



BDP DISOWNS DISS IN P15M ELECTIONS CONTROVERSY

Balopi says BDP is investigating allegations stemming from a letter of demand issued to the DISS by World of Oath, demanding P15 million payment for allegedly providing a potentially subversive social media campaign during last year's general elections. IEC distances itself from the issue while former and current PSPs wash their hands of the matter.

STORY ON PAGE 2

GPH FACES POSSIBLE SANCTIONS FOR COVID-19 MESS

• GPH engaged Lancel
Laboratories to determine
COVID -19 results

PAGE 3

ASPIRING BDP DSG DIRECTLY APPOINTED IN P2.4M RAILWAYS TENDER

PAGE 6

TSOGWANE ACCUSED OF DIVIDING BDP

PAGE 2

IS BOTSWANA'S PRESIDENT IN PURSUIT OF PERSONAL PROFIT?

PAGE 11

THE KING OF CASH

How Ram Cashes in the Choppies Millions

PAGES 26 & 27



BDP Disowns DISS In P15m Election Scandal

- Balopi says BDP is investigating the allegations
- IEC distances itself from the issue
- Former and current PSPs wash their hands of the matter
- DISS insists it did nothing illegal

TEFO PHEAGE

The Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DISS) is at the heart of allegations of a potential elections scandal from which the Independent Electoral Commission has distanced itself while the ruling Botswana Democratic Party says the allegations are too serious to be ignored.

The allegations, which have all the makings of a finger-pointing affair, came to light recently when an obscure entity calling itself World of Oath demanded payment for shady work that the company did allegedly at the behest of Botswana's top secret service, DISS, around the country's latest general elections last year.

In a development that could cast the most serious doubt on the integrity of the elections yet, World of Oath has slapped DISS with a P15 million bill allegedly for services rendered in the 2019 general elections while the BDP says it is investigating the allegations. "Every serious party should be concerned when such huge amounts of money are mentioned or used for a

(purpose) that they are not supposed to be funding," the Secretary General of the BDP, Mpho Balopi, has told *The Botswana Gazette*.

According to Balopi, DISS is a part of the government and therefore it warrants an investigation when it is mentioned in such serious allegations so that the truth may be ascertained. "We will share the results with the nation once our investigations are done," he said. "The BDP and its central committee have never at any point instigated or assigned anybody or any institution to do what DISS is accused of."

At these early stages of what looks like will be an acrimonious affair, DISS has confirmed receiving a statutory notice from World of Oath but did not respond to *The Gazette's* questions about the allegations, except to say everything was done according to the law. "We do confirm receipt of a statutory notice related to questions you have raised," the communications officer of the secret service, Edward Robert, told *The Gazette* yesterday. "We are unable to address the questions for obvious legal reasons. However, the Directorate wishes

to assure the public that it has and will always conduct itself within the dictates of the Intelligence and Security Service Act."

At the IEC, spokesman Osupile Maroba says they are aware of the allegations of DISS owing World of Oath P15 million for work involving elections but added that the IEC had always distanced itself from operations of DISS. "You are aware that a lot was said about the DISS in the past elections and we have always stated our position that we know nothing about what they were saying or doing," Maroba said. "We know nothing about the current P15 million issue which we understand is also before lawyers."

Asked if the IEC did not deem it fit to conduct its own investigation as custodians of elections, Maroba said they would keep their ears open.

The IEC has a statutory duty to ensure that elections are conducted efficiently, properly, freely and fairly. Even so, the organisation found itself battling for its soul when the head of DISS, Peter Magosi, described its systems as porous and allegedly wanted to have a

hand in its work. "The IEC has always maintained that the production and management of the voters roll is a mandatory sole responsibility of the Commission. Any allegation or assumption on the involvement of other parties or institutions in the process is maliciously damaging to the credibility of the IEC and cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged," the IEC said at the time.

"The BDP and its central committee have never at any point instigated or assigned anybody or any institution to do what DISS is accused of."

Magosi insisted that he was concerned that the elections would be rigged and asked to purchase and help with a "communications and intelligence surveillance machine" from a company in Switzerland named Plath AG Group. The company describes itself in its website as a leading Europe-based solutions provider for communications, intelligence and elec-

tronic warfare. "With over 500 employees, we focus on providing solutions for the interception, processing, evaluation and sharing of mass data," says the company about itself. "By combining sensitive data from various sources, our industry-leading technology generates knowledge, which is indispensable to protect security. It also helps to detect threats before they become imminent."

This prompted the leader of the opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), Duma Boko, to instruct Geneva-based attorney, Dragan Zeljic, to intervene. Whereupon Zeljic wrote to Plath AG on 3 September 2019 and obtained a court interdict preventing delivery to Botswana of certain "intelligence surveillance equipment" for use in the general elections.

"Mr Boko and UDC are concerned that this equipment might in fact be used for the current ruling party, BDP, for electoral purposes in order to exercise undue and illegal surveillance of the opposition parties, first and foremost of the UDC as the main opposition force in Botswana, and even to organise potential electoral fraud by misusing the ID cards-related equipment whether to refuse potential opposition voters or to include non-existent voters in the electoral process," Boko and the Swiss lawyer wrote in the letter. "You should be aware that such acts may potentially amount to

a criminal offence in Switzerland and constitute a breach of foreign territorial sovereignty (Art. 299 Swiss Criminal Code) and participation to electoral fraud (Art. 282 Swiss Criminal Code)."

Nevertheless, Magosi insisted that it was his duty to make sure that Botswana improved its systems, hence a need to send DIT and DISS officials to meet with officials of Plath AG. According to a source, it was after failing to secure the machinery from Switzerland that World of Oath must have been considered and probably approached. According to the new player, Word of Oath, it provided media intelligence gathering services, social media influencer tracking and gathering, reverse engineering media influence, influencer-blasting services and media account duplex tracking for DISS.

When *The Botswana Gazette* approached the former Permanent Secretary to the President, Carter Morupisi, who was in office at the time of the elections, about how much these allegations, the publication was referred to his successor, Elias Magosi. "I know nothing about that issue," Magosi returned. Both the IEC and DISS are under the ambit of the Office of the President.

World of Oath through their lawyer, Tsholofelo Mvungama did not respond to this publication's enquiries at the time of going for press as they had promised.

War Erupts at BDP Over Nata/Gweta

VP Tsogwane accused of being divisive

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

A three faced intra-Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) war has erupted at the Nata/Gweta Constituency. One faction is fighting for the incumbent Member of Parliament Polson Majaga, the second faction wants him replaced with Lawrence Ookeditse, while another faction wants Ditiro Majadibodu in, *The Botswana Gazette* can reveal.

The tussle was stimulated by the recent meeting held by Party Chairman – Slumber Tsogwane where Ookeditse's takeover was allegedly discussed.

Ookeditse, an MP aspirant, lost to Majaga in the 2018 BDP Primary

elections. With Majaga recently facing defilement charges, some BDP members within the Nata/Gweta area want Ookeditse to replace Majaga. However, those who prefer Majadibodu have also waged a protest.

The Branch Chairman Molaodi Gaolebalwe has rubbished the allegations of infighting, but *The Botswana Gazette* is reliably informed otherwise.

As a result of Tsogwane's meeting, another MP aspirant in that area, Majadibodu is said to have accused Tsogwane of divisive tactics. Like Ookeditse, Majadibodu lost the primaries to Majaga.

It emerges further that constituency members who are in support of

Majadibodu are fuming at the VP, and so is the other group that still prefers Majaga.

Consequently, *The Botswana Gazette* is reliably informed that sympathizers of both Majadibodu and Majaga are demanding answers from Tsogwane.

By electing to facilitate for the endorsement of Ookeditse, Majaga and Majadibodu followers allegedly feel their preferred MP hopefuls have been deprived an opportunity to be endorsed in the constituency.

They further want Tsogwane to clarify why he invited only Ookeditse to the branch meeting while he is not part of the committee.

"Both factions feel that their preferred candidates should have been allowed to also canvass support from the branch commit-

tee. It has to be noted that as party Chairman and Botswana Vice President, Tsogwane has great influence that could easily sway support to whoever he prefers," said a source.

"So as the BDP leader he should be neutral and desist from holding secret meetings in support of any candidate".

Majaga was disappointed by the meeting.

He however declined to comment saying he no longer wants to entertain the media.

On the other hand, Majadibodu expressed discontent with the alleged meeting but reserved his comments insisting that he could only talk about the issue after getting all the information about what happened.

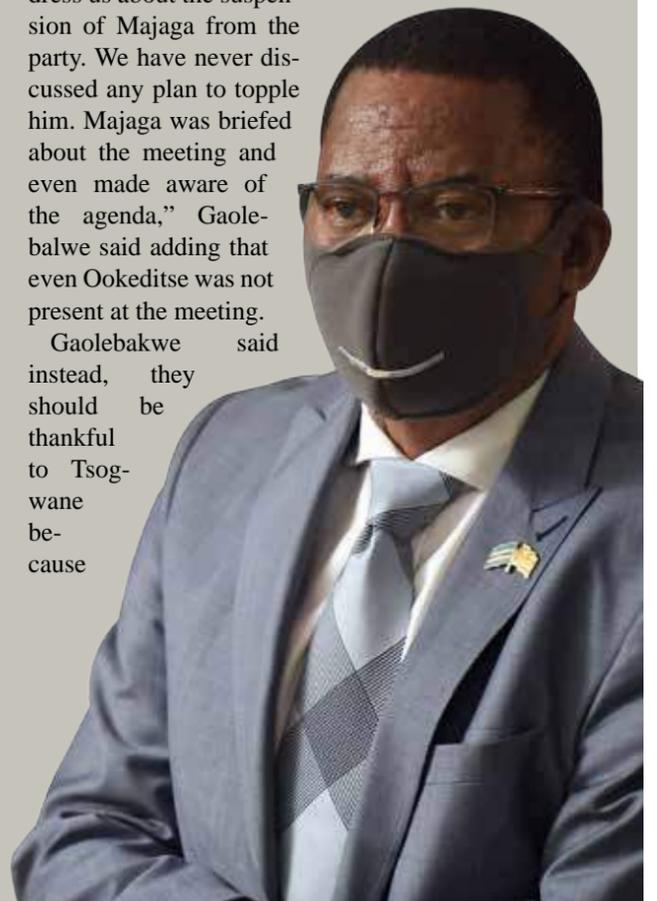
However, the Branch Chairman attacked Ma-

jaga and Majadibodu for spreading petty untruths in an interview.

"Tsogwane came to address us about the suspension of Majaga from the party. We have never discussed any plan to topple him. Majaga was briefed about the meeting and even made aware of the agenda," Gaolebalwe said adding that even Ookeditse was not present at the meeting.

Gaolebakwe said instead, they should be thankful to Tsogwane because

he personally cautioned those who have already spread untruths about Majaga's possible exit.



GPH Faces Possible Sanctions For COVID-19

- GPH engaged Lancet Laboratories to determine Covid-19 results
- GPH chief promises factual and comprehensive statement
- "COVID-19 tests have generally been notorious for high levels of false negatives and false positives."-Health expert.

A South African medical laboratory, Lancet Laboratories, is alleged to be at the centre of the recent false COVID-19 results that saw President Mokgweetsi Masisi declare an indefinite lockdown over Gaborone and Greater Gaborone Zone last week, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

It is alleged that the lab was engaged by Gaborone Private Hospital (GPH) to conduct COVID-19 tests on behalf of GPH. Some of the returning samples were said to be COVID-19 positive and the hospital informed the affected patients of the results.

In a statement shared with staff members last week, GPH management said it was proud of its staff because it is the only facility that is strictly enforcing COVID-19 pre-testing for both booked and emergency cases.

The Coordinator of the COVID-19 Task Force, Dr. Kereng Masupu, told

The Botswana Gazette that government became aware of these results only upon making enquiries at GPH. This led to the decision to immediately shut the hospital down and impose a lockdown on the Greater Gaborone Zone in order to allow a robust contact tracing process and verify the GPH results.

An official at Lancet Laboratories Botswana, Sifiso Frank Mladzi has confirmed that the lab was responsible for the results. However, Mladzi said he could not comment further on the matter.

The results, which at the time were termed probabilities, were subsequently verified at a local laboratory. Speaking on Btv on Monday, the Deputy Coordinator of the COVID-19 Task Force, Professor Mosepele Mosepele, said 10 people of 16 probable cases had returned negative. The Director of Health Services, Dr. Malaki Tshipayagae, said an assessment of the situa-

tion was done after which President Mokgweetsi Masisi was advised to lift the lockdown.

"Their licences (GPH) could be revoked," said a highly-placed source at the Ministry of Health (MOH). "This is a serious contravention of the Public Health Act."

A few months ago, South Africa's Minister of Health, Dr. Zweli Mkhize, was forced to correct the country's number of active COVID-19 cases after it emerged that some of the results had been false.

Part II of the Public Health Act deals with notifiable diseases in Botswana. "Notice of any

notifiable diseases shall be furnished by the health officer concerned as soon as practicable to the Minister, in the prescribed form," it states at subsection 5. As it turns out, GPH did not notify the Director of Health Services Dr. Tshipayagae, of their results. MoH authorities learnt of the situation by means of leaked information through the grapevine.

"Where, in the opinion of a health officer, any person certified to be suffering from a communicable disease is not accommodated or is not being treated or nursed in such manner as to adequately guard against the spread of the disease, such person may, on the order of a registered medical practitioner, be detained in or removed to a hospital or any temporary place which, in the opinion of the registered medical practitioner, is suitable for the reception of such person and there detained until the health officer or any medical practitioner duly autho-

risied thereto by the Minister is satisfied that he is free from infection or can be discharged without danger to the public health," says subsection 10 of the Public Health Act.

Subsection 12 of the same law reads: "Any person who knowingly lets for hire any dwelling or premises or part thereof in which any person has been suffering from a communicable disease without having the satisfaction of a health officer as testified by certificate signed by him shall be guilty of an offence."

Sources say GPH may have contravened some of these provisions. Reached for comment, the Superintendent of GPH, Dr. Anthony Sibiya, said they would release a factual and comprehensive statement detailing the timeline of actual events in due course. He added that they did not want to be seen to be "fighting" with the Ministry of Health in the media.

A few months ago, South Africa's Minister of Health, Dr. Zweli Mkhize, was forced to correct the country's number of active COVID-19 cases

after it emerged that some of the results had been false. The results concerned were said to have been produced by Lancet Laboratories. Before some of Botswana's laboratories were authorised to verify COVID-19 tests, the Botswana Government of Botswana used the same lab. Asked about credibility of Lancet Laboratories, Dr. Sibiya answered: "Yes, we are aware that there was a concern that was raised by the South Africa's health minister. But you should remember that Lancet and Ampath are the two biggest laboratories in SA. We have used their services for a very long time even before COVID-19 and we trust their services."

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a private health practitioner in Gaborone told *The Botswana Gazette*: "COVID-19 tests have generally been notorious for high levels of false negatives and false positives. So you may need to use more than one test to check for sure that the result is positive or negative. I have heard of errors margins as wide as 15 percent or more. And in this case WHO testing confirmations are a necessity."

Orange Botswana launches 4G+ and drops internet prices

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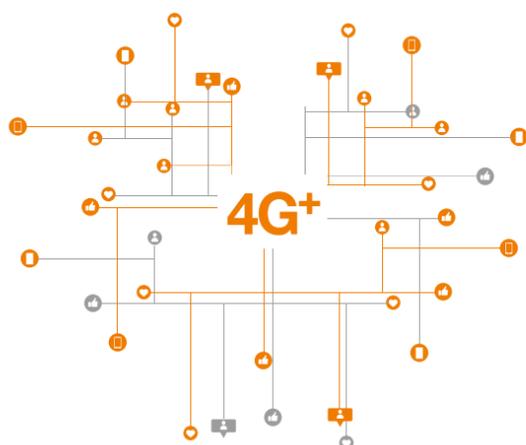
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P200m COVID-19 Relief Food Programme in Danger

Budget likely to be diverted to cover council debts

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

A budget of P200 million recently set aside - and approved - for the second phase of the COVID-19 relief food programme here could be diverted to cover council debts accumulated during the lockdown, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

The creditors include grocery stores that supplied the food hampers, mini-trucks hired to distribute the hampers and catering companies that fed essential service employees who were on duty during the lockdown. According to sources at the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD), only the remaining balance will go to the original purpose of obtaining relief food packages.

"When the country went into lockdown, councils were authorised to use their money as they saw fit," said one source. "Some of the money was used to pay extra social workers who were recruited to speed up assessment of households."

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"Some of the money was used to pay extra social workers who were recruited to speed up assessment of households."

When the relief food program began two months ago, the council had a budget of P114 million for the purpose, but it is understood that the money fell short. In the first phase, 487 047 households in Francistown were assessed out of which 371 390 were found to be in need of food.

The Coordinator of the COVID-19 Relief Food Programme, Gabriel Seeletso, has confirmed that the budget for Botswana's second city will be diverted. "You might find that some councils have used up their money and left us with no option but to refund them," Seeletso told *The Gazette*.



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'Botswana's Internet Usage Has Grown Tremendously' - Statistics

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

A study by Statistics Botswana shows that 424 120 families in Botswana had access to internet in 2019 recording a 72.4 percent growth from the 245 941 families that were registered in 2014, a study by Statistics Botswana shows.

According to *the Botswana Household Access To Information and Communication Technology (ICT) 2019* study (compiled by Statistics Botswana) while internet usage grew tremendously, access to the internet was most prevalent among households with the mobile internet type of service.

"This internet service was used by 91.1 percent of all households with access to the internet," the study shows. "Fixed wireless was the next most prevalent internet connection type used by households, recording 9.4 percent of all households with internet access. The least internet access service was indicated within households that connected through the Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) and satellite."

However, there are families that are still reluctant to using internet, this is after a total of 244,268 households reported to have no access to the internet in Botswana. According to the study, when asked to indicate their reasons for not having access to internet; costliness prevailed as the most common reason.

"The most common reason given for not having internet was

that the cost of equipment used for internet was too high," the study shows. "This constituting 29.1 percent of all households with no internet access. The second most common reason for not accessing the internet was lack of knowledge of the internet, at 35.8 percent of the total. Other reasons for not having access to the internet were given by households, the least being physical disability."

By not being able to access the internet, it means that 244, 268 families are missing out on the life changing benefits of connectivity, from financial services to health and education, being brought about the increasing pace of innovation known as the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Universal affordable internet access is part of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and governments, companies, local and international organizations, and members of the civil society are struggling to get more people online.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Transport and Communication, Thulaganyo Segokgo late last month told the media that plans are in place to reduce mobile internet prices. He said he has engaged in several meetings with the telecommunications regulator, Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority and BoFiNet-a wholesale provider of national telecommunications infrastructure to push for the reduction of mobile internet prices something that is expected to see internet usage in Botswana increase.



Isaac Kgosi Wants NPF Charges Dropped

TEFO PHEAGE

The former Director General of the Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS), Isaac Kgosi has applied to the court challenging the prosecution's decision to put him on trial over the P250 million National Petroleum Fund (NPF) scandal.

Kgosi who is now accused number 18 was included on the list of those charged for the missing funds in March 2020 after a prolonged escape from the long arm of the law.

Kgosi who is now accused number 18 was included on the list of those charged for the missing funds in March 2020 after a prolonged escape from the long arm of the law.

The case involved P250 million, which then as DIS boss, Kgosi requested from the NPF to build strategic fuel storage facilities. The DIS, however, later changed the intended purpose for the money and then used the funds to purchase anti-poaching equipment.



Former Director General of the Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS), Isaac Kgosi

Kgosi posits that the state has no case as they have not satisfactorily demonstrated how he is party to the scandal that is currently before the courts. The charges according to Kgosi's claims are irrational, unreasonable and border on illegality. The state has opposed this application.

Kgosi's struggle for freedom follows efforts by many others such as former Minister Sadique Kebonang and his twin brother- High Court judge Zein Kebonang, businessman Bakang Seretse, suspended Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority director, Kenneth Kerekang and his wife Mpho Kerekang and civil servant, Tshepo Bojelo. Other accused persons in the case are

Mogomotsi Seretse, Raging Bull, M & B Proprietary Limited, STM Holdings, Kago Stimela and Leomog Proprietary Limited.

The accused persons jointly face multiple charges ranging from money laundering, theft, abuse of office, giving false information to person employed in the public service.

The state is said to be pinning its hopes on the discrepancies of the DIS and the Israeli company contract. Bakang's attorney, Kgosietsile Ngakaagae has always maintained that his client was acting on the instructions from Kgosi in all the disputed transactions and therefore, Kgosi should be charged.



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Aspiring BDP DSG Directly Appointed in P2.4 million BR Tender

- Nolly Craft was directly appointed by BR management
- Costs could have been more – Malinga
- I have been working with the private sector for years



GAZETTE REPORTER _____

Nolly Craft Investments, a company owned by aspiring Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) Deputy Secretary General (DSG) Raymond Malinga, has been directly awarded a fumigation ten-

der by Botswana Railways (BR) worth P2.4 million, *The Botswana Gazette* can reveal.

The Minister of Transport and Communications Thulaganyo Segokgo confirmed to this publication this Tuesday that Malinga's company, Nolly Craft In-

vestment was directly appointed by the BR management. Segokgo confirmed the value of the tender to be at P2.395 million.

For his part, Malinga, who divulged that he is a founding member of the company, said that the period of the tender was six

months and also includes fumigating and disinfecting the entire BR fleet of trains and offices country-wide.

We will fumigate and disinfect all locomotives everyday. We have also disinfected all BR offices country-wide. In fact, if you calculate the entire costs, you would realize that the cost should have been higher than the P2.4 million."

BR is headed by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Leonard Makwinja.

"The contract is between

BR and ourselves, we cannot really reveal anything too much," said Malinga in an interview on Tuesday evening. "They have already revealed the amount of the tender, what I can however reveal is that this tender is for six months and we started three months ago. We will fumigate and disinfect all locomotives everyday. We have also disinfected all BR offices country-wide. In fact, if you calculate the entire costs, you would realize that the cost should have been higher than the P2.4 million."

Malinga however said payments were yet to be made. Nolly Craft was one of the first local companies to volunteer fumigating malls and some organisations for free when the COVID-19 was first reported. He says that he has demonstrated his company's capacity and it came as no surprise when he was re-

quested to intervene at the New Jerusalem Apostolic Church in Zion, which then signed a partnership with his company. Nolly also provided its fumigating services at Tlokweng Border during lockdown and besides a wide clientele in the private sector, Malinga says in a pandemic as this government needed a local company that can deliver with ease. He said his company has also been engaged in organic agricultural produce and disinfection products over the years.

He currently serves in one of the ruling BDP's national sub-committees. He has publicly announced that he will be contesting for the position of the Deputy Secretary General (DSG) in the upcoming BDP congress. The position is currently held by former Minister of Defence Justice and Security Shaw Kgathi.

'Less Educated People Have Less Access to TVs' - Statistics Botswana

Study by Statistics Botswana shows that televisions and computers are more popular among families lead by individuals with tertiary education

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO _____

Families headed by individuals with tertiary education had more access to a television than families headed by those with other education levels in 2019, a recent study by Statistics Botswana stipulate.

According to Botswana Household Access to Information and Technology (ICT) 2019 Stats Brief (compiled by Statistics Botswana), 57.7 percent of all households had access to a television, a fall of 2.6 percentage points from the 60.3 percent which was realized in 2014. In terms of actual number of households however, there was an increase of 5.5 percent from the 365,650 households recorded in 2014 to 385,910 households in 2019.

With that, the 2019 Statistics Botswana ICT study revealed that televisions are more popular on families led by individuals with tertiary education. "They constituted 41.1 percent of all households with television access," the study states. "Households headed by those with secondary education followed with 30.7 percent. The least television access was observed amongst households headed by those with non-formal education, at 2.1 percent of all households with access to television."

The ICT study further stated that in 2019, more households had access to a laptop computer than a desktop computer. According to the study of all families in Botswana, 21.2 percent of them

have access to a laptop. That registered a 13.7 percent increase from 124,766 households recorded in 2014 to 141,821 households in 2019. The study also stated that families headed by heads who have completed tertiary education dominated in household computer access in 2019.

"Households headed by those with secondary education followed with 30.7 percent. The least television access was observed amongst households headed by those with non-formal education, at 2.1 percent of all households with access to television."

"Families headed by those with tertiary education made up 69.3 percent (98 274) of all households with access to a laptop computer and 67.8 (29 824) percent of those households with access to a desktop computer," the study shows. "They were followed by household heads with secondary education, the lowest access to a computer was observed amongst households headed by those with non-formal education."



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Closing Date & Time: 17h00 (Namibian time) on Friday, 3 July 2020.

The SACU Secretariat reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal that fails to meet its requirements and will not, in any case, be responsible or liable for any costs associated with the preparation and submission of any proposal. Kindly note that only short-listed bidders will be contacted.

Cancellation of
Botswana Life
Classic Run National
Half Marathon

Event Cancelled

Botswana Life has regrettably taken a decision to cancel the 2020 Classic Run which was scheduled for 9 August.

This is due to the unpredictable situation around the prevailing Coronavirus pandemic, and its effect on normal public events and activities, including sports.

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	Colour: White Body Type: D/C P/UP Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P122 000.00
NISSAN	Model: Navara 2.5 DCI LE 4X4 Year: 2015 Mileage: 178505

	Colour: White Body Type: P/Up Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P154 000.00
ISUZU	Model: KB300 Crew Cab 4X4 Year: 2015 Mileage: 172970

	Colour: Blue Body Type: Hatch Back Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P86 000.00
NISSAN	Model: Micra 0.9T Acenta Plus Year: 2018 Mileage: 12 738

	Colour: White Body Type: Sedan Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P39 000.00
NISSAN	Model: Sentra 1.6 Year: 2014 Mileage: 120099

	Colour: Silver Body Type: Hatch Back Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: No Reserve Price
VOLKSWAGEN	Model: Golf 1.4 TSI Year: 2010 Mileage: 201 269

	Colour: Blue Body Type: Coupe Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P40 000.00
INFINITI	Model: G37 CAB GT P Year: 2012 Mileage: 79208

	Colour: White Body Type: Hatch Back Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P200 000.00
BMW	Model: 420i Gran Coupe (A) Year: 2017 Mileage: 50 405

	Colour: White Body Type: P/U S/C Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P34 000.00
TOYOTA	Model: Hilux 2.0 VVTI Year: 2013 Mileage: 268 862

	Colour: Red Body Type: Hatch Back Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: P92 000.00
OPEL	Model: Mokka 1.4 Enjoy A/T Year: 2016 Mileage: 135 348

	Colour: Silver Body Type: Hatch Back Time: 9:00am Contact: Botshelo/Lesego Starting Bid: No Reserve Price
VOLKSWAGEN	Model: Polo Vivo 1.4 Trendline Year: 2012 Mileage: 24 4850

Assets can be viewed on our Auctioneer's website: www.auctioneersbotswana.co.bw

All Covid-19 guidelines and protocols will be put in place as the health and safety of our customers is of great importance.

CONTACT DETAILS: 319 1845 / 390 8218

VIEWING DATES: 16 - 19 JUNE, 2020

VIEWING TIMES	MONDAY - THURSDAY > 08.30 -13.00PM > 14.00 - 16.30PM
	FRIDAY > 08.30 -13.00PM > 14.00 - 15.30PM
LOCATION	PLOT 20594 BLOCK 3 INDUSTRIAL/WESBANK WAREHOUSE BEHIND AFROX GAS DEPOT

REGISTRATION FEES KEY ● P5 000 ○ P10 000



Terms and conditions apply

Auction: Saturday, 20/06/2020

Registration Starts: 7.30am

Auction Starts: 9am

REGISTRATION FEE: P5 000.00 PER LOT
Removal of vehicles will only be on Monday 22/06/2020



LOT:	REG NO.:	YEAR	ASSET DESCRIPTION	MILEAGE	KEYS	STARTING PRICE
923	B448AZP	2012	INFINITI G37 CAB GT P COUPE	79,208	1	40 000
1047	B939BAD	2014	NISSAN SENTRA 1.6 SEDAN	119,621	1	39 000
1059	B506ARN	2010	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.4 TSI HATCH BACK - NON RUNNER	201,269	1	NO RESERVE
1062	B935AVU	2012	VOLKSWAGEN POLO VIVO 1.4 TRENDLINE SEDAN - NEEDS AN IGNITION SWITCH	244,850	1	NO RESERVE
1075	B827BFZ	2017	BMW 420i GRAN COUPE (A) SEDAN	50,405	1	200 000
1076	B910BDJ	2016	OPEL MOKKA 1.4 ENJOY A/T HATCH BACK	135,348	1	92 000
1085	B121BAG	2015	NISSAN NAVARA 2.5DCI LE 4X4 D/C P/U	178,505	1	122 000
1088	B575AWO	2013	TOYOTA HILUX 2.0 VVTI P/U S/C	268,862	1	34 000
1089	B545BBX	2015	ISUZU KB300 CREW CAB 4X4 PICK UP	172,970	1	154 000
1094	B441BJC	2018	NISSAN MICRA 0.9T ACENTA PLUS HATCH BACK	12,738	1	86 000
1095	B852BHJ	2018	NISSAN ALMERA 1.5 SEDAN	38,645	1	75 000
1097	B998ATN	2011	BMW 535i A/T (F10) SEDAN	165,740	1	83 000
1099	B376AYN	2014	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 STATION WAGON	198,523	1	70 000
1103	B803BHO	2018	VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 TRENDLINE 5Dr HATCH BACK	91,608	1	68 000
1104	B949BEP	2017	MAZDA CX-3 2.0 DYNAMIC HATCH BACK	36,029	1	132 000
1106	B466BEE	2016	CHEVROLET UTILITY 1.4 A/C S/C PICK UP	56,562	1	66 000
1107	B820BHR	2018	NISSAN MICRA 900T ACENTA PLUS HATCH BACK	47,227	1	115 000
1108	B527ATC	2011	AUDI A4 2.0T AMBITION SEDAN	187,402	1	38 000
1109	B904BCS	2016	VOLKSWAGEN POLO VIVO 1.4 TRENDLINE 5Dr HATCH BACK	173,986	1	59 000
1110	B444BCZ	2016	TOYOTA HILUX 2.7 LEGEND 45 SRX D/C R/B	166,095	1	150 000
1111	B142BCM	2016	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 QUEST SEDAN	106,945	1	66 000
1112	B500BGT	2017	FIAT FULLBACK 2.4 4X4 A/T D/C PICK UP	35,501	1	190 000
1113	B505BFL	2016	FORD FOCUS RS 2.3 ECOBOOST AWD 5Dr HATCH BACK	52,170	1	240 000
1114	B981BAA	2014	NISSAN X-TRAIL 2.0 XE STATION WAGON	99,015	1	89 000
1117	B732BDS	2016	NISSAN NP300 2.4 HI RIDER D/C PICK UP	60,241	1	100 000
1118	B456BDD	2016	RENAULT CLIO IV 90T EXPRESSION HATCH BACK	88,506	1	75 000
1119	B893BGA	2017	FORD RANGER 2.2TDCI XLT D/C PICK UP	80,357	1	161 000
1121	B538AUC	2011	VOLVO XC60 D3 GEARTRONIC ELITE STATION WAGON	232,601	1	98 000
1122	B665BAX	2015	VOLKSWAGEN POLO VIVO GP 1.4 TRENDLINE SEDAN	74,904	1	78 000
1123	B528AXX	2013	TOYOTA HILUX 2.7 RAIDER R/B P/U D/C	156,889	1	115 000
1124	B479BDU	2016	VOLKSWAGEN POLO VIVO 1.4 HATCHBACK	119,025	1	78 000
1125	B742AWU	2013	AUDI Q5 2.0 TDI S-TRONIC STATION WAGON - GEARBOX FAULTY - NOT ENGAGING	221,441	1	46 000
1128	B140BAC	2015	BMW 320i AUTO SEDAN	155,113	1	141 000
1129	B721BDP	2016	MERCEDES MENZ C63 AMG S SEDAN	47,503	1	575 000
1130	B511AYG	2014	TOYOTA HILUX 2.7 VVTI S/C P/U	226,617	1	80 000
1131	B951BAY	2015	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 PRESTIGE SEDAN	102,475	1	102 000
1132	B377BHZ	2018	NISSAN NAVARA 2.3D LE 4X4 A/T P/U D/C	35,829	1	268 000
1134	B265BGS	2017	NISSAN NP300 2.0 LWB P/U	TBA	1	TBA
1135	B333BIT	2018	VOLKSWAGEN AMAROK 3.0TDI HIGHLINE 4MOTION A/T P/U D/C	55,275	1	334 000
1136	B711BCW	2016	FORD RANGER 3.2 WILDTRAK 4X4 A/T P/U	73,166	1	191 000
1090	B123BCC	2016	MERCEDES BENZ GLE 350d 4MATIC STATION WAGON	111,030	1	467 000
1137	B909BGC	2017	VOLKSWAGEN POLO VIVO GP 1.4i TRENDLINE HATCHBACK	57,250	1	81 000
1138	B212AZW	2014	CHEVROLET CAPTIVA 2.2D LT A/T STATION WAGON	122,583	1	89 000
1139	B386BER	2017	NISSAN NP300 2.4 D/C P/U	46,099	1	119 000
1140	B643BJU	2019	VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.0 TSI HATCHBACK	30,678	1	164 000
1141	B369BDB	2016	TOYOTA FORTUNER 2.7 A/T R/B STATION WAGON	74,698	1	175 000
1142	B407BIO	2018	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 PRESTIGE SEDAN	38,760	1	149 000
1143	B495BAW	2014	TOYOTA ETIOS 1.5 Xs 5 Dr HATCHBACK	127,402	1	28 000
1144	B134BBT	2015	TOYOTA LAND CRUISER PRADO VX 4.0 A/T STATION WAGON	117,771	1	350 000
1145	B114AUV	2012	VOLKSWAGEN JETTA 1.4 TSI HIGHLINE SEDAN	112,956	1	78 000
1147	B340BAI	2015	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 QUEST SEDAN	82,337	1	82 000

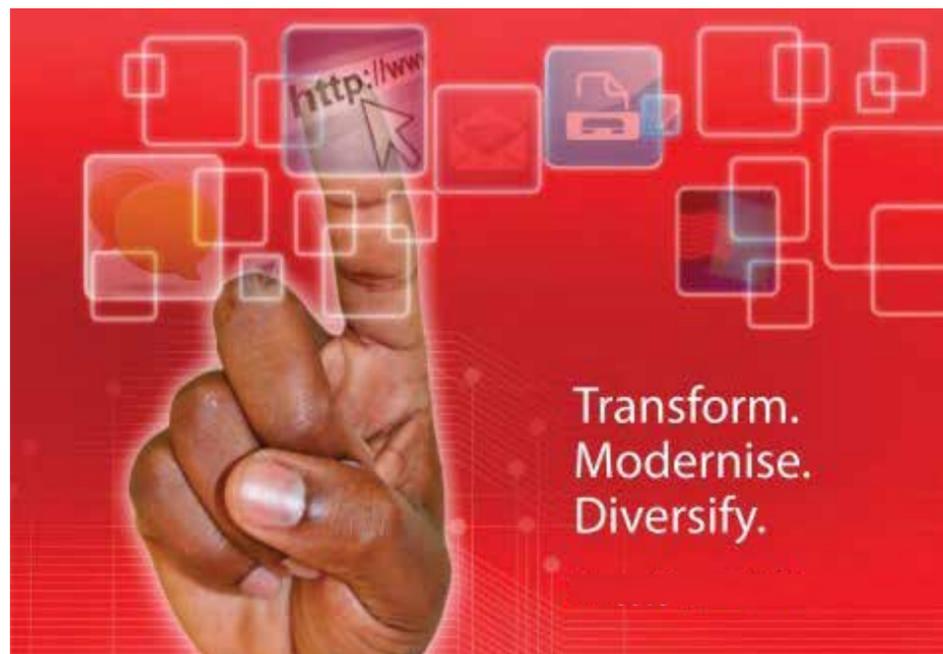
PLEASE NOTE:

On top of the bidding amount, 7% commission plus 12% VAT will be added on your invoice.
Example: FOR EVERY P 10 000.00 you bid the calculation is: P10 000.00 + 7% = P10 700 and then P10 700 + 12% = P11 984.00

REGISTRATION FEE: AS STATED ABOVE. REFUNDED IF YOU ARE UNSUCCESSFUL IN YOUR BIDDING.

- Balance of payment to be paid by noon, 12h00 on WEDNESDAY, 24/06/2020 by means of: Direct Deposit, EFT or Cleared Cheque.
- NO CASH ON SITE. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of deposit paid and goods purchased.
- All vehicles are sold voets stoets / as is, and must be removed by close of business, FRIDAY the 26/06/2020.
- If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact: Lenah Pheto Tel: 390 2895 / 390 6565

BotswanaPost Expands Its Channels Through The Smart Partnerships Model



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The University is looking for a qualified and experienced individual for the position stated below: The positions are tenable at BIUST Campus, Palapye, Botswana. Both positions are offered on fixed term contract of five (5) years or pensionable terms.

FACULTY OF SCIENCES

Professor :

- **Chemical and Forensic Sciences**

Main Purpose of the Job

- To teach and educate undergraduate and graduate students in an academic discipline and to build the knowledge base of the discipline through research and publication.

Education:

- Doctorate Degree in the relevant discipline

Experience

- Ten years post-doctoral experience in either teaching/lecturing/research of industry experience in the relevant field or discipline, at least five of which must be in teaching at tertiary level and graduate supervision or developing and mentoring junior research staff.

Senior Lecturer:

- **Mathematics**

Main Purpose of the Job

- To teach and educate undergraduate and graduate students in an academic discipline and to build the knowledge base in a relevant field of the discipline through research and publication.

Education:

- Doctorate Degree in the relevant discipline or approved equivalent qualification.

Experience:

- Three years post-doctoral experience in either teaching/lecturing/research or industry in the relevant field or discipline. Supervision of masters graduate students or equivalent junior staff. Record of publication in peer-reviewed journals or equivalent research output.

recruitment.mathstats@biust.ac.bw

- **Please note:** Processing of received applications will commence from **June 23rd, 2020.**

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE RESPONDED TO.

For any further enquiries, you may call **Ms. Taolo @ 493 1307** or **Ms. Mogwera @ 4931308**

The positions will remain vacant until filled.

In a bid to continue diversifying its portfolio, BotswanaPost has expanded its Smart Partnerships model which has seen the introduction of Choppies as an extension of our channel to offer PosoMoney, payments of Social Grants and other postal services.

Initially introduced in 2011 with the 'Icon of Excellence' strategy, this model has seen the Post grow from being solely a postal operator, to an innovative powerhouse that is progressive within and outside its field, with a vast footprint even in the most rural areas of the country. This model has also seen the Company grow from a loss-making entity to a P6.2m profit before tax in 2019.

In partnering with Choppies to expand our channels, BotswanaPost will be able to tap into their branch network of over 90 stores countrywide, thus continuing to bring the Post ever closer to communities.

In partnering with Choppies to expand our channels, BotswanaPost will be able to tap into their branch network of over 90 stores countrywide, thus continuing to bring the Post ever closer to communities. Increasing access points for postal services by using the 'Multichannel Access Approach' will circumvent the added costs of setting up brick and mortar structures. Extending beyond the newly introduced collection of Social Grants and PosoMoney, BotswanaPost's partnership will also include the setting up of Postal Kiosks in select Choppies stores across the country.

The COVID-19 era has made paramount the need to decongest post offices, especially during peak periods. The need to comply with the social distancing protocols and guidelines, and putting the health and safety of customers first, necessitated the rolling out of pay points for Social Grants to both Choppies and PosoMoney. This will, with time, also see the introduction of a near-field communication (NFC) enabled VISA Card for pensioners and other Social Grants recipients. This move will enable other shops, from large retailers to small general dealers, to be able to benefit from this Government programme as purchases are also made at their stores.

BotswanaPost endeavours to continue to explore ways of easing the collection of Social Grants and where possible, also engage other retailers in subsidising goods for the elderly and other beneficiaries.

Marketing and Communications Unit

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www.biust.ac.bw

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BOTSWANA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



THE POLEMIC CORNER

LEKGOWE, MOGAPI & KGOSI

Is Botswana's President in Pursuit of Personal Profit?

Putting his assets in escrow management and making a clean breast of things is the way to go for the President. The worst course is for Masisi to leave matters to effluxion of time because unlike America's Donald Trump, he is not a blithering fool.

This is one of those occurrences in life where one does not need to read the whole story or have all the facts in order to have an opinion. The Ottapathu-Masisi shareholding in Acree (Pty) Ltd has grave implications. To an ordinary Motswana who stood in long queues to vote for President Mokgweetsi Masisi, the mere association of the President, in his personal capacity, with business tycoons in the country is sufficient to question his loyalty to the oath of office. To the alarmists, it engenders fears of state capture.

Neither a belated declaration of that association nor a positivistic clarification of the business deals will do anything to quell the disappointment and anger that erupted upon the first mention of these

dealings. That the President of the Republic is a man who doubles as a wheeling, dealing and scheming and dealing 'businessman' is disconcerting. During what part of the day does he devote time to understanding the struggles of small business owners, of ordinary workers ill-treated and underpaid by unscrupulous employers, of civil servants worried that their pensions are being plundered, of students dreading the period after graduation, of the farmer marginalised by big monopoly companies and of the unemployed languishing at home or exposed to the elements in government-imposed quarantines?

It matters not how genuinely engaging and articulate the President may be at kgotla meetings with the people if their standard of living is not improving and all they hear are promises and then learn and every week of his new business plans and deals to enrich himself. His honesty will decline in their minds, his popularity will wane and their faith in him will

wither as the opposition's once outlandish assertions about him begging to make good sense. It may not be against the law for the President to engage in business with private citizens. However, it is the perception it conjures up of a distracted and detached President intent on profiting from the lofty position of the presidency measured against ethics of leadership that matter. The point is that unlike America's Donald Trump, President Masisi is not a blithering idiot, and he knows this.

However, if this problem is to be confronted, we must not do selective justice and focus only on the President. It is a governance problem that permeates all the structures of our government. We know this from COVID-19 tenders, for instance. As it currently stands, the President, his cabinet and the entire Parliament can participate in the private sector with no hindrance. Thus, we must pose the question to all members of the three branches of government who have the option of going into business if they choose to exercise that right. While it is legal for President Masisi to hold shares in any company, the President has failed to live up to the standard of the upright leader that he so eloquently brandished himself to be in the lead up to the general elections. This cloud of disappointment in Masisi is haunting and for many people conjures up an apparition of the previous administration whose legacy they swore a blood oath against. It undermines the President's stated fight against corruption and his moral leadership.

To quarrel about President Masisi going into business is good citizenship. And the questions, to be fair, are legitimate. But what can be done is now where all the focus must fall. Already, our legal framework for fighting corrup-

tion has added to its arsenal the Declaration of Assets and Liabilities Act. There are still cracks in the framework because some urgent attention needs to be given to the institutional framework. The tussle between DCEC and the DPP needs to be resolved in favour of giving the DCEC powers to prosecute. The DISS is all over the place and its mandate needs to be more clearly defined and perhaps pruned efficiency. We cannot have a whole intelligence and security organisation chasing chicken thieves.

As it currently stands, the President, his cabinet and the entire Parliament can participate in the private sector with no hindrance. Thus, we must pose the question to all members of the three branches of government who have the option of going into business if they choose to exercise that right.

We also need a framework for dealing with the business interests of the President, his cabinet and other public officers such as judges and magistrates. There is need for a Code of Ethics supported by legislation. The frame-

work must succinctly require that all business interests be registered in a public register and must deal with declaration solicited and unsolicited gifts and the thresholds and limits on gifts that can be received. It must consider and decide whether such officers can serve on Boards of Directors of private entities, if and when such officers may receive compensation from side hustles and a list of those pursuits, as well as provide guidance on financial disclosures. Such a framework would raise the stakes of accountability.

For the President not to profit unduly from his position, his assets can be placed in a blind trust or escrow management. This is the practice in some jurisdictions such as Britain, as former President Festus Mogae observed. In this case, the President would hand over his assets and holdings to a financial services firm for management and would thus have no idea of portfolio composition at any point in time. This would free up his time and energy for the demands of the presidency while ensuring that he is not denied the opportunity to pursue wealth. Furthermore, it would enable and free the President's capacity to guide and lead without being compromised by his own holdings and investments. This should apply throughout to all members of the branches of government.

To ignore this quarrel and leave it to the effluxion of time would be counted as one of President Masisi's greatest mistakes. Based on the little that he has done so far, there are Botswana who still have some faith in his leadership and who therefore expect more. As he has done before, he must show his moral leadership, be open to us about his business affairs, and tell Botswana what he intends to do about it.



POSITION PAPER BY ALBINISM SOCIETY OF BOTSWANA ON COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

Although it infects indiscriminately, COVID-19's fallout will inevitably impact people differently around the globe. Beyond immediate health risks, the pandemic's ripple effect will compound and deepen the socio-economic challenges already faced by marginalized communities, especially in places where public officials have traditionally demonstrated an unwillingness or inability to consider their needs.

Persons with albinism have always struggled to access equitable health services, transportation, clean water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, but, in the time of COVID-19, this lack of access becomes life threatening. Little is currently being done to ensure information about the virus is being distributed in accessible formats or to engage people with disabilities in crisis-response decisions. Persons with disability face heightened risk of contracting COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions. Persons with disabilities face specific barriers in carrying out their daily lives in the community due to COVID-19 response measures. In particular, stay at home restrictions that do not consider their needs create disruptions and new risks to their autonomy, health and lives.

Challenges of people with disability/Albinism during COVID – 19 period:

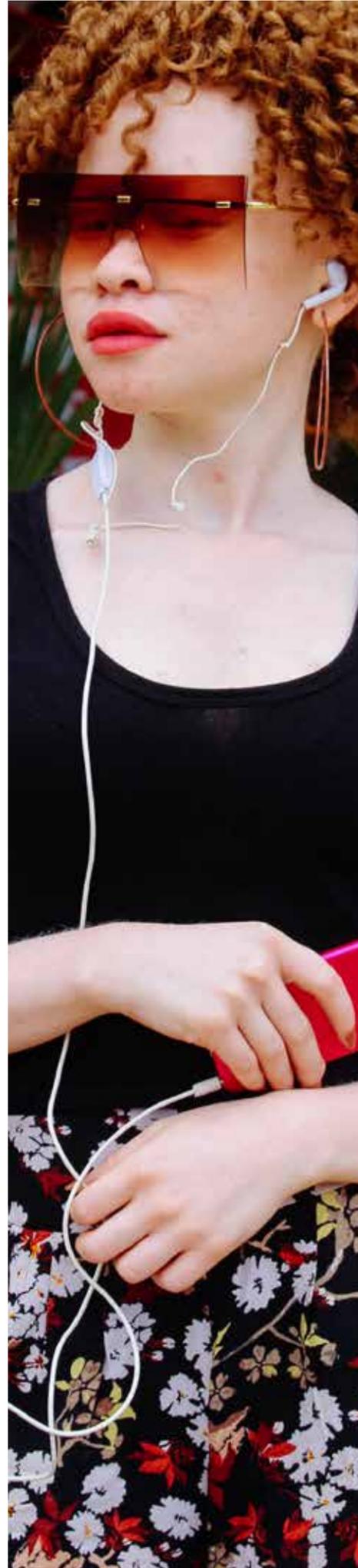
- The lock – down has left them at high risk without access to food, essential goods and medicine, and prevented from carrying out basic daily activities such as bathing, cooking, or eating;
- Many persons with disabilities who rely on others for daily living (through formal support by service providers or informal support by relatives/friends) find themselves without support due to movement restrictions and physical distancing measures.
- Public information on COVID-19 measures is not systematically communicated nor disseminated in accessible formats and means to reach all persons with disabilities (e.g. sign language interpretation, captioning, Easy to Read format, etc).
- In addition, some persons with disabilities, such as persons with psychosocial disabilities and autistic persons, might not be able to cope with strict confinement at home. Short and careful outings throughout the day are key for

them to cope with the situation.

- Persons with disabilities are less likely than others to be employed and when employed, they are more likely to be employed in the informal sector. As a consequence, they have less access to social insurance based on employment than others which decreases their economic resilience in the current COVID-19 context. For those who are employed or self-employed,²⁰ they may be prevented from working from home due to the absence of equipment and support which are available in the workplace, and face increased risks of losing their income and job.

Persons with albinism have always struggled to access equitable health services, transportation, clean water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, but, in the time of COVID-19, this lack of access becomes life threatening.

- In addition, COVID-19 measures may indirectly affect persons with disabilities by preventing family and breadwinners of the household from working, negatively impacting the overall income of the household. The lack of income represents a disproportionate burden on persons with disabilities and their households which typically face extra costs and expenditures related to disability (accessible housing and equipment, assistive devices, specific goods and services, etc), pulling them more rapidly into poverty.
- No COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group was established with the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to advise the government on disability-specific issues, challenges and systemic gaps and strategies, measures and steps to be taken.
- Closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in framing a rights-based response to the pandemic that is inclusive of, and responsive to, persons with disabilities in all their diversity.
- Persons with disabilities are less likely



than others to complete education, and more likely to be excluded altogether from schooling. Because of COVID-19, government has temporarily closed education institutions⁷ affecting all students, including students with disabilities. To reduce the impact of disruption in education, government is adopting remote learning practices. In these cases, however, students with disabilities are facing barriers on account of the absence of required equipment, access to internet, accessible materials and support necessary to permit them to follow online school programs. As a result, many students with disabilities are being left behind, particularly students with intellectual disabilities.

- Furthermore, students with disabilities are also negatively affected by other dimensions of school closures, including access to school meals and opportunities to engage in play and sports with their peers.

Despite the above challenges, government has failed to:

- Provide space for people with albinism to exercise their voice and join in decisions that leave no one behind.

We therefore move that on behalf of people with albinism as well as those with various types of disability that government;

1. Provide **financial aid for persons with disabilities without any income** (e.g. lump sum payments; tax relief measures, subsidization of goods, etc.).
2. **Increase existing disability benefits**, including through advancing payments to cover extra costs.
3. **Extend automatically** any soon-to-expire disability related entitlements.
4. Provide **financial compensation** for self-employed persons with disabilities who find their income reduced.
5. Implement **financial assistance programmes** for persons who stop working to support or to prevent contamination of their family member(s) with disabilities and who are not covered by unemployment or sickness benefits.
6. Provide **financial support, including through tax credits, to employers** of persons with disabilities to provide equipment required for teleworking.
7. Ensure that **food provision schemes include** persons with disabilities and are responsive to their needs, including logistical measures to deliver food at their houses.

Aluta Continua!
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2020 Theme - "Made to Shine"

“Made To Shine” is the theme for this year’s International Albinism Awareness Day. The theme was chosen to celebrate the achievements and successes of persons with albinism worldwide. It is also a call to stand in solidarity with people with albinism through their challenges. In this unprecedented time, people with albinism continue to suffer all types of human rights violations. Recently, in some countries, they have been branded “Corona” or “COVID-19” in an attempt to scapegoat them for the pandemic. Killings, attacks, bullying, dehumanizing stigma and discrimination continue against people with albinism. Yet on this day, we are reminded that in spite of these horrific practices, people with albinism continue to defy odds, overcome hurdles and face up to injustices with resilience. Today, we stand together with people with albinism all over the world in their fight to live a life that is free of stigma, discrimination, fear and violence. A world where they are made to shine.

What is albinism?

Albinism is a rare, non-contagious, genetically inherited difference present at birth. In almost all types of albinism, both parents must carry the gene for it to be passed on, even if they do not have albinism themselves. The condition is found in both sexes regardless of ethnicity and in all countries of the world. Albinism results in a lack of pigmentation (melanin) in the hair, skin and eyes, causing vulnerability to the sun and bright light. As a result, almost all people with albinism are visually impaired and are prone to developing skin cancer. There is no cure for the absence of melanin that is central to albinism.

While numbers vary, it is estimated that in North America and Europe 1 in every 17,000 to 20,000 people have some form of albinism. The condition is much more prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa, with estimates of 1 in 1,400 people being affected in Tanzania and prevalence as high as 1 in 1,000 reported for select populations in Zimbabwe and for other specific ethnic groups in Southern Africa.

Health challenges of people living with albinism

The lack of melanin means persons with albinism are highly vulnerable to developing skin cancer. In some countries, a majority of persons with albinism die from skin cancer between 30 and 40 years of age. Skin cancer is highly preventable when persons with albinism enjoy their right to health. This includes access to regular health checks, sunscreen, sunglasses and sun-protective clothing. In a significant number of countries, these life-saving means are unavailable or inaccessible to them. Consequently, in the realm of development measures, persons with albinism have been and are among those “left furthest behind.” Therefore, they ought to be targeted for human rights interventions in the manner envisioned by the Sustainable Development Goals.

Due to a lack of melanin in the skin and eyes, persons with albinism often have permanent visual impairment. They also face discrimination due to their skin colour; as such, they are often subject to multiple and intersecting discrimination on the grounds of both disability and colour.

People with albinism and human rights

People with albinism face multiple forms of discrimination worldwide. Albinism is still profoundly misunderstood, socially and medically. The physical appearance of persons with albinism is often the object of erroneous beliefs and myths influenced by superstition, which foster their marginalization and social

exclusion. This leads to various forms of stigma and discrimination.

In some communities, erroneous beliefs and myths, heavily influenced by superstition, put the security and lives of persons with albinism at constant risk. These beliefs and myths are centuries old and are present in cultural attitudes and practices around the world.

United Nations Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism

The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution in 2013 (A/HRC/RES/23/13) calling for the prevention of attacks and discrimination against persons



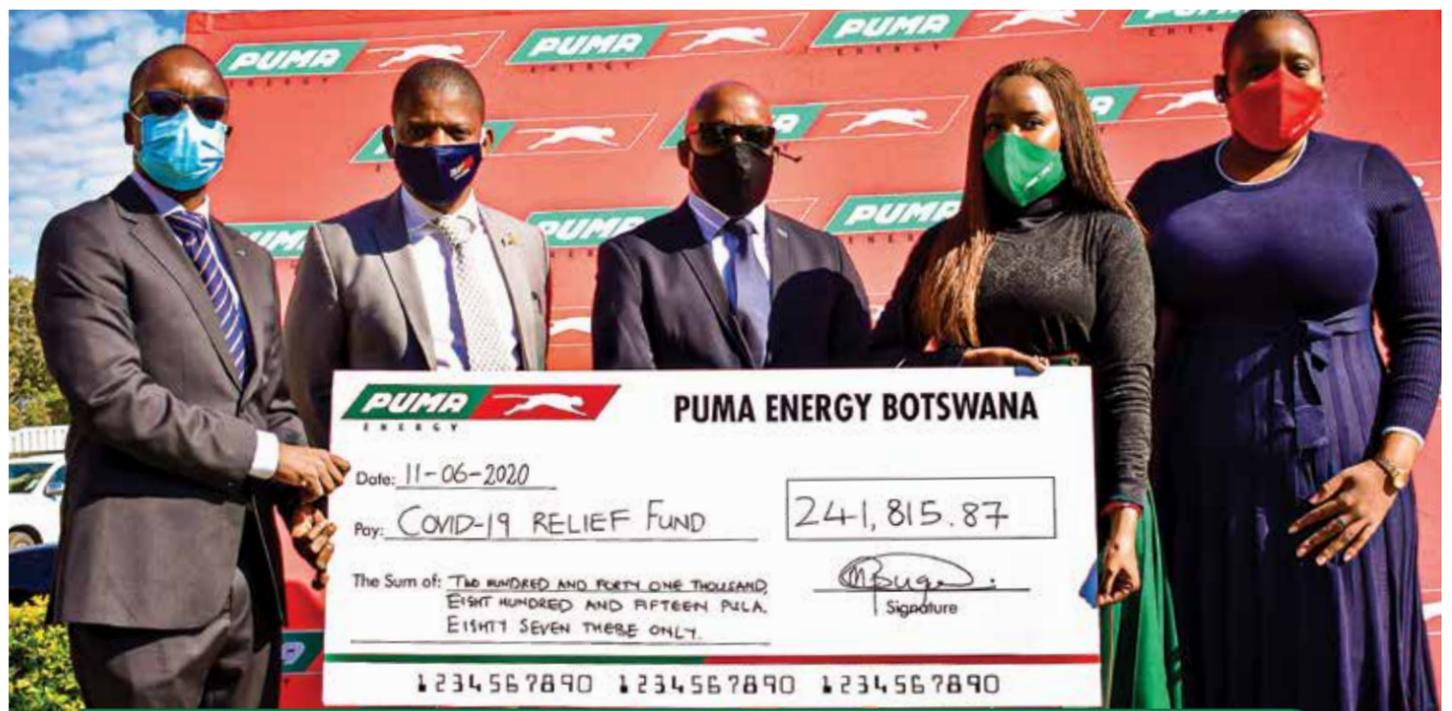
with albinism. Moreover, in response to the call from civil society organizations advocating to consider persons with albinism as a specific group with particular needs that require special attention, the Council created the mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism. In June 2015, the Human Rights Council appointed Ms. Ikponwosa Ero as the first Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism.

Violence and discrimination against persons with albinism

While it has been reported that persons with albinism globally face discrimination and stigma, information on cases of physical attacks against persons with albinism is mainly available from countries in Africa.

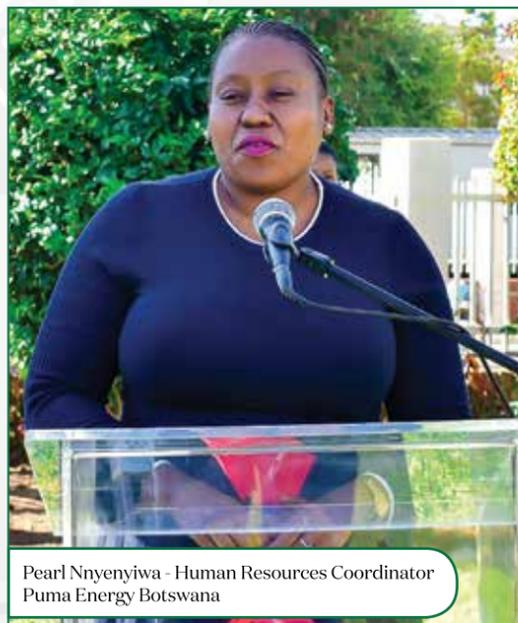
Persons with albinism face more severe

To Page 12



Left to right, Mahube Mputso - General Manager Puma Energy Botswana, Hon. Dumezweni M. Mthimkhulu - Ass. Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, Hon. Kabo Morwaeng - Minister for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, Tshegofatso Moroka - CSR Rep Puma Energy Botswana, Pearl Nnyenyiwa - Human Resources Coordinator, Puma Energy Botswana.

PUMA ENERGY BOTSWANA STAFF DONATE BWP 241,815.87 TO THE COVID19 RELIEF FUND THROUGH THE 'LEAVE DAY'S DONATION DRIVE'



Pearl Nnyenyiwa - Human Resources Coordinator Puma Energy Botswana

Puma Energy Botswana staff members in response to the government’s call to support the Covid19 Relief fund developed an internal initiative, “Donate your Energy”.

The initiative is by Puma Energy Botswana staff members as they volunteered to give away their leave days in the quest to fight Covid19. The funds generated from staff leave days will address needs of those affected in the community through the Government Covid19 Relief fund. When handing over the funds, the Country Human Resources Coordinator - Puma Energy Botswana, Ms Pearl Wame Nnyenyiwa thanked the Puma Energy staff for the selfless giving and encouraged all to join forces in the fight against this pandemic.

Energising communities





COVID-19: A Gift, Not A Curse To Media ... as The Botswana Gazette shows the way

DAVID MOEPENG

It is without a doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted most business sectors. The media is one such sector that is undergoing an extremely rough period.

Having already been battling declining revenues in traditional mediums such as radio, newspapers, outdoor and television since the onset of digital media, to the media COVID-19 is like rubbing salt in a wound.

Several Botswana independent news publishers in print and broadcast media have had to restructure their businesses and lay off staff in recent years as cost cutting measures.

The sector has been struggling with effects of an error by most news publishers around the world to rush into online publishing before figuring out revenue models and a reluctance by media buyers to buy into online news platforms, which in turn caused fear in the media to fully embrace online publishing.

With reduced business activity during the lockdown as a result of low marketing activity, media executives have had to further introspect and take the bull by the horns. After all, it was inevitable that news publishing would happen predominately online in the future as media consumption habits shift to digital platforms.

Not only has COVID -19 pushed for expediency in mindset sent in news publishing, marketers have also been forced to rethink their attitudes towards online news platforms as viable avenues for their promotions. This has forced businesses to look for new ways to ensure business continuity and mitigate effects of the pandemic.

With cyberspace increasingly assuming centre stage in media consumption, COVID-19 has served as the wake-up call that Botswana needed to the realities of the digital revolution, including in their backyard and the opportunities and efficiencies of digital technology.

Botswana has one of the fastest growing Internet penetrations in Africa, if not the world. Household access to the Internet grew by a tremendous 74.5% to 62% between 2014 and 2019. This is according to a report published by Statistics Botswana on Household Access to Information and Communications Technologies in a study conducted in 2019.

Figures for 2020, which are not

out yet, could be much higher as a result of lockdown-driven increase in remote working.

Increased Internet penetration is exactly what the news publishers needed to justify full adoption of online publishing. Media buyers who have been reluctant to support digital platforms should now be open to advertising sales pitches for digital only media.

This is as long as media houses apply effective strategies to capture and retain online audiences. The primary focus of such strategies should be relevant and meaningful content. While many remain hopeful for a return to 'normal' after COVID-19, media outlets should pursue a 'new normal.'

It is worth noting that the bold ones like The Botswana Gazette have already taken the step and are now fully digital news publications. This places them in a good position to take up new opportunities and offer content in multiple platforms, including audio and video, and to be able to monetize such content.

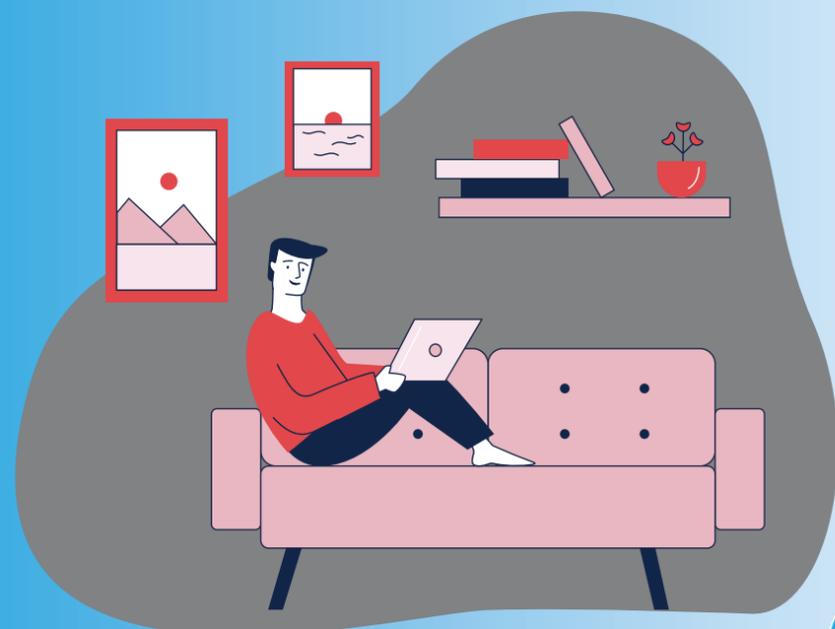
Lifestyles are increasingly becoming digitalized and there is just no turning back. Mainstream publishers and broadcasters should therefore take bold steps and explore the digital space as there are already numerous success stories around the world to emulate. It is worth noting that the bold ones like *The Botswana Gazette* have already taken the step and are now fully digital news publications. This places them in a good position to take up new opportunities and offer content in multiple platforms, including audio and video, and to be able to monetