from commitment to execution.

Salt is classified by industry experts as a basic commodity with minimal value-addition potential, largely logistical in nature. This export thus starkly contrasts with our declared policy focus on "industrialisation, manufacturing and value addition" through strategies such as Growth at Home.

Additionally, despite the government's policy to foster SME participation within Africa Trade Area, the inaugural shipment was executed by Walvis Bay Salt Holdings, a large-scale commodity enterprise, highlighting a disconnect between stated SME empowerment objectives and actual trade practices.

Given these observations, I pose the following questions:

- 1. What specific, time-bound commitments will the Minister provide to ensure Namibia's subsequent A.f.C.F.T.A exports include significant value-added manufactured goods, beyond raw commodities?
- 2. Considering growth at home strategies emphasis on commodity based industrialisation and value chain development, what specific industrial projects are currently underway to enable Namibia to export value-added products such as processed agricultural goods, manufactured textiles, or beneficiated minerals under A.f.C.F.T.A?
- 3. When will Namibia dispatch its second A.f.C.F.T.A export consignment, and what specific products will it include? Can the Minister assure that the next shipment will feature diversified product categories beyond raw commodities, clearly reflecting genuine economic diversification?
- 4. Given the critical importance of the A.f.C.F.T.A for Namibia's economic transformation, will the Minister commit to providing regular ministerial updates to Parliament detailing: (a) volumes and values of all exports by product category; (b) numbers of Namibian companies actively participating; (c) specific progress on value addition projects; and (d) comparative analyse of Namibia's performance relative to other African countries?

#### **Question 97 (2025-07-08)**

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

Hon. Minister, it has come to my attention that at your Ministry there is victimization going on more especially at Tertiary health Care and Clinical Support Services. This victimization occasionally happen when it comes to purchasing of medical equipment. This victimization always started when subordinates refuse to process illegal procurement process as per the instruction of the supervisor. Some of your staff members has taken up with Ombudsman office due to lack of support from the ED office because all top management are in cahoots and benefiting from this maladministration.

This whole issue started 4 years back when one of your staff member refused to pay a certain company (SS KUNENE) who did not followed the procedures of procurement. The company delivered medical equipment to the tune of some millions without being issued with a purchase order as per State Finance Act or Treasury Instructions. He/she refused to pay this company as one of the senior officials was putting pressure on the staff and warned she/her and another colleague who have to run away and now working elsewhere who can verify this allegation.

After sometimes the very same senior official asked the colleague when he/she is going to print a purchase order for UBUNTU without following proper procedure and for goods not received. Another instruction was issued to pay (UNIMED) that did not finish with the installations and training on the equipment they installed. Up to date there is no documentations whereby the trainees signed that they received training and that the job was completed successfully.

There is more story to tell about what is happening at the Ministry of health and Social Services.

I hereby ask the following Questions ons to the Hon. Minister

- 1. Are you aware that Millions and Millions have been paid at your Ministry without following correct procurement procedure? If yes, what actions will you take to stop this practices?
- 2. Will you please appoint internal auditors to verify if the procurement process went accordingly through, advertisement, or request for quotation, appointment of BEC, and PMU and authorised by the accounting officer and report to the Namibian nation.
- 3. Are you are that there are staff member at your Ministry, especially Tertiary health Care and Clinical Support Services, that are on sabbatical leave of depression due to victimization at work. If yes, how will you help the situation and help the poor victim.
- 4. Are you aware that emergency procurement is the order of the day at your Ministry, whereby an order is issued from the directorate to the ED without coming to PMU?
- 5. Your Ministry is one of the Ministry whereby the same person who set the specification. Is seating in the BEC, and PMU there are no external people from other line ministry of Government agencies invited to come adjudicate the procurement process.

6. When are you going to reshuffle your staff members from Director up to the Control Administration level?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 98 (2025-07-08)

Hon. Hishoono (IPC) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

On the 19th to 20th June 2025, a political party housed their pioneer's movement at Haimbili Haufiku Secondary Schools hostel, where learners were attending holiday classes. I understand that the pioneers were singing and chanting slogans which prompted the boarders to join the pioneers.

This event was well attended by many politicians including some members of this August House and even the whole Prime minister was there.

- 1. Is the Honourable Minister aware of the said political activity at Haimbili Haufiku Secondary school hostel?
- 2. Who authorised it and what measures are being taken against those who violated the Education Act 3 of 2020, specifically in sections 22(1) and 22(2) which clearly addresses the prohibition of political activities in Schools or the article 15 of the Namibia Constitution was violated?
- 3. Did the political party obtain a written authority from the parents of this children?

Let me refresh your memory

Honourable minister on the 19th of June 2019 the then education Executive Director (yourself) in the Namibian Economist newspaper, ran an article indicating that schools should not be utilized for political activities. And I quote

"Schools are sensitive and secure areas with the ministry having to fulfill a critical role of responsibility for all learners. Leadership and management at regional and school level are hereby urged to safeguard against political activities on school premises," she added.

Honourable minister, when and how did we get here?

Are you now tolerating this Honourable minister?

Is this not conflict of interest and is this not double standard?

# Question 99 (2025-07-08)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sport, Art and Culture:

1. What steps has the Ministry of Justice taken towards establishing a Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Namibia to investigate cases of missing and

murdered Namibians from the liberation era and early post independence period, and what justifies initiating such a process at this time, in light of longstanding calls by families and civil society?

2. What legislative or policy measures has your Ministry undertaken to review or reform the appointment processes of the ECN, the Ombudsman, and the Auditor-General to strengthen their independence and alignment with international democratic standards?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 101 (2025-07-08)

Hon. Hengari (PDM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

The escalating rental costs in Namibia exacerbate the cost-of-living crisis and disproportionately burden vulnerable citizens. In urban centers like Windhoek, average rental prices have surged to N\$7,348 in 2024 for two-bedroom units, driven by a housing shortage estimated at 300,000 units. This scarcity enables landlords to charge exorbitant rents, often requiring deposits equivalent to one month s rent. which are not placed in interest-bearing accounts, depriving tenants of financial growth. The Rent Ordinance 13 of 1977 provides for Rent Boards to regulate rents and address tenant complaints. yet these boards have been largely non-functional since 1990/1991, leaving tenants unprotected in an unregulated market. The absence of effective oversight contrasts sharply with the ordinance's intent to balance tenant protections with landlord interests,

a mechanism that could cap unreasonable rent hikes and ensure fair deposit handling if revived.

I therefore ask the following:

- 1. Why are tenant deposits, often equivalent to a month's rent, not mandated to be held in interest-bearing accounts to benefit renters, as required under Section 25(2) of the Rent Ordinance 13 of 1977, and what steps is your Ministry taking to enforce compliance and ensure landlords return deposits fairly. given widespread reports of tenants struggling to recover these funds?
- 2. With Namibia's housing backlog estimated at 300,000 units, requiring N\$76 billion to address, what specific policies and investments is your Ministry pursuing to accelerate affordable housing development, thereby alleviating the supply constraints that empower landlords to exploit vulnerable Namibians with excessive rental charges?
- 3. When will the Namibian Cabinet act to revive Rent Boards under the Rent Ordinance 13 of 1977 to protect tenants from exploitative rent increases while maintaining landlord business interests, and what concrete reforms are planned to ensure their effective establishment and operation across regions such as Khomas and Erongo?
- 4. Given the 2024 average rental price of N\$7.348 and inflation rates reaching 5.1%. what measures is your Ministry implementing to mitigate the affordability crisis that forces tenants to allocate disproportionate portions of their income to rent particularly in urban areas where two-bedroom unit prices have surged by 14.7%?

- 5. What plans does your Ministry have to modernize the outdated Rent Ordinance 13 of 1977, including its inadequate fines (e.g., N\$200) and lack of enforcement mechanisms, to create a robust regulatory framework that curbs rent exploitation without stifling the property market, and what timeline is envisioned for such reforms?
- 4. Given the 2024 average rental price of N\$7.348 and inflation rates reaching 5.1%. what measures is your Ministry implementing to mitigate the affordability crisis that forces tenants to allocate disproportionate portions of their income to rent particularly in urban areas where two-bedroom unit prices have surged by 14.7%?
- 5. What plans does your Ministry have to modernize the outdated Rent Ordinance 13 of 1977, including its inadequate fines (e.g., N\$200) and lack of enforcement mechanisms, to create a robust regulatory framework that curbs rent exploitation without stifling the property market, and what timeline is envisioned for such reforms?

Question 102	(2025-07-08)	

Hon. Mwashindange (IPC) asked the Minister of Finance:

Namibia went 12 years without a national census, having last conducted one in 2011. The 2021 census was postponed due to financial constraints and apparently the COVID-19 pandemic. Only in 2023 was census finally conducted. This Delayed Census has potentially hurt the country's revenue stream from the Southern Africa"Customs Union (SACU) of which revenue, Namibia depends heavily; as SACU receipts accounts for up to a one third of our revenue to our National budget.

The revenue sharing formula depends on accurate data, of which formula include:

- 1. Customs Component: based on share of intra-SACU imports.
- Excise Component: distributed according to each country's share of SACU GDP.
- 3. Development Component: 15 % of excise, weighted inversely by per-capita GDP.

Hon. Minister, Hon. Members, Both GDP and GDP per-capita for SACU rely heavily on up-to-date population figures from a reliable census. Without recent population data, estimates misrepresent economic size and per-capita wealth. This distorts excise and development shares.

Having seen that our population almost doubled during the delayed census period and Since 15% of excise-based SACU transfers are distributed inversely to per-capita GDP, this means Namibia receives less than its fair share, shifting more money to better measured countries like South Africa and Botswana. Hon. Speaker, Hon. Members, the BILLIONS that we lost could have been used to buy medicines for our people, create jobs for our unemployed citizens especially our young people and even increase the old age grant for our elders who were promised an increase during campaigns.

Against this background, I therefore would like to ask the minister the following questions:

- 1. Can the Honorable Minister tell this August House and the people of Namibia, how much we've lost as a result of this gross mismanagement in failing to conduct census?
- 2. If budgetary constraints led to postponing the census, what alternative data sources (e.g.large-scale sampling) were considered to inform SACU allocation formulas?
- 3. What are the other outdated data that is hampering our SACU receipts and How soon after can we expect any recovery or improvement in SACU revenue
- 4. Does this only apply to SACU or even to the downgrading of Namibia to lower middle income Country?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 103 (2025-07-08)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

Despite Namibia's push for Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and Electronic Identification (E-ID), many natural-born citizens, including the elderly, face an egregious bureaucratic nightmare: forced to re-prove their citizenship due to the Ministry of Home Affairs' systemic failures in record- keeping. This violates Article 4(1) of our Constitution and risks rendering thousands stateless.

I therefore submit the following questions to the Minister:

- 1. Why are Namibian citizens, with valid national documents, subjected to reverification and treated as foreigners, often demanded impossible documentation like deceased parents' records that the Ministry itself lacks?
- 2. Why have manual birth registers not been fully digitalized and integrated into a centralized, secure national database, forcing citizens to physically travel for records and risking permanent data loss? What contingency plans exist for these aging physical records?
- 3. What is the specific legal basis for the Ordinary Residence Board (ORB) to adjudicate citizenship, and why are citizens denied essential documents (IDs, passports) while awaiting its often delayed decisions, forcing costly legal action?
- 4. Why does the Ministry confiscate original SWA/Namibian birth certificates during inquiries and refuse their return, and what legal basis permits this practice?

The Ministry is constitutionally mandated to safeguard citizen documentation. We demand immediate digitization of all manual records, clear legal justification for ORB, an end to unnecessary citizenship re-verification, transparent procedures, and accountability for lost records.

I await the Minister's detailed response.

#### Question 104 (2025-07-08)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

Honourable Speaker,

I rise today to address a matter of grave concern to the Namibian people and the critically to financial stability of our state-owned enterprises, particularly the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (Namcor).

Despite a N\$1.2 billion government bailout in April 2024, Namcor continues to face severe liquidity challenges, stemming from what the company itself describes as "governance failures, poor operational decisions, and excessive borrowing," including issues like poor margin management, excessive and unprocedural credit facilities, stock theft, and unauthorised asset purchases. This ongoing situation raises serious questions about accountability and the effectiveness of our anti-corruption mechanisms.

#### Honorable Minister;

- 1. It is our understanding that over a hundred (100) number of corruption cases have been reported to and investigated by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) and subsequently referred to the Prosecutor-General's office. Yet no action has been taken by Prosecutor General, given that the current administration is telling us that corruption is treason, is the Prosector General aiding and promoting corruption (treason in your own words)?
- 2. How many corruption cases specifically related to Namcor have been investigated by the Anti-Corruption Commission and subsequently submitted to the Prosecutor-General's office for decision?
- 3. For these Namcor-related cases submitted to the Prosecutor General's office, can the Minister provide an update on their current status? Specifically, how many have resulted in a decision to prosecute, how many have been declined, and how many are still awaiting a decision?
- 4. Given the public interest and Namcor's ongoing financial challenges, when can the Namibian people expect concrete decisions and actions from the Prosecutor-General's office regarding the outstanding Namcor corruption cases?
- 5. There are public concerns regarding the timely and impartial resolution of these cases. What specific measures is the Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Prosecutor-General's office, implementing to ensure that all alleged corruption cases at Namcor are processed efficiently and fairly, ensuring that no individual, regardless of their position, is beyond the reach of justice?

#### Question 105 (2025-07-09)

Hon. Ihemba (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safefy and Security:

The following Questions

0005 07 00)

It has become a growing concern over the past years to the citizen of Namibia and that is with regard to the current state of affairs at police stations country wide, countless complaints have been reported to commanding officers of various police stations pertaining trail awaiting offenders extorting money from their fellow inmates and in some instance serious crime are being committed in full views of police officer subjecting the lives of citizens to great danger and this include the relatives of those incarcerated.

Hon Minister the list of complaints which is widely reported in the media is too long and this goes without saying that vulnerable offenders are sodomised by the fellow inmates and nothing is done to prevent this from happening, contrabands are smuggled into these holding cells by criminals in cahoots with some other criminals in uniforms (Police Officers).

Hon Minister this is not just speculation, because we have material evidence here to support this claim. These corrupt tendencies and uncap abilities have found their way into the department of population services as well. This specific area of concern has caused erosion of public trust in NAMPOL, and reports indicate a significant decline in public trust due to inhumane treatment experience by offenders and their relatives alike and as we speak police engagement with community is at its lowest level.

It is against this background I stand to positive following questions

- 1. Can the Hon Minister take this house in confidence and confirm or deny the following allegations prevalent in holding cells country wide:
- a) Extortion
- b) Sodomy/ Rape
- c) Smuggling of contrabands into holding cells
- 2. Can the minister provide statistics on contraband seizures and smuggling cases dated back to 2023 up to date?
- 3. What are the interventions from the Ministry to address these allegations?

Hon Ministry you will agree with me that these offences are very serious crimes, therefore we need an urgent and permanent solution.

# Question 106 (2025-07-09)

Hon. April (SWAPO) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture the following:

About few days ago, the green Hydrogen scholarship was launched by the Vice President. In line with the Order made by the late President - I don't think the recruitment criterion is aligned with the intention of the order by the late President. H.E Dr. Hage Geingob.

The Presidential order to empower and built capacity in line with the fledging green hydrogen economy seems to be generalized. Regrettably, as someone that was part of the implementers of that order it seems like the intention of the President has been modified/disregarded. The intention is not carried in the recruitment criterion set by the new team of implementers of the said Order.

- 1. Now therefore, Hon Minister, what will happen to the ones who don't have the 20 points in grade 10, will they be left to continue to scavenge?
- 2. Why did your Ministry disregard the initial plan of bridging in order to qualify for the recognized technical qualifications? Don't you think that approach will be proper in order to allow as many intakes as necessary and as possible?
- 3. What will happen especially to those at the fringes of the urban centers and in the villages?

The criteria to recruit is not responsive to the tacit realities in the two regions. It's in stark contrast with the aim and reason of the Presidential Order. Also, if my memory serves me well, an amount of close to 600 million was already availed to the Southern campus of UNAM - benefiting the Kharas region.

4. Now therefore, is your quantum of sharing the current amount in equal half fair?

Hon. Minister, it is my honest opinion that the current criterion is aggravating the current situation and leaves volumes of hopeful young ones hopeless.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Question 107 (2025-07-09)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture the following:

There is an ongoing concern for the Brave Warriors which is the lack of proper sporting infrastructure in the country. This has resulted in the team having to play their home games outside of Namibia, which is both embarrassing and demoralising for the players and the fans. It is a shame that a country with such a rich football culture does not have a FIFA and Confederation of African Football approved stadium to host its national team's games.

This situation not only affects the team's performance but also has a negative impact on the overall development of football in Namibia and it also deprive the nation of financial spinoffs that we anticipate deriving from the home ground games. Without proper infrastructure, it becomes challenging for young players to aspire to play for their national team, as they do not have the necessary facilities and resources to train and hone their skills.

In 2024, Namibia was forced to move all home games after their stadiums in Windhoek were not passed for use in the World Cup qualifiers by the Confederation of African Football, these home games were moved to South Africa.

It has been recently reported in print media that, the Namibian Football Association has announced that the home games have been moved to Botswana, a decision that was influenced by costs and that Botswana is closer to home, has a safe for road transport and there is an enormous prospect of transporting Brave Warriors supporters to Francistown to support the team in September for the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifying matches.

The government must understand the importance of investing in sport, particularly football, as it not only brings pride and unity to the nation but also has the potential to

boost the country's economy. The Brave Warriors have proven time and again that they have the talent and determination to succeed, but they need the government's support to reach their full potential. It is time for the government to step up and provide the necessary funding and infrastructure for our local stadiums because moving from one country to another for home games doesn't serve the Nation or the team in any way. This team deserves to have a proper home stadium where they can play in front of their passionate fans and showcase their skills to the world.

The Brave Warriors are not just a football team but a symbol of national pride and unity. It is the responsibility of the government to protect and support this national asset. Today is was reported in the print media that NFA is refusing to inform the nation the cost implication of Brave Warriors migrating from South Africa to Botswana for their home games that's why I am engaging the Hon. Minister to be accountable to her nation.

# Questions to Hon. Steenkamp

- 1. What were the costs for the Brave Warriors home games that were played in South Africa?
- 2. What are the costs implications of changing the venue for the Brave Warriors home games to Botswana?
- 3. What are the prospects of the Brave Warriors having to play their international games in Namibia, in the sense that when will the government attend to the soccer stadiums predicament to upgrade them to a FIFA and CAF level and when will the Minister announce this with the nation?

#### Question 108 (2025-07-09)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security the following:

I am rising to raise a critical issue affecting thousands of Namibian citizens and their fundamental right to a legal identity: the processing and issuance of national documents. This matter directly impacts citizens' access to essential services such as social grants and pensions for our elderly, and critically, the ability of our school-going children to sit for national final examinations, which is paramount to their educational progression.

Despite commendable efforts during the broader mass registration initiative in 2024, many ordinary Namibian citizens are still awaiting their national documents or any official feedback from the Ministry of Home Affairs. This prolonged delay is causing significant frustration and hardship, depriving our elderly of their constitutional right to pensions while they are still alive to enjoy the fruits of this country, and jeopardizing the educational future of our children who require these documents for their crucial final examinations

Honourable Speaker, I therefore ask the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security the following:

1. What is the current status of all applications from the February-July 2024 nationwide outreach, including total received and outstanding processing stages?

- 2. What urgent measures is the Ministry implementing to address the extensive delays in issuing documents, which are severely affecting access to social services and grants?
- 3. What immediate, targeted steps is the Ministry taking to expedite document issuance for school-going students needing IDs for national final examinations?
- 4. What is the Ministry's plan for timely, individualized feedback to all applicants from the 2024 outreach, and when can they expect to be contacted?
- 5. What specific actions is the Ministry implementing to match the initial speed of the 2024 mass registration campaign with equally swift processing and issuance of documents? Given its proximity to the 2024 election and perceived efficiency then, when can our elderly and students expect the same commitment to receive their vital documents and enjoy the fruits of this country?

# Question 109 (2025-07-09)

Hon. Mbuti (IPC) asked the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare:

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, in April 2025, our nation was shaken by a deeply disturbing wave of gender-based violence in Okahandja and Usakos, where women and children were reportedly abducted, raped, and, in some cases, murdered." These tragic incidents are not isolated-they are part of a recurring pattern of GBV in Namibia. Despite the existence of legal frameworks, GBV Protection Units, and awareness campaigns, women and children continue to suffer and die while seeking protection that often comes too late or not at all. This crisis demands accountability and urgent, measurable action.

Honourable Minister, the urgency of this matter cannot be overstated. The safety and dignity of our women and children depend not only on policies and statements but on visible, effective, and accountable action.

Therefore, I respectfully ask the Honourable Minister the following questions:

- 1. At the National level the country recorded 17 669 GBV cases were reported in Four years which is 2020-2024. Given these alarming figures, can the Minister explain what measurable impact the Ministry's GBV Protection Units and regional shelters have had in reducing the incidence of GBV?
- 2. In the 2024/25 financial year, the Ministry reported that only less than 400 survivors received shelter, despite over 17 669 GBV cases being recorded nationally. What is the reason for this gap, and what immediate steps is the Ministry taking to expand and improve shelter access, especially in underserved rural areas?
- 3. The GBV Information Management System is reportedly still manual, fragmented, and lacks full integration. When will the Ministry transition to a fully electronics, centralized system that allows for real-time reporting, accountability, and public access to GBV data by region?

#### Question 110 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Minister of Finance:

We have observed an increasing number of houses and backyard flats being rented out in towns across the country, with landlords charging tenants amounts ranging from N\$2,500.00 to N\$18,000.00 per month. Tenants dutifully pay these amounts monthly for the accommodation services provided.

However, it appears that many of these landlords do not officially declare this rental income for tax purposes, and therefore do not contribute tax revenue to the Government of the Republic of Namibian as required.

In this regard, I would like to respectfully ask:

- 1. Could you kindly explain to the nation why many landlords with backyards flats and similar rental arrangements seemingly do not pay tax on this business activity? Is there any legal provision that exempts them from paying tax?
- 2. What strategies or mechanisms does your Ministry, in collaboration with NamRa plan to implement to ensure that individuals earning form such rental services comply with tax laws and contribute their fair share?

# Question 111 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

Why are electricity distributors such as CENORED and NORED demanding full cash payment for the installation of transformers, instead of offering flexible payment options - for example, a 10% deposit followed by installed plans over 24, 60, or even 72 months?

This requirement poses a major challenge to rural communities, where distances from the main supply points are long, and residents often lack the financial capacity due to these upfront financial constraints.

# Proposal/Recommendation:

The Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy should consider strategic collaboration with NAMWATER and the Rural Water and Energy supply Directorate. Whenever NAMWATER pipelines extend deep into rural areas, electricity poles lines from CENORED or NORED should be developed in parallel. This integrated infracture approach would make it easier and more affordable for residents, schools, clinics, and other institutions in remote areas to access electricity and digital networks. This could significantly contribute to rural development and upliftment.

#### Question 112 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Mulunga (IPC) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform:

According to the Veterinary and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Act (Act No. 1 of 2013), a veterinarian who obtained his/her qualifications from an institution listed by the World

Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) across the globe but not accredited by the Namibian Veterinary Council (NYC), is required to write a NYC examination (to assess Day 1 competencies) for unconditional registration to practice the veterinary profession as a Veterinarian in Namibia.

However, the current status quo, is that the said examination is administered and marked by the UNAM 's School of Veterinary

Medicine (SoVM), as part of an exit/final exam for UNAM"s School of Veterinary Medicine final-year students and it is not a NVC examination to assess Day 1 competencies as stipulated in the Act of Parliament (Act No. 1 of 2013).

I would therefore like to ask the following:

- 1. Why is the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform allowing such illegal practices to continue, which has mainly affected graduates from previously disadvantaged backgrounds?
- 2. Why is the Ministry continuing with the practice of Unam School of Veterinary Medicine offering the examination, when it's very clear in the fact that such examinations should be offered by the Namibia Veterinary Council?
- 3. There are more than 30 Namibian veterinarian graduates, some of whom graduated as far as 2020 sitting at home unregistered, what is the Ministry planning to address these matters of the veterinary graduates who are unable to meet the new set conditions for registration?
- 4. At the moment we have unregistered graduates doing their Master's degree in Pretoria sponsored by the meat board. Are we now saying that after they are done with their Master's degree, they should rejoin UNAM as 3<sup>rd</sup> year students, is this fair?
- 5. When will the Ministry address the concerns and recommendations given to the Ministry by the affected students in September 2024?

# **Question 113 (2025-07-10)**

Hon. Brinkman (IPC) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

I seek clarification and accountability on several pressing governance and compliance matters regarding the Namibia Institute of Pathology (NIP), as raised by the Namibia Public Workers Union (NAPWU), and as reported in credible news publications, notably The Namibian newspaper.

A. Questions directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services:

1. NIP's Mandate under the NIP Act (Act No. 15 of 1999):

Can the Honourable Minister confirm whether the establishment of the N\$15 million manufacturing facility (Innovation Hub) at Swakopmund, which focuses on producing laboratory consumables, falls within the statutory mandate of the Namibia Institute of Pathology as defined in Section 5 of the NIP Act?

- 2. Has the NIP Act been amended to include manufacturing activities?
- 3. Has NIP obtained all relevant certifications and approvals for such manufacturing, including:
  - Goods Manufacturing Certificate
  - ISO 13485:2016 and ISO 9001:2015
  - FDA Approval (where applicable)

In-country evaluation and product compliance certification?

4. Is the Innovation Hub intended for internal use by NIP or is it intended for commercial purposes?

If for business purposes, can the Minister provide:

- A detailed business plan
- Financial projections
- 5. Why has the Executive Director (ED) of the Ministry of Health and Social Services been excluded from the NIP Board?
- 6. In terms of Section 19 of the Articles of Association, the ED is to be appointed by the line Minister. Has this appointment occurred?
- 7. If not. what is the reason for the omission. and will the Minister remedy this oversight as required by the Act'?
- 8. It has come to our attention that the NIP Board Chairperson is a co-owner of 20 Financial Solutions (Pty) Ltd, a private company currently offering financial services to NIP employees for affordable housing.

Was this interest disclosed in compliance with:

- Section 234 and 241 of the Companies Act
- Section 247 of the NIP Act
- 9. Were conflict of interest declarations recorded in board minutes?
- 10. Can the Minister provide access to the relevant board minutes?

The above concerns warrant urgent attention to safeguard public confidence, ensure legal compliance, and protect the integrity of NIP's governance framework. I respectfully request comprehensive responses with supporting documentation where applicable.

#### Question 114 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Kalangula (IPC) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

Roads Contractor Company (RCC) was formed in 1999 as per RCC Act no. 14 of 1999, with a mandate to be a State road construction company, (a company born from the Ministry of Works and Transport). It started well, but later riddled with incompetence and mismanagement to the extent that the company got long forgotten by its owner (the State) with No Accountability, such that its current status is not known, because it still exists, but hardly get any tenders from the same sole shareholder.

Honorable Minister, it is based on this background that I now ask the following questions:

- 1. What is RCC's current operational status and financial health?
- 2. What is the government's plan, -to reform, revive, or shut it down?
- 3. Why are we allocating N\$55.9 million annually to an SOE without public accountability, asset clarity, or visible work?
- 4. Can the Honorable Minister table a report on RCC's assets, staff complement, audited finances, and the executive performance contracts?
- 5. Why has the RCC been excluded from road tenders in favor of foreign state companies, and what does this say about Namibia's trust and confidence in its own engineers and more so on self reliance as a country?
- 6. Will the Ministry revisit former RCC community maintenance models to support local authorities and empower Namibian professionals?

#### Question 115 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Kangulu (IPC) asked the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs:

I rise to seek urgent clarification on matters of growing concern within the Namibian Defence Force, the review of pay scales and rank structure of Sergeant Majors in the Namibia Defence Force (NDF).

In a lener written and signed by then former Minister of Defence, Hon Penda Ya Ndakolo on the 12.08.2016 to then CDF, Hon Ya Ndakolo confirmed the discontent among Sergeant Majors (SM) at NDF Services, Brigade, Group, Battalion and Company level of NDF

He further empathetically reaffirm on the causes of such discounted with a clear benchmarked of other countries including South Africa.

His intervention has extended to a move of initiating this matter into the Military Steering Committee (MSC), requesting them to convene as a matter of urgency and review the pay scales and rank structure in question and ensure implementation.

On the 03.09.2020 the then CDF instructed COS HR to implement Minister and subsequently MSC directive whereby on his own writing said "I want this implemented as a matter of priority" Unfortunately to date this matter is still pending for implementation.

#### I therefore ask:

- 1. Is Hon Minister aware or not aware of this concern?
- Given nearly 10 years of pending implementation on such directive, what is the possible negative impact do such lack of implementation or merely maladministration had in the development of our institution/NDF?
- 3. Given the circumstances and the situation of such discounted within the rank and file of the disciplined force as confirmed by then Minister, how does such affect the performance of these Sergeant Majors in all various levels of their duties?
- 4. As far as accountability is concern, are we likely to see action taken against these that caused this unnecessary and or deliberate delay?
- 5. When do we expert this matter to be implimented and will the effected group of Sergeant Majors be entitled for back pay as from 03.09.2020 upon implementation?

# Question 116 (2025-07-10)

Hon. Kangulu (IPC) asked the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs:

It has come to my attention that the professional allowance structure within the NDF has been applied inconsistently, unfairly, and unjustifiably. The most affected are aircraft technicians, where we have three different groups:

- Some have their allowances completely removed;
- Others have them arbitrarily reduced; and
- A small group continues to receive full allowances, despite all performing the same duties, at the same rank, with the same qualifications.

This inequality has persisted for over 16 months, despite numerous internal attempts to address it. The consequences have been devastating:

- Members have sold their homes and vehicles:
- Some have withdrawn children from school; and
- Others have defaulted on credit obligations, resulting in asset seizures and financial ruin.

Additionally, the Special Recruitment Initiative, introduced to attract skilled professionals - electricians, welders, plumbers, IT specialists, HR personnel. and others-has yielded no meaningful deployment. These skilled recruits remain idle and underutilised, while the Ministry continues to outsource services they are qualified to perform.

I therefore ask the Honourable Minister:

- 1. Is the Minister aware of these disparities in the professional allowance system? If so, what urgent interventions are being undertaken to correct them?
- 2. What justified the reduction or removal of allowances for personnel performing identical duties?

- 3. Will affected members be reimbursed for lost income during this 16-month period?
- 4. Why does the Ministry continue to outsource services while internally recruited professionals remain inactive?
- 5. Will the Minister commission a comprehensive audit and review of the NDF's HR policies to ensure equitable treatment and uphold the principle of equal pay for equal work?

\_\_\_\_

# **Question 117 (2025-09-02)**

Hon. Mouton (IPC) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology:

The Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) has indeed been grappling with significant budget constraints, often relying on government bailouts to cover operational costs. This has historically led to issues like underpayment and overworking of staff, which in turn negatively affects the quality of service and workforce morale.

Despite this, the auditor general's report reflects that for the financial year end of 31 March 2023 some members of NBC management were remunerated N\$750 698 above the remuneration bands as per section 4 of the Public Enterprises Governance Act, 2019, which directs that the remuneration and other service benefits of the Chief Executive Officer and other management staff of a public enterprise must be determined by the board of the Public Enterprise with the concurrence of the relevant Minister, with due regard to any directives laid down by the Minister under Section 4. The corporation has not obtained the Minister's concurrence as required by the Act, I therefore ask the following questions:

- 1. With this clear non-compliance of the Act has the Honorable Minister addressed this issue with the board and managers, and if so, what explanation did they provide?
- 2. What has the Minister done to hold these people accountable?
- 3. Since the 2023 audit report is yet another adverse opinion for NBC, how often does the Minister engage with NBC to ensure better accountability?

## Question 118 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Moongo (PDM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

The Rehoboth Town Council has been involved in persistent labour disputes over the years, the latest of which ended in a June 2025 court ruling. In this judgment, the Town Council was ordered to pay N\$1.8 million to a former employee, an amount it is unable to settle. Consequently, an auction has been scheduled for 06 September 2025, to sell five vehicles and one grader belonging to the Town Council. In addition to the award, the Council has accumulated significant legal expenses due to its reliance on private legal practitioners. This situation is not unique to the Rehoboth Town Council but it reflects a broader trend among many local and regional authorities in Namibia, which often struggle with legal challenges including labour and employment disputes, procurement

and tender conflicts, contractual disagreements, land allocation and ownership matters, service delivery issues, and compliance with statutory or regulatory frameworks.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Honourable Minister, are you aware of the critical financial situation of the Rehoboth Town Council, and can the Ministry initiate a full forensic audit of its financial management, budget implementation, and compliance with the Local Authorities Act 23 of 1992?
- 2. Will the Honourable Minister inform this House of the total costs incurred by Local and Regional Authorities in lawsuits over the past five financial years, specifying the amounts already paid in settlements or judgments and the amounts still pending before the courts?
- 3. To what extent have these legal costs diverted funds away from service delivery priorities such as housing, sanitation, and infrastructure maintenance?
- 4. What are the most common causes of lawsuits against Local and Regional Authorities in Namibia and what trends have been observed in recent years?
- 5. Has the Ministry conducted any audits or reviews to determine which Local and Regional Authorities are most exposed to litigation, and what corrective measures have been taken?
- 6. What proactive steps is the Ministry putting in place to build the legal and governance capacity of Local and Regional Authorities, strengthen compliance with procurement and administrative procedures, and reduce the financial risks arising from litigation going forward?
- 7. Explain why many Local and Regional Authorities prefer using private legal services rather than relying on legal services from the Attorney General.

## Question 119 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Moongo (PDM) asked the Right Honourable Prime Minister:

Government vacancies advertised monthly in the Public Service Management Circular currently require candidates to submit applications exclusively in physical form, either through hand delivery or via NamPost. This system often results in delays, misplaced applications, and additional financial burdens on applicants. Consequently, many Namibians are excluded from these opportunities due to the costs of postage, long travel distances, and other barriers associated with physical submission.

I therefore wish to ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister the following:

- 1. Considering the vast distances and financial challenges faced by citizens, especially the unemployed youth in rural and remote areas, how is the government addressing this exclusion?
- 2. Namibia has made commitments towards digitalisation in several sectors. Why has the recruitment system for all government vacancies not yet transitioned to online applications, which are globally recognised as faster, cheaper, and more transparent?

- 3. The Employment Services Act, 2011 (Act No. 8 of 2011) legally requires designated employers, including government Ministries to post all job vacancies on the Namibia Integrated Employment Information System (NIEIS). Right Honourable Prime Minister, given that this requirement appears not to be consistently observed by your office, could you clarify why the government has not fully implemented this mandatory legal provision?
- 4. While we acknowledge that not all Namibians have equal internet access, could the government create hybrid systems such as online applications complemented by community digital hubs or community libraries so that no citizen is left behind?
- 5. Can the government provide a clear timeline for when Namibians can expect the transition from hand-delivered applications to a modem, secure, and cost effective online recruitment platform?

\_\_\_\_

### Question 120 (2025-09-02)

Hon. BishopThomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

The current workplace at the Shanamutango ward of Onandjokwe Hospital has unfavorable working conditions. The chairs used by the doctors, nurses and patients are so old that they are supposed to be at the site of the destruction alongside the spinning wheel

The floors and tables are broken, and there is no furniture arrangement. The blood pressure monitor is one of the oldest medical devices since the beginning of that ward.

I reiterate that an environment that is healthy is extremely important for human health hazards. A clean and well-maintained health environment is always present. A well-kept medical facility including the instruments lowers the risk of illness and has a beneficial effect on the physical and mental well-being of patients, physicians, and nurses. Additionally, it promotes healthy ecosystems and a stable climate, both of which are essential for long-term health sustainability and the welfare of society.

# My question:

- 1. Since you assumed the role of Minister, have you visited that hospital?
- 2. Is there a supervisor at that hospital?
- 3. Can the hospital be maintained by that supervisor?
- 4. For the benefit of the doctors, nurses, and patients, will you visit and ensure that the working conditions are improved?
- 5. How soon are you going to do it?

#### Question 121 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Likando (IPC) asked the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism:

As part of Namibia's acclaimed Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) programme, conservancies play a vital role in sustainable land and wildlife management, enabling rural communities to benefit from tourism and natural resource utilization. However, concerns have been raised by conservancy members, civil society, and other stakeholders regarding the transparency, fairness, legality, and community benefit of some of these concession arrangements. There are increasing reports suggesting that, in some instances, concessions are awarded without proper consultation, that benefit sharing is minimal, and certain agreements may be exploitative or environmentally damaging.

For the interest of public accountability, I wish to pose the following questions:

- 1. Could the Honorable Minister provide full details on the process followed in awarding concession agreements between conservancies and concessionaires over the past five years?
- 2. What percentage of gross or net income from the concessions is returned to the conservancy, and how is this income monitored or audited?
- 3. How does the Ministry ensure continuous monitoring of concessionaires to prevent over-exploitation or breach of contract?
- 4. What is the standard duration of these concession agreements, and under what circumstances are they renewed or amended?
- 5. (a) What is the Ministry's policy and concrete action plan to proactively prevent and remove the illegal settlement of elites and other individuals in the core wildlife and tourism zones of communal conservancies, which are critical for biodiversity and generating tourism income? (b) Why does the Ministry consistently appear to take a passive stance, leaving financially strained conservancies like Anabeb and Salambala to exhaust their limited resources on lengthy and costly court battles to protect their land from such disruptive invasions?
- 6. What immediate steps will the Minister take to: (a) directly intervene and provide legal and financial support to conservancies currently engaged in eviction lawsuits against illegal settlers? (b) Establish a dedicated enforcement unit within the Ministry to work with Traditional Authorities and Communal Land Boards to prevent new settlements and dismantle existing ones in core areas? (c) Hold officials accountable for allegedly permitting these illegal settlements, which threaten a national strategic asset that benefits all Namibians?

# Question 122 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

The nurses are public servants just like Namibian police and NDF in the Namibia government, but nurses are been treated differently when it comes to uniforms. The

\_\_\_\_

police and NDF are being provided with uniforms but not nurses. Why are the nurse not being provided with uniforms?

Nurses are buying uniforms the moment they start with training until they start working which is not the case with police and NDF they're been provided with uniforms while nurses are under the same government. Nowadays nurses uniforms are in different shape/styles due to the fact that nurses are buying uniforms from different tailors or make his/her own uniform, so each nurse want his/her uniform to be unique from others.

03 October 2023 NANU Secretary General, Junias Shilunga, said nurses having to buy their own uniform is unjustified, further stating the issue of nurses' aprons is a chronic one and the government is expected to provide these items.

Shilunga, who believes nurses buying own uniform to be an anomaly, said the union has approached the Health Ministry but their complaints are being addressed at a slow pace.

"The government is [indifferent] towards healthcare providers. They expect them to deliver quality health care but they are not taking care of these people," Shilunga charged.

The unionist said the meeting they had with officials from the Health Ministry regarding the uniform issue fell on deaf ears as no action was taken since.

Hon Minister my questions are:

- 1. Why is the Government/Ministry not providing the nurses with uniforms in order to have a standard uniforms for all nurses, male and female?
- 2. When will the nurses stop to pay for uniforms?
- 3. When will the nurses uniform be produced locally for all?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Question 123 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology:

Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC) and TN Mobile (Telecom Namibia) implemented mandatory SIM card registration in Namibia in January 2023. This initiative requires both existing and new SIM card holders to register their personal information with their respective service providers. However, despite the introduction of this measure, scammers continue to exploit mobile numbers from both MTC and TN Mobile to defraud Namibians of their hard-earned money, and many of these perpetrators remain at large.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- I. Honourable Minister, given that mandatory SIM registration was introduced to trace and prevent scammers, how does the government evaluate its effectiveness, especially considering that online scams are still prevalent despite this measure?
- 2. What mechanisms exist for Mobile Telecommunications Limited to collaborate more effectively with law enforcement and financial institutions to proactively trace scammers before consumers lose money?

- 3. Considering MTC has stated that it cannot act against scammers without a police investigation, what steps is the government taking to strengthen consumer protection against online fraud?
- 4. Does the Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia have the mandate or plans to require mobile operators to implement real-time monitoring systems to detect and report fraudulent activity, and if not, will such a mandate be considered?
- 5. Considering banks often redirect victims to telecom companies, what measures are being taken to improve coordination between banks and telecom operators to prevent fraud and provide rapid recourse to victims?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Question 124 (2025-09-02)

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism:

Trophy hunting in Namibia poses serious dangers and risks, including the loss of prime genetic stock and the threatening of species survival when the strongest animals are targeted, which weakens biodiversity and disrupts ecological balance. Economically, the practice delivers short-term income but risks undermining more sustainable and inclusive conservation tourism, which has greater potential for long term job creation and community benefit. Additionally, Namibia's international image as a conservation destination is jeopardized, as growing global opposition to trophy hunting may reduce eco-tourism demand and foreign investment.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Can the Minister provide evidence comparing the revenue generated by trophy hunting versus photographic tourism, particularly in terms of long term sustainability for Namibia's economy?
- 2. What proportion of trophy hunting revenue remains in Namibia, after deductions for foreign hunting operators, compared to community-based tourism initiatives?
- 3. How does the Ministry ensure that trophy hunting does not negatively impact Namibia's biodiversity, particularly with the removal of prime genetic stock such as the largest or strongest animals?
- 4. What mechanisms are in place to ensure that trophy hunting does not undermine Namibia's international image as a conservation destination, which could discourage broader tourism investment?
- 5. Could trophy hunting be making Namibia more vulnerable to international policy changes, such as bans on importing hunting trophies into key markets?
- 6. Is the Ministry considering transitioning towards tourism models that focus on wildlife watching, which may provide more sustainable income and employment opportunities?

#### Question 125 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Kalangula (IPC) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

Honorable Minister, Namibia through the Executive branch is reportedly planning to relaunch a national airline by late 2026 (next year), distinct from the liquidated Air Namibia. The government was reported to have allocated N\$20 million for feasibility study which was expected to be completed by June 2025, and an expression of Public Private Partnership set for finalization by August 2026.

Honorable Minister, it is based on this background, that I now ask the following questions:

- 1. Can the Honorable Minister confirm if a feasibility study was done, who conducted the studies, when was it conducted, how much was paid for it, and how different is it from the Air Namibia past reports?
- 2. How many Namibian Aviation experts are involved, and what are their credentials and history in the Namibian aviation space?
- 3. If there is a committee in place, who are the members and why is the composition and progress on this establishing of a new airline kept a secret?

# Question 126 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Lutuhezi (IPC) asked the Minister of Finance:

It was reported that NamPost will take over the distribution of social grants in Namibia starting from 1 October 2025, replacing the current contractor, Epupa Investment Technology, which will cease operations on 30 September 2025. Grant beneficiaries will now collect their payments from the nearest NamPost office or through NamPost's mobile outreach services. However, it has emerged that the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (MGECW) allegedly found that about N\$65 million in cash-based grant funds handled by NamPost was unaccounted for and is owed back to the State, as reported by The Windhoek Observer newspaper.

I rise to ask the Honourable Minister the following questions:

- 1. In view of the constitutional obligation to ensure transparency and accountability in the management of public resources, and in light of recent reports alleging financial discrepancies, may the Honourable Minister confirm whether an amount of N\$65 million is indeed missing? If so, could the Honourable Minister explain the circumstances that led to this shortfall, indicate the steps being taken to recover the funds, and outline what measures are being implemented to prevent a recurrence? Furthermore, mindful of the previous incident involving the missing N\$65 million, may the Honourable Minister clarify what specific preventative measures, oversight mechanisms, and financial controls have been instituted to ensure that current and future funds do not suffer a similar fate?
- 2. The objectives of the Public Procurement Act, 2015 (Act No. 15) are to promote integrity, accountability, transparency, and efficiency in government procurement, as well as to facilitate the empowerment of Namibian businesses. In accordance with this Act, which seeks to ensure transparency, fairness, value

for money, and accountability in the acquisition of goods and services, may the Honourable Minister clarify whether any competitive bidding process was undertaken in the decision to acquire the services of NamPost? Furthermore, could the Honourable Minister explain how this decision was reached, and provide reasons why the standard procurement procedures were bypassed, if indeed they were, in light of the objectives of the Act?

3. As NamPost plans to deploy mobile teams to serve remote rural areas, may the Honourable Minister indicate what specific plans and measures are in place to ensure that permanent NamPost outlets remain accessible in these areas, so that citizens can conveniently access their funds and address other service-related enquiries?

Question 127 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Finance:

The Ministry of Finance has awarded a tender to NamPost to render cash payment services for Basic State Grants and Allowances, reportedly worth over N\$5 billion annually translating to over N\$25 billion over a five-year period.

My submission, Honorable Members is made in the interest of accountability, transparency, and public confidence in the procurement and oversight of State funds, particularly in programs meant to serve the most vulnerable members of our society.

Background/Context of the Tender Process and Public Expectation

On 15 August 2024, the Central Procurement Board of Namibia (CPBN) closed the tender for the "Procurement of Services for the Distribution of Basic State Grants and Allowances", intended to cover a five-year period. It is understood that:

On 10 September 2024, CPBN communicated to bidders that all submissions were deemed non-responsive.

On 03 October 2024, CPBN formally cancelled the tender, as per the provisions of the Public Procurement Act.

I understand that the Ministry of Gender reportedly communicated to bidders that the tender would be re-issued, which created a legitimate expectation that the opportunity would be re-advertised publicly, ensuring continued transparency and equal participation.

However, it has now emerged-without any new public tender process-that the Ministry of Finance has awarded this mandate directly to NamPost, despite the previous tender process having been cancelled. It is understood that the Ministry of Finance justified this decision on the grounds that moving the service from a private company to NamPost will result in a cost saving of over N\$58 million.

However, the basis and methodology of this saving calculation remain undisclosed, and more importantly, the decision raises questions about:

Whether cost saving alone should justify bypassing a new, transparent public procurement process;

Whether the claimed savings are real or merely speculative, particularly when other risks-such as lack of financial accountability-may outweigh the projected savings.

The juxtaposition of reported cost savings with prior financial discrepancies underscores the imperative for rigorous oversight before assigning NamPost responsibility for large-scale public disbursements.

This issue becomes even more pressing in light of ongoing high-profile corruption cases involving public enterprises and government administrators who acted under various pretexts, only for those decisions to later be revealed as self-serving or corruption.

#### Concerns

#### Accountability and Financial Stewardship:

Reports indicate that NamPost currently has over N\$100 million in unclaimed grant funds that remain unaccounted for. This raises an important question: How can the Ministry of Finance entrust NamPost with managing over N\$5 billion annually, when there are unresolved concerns about financial oversight and reconciliation of previously disbursed grants?

### Lack of Transparency

The decision to award a multi-billion-dollar service contract to NamPost outside a new competitive bidding process raises serious questions regarding the Ministry of Finance's compliance with the Public Procurement Act.

#### Reasonable Expectation Denied

All prior bidders were led to believe that the tender would be re-advertised. The sudden direct award undermines trust in public procurement.

## Due Process and Legal Compliance

The Bid Evaluation Committee (BEC) I strongly believe sat and applied its mind as per legal requirements. If all bidders were found non-responsive, why was no formal, fresh tender issued to allow for a clean, competitive process?

Investigations and Oversight Bodies must explain (ACC and Auditor General). The public has a right to know:

- What progress, if any, has been made by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and the Auditor-General in investigating the missing NamPost funds?
- Has the Auditor-General been tasked with auditing and reporting on these unclaimed grant funds?

If the investigative bodies are truly acting in the public interest, then they must demonstrate this with timely, transparent findings-especially when new mandates involving billions in taxpayer funds are handed to entities under question.

## Request for Parliamentary Oversight

In light of the above, I respectfully ask the Minister of Finance the following questions:

Request a full explanation from the Minister of Finance regarding the basis and justification for awarding this contract directly to NamPost, without a new tender process.

Demand transparency regarding how the Ministry ensured compliance with the Public Procurement Act, especially Sections relating to fairness, competitiveness, and value for money.

Call for Full investigation by ACC into:

NamPost's current handling of unclaimed grant funds.

The decision-making process behind the award.

Measures to ensure future compliance and accountability.

Consider convening a Parliamentary Committee Hearing (e.g., Public Accounts and Finance) to hear from stakeholders, including the CPBN, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Finance, and affected bidders.

Allow the current service provider to continue managing the distribution of grants in the interim, ensuring no disruption of payments to vulnerable recipients, and maintaining continuity while due diligence is carried out.

Please convince the public why should they trust the entity that has miss appropriated public funds to continue managing public funds while they are not cleared of any wrong doing?

# Question 128 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Emvula (LPM) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

The so-called Green Hydrogen Project has been presented as Namibia's ticket to prosperity, yet the manner in which it is being advanced raises deep concerns of sovereignty ownership, and justice. The project is largely driven by European capital. European energy demands, and European climate targets, while Namibians themselves are left with little clarity on what direct benefits they will derive. We risk becoming a neo colonial laboratory, where our land, our water, and our people's future are traded cheaply in order to fuel Europe's industrial transition. This transition is designed to secure their prosperity while we remain trapped in the periphery of underdevelopment.

It is unclear under which laws this massive project is being regulated. Parliament has not debated or enacted a dedicated Hydrogen Act to govern the sector. Communities whose land and resources are being earmarked for use have not been meaningfully consulted. Contracts and agreements are shrouded in secrecy, while the promise of jobs and empowerment for Namibians remains vague and unsubstantiated.

In this regard, I ask the Honorable Minister the following:

- 1. Why is the Green Hydrogen project being advanced without a dedicated legislative framework passed by this Parliament, and under which laws is the Government purporting to regulate such a strategic national resource?
- 2. Why is Namibia prioritising European energy transition goals over the urgent development needs of our own people including affordable energy access, industrialisation, and employment, and what steps are being taken to ensure that Namibia is not reduced to a mere supplier of raw hydrogen to Europe?

- 3. What guarantees exist to protect the rights of Namibian communities whose land, water, and livelihoods are implicated in this project, and why have local people not been placed at the centre of decision making, ownership, and benefit sharing?
- 4. How does the Government justify the large scale allocation of land and water resources for the benefit of foreign corporations, and have full and independent environmental assessments been made public so that Namibians can judge for themselves the ecological costs of this project?
- 5. Why are the contracts, financing agreements, and partnership deals around Green Hydrogen hidden from the people of Namibia, and what mechanisms will be put in place to ensure transparency, independent auditing, and parliamentary oversight over this project rather than leaving it in the hands of a few elites and foreign investors?

### Question 129 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Eigub (LPM) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

The Ministry of Works and Transport recently issued a directive giving a-hailing companies, including Yango, LEFA, InDrive, and others, until 30 September 2025 to remove all unlicensed drivers from their platforms or risk being labelled as facilitators of illegal operations. This action highlights long-standing regulatory and safety concerns around e-hailing services in Namibia.

While these platforms provide affordable and convenient transport options, they also raise issues of compliance with the Road Traffic and Transport Act, 1999, public safety, the protection of citizens' personal data, and fair competition within the transport sector. The deadline further raises questions about enforcement, legal certainty, and the long-term, policy position of the Ministry regarding digital ride-hailing services.

In this regard, I ask the Honorable Minister the following:

- 1. Whether the Ministry has verified the number of unlicensed drivers currently operating on e-hailing platforms such as Yango and LEFA, and what mechanisms are in place to ensure full compliance with the 30 September 2025 deadline.
- 2. What enforcement measures will be taken against e-hailing companies that fail to remove unlicensed drivers by the stipulated deadline, and whether such companies will face sanctions, suspension, or outright prohibition from operating in Namibia?
- 3. What safeguards are being implemented to protect passengers using e-hailing services, particularly in cases where unlicensed or unvetted drivers are still active on these platforms, and how liability will be allocated in cases of accidents or criminal incidents?
- 4. Whether the Ministry has examined the extent of personal and financial data collected from Namibian citizens by e-hailing companies, especially foreign-owned operators, and what measures are in place to ensure such data is stored, processed, and protected in compliance with Namibia's laws and in anticipation of the forthcoming Data Protection Bill.

5. What long-term policy or legislative framework the Ministry intends to adopt to regulate e-hailing services as part of Namibia's broader public transport system, and whether the Ministry has considered integrating these services formally into transport planning, alongside protections for traditional taxi operators to ensure fair competition and sustainable job creation?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 130 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Swartbooi (LPM) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy:

The diamond industry has long been a cornerstone of Namibia's economy, contributing significantly to government revenue, foreign exchange earnings, and employment creation. In recent years, however, the qlobal diamond industry has witnessed the rapid rise of synthetic or laboratory-grown diamonds. These products, manufactured through advanced technological processes, are increasingly competing with natural diamonds in the international jewelry markets.

This development raises serious concerns for Namibia. The influx and acceptance of synthetic diamonds have the potential to erode the premium value of our authentic, natural diamonds. Such a shift threatens government revenue derived from diamond royalties and taxes, poses risks to employment in mining and value-addition industries, and may undermine the international reputation of Namibian diamonds as authentic and high-quality.

In this regard, I ask the Honorable Minister the following:

- 1. Whether the Ministry has conducted an assessment of the impact of synthetic diamonds on Namibia's diamond sector and its revenues, both in the short term and long term, and if so, what the findings reveal about the sustainability of our natural diamond market.
- 2. What measures the Ministry has put in place, or intends to put in place, to protect consumers in Namibia and abroad from the misrepresentation of synthetic diamonds as natural diamonds, and whether the Ministry is considering a distinct certification system to preserve the integrity of Namibian diamonds.
- 3. What projections the Ministry has made regarding the potential decline in government revenue due to the rise of synthetic diamonds, and whether fiscal risk mitigation strategies have been developed to address possible reductions in royalties, taxes, and export earnings from natural diamonds.
- 4. What plans the Ministry has to protect jobs in Namibia's diamond mining, cutting, polishing, and beneficiation industries in the event that synthetic diamonds reduce international demand for natural diamonds, and whether the Ministry is pursuing diversification strategies for the sector.
- 5. Whether the Ministry has engaged Namibia's diamond partners, including De Beers and other stakeholders, as well as regional and continental bodies such as SADC and the African Union, to develop a coordinated strategy that defends the competitiveness and value of Namibia's natural diamonds against synthetic diamond penetration.

## Question 131 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Swartbooi (LPM) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The Government of Namibia approved the extension of the Robert Harbour quay wall in Lüderitz as part of developing a green hydrogen facility, which would impact the heritage site of the former Shark Island concentration camp where crimes, including genocide, were committed against the Nama and Ovaherero ethnic groups in the former German South West Africa colony between 1904 and 1908. The planned seaport expansion will entail underwater dredging, where the bodies of former camp inmates were thrown, and building over unmarked sites of graves of former camp inmates, which, according to archaeological and archival research, are scattered across the outskirts of Lüderitz.

- 1. What actions will the Ministry implement to ensure compliance with the Heritage Council's recommendations, particularly those that oppose the expansion of the port?
- 2. What will be the designation of the area following the port expansion?
- 3. What measures has the Ministry initiated with respect to:
  - (a) The conservation Shark Island as a site of education for future generations?
  - (b) The appropriate memorialisation of Shark Island as a site of world historical significance?
  - (c) Ensuring that both the Ministry and the Namibian public at large understand what risks presently exist to the country's heritage resources at Shark Island due to the intended port expansion?
- 4. What measures is the Council introducing to exercise control over the site of Shark Island to prevent its injudicious treatment and deterioration?
- 5. The Ovaherero and Nama communities hold annual commemorative events for Shark Island, an event where the government has not once attended. What logistical provisions will be made for community access to these facilities post-expansion?

# Question 132 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Bishop Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology:

That it was discovered that there is network problem in the following villages of Mahango, Omega 3, Chetto, and Kwando Core Areas, which are+290 km from Rundu to Mbwambwata National Park, to Kongola. Unless one sacrifice to climb on the tallest tree in order to access to this inadequate network. Imagine a pregnant woman in the care of her grandmother who needs urgent help right away, as the nearest assistance is only in Rundu, which is about 264 kilometers and 260 kilometers to Katima Mulilo District Hospital. Without a neat network, people cannot appreciate for the condition they just

find themselves in. One cannot live life to the fullest while in the middle of the jungles of nowhere.

# My questions to you;

- 1. Honorable Minister, I hope you are aware of the area I am talking about?
- 2. I am sure you travelled the same way during the 26th celebration at Katima, and you know exactly which area I am talking about.
- 3. As a matter of fact, can you consider this as an urgent need requiring urgent attention?
- 4. I could see that Nampower is starting with the electrification of the area. Why can't your Ministry coincide in the process and erect network antennas there?
- 5. If it's already done, why can't we upgrade the network antennas to access the people's cellphones in order to make the lives of the people easy?

# Question 133 (2025-09-03)

Hon. Bishop Thomas (BCP) asked the Minister of Works and Transport:

In any democratic country, roads are an essential infrastructure. People suffer the most when there is no road infrastructure. The gravel road that turned from Oidimba to Onangolo village just end at the medi clinic of Onangolo village. Additionally, there is a school up to grade 10 located about 2 km away from Onangolo Medi Clinic.

Teachers with sedan cars are compelled to leave their cars in the bush next to the clinic and attempt to walk to school because of the gravel road that stopped halfway. They occasionally find it difficult to reach the school on time especially during the rainy season. In that manner, when a child is sick at school, they are also compelled to carry that child to the medi clinic or rent a private vehicle to transport the sick child for two kilometers for medication, when it is so fasonable. Living in such a situation is very challenging.

## My Questions to you;

- 1. Honorable Ministers, do you know what's going in the Ministry you are leading?
- 2. Why can't the Ministry just bring the gravel road up to the school, even if it is not so fasonable?
- 3. Two kilometers is a very short distance, and it needs a little amount of money for a gravel road to reach the school.
- 4, By doing so, it will also spare the lives of the learners, even that of the teachers who have to endure this hardship in the chilly sun and rainy season while walking from school to the clinic.
- 5. It is very difficult for a pregnant teacher, walking the two kilometers to and from school each day and expecting her to perform is extremely challenging.

6. A sick teacher or student finds it difficult to walk two kilometers from the school to the clinic as well. Thus, I ask the Ministry to take that circumstance into account.

\_\_\_\_

## Question 134 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

The latest reports from Namibian Police reveal that drug seizures in June and July alone amounted to over N\$6 million in value, with hundreds of suspects arrested, the majority being Namibian nationals, alongside foreign nationals from Angola, Uganda, Tanzania, Eswatini, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

I understand that with each drug seizure, and with each arrest, your Ministry is quick to celebrate and quick to inform the public that the war against drug trafficking is being won.

These numbers, rather than signalling progress, raise serious concerns about the existence of entrenched and sophisticated cartels operating within our borders. While ordinary drug users and runners constitute the biggest number of arrests, but it is clear that you have failed to kill the head of the snake which is the drug barons and cartel leaders themselves.

Therefore, I wish to pose the following questions to you:

- 1. Can the Honourable Minister inform this House which cartels are at the forefront of drug trafficking operations in Namibia, and can you name these cartels individually?
- 2. From which countries do these cartels originate, and how many are homegrown syndicates operating from within Namibia itself?
- 3. Based on intelligence gathered by the Namibian Police and the Namibia Central Intelligence Service, does the Honourable Minister know who the leaders of these cartels are, and can their identities be made known to this House?
- 4. While the police frequently celebrate large numbers of arrests, how many of those arrested occupy senior or leadership positions within these cartels, as opposed to being low-level runners and users?
- 5. Is the Honourable Minister aware of any links between these cartels and officials working at our ports of entry, border posts, or within our own police force, and if so, what measures are being taken to root out such collusion?

#### Question 135 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

This week, the Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF) learned with great concern that thousands of sick and vulnerable patients were forced to wait for more than eight hours at the Katutura Clinic, where they were attended to by only one doctor and a handful of nurses.

We have it on good authority that the extreme pressure on this doctor led to heated exchanges with frustrated patients, with the doctor at one point threatening not to serve some of them while also desperately attempting to secure assistance from colleagues.

These appalling conditions of delays and poor service delivery persist, despite your own pronouncement that private hospital doctors would volunteer their services in public health facilities to ease the burden.

In light of this, I wish to pose the following questions to you:

- 1. Volunteering Doctors: How many private doctors have, to date, availed themselves to serve in public hospitals and clinics under this initiative?
- 2. Impact Assessment: Can the Honourable Minister inform this House what measurable difference these volunteering doctors have made across the country, particularly in fast tracking service delivery to sick patients and expectant mothers?
- 3. Unemployed Medical Graduates: What is the current status of doctors trained at the University of Namibia who were previously excluded from employment on the grounds of academic inadequacies? Have they been reassessed, re trained, or integrated into the system?
- 4. Health System Improvements: Since assuming office, can the Honourable Minister outline what concrete improvements have been achieved in public health facilities with respect to infrastructure, equipment, staffing, and the overall quality of service delivery?

# Question 136 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Mwashindange (IPC) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister:

In recent media reports, it has come to light that more than 3 000 individuals whose vehicles were leased during the 2024 Presidential and National Assembly elections since the General Voter Registration are still awaiting full payment (15 Months), a year and 3 months later after rendering service. The delay was apparently attributed to administrative bottlenecks, including vendor registration and getting ministerial approvals, etc.

Despite an agreed settlement window of 30 days after the completion of work, vehicle owners still have not been paid anything by the 15th of January 2025 and many owners are not paid in full to date. Vehicle owners were not only left unpaid fully but also faced immediate out-of pocket expenses on: 1. Fuel costs 2. Hiring drivers 3. Renting

canopies (as vehicles were required to have them). 4. Borrowing funds to meet these obligations

Citizens contributing to a national process such as election only to be left unpaid, feel betrayed by government institutions. This undermines their trust in the ECN which already cant be trusted and can make them less inclined to support or participate in future electoral processes.

Uncompensated vehicle owners face: Disrupted cash flows and risk of debt from borrowed expenses. This acute hardship has ripple effects on households already navigating poverty. When community members feel exploited and taken for granted, they will be less willing to assist in civic functions again. This reluctance could make it harder for the ECN to secure necessary logistics in future elections.

The delay in paying owners will make owners refuse to release their vehicles or stop cooperating, challenging the incompetent ECN's ability to efficiently manage Voters Registration and polling logistics - especially in rural or hard-to-reach areas where vehicle access is critical.

In light of the above, I now ask the Right Hon. Prime Minister the following questions:

- 1. Are you aware of this mess at the incompetent ECN?
- 2. Can the Honourable Prime Minister provide a detailed report on how many private vehicle owners have not yet been compensated fully to date. What is the current total amount outstanding?
- 3. What specific administrative or procedural shortcomings led to delayed payments, particularly regarding vendor registration and finance system integration'?
- 4. What measures has ECN taken to expedite future payments and avoid recurrence of these delays?
- 5. What assessment has been made of the financial impact on vehicle ownersespecially those who hired drivers or bore fuel and canopy/hire costs in anticipation of prompt payment?
- 6. What progress has been made towards the acquisition of dedicated ECN vehicles, as outlined in the 2025/2026 budget proposals'?
- 7. Has the ECN considered establishing standardized contractual terms such as prepayment and performance bonds for future rentals?
- 8. What oversight mechanisms are being introduced to guarantee accountability and prevent delays in the service of election-related procurement and compensation?

## Question 137 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Amukoto (IPC) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Housing and land remain some of Namibia's greatest challenges. Across the country, more than 900.000 of our people live in shacks, and the housing backlog is estimated at over 300.000 units. In these conditions, many families live without reliable access to clean water, electricity, or sanitation. This situation is not only about infrastructure but also about dignity, health, and hope.

Her Excellency Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah announced that the government would build 50.000 houses by 2029 and formalize 50% of informal settlements. The plan also promised to service 10.000 plots annually and improve access to basic services for 100.000 people.

These are ambitious and important commitments. However, history teaches us to be cautious. In 2013, the Mass Housing Programme promised 148.000 homes, yet less than 5,000 were delivered. Similarly, the National Housing Enterprise (NHE) has built only about 18.000 houses in 31 years. While we welcome new targets, Namibians want assurance that these promises will not become statistics of underdelivery.

I therefore ask the following questions:

- 1. Hon. Minister, since the President announced the housing plan, how many houses have been delivered to date and in which regions, and what is your clear strategy to ensure the 50,000-housing target by 2029 is fully achieved, unlike the 2013 Mass Housing Programme that fell short?
- 2. How many informal settlements have been formalized so far, and what progress has been made in bringing essential services such as water, sanitation, and electricity to these areas?
- 3. Again, there was a promise made that there would be improved services for 100.000 people. Can you confirm how many Namibians have so far gained access to clean water, sanitation, or electricity through your Ministry's programmes?
- 4. What steps has your Ministry taken to ensure fair and transparent land allocation, especially when many citizens believe politically connected individuals receive plots faster? Will you commit to making lists of available plots and successful allocations public?
- 5. Hon. Minister, the Ministry reported in 2025 that only I,772 plots were fully serviced so far. With such low delivery against such a huge backlog, how will your Ministry scale up resources, partnerships, and budgets to meet the annual target of 10,000 serviced plots?
- 6. The NHE has only built about 18,000 houses in more than 30 years. Does your Ministry still see NHE as the main vehicle for housing delivery, or will you introduce alternative faster and cheaper housing models, such as community-led projects or low-cost technologies?
- 7. Hon. Minister, recent rains and floods have devastated informal settlements. Just this past season, Windhoek's informal areas were flooded, with streets blocked

and homes swept away. Similarly, Katima Mulilo settlements were flooded, making movement impossible and risking safety for parents and children. What plan are you going to follow inorder to: Design affordable, climate-resilient housing and settlements that can withstand floods, droughts and heat?

The housing crisis touches every Namibian family. It is not about politics, it is about giving our people a place to call home, with clean water, electricity, and dignity. It is a priority to ensure that promises made to our citizens are followed by action on the ground.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Question 138 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Swartbooi (LPM) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The conditions of service of our Justices of the High Court and the Supreme Court in the Republic of Namibia are at an unsatisfactory level. Judges are overworked, judgments take long to be delivered, matters before courts take an even longer to dispense of. Since last year, vacancies for seven judges of the High Court are being advertised over and over, as seven judges reached retirement age. It appears that only one candidate may be found appropriate.

As we speak therefore, seven or so vacancies exist, and the officials indicate that within the next five to ten years, we may experience a collapse of the High Court capacity to handle the affairs of the institution, given the acute shortage of judges. There seems to be a complacency or nonchalance about this impending crisis.

Urgent immediate and long-term action is required to avoid such a judicial collapse. Additional to the afore-going, is the conditions of service of these professionals. Judges are overworked, and judgments take long to produce, with quality of the jurisprudence compromised. Acting judges leave the three-month acting assignment, with ten to fifteen judgments still outstanding. The salary and wages of judges is appalling compared to the rest of the SADC region, and each judge only has one research assistant, who are often overworked themselves.

For these reasons above, I ask:

- 1. Have you been briefed about the tremendous work pressure under which these officials must deliver judgment and ensure that the scales of justice balance all the time?
- 2. If so, what are the remedial actions proposed in such briefings/research, and what budget requirements are needed to redress poor salaries and working conditions of judges?
- 3. Except for advertising locally for filling of the seven vacancies since last year, has the Office of the Judiciary undertaken any alternative and viable steps to urgently fill those vacancies with judges from outside Namibia, to ensure that public confidence and service delivery are not jeopardized?
- 4. What action is in place to recruit and develop new youthful justices, especially those from the private sector, with a long-term view to develop a set of dependable Namibians that will serve society in that sector, without experiencing shortages

in the court system, in future while simultaneously creating an undeniably attractive service package for such recruits?

\_\_\_\_

## Question 139 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Swartbooi (LPM) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The Criminal Procedure Act of 1977, as amended, provides in section 2 (1) that: "the authority to institute and to conduct a prosecution in respect of any offence in relation to which any lower or superior court in the Republic exercises jurisdiction, shall vest in the State". This is a powerful provision in our law and should therefore be exercised reasonably and judiciously. Notice that the law does not provide for the state persecute, but to prosecute.

Moreover, it is duty of the prosecution to see if there is a reasonable and probable cause for prosecution (as held by Lord Atkin in Herniman v. Smith 1938 AC, an old case indeed).

These are the ground rules. They are sacred in our system. Breaching these basic elements of our criminal justice system, breaks the trust in the eyes of society, and undermines the efficacy of justice itself.

In the recent matter of State vs Mac Albert Hengari, Namibia saw the fundamental reversal of the basic premises and tenets of our legal system: where allegations were made wildly, and some police joined the media in a brutal, dehumanization of a person, over and above the accusations themselves. And the question arises: has our political system deteriorated and degenerated into the weaponization of the criminal justice systems itself, where the criminal justice system becomes the temporary actor in the permanent political take-down of another contender?

In effect therefore, the criminal justice system appears to have been turned into a decisive force, that selects who participates in elective democracy, who serves in Executive or other arms State, and who gets imprisoned for volunteering to serve society. Hengari was not prosecuted, Hengari was persecuted and that can't be right nor acceptable in our system. Recently, our Councilors in Karasburg were also in court, being persecuted for an alleged crime they never committed, for the second time, and for political reasons.

I henceforth thus pose the following to you sir:

- 1. Have you taken a critical look at the conduct of the Prosecutor General, and her Office, as the central pillar of prosecutions in this country, and whether the operations and the eventual decision to prosecute Namibians, is taken within the legal framework of the powers granted to this Office?
- 2. Have the functions of the prosecutors, who hold the prosecutorial authority in terms of the law, been overtaken and over-ridden by the Police? As highlighted before, the prosecution must find whether there is a reasonable case for any accused person to answer.
- 3. Have you had a sit down with the PG to understand the rationale for prosecution decisions that involve political office bearers, with a view- to ascertain that political considerations do not influence legal decisions. If not, do you plan

to have any such engagement in order to understand and give assurances to society, that the criminal justice system is a fair, judicious and balanced terrain? If these assurances and associated remedial actions are not taken by yourselves and the PG's Offices, there is a likelihood of spikes in litigation and counter litigation involving purely political affairs, and this is likely to dismantle the CJS entirely.

4. Will the PG take any disciplinary action against prosecutors that are proceeding with cases where the standard of reasonableness of the allegations are not met, representing an abuse of discretionary authority for political reasons?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Question 140 (2025-09-04)

Hon. Eigub (LPM) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Local authorities are facing significant challenges in revenue generation, largely due to the persistent and escalating debt levels of parastatals. This longstanding accumulation of debt, some of which spans several decades, inhibits local authorities from realizing their full revenue potential for efficient service delivery. Additionally, the deteriorating and ageing state of water infrastructure and electrical infrastructure imposes substantial revenue losses. The failure of local authorities to generate revenue from existing revenue streams and the inability to further diversify revenue generation exacerbates financial strain on local authority. Moreover, service providers such as telecommunications companies do not pay Local Authorities for the use of the land where their infrastructures lie. The consequent rise in utility costs further exacerbates the situation, ultimately leading to a decline in the quality and efficiency of service delivery to residents within these jurisdiction.

## I therefore ask the following questions:

- 1. Has the Minister made a detailed and comprehensive assessment of the state of network infrastructure, particularly water network infrastructure, electrical infrastructure, storm water infrastructure, as well as sewer network infrastructure of all Local Authorities? If so, what are the findings and recommendations?
- 2. Has the Minister assessed the impact of aged and deteriorated infrastructure on network losses in relation to revenue losses? If so, what were the findings and recommendations?
- 3. From a revenue enhancement perspective, what Local Economic Development policies and regulatory interventions will the Minister implement or advance in coordination with the Ministry of Information and Communic tions Technology and other relevant agencies to compel telecommunications companies and other large land-users to compensate municipalities for the use of municipal land and infrastructure, and to enter into transparent revenue-sharing or rebate arrangements that meaningfully benefit local authorities within whose jurisdictions they operate?
- 4. What concrete policy measures, pilot projects and funding initiatives does the Minister propose to diversify income streams for local authorities (including, but not limited to, local economic development programmes, property valuation reforms, targeted tariffs, municipal enterprise development, and the adoption of smart metering, leak detection technology and digital solutions for

revenue management such as the solutions implemented by the Keetmanshoop Municipality under the governance of the Landless People's Movement, and how will the Ministry support municipalities with technical assistance and seed funding to implement such measures at scale?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Question 141 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Amupanda (AR) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

The founders of our Constitution, understanding our country's history of Men's inhumanity to Men, deliberately put Article 23 in our Constitution and titled it 'Apartheid and Affirmative Action'. In 23(1) of the said Article it is immaculately stated that "the practice of racial discrimination and the practice and ideology of apartheid from which the majority of the people of Namibia have suffered for so long shall be prohibited." It proceeds, in 23(2) that "nothing contained in Article 10 hereof shall prevent Parliament from enacting legislation providing directly or indirectly for the advancement of persons within Namibia who have been socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged by past discriminatory laws and practices".

Parliament fulfilled the promises of Article 23(2) by enacting, amongst others, the Affirmative (Employment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 29 of 1998). This Act establishes the Employment Equity Commission that is tasked, inter alia, to ensure that the provisions of Article 23 of the Namibian Constitution are executed. Despite these provisions, there are still employment barriers and racial discriminations, and the practice and ideology of Apartheid is still in place.

Whenever government advertises a vacancy, the salary scale is always stated. This act of transparency in government employment assists prospective employees to make informed decisions. This is however not the case with the State-owned Enterprises (SOEs) and the Private Sector. It is for these reasons that secrecies around salaries, not provided for in any law, and the lack of transparency has led to the continuity of the very things Article 23 of our Constitution sought to stop. Individuals doing the same job are paid differently on racial and kinship grounds.

- 1. Minister, why don't the SOEs follow the example of government by disclosing and publicizing the salary scale of every vacancy? After all, the salaries of the President, Chief Justice, Members of Parliament are all known publicly.
- 2. Is it not possible to pass regulations, as provided for in Section -1- (d) and 5 (f) of the Affirmative Action (Employment) Act, 1998 (Act No. 29 of 1998) and have these regulations applicable to every employer in Namibia?

\_\_\_\_

#### Question 142 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Kalola (AR) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

Two years ago, parents of learners attending an unregistered lower primary private school in Windhoek's Goreangab area asked the Ministry of Education to register the school immediately. Parents, along with community members, argued that they had done everything they could to collaborate with the government by establishing the school.

The area lacked a formal school nearby; the nearest primary school was the Olof Palme Primary School, located a few kilometers away. This school was established in 2019 and is built on a private property owned by a qualified teacher employed full-time as an educator in Keetmanshoop. The school employed ten qualified teachers, including a principal and two cleaners, who were responsible for about 250 learners. It is the registration of the school that became a stumbling block.

We are not going to act like we don't know that communities and private organizations in Namibia have been setting up schools to supplement government efforts, often by addressing resource gaps like infrastructure, funding, or specific needs for marginalized groups. This is just one of the many examples. The Ndama East School in the Kavango East region could be the next example.

I therefore wish to ask the Honorable Minister the following:

- 1. The Basic Education Act, 2020 (Act No. 3 of 2020) defines a "teacher" as a staff member who has qualifications to teach others in formal education and whose occupation is teaching, and includes a staff member who does not have a teaching qualification, but has other abilities and qualifications that are relevant to teaching." The volunteer teachers at Ndama East school have such teaching qualifications, and some have been teaching there since 2023. Does their teaching experience not count since the school at which they are teaching is not registered and thus not legally recognized by the government?
- 2. Has the Ministry evaluated the organization and operation of Ndama East school and the quality and effectiveness, and efficiency of the education provided there, including the quality of teaching and effectiveness of individual teachers in terms of the Act? What if these teachers are actually offering quality education?
- 3. Has the Ministry evaluated the education standards at the Ndama East School, since the Ministry has argued that unregistered schools compromise the quality of education?
- 4. The learners who will complete the primary school phase at Ndama East school, will the Ministry recognize their primary school phase completion and facilitate the transfer of such learners to other schools for the completion of the secondary education phase?

# Question 143 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Ihemba (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

Honourable Minister, the issuance of Certificates of Conduct is not a luxury; it is a fundamental requirement for our citizens, especially our youth, to secure employment, pursue education and engage in various aspects of life. Yet, a system that once functioned efficiently has now collapsed into chaos, causing immense frustration and economic hardship for the Namibian people.

In light of this, I ask the Honourable Minister:

- 1. What is the exact timeline of events that led to the system's deterioration from a same-day service to a complete shutdown, as experienced in June and July 2025?
- 2. Does the Minister fully grasp the severe economic and personal impact of this crisis, particularly on our unemployed youth who are being denied opportunities due to an inability to obtain a required document?
- 3. Why are the unemployed compelled to pay N\$150 each time they apply for Code of Conduct Certificate which then expires after six months. This renders them hopelessness and end up giving up on applying for employment and eventually give up on life.

## Question 144 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Mbinge-Tjeundo (PDM) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture::

The creative industries in Namibia have long been proclaimed a national priority, yet musicians and artists remain marginalized through chronic neglect, limited funding and limited recognition under the Ministry's watch. While State resources are poured into beauty pageants like Miss Namibia and other once-off events, meaningful investments in the music and arts sector is evidently absent, even though this sector is central to shaping national identity, strengthening social cohesion, and empowering young people. The imbalance exposes serious gaps in policy and accountability, while threatening the long-term sustainability of a field that has enriched Namibia's cultural heritage and economy.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What policies or programmes has the Ministry implemented in the last five years to support creatives, and what measurable impact have they had?
- 2. In view of the significant contributions made by musicians, artists and all the creatives to national culture, what mechanisms are in place to ensure their access to social security, health coverage, and retirement benefits?
- 3. How much do the music and creative industries contribute to Namibia's GDP, and why is this sector still treated as secondary despite its potential for jobs and youth empowerment?
- 4. Why is the National Arts Council underfunded, and when will the Ministry allocate adequate budgets to meaningfully support creatives nationwide?
- 5. How will the Ministry preserve and support the legacies of musicians who educated, mobilized, and carried national struggles through music?
- 6. During national events, the same musicians and artists are repeatedly selected to perform. Would the Government consider implementing a rotational system for the performance of artists and musicians at official events, so as to provide equal opportunity to a wider range of talent in our country?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Question 145 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Hangula (AR) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The Ngcove Junior Primary school in the Kavango East region accommodates over 412 learners. The school has been in existence for five years. The school offers classes from pre-primary to Grade 3, and has no adequate toilet facilities, forcing both learners and teachers to rely on makeshift pit latrines. In addition to the sanitation crisis, the school lacks basic learning infrastructure, with classes being conducted in corrugated iron structures and under trees, This sorry state of affairs has increased school dropouts, with many learners struggling to cope with overcrowding and inadequate facilities. It is an absolute crisis. For context, one Grade 1 classroom accommodates 91 learners, far above the recommended teacher-learner ratio. Even worse, the school has been without water since its establishment, forcing it to purchase water tanks and buy water. The electricity was finally brought to the school only this year by the Ministry of Education, following repeated requests.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Is the Honourable Minister aware of the sorry state of affairs at the school in question?
- 2. Is the school legally registered and recognized by the Ministry? If the answer is yes, why then is the school's situation similar to that of Ndama East school which is apparently not recognized by the Ministry?
- 3. What are the plans of the Ministry to mitigate the situation at Ngcove Junior Primary?

#### Question 146 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

1. Why is Windhoek Municipality billing people on properties that are duplicated, no windows, ventilation, electricity and no water etc. 50% percentage interest rate?

There is a certain duplicated property in Windhoek West situated at 146 Bach. This property is being charged N\$7 800 cubic litters of water per month.

The so called property is being billed as if it's still in full operation. This property is still going through renovations.

2. The water has been disconnected since 13th January 2025, and why is the fifty percentage interest charged by the CoW to clients?

The complaint was brought by the complainant to your office and he received the letter of response Ref no: 14/10/W3, dated 08 July 2025. The letter was signed by Executive Director of your Ministry. According to the letter, your Ministry was supposed to revert back for feedback before Friday 11 July 2025, but unfortunately, to no avail.

#### Question 147 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Shitana (AR) asked the Minister Education, Innovation, Sports, Arts and Culture:

I followed with profound interest and listened attentively as you were delivering your Ministerial Statement last week. You have reaffirmed your Ministry's constitutional mandate to provide quality education to every Namibian child.

I therefore wish to ask you, Honorable Minister, the following:

- 1. The Ministry is saying that Ndama East parents and other members of the community are insisting that the Ministry endorse an unregistered school at Ndama East on the grounds of convenience and personal preference. Before you were appointed as Minister, you served as the Executive Director in the same Ministry. Have you personally ever visited the school in question to familiarize yourself with the situation of these learners?
- 2. What has informed the Ministry's allegation that the Ndama East school exists not, because there is a need, but merely on the grounds of convenience and personal preference?

# **Ouestion 148 (2025-09-09)**

Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance:

The Ministry of Finance's decision to end all discretionary payroll deductions for government employees, with the Payroll Deduction Management System on 30 November 2025, raises serious concerns about the financial security of civil servants. While existing loans will continue, employees are being forced to shift insurance premiums, union fees, and other voluntary deductions to bank debit orders within an uncomfortably short three-month period, creating potential disruption and confusion. This abrupt change threatens to increase credit risk, tighten loan terms, and make smaller insurance policies largely unaffordable, disproportionately affecting lower-income and rural workers.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Will there be safeguards in place to ensure that employees are not unfairly penalized, for example through additional fees or delays, during the transition from Payroll Deduction Management System to bank debit orders?
- 2. How does the Ministry plan to address concerns from banks and micro-lenders about the increased risk of non-repayment once payroll deductions are no longer guaranteed?
- 3. What concrete measures has the Ministry implemented to ensure that employees, particularly lower-income and rural workers, can smoothly transition insurance premiums, union fees, and other voluntary deductions to bank debit orders within the three-month period?
- 4. Has the Ministry assessed the likely impact on interest rates, fees, and loan approval processes, particularly for smaller loans and insurance policies that may become unviable under debit order systems?

5. How does the Ministry plan to ensure that insurance companies can effectively transition premiums to bank debit orders without causing widespread lapses in coverage, particularly for lower-income government employees who may struggle to set up alternative payment arrangements?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Question 149 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Moongo (PDM) asked the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations:

Despite the Maintenance Act No. 9 of 2003 mandating financial support for children, systemic inefficiencies in Namibia's maintenance courts have led to persistent delays in payments. Single mothers often face financial strain, resorting to high interest loans, due to inadequate staffing, logistical challenges, and coordination issues. This highlights the urgent need for reforms to ensure timely enforcement of maintenance orders and uphold children's rights under the Act.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. What steps is the Ministry taking to address constant delays in child maintenance payments through magistrates' courts, and how is the Ministry ensuring the timely disbursement of funds to the mothers, fathers and guardians?
- 2. Can the Minister provide the average processing time for maintenance payments across all magistrates' courts in Namibia, and indicate whether there are specific courts with particularly extra-long delays?
- 3. Mothers, fathers and guardians in remote and rural areas constantly express frustration over delayed payments and lack of updates from court officials. What initiatives are in place to improve communication with beneficiaries regarding the status of their maintenance applications and payments?
- 4. Are there plans to decentralize maintenance services to make them more accessible to beneficiaries outside towns and major urban centers?
- 5. Can you provide data on current staffing levels versus the workload in maintenance courts, and the projected timeline for addressing any gaps?
- 6. Minister, what mechanisms are in place to ensure timely enforcement of maintenance orders, particularly in cases of default by non-custodial parents, and are these mechanisms sufficient given the current caseload?

## Question 150 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

Honorable Minister; in light of NAMPOL's core duty to enforce the law, I rise to ask several critical questions related to the operational readiness and legal compliance of the Namibian Police Force's vehicle fleet.

- 1. Honourable Minister, I have received information suggesting that NAMPOL's official fleet management policy requires the decommissioning of vehicles that have exceeded 500,000 kilometers. Could you confirm if this is indeed the case?
- 2. If so, can you confirm or deny reports that this policy is being ignored and instead, vehicle odometers are being tampered with to show a lower mileage?
- 3. How many NAMPOL vehicles currently in service have exceeded the 500,000 kilometer threshold, and what is their status?
- 4. Can the Minister provide a definitive number of NAMPOL vehicles that are currently operating without a valid NaTIS discs, which is a legal requirement for all vehicles on public roads?
- 5. What measures are being taken to ensure that all NAMPOL vehicles, including those used for patrol and transport are roadworthy and in full compliance with the Motor Vehicle Ordinance?
- 6. Is the Ministry aware that police officers are being transported in vans not legally designated for carrying passengers, which is a contravention of road traffic laws?
- 7. What is the Minister's response to allegations that officers who refuse to be transported in these unsafe and illegal vehicles are being punished or victimized?
- 8. What steps will the Ministry take to ensure the safety of our police officers and to protect those who report such illegal practices?
- 9. Given that NAMPOL is responsible for enforcing road traffic laws, how can the public trust the police force to uphold the law when it appears to be actively breaking it?
- 10. What concrete actions will the Minister, take to address these serious allegations and restore public confidence in the integrity and legal compliance of the Namibian Police Force?

## Question 151 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Haikola-Sakaria (AR) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The Basic Education Act, 2020 (Act No. 3 of 2020), outlines in section 9 the right of learners to transfer. Specifically, section 9 (1) stipulates that "where a learner is enrolled at a school where there is no provision for completion of primary or secondary education phases, such learner has the right to seek a transfer to any other school, with the facilitation of the Ministry, for the completion of the primary or secondary education phase."

I therefore wish to ask the Honorable Minister the following:

1. Since the Ministry is saying that Ndama East school is not legally registered and is not recognized by the government, does that mean the Ministry does

not uphold the rights of Ndama school learners who fall within the category described in section 9(1) to transfer?

- 2. Does the Ndama school principal not attend circuit meetings and participate in discussions?
- 3. It has been reported that in the 2024 school enrollment, the Directorate of Education in Okavango East recorded a total number of 77,713 learners, 2,598 teachers and 2,120 classrooms. When reporting on such statistics, are the learner, teacher and classroom statistics at Ndama East also included, since the school is not recognized by the government?
- 4. Will the lack of proper planning on the Ministry's part, informed by misleading statistics, not end up constituting an emergency for learners and the parents?

## Question 152 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Cloete (IPC) asked the Minister of International Relations and Trade:

In the interest of fiscal transparency and value for money, this Honourable House must be apprised of international travel undertaken by the Ministry of International Relations and Trade (MIRT). Given, budget pressures and the need to align travel with measurable diplomatic and trade outcomes, it is appropriate that the details be placed on record.

#### I therefore ask:

How many internation trips were undertaken by the Hon. Minister, her private office and supporting staff from 21 March 2025 to 1 September 2025 and, for each trip, what were the dates, destination(s), purpose, delegation (names/designations), funding source and class of travel, and the total and itemized cost? (airfare, accommodation, DSA, ground transport, visas/fees, protocol/gifts).

# Question 153 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Finance:

A person must turn 60 years old to qualify for the pension grant. After registration for the pension grant, a pensioner still has to wait for a period of 2 - 3 months before they start receiving the grant. Once the 1st grant is released, the months for the waiting period are not paid out, meaning they don't pay it retrospectively.

As it stands pensioners are already complaining about the high cost of living and how hard it is to afford much with the current amount of N\$1 400 that they are receiving.

- 1. Why does it take so long for one to be registered for the pension grant?
- 2. Why don't the pensioners receive back pay of the grant for the waiting period after registering for the grant?
- 3. What happens to the money from the 2- 3 months of waiting before receiving the 1st payment?

4. Does this mean the pensioner must register for the grant 2-3 months before they turn 60, since the registration process takes so long?

\_\_\_\_

## Question 154 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Mbundu (RP) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The Constitution of Namibia makes provisions under Article 20, clause 2 for the provision of reasonable facilities, of which access to water infrastructure should be a primary provision. Hence from my personal investigation I have been made aware that some schools in the town of Okahandja are facing water supply crises, because of the new prepaid systems being installed at the schools.

#### Thus, I ask:

- 1. Is the Minister aware that the water supply of some government schools is limited, which means if the school runs out of its predetermined water limit; should they wait for the next monthly supply from the relevant service provider.
- 2. If it be that you are aware of these directives, could you explain to this august House how the schools should function without potable water once their monthly limit has been reached?

\_\_\_\_

### Question 155 (2025-09-09)

Hon. Iipumbu (NEFF) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services:

Last week our nation was shaken by the tragic news of the passing of one of Namibia's most visible and pioneering musical talents, Ras Sheehama, whose death by suicide was confirmed by the Namibian Police. Ras Sheehama was not only a cultural icon but also a voice of love, light, and happiness whose music resonated across generations. His untimely passing is a painful reminder that depression and mental health challenges are real and must be confronted with urgency.

I am also reminded of a social media post in July by the Right Honourable Prime Minister in which he shared personal experience of financial turmoil that nearly drove him to take his own life between 2015 and 2019.

This tragedy shows that unless radical and comprehensive interventions are implemented at the level of public institutions, the private sector, communities, and families, Namibia will continue to lose more of its people to suicide.

It is against this background that I wish to direct the following questions to the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Services, Dr. Esperance Luvindao:

1. Urgent Action Plan: Given that President Nandi-Ndaitwah has revealed that 542 Namibians took their own lives between 2023 and 2024, making Namibia the country with the highest suicide rate in Africa, what immediate and comprehensive action plan does your Ministry have to address this mental health crisis?

- 2. Mental Health Infrastructure: What specific steps is the Ministry taking to strengthen mental health services across all 14 regions, particularly in rural areas where access to psychological support may be limited?
- 3. Teacher Support Systems: With 16 teachers reportedly taking their own lives in 2024 due to financial stress and mental health struggles, what targeted interventions is your Ministry implementing in collaboration with the Ministry of Education to support educators' mental wellbeing?
- 4. Early Detection and Prevention: What programs are in place to identify early warning signs of depression and suicidal ideation in schools, workplaces, and communities, and how are these being scaled up given the alarming statistics?
- 5. Crisis Intervention: How many trained counsellors and mental health professionals does Namibia currently have, and what is being done to urgently increase these numbers to meet the growing demand?
- 6. Public Awareness Campaigns: What comprehensive public education campaigns is your Ministry launching to destignatize mental health issues and encourage Namibians to seek help before reaching crisis points?
- 7. Inter-Ministerial Coordination: How is your Ministry coordinating with other government departments, particularly Social Services, Education, and Labour, to address the root causes of mental distress including financial stress, unemployment, and social isolation?
- 8. Budget Allocation: What percentage of the national health budget is currently allocated to mental health services, and will this be increased in light of these devastating statistics?
- 9. Community-Based Support: What role are traditional leaders, churches, and community organizations playing in your mental health strategy, and how can their involvement be strengthened?
- 10. Monitoring and Evaluation: How will your Ministry track the effectiveness of suicide prevention interventions, and what measurable targets have been set to reduce these numbers by 2025?

The loss of Ras Sheehama and the 542 Namibians who died by suicide represents not just statistics, but families destroyed and communities left grieving. The nation deserves to know how government plans to prevent more of our citizens from reaching such desperate circumstances.

#### Question 156 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Mbuti (IPC) asked the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare:

Despite Namibia's constitutional promise to protect children under the Child Care and Protection Act, 2015 (Act No. 3 of 2015) and Combating of Domestic Violence Act, 2003, the reality is alarming: nearly 40% of girls and 45% of boys have experienced violence during childhood, there are over 1,100 cases of neglect and almost 1,000 cases of sexual abuse recorded in the past year.

\_\_\_\_

The rising exposure of children and youth to pornography-often through smartphones and social media-creates new dangers. Studies show that pornography can rewire a child's brain, normalise violence, distort their understanding of relationships, increase aggression, and fuel risky sexual behaviour at a very young age.

Honorable speaker, protecting our children requires more than policies-it demands visible and accountable action.

I therefore respectfully ask the Honorable Minister the following questions:

- 1. How is the Ministry ensuring that children experiencing sexual violence are actually protected beyond policy statements and awareness drives?
- 2. Why has the Ministry not implemented stronger digital protections and well-resourced safe houses, instead of relying mostly on campaigns and partnerships?
- 3. Why does the Ministry continue to prioritize campaigns over effective child protection systems and social workers, especially in rural areas, and how is the allocated budget being used if safe houses remain so few?

# Question 157 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Hengombe (IPC) asked the Minister of Industrialisation, Mines and Energy:

Honourable Minister, given the recent reports and your office's alleged involvement in discussions with foreign companies regarding the financial restructuring of the National Petroleum Corporation of Namibia (Namcor), would you kindly clarify the following for this honourable House and the nation at large;

- 1. What specific authority or directive initiated discussions with companies from Ghana, Norway, Sweden and the Democratic Republic of Congo regarding a potential bailout for Namcor, considering the board had not issued a public request for such partnerships?
- 2. Could you provide documentation of the formal channels through which the Ghanaian company's debt takeover proposal was transmitted to Namcor, and justify why your office continued to champion this proposal after it was formally rejected by the board on the grounds that its terms were unfavourable to the national interest?
- 3. How do you respond to the Namcor board's written request that you cease interfering in its operations and how do you reconcile your alleged campaign to replace the board which has been in place for only one year with established governance protocols for State-owned enterprises?
- 4. Will you commit to full public disclosure of all meetings, communications and agreements between your office and these foreign entities regarding potential bailout arrangements, including the specific terms and any conditions attached to these proposals?
- 5. What safeguards have been implement to ensure that any foreign bailout arrangement does not compromise Namibia's national interests or its energy sovereignty, especially given the concerns raised by the Namcor board itself?

#### Question 158 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Nashinge (IPC) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister:

Honourable Prime Minister, the recent reports of a N\$350 million investment mandate being awarded to VG Capital, a company owned by a Chinese citizen, based on allegedly misleading information, represent a clear and present danger to the retirement security of Namibian public servants. This matter strikes at the heart of good governance, fiscal prudence, and national sovereignty. It demands your immediate attention and clarity as the head of the Cabinet, which is collectively accountable to this National Assembly.

I therefore rise to seek clarity on a recent investment mandate to VG Capital;

- 1. Honourable Prime Minister, GIPF confirms VG Capital's proposal was granted conditional approval in 2022. Will you confirm to this honourable House if GIPF's investment policy allows for such a long, multi-year process where a rejected proposal can be repeatedly reworked until it is approved, bypassing the original due diligence?
- 2. Honourable Prime Minister, given that media reports claim that the VG Capital proposal was previously rejected by GIPF's CEO and Board of Trustees, can you assure this House that no political pressure was exerted to reverse this decision?
- 3. Honourable Prime Minister, can you con firm through the Minister of Home Affairs whether all shareholders of VG Capital are Namibian citizens, and whether they have lawfully renounced the citizenships of their countries of origin in compliance with Namibian Law?
- 4. Honourable Prime Minister, in the name of transparency, will you commit to tabling all the external consultant's reports on this mandate as well as the original 2022 proposal and the final version that was ultimately approved in July 2025?
- 5. Honourable Prime Minister, it has come to light that the GIPF lacks member representation in its governance. Will you confirm if GIPF members have the right to vote for their board members, or if they are politically appointed, and what steps will be taken to ensure members have a direct say in the governance of the fund that holds their retirement savings?

# Question 159 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Cloete (IPC) asked the Minister of International Relations and Trade:

Between 2023 and 2025, credible reports indicate that State-owned Namibian firearms were trafficked into South Africa's Western Cape, arming gangs and intensifying violence. Recoveries include automatic rifles meant for war (AK-47s) and Namibian police pistols, reportedly concealed in legitimate cargo fresh produce and cut flowers (roses, tulips, lilies) moving along our shared trade routes. This raises diplomatic, reputational and trade-facilitation concerns for the Trans-Kalahari and Trans-Caprivi corridors and our AfCFTA obligations.

I ask the Hon. Minister the following

- 1. On what dates did the Minister engage South African counterparts at high level on this matter, and what actions and timelines were agreed?
- 2. What instructions and support were provided by Namibia's High Commission/consular posts in South Africa to engage and mitigate on an ongoing basis with the South African Government?
- 3. How is Namibia ensuring that legitimate trade channels are not exploited for illicit arms while meeting AfCFTA trade-facilitation standards?
- 4. What steps has MIRT taken to protect Namibia's reputation with South Africa, SADC and partners (official lines-to-take, communiques, briefings)?

Druggetton 1(0 (2025 00 10)

# Question 160 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Lukato (NDP) asked the Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

Namibia's Local Authorities play a critical role in ensuring that communities are well served, development initiatives are implemented, and public services reach every citizen. Councillors in Municipalities, Town Councils, and Local Authority Councils are at the forefront of this responsibility. It has come to our attention that there are significant disparities in the allowances paid to Councillors depending on whether their Council is classified as a Municipality or a Town Council.

For instance, Walvis Bay, as a Municipality, receives higher allowances for its Councillors, while Helao Nafidi Town Council, which serves a similarly sized community with comparable responsibilities, receives substantially less.

This discrepancy raises serious questions about fairness, equity, and constitutional compliance. Article 10 of the Namibian Constitution guarantees equality before the law, and yet Councillors performing equal duties are treated unequally based purely on the classification of their Council. It is in this context that I pose the following questions to the Honourable Minister of Urban and Rural Development:

- 1. Honourable Minister, does the Ministry acknowledge that Councillors in Municipalities and Town Councils perform essentially the same duties and responsibilities, yet receive significantly different monthly allowances?
- 2. Can the Minister explain the rationale for the current allowance disparities between Municipal and Town Council Councillors, particularly in cases where population size, community needs, and service delivery responsibilities are comparable?
- 3. Does the Ministry consider the current practice of differential allowances as consistent with the principle of equality enshrined in Article 10 of the Namibian Constitution?
- 4. Has the Ministry conducted any review or study to assess the impact of these allowance disparities on Councillor morale, performance, and community service delivery across all Local Authorities?

- 5. Honourable Minister, does the Ministry have plans to harmonize Councillor allowances across all Local Authorities to ensure fairness, equity, and uniform recognition of service, regardless of whether a Council is classified as a Municipality or a Town Council?
- 6. If no harmonization plan exists, can the Minister indicate when the Ministry intends to initiate such a review to correct these discrepancies and ensure equal treatment for all Local Authority leaders?
- 7. Finally, Honourable Minister, will the Ministry commit to engaging all Local Authorities and relevant stakeholders in consultations to develop a standardised allowance framework that treats all Councillors fairly, while still recognising special circumstances where justified?

\_\_\_\_

# Question 161 (2025-09-10)

Hon. Kangulu (IPC) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister:

In June this year, it was reported that Cabinet had resolved to place a moratorium on official funerals, effective 16 June 2025 to 31 March 2026, in order to allow Government to review the existing criteria and processes for granting such honours. The Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Hon. Emma Theofelus, confirmed that this moratorium will remain in place until a detailed review is completed.

This decision did not emerge in a vacuum, as far back 2021, political commentators cautioned that the rising number of State funerals would place a heavy strain on the public purse. These concerns were validated when, in April this year, the Honourable Prime Minister revealed that state and official funerals had cost taxpayers N\$38.4 million in the 2024/2025 financial year alone. While no one disputes the importance of honouring our national leaders and veterans.

The question arises: How sustainable is this practice in light of our country's pressing challenges especially the youth unemployment crisis and the broader social and economic hardships confronting ordinal Namibians?

It is therefore against this background that I put forward the following fundamental questions for consideration. Based on 38.4 million spent over the last financial year, meaning taxpayers have spent nearly 192 million over the last five years.

- 1. What is the projected cost to the taxpayers over the next 5-10 years, considering that the majority of veterans and senior public figures are at their advanced age?
- 2. What are the conditions and criteria applied to accord State or official funeral given the current State of moratorium if we are to justify Article 10 of the Namibia Constitution (Equality and Freedom from Discrimination) in conjuction with Conferment of National Honours Act 11 of 2012?
- 3. With most veterans still lanquishing in poverty, high rate of unemployment, cost of living, lack of medicine in hospitals, lack of housing and inadequate schools (situation of Dama), is it not appropriate and prudent that, we truly choose to address real needs that affect our people's life?

#### Question 162 (2025-09-11)

Hon. Moongo (PDM) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture:

The latest report of the Auditor-General on the Education Development Fund paints a deeply troubling picture. For yet another year, the Fund has received an adverse audit opinion, confirming that its financial statements cannot be trusted to present a true and fair account of public resources. Despite repeated warnings, the Ministry of Education has failed to establish a proper financial reporting framework or implement performance targets, leaving the Fund floating with shrinking reserves, inflating unexplained expenses, and no measurable outcomes. This represents not only a breakdown in accountability but also a betrayal of the very learners the Fund was created to serve.

I therefore wish to ask the Honourable Minister the following:

- 1. Why has the Education Development Fund once again received an adverse audit opinion, and what corrective actions are being taken to restore credibility and compliance?
- 2. The Auditor-General notes that the Fund still lacks an acceptable financial reporting framework, despite this issue being raised in prior years. Why has the Ministry failed to implement International Public Sector Accounting Standards as promised and by when will a proper framework be in place?
- 3. The Fund's revenue dropped from N\$70,334 in 2023 to only N\$20,470 in 2024, while expenses reached N\$746,735, resulting in a deficit of N\$726,265. Can the Minister explain the reasons for this sharp decline and the sustainability plan of the Fund going forward?
- 4. The Auditor-General highlights that the Fund has no performance targets or indicators and that no regular reviews were conducted. How does the Ministry assess the effectiveness of the Fund if there are no measurable goals?
- 5. Will the Minister commit to tabling a detailed performance and financial recovery plan for the Education Development Fund before the next financial year?
- 6. What steps are being taken to strengthen internal controls to prevent further mismanagement and restore public trust in the Education Development Fund?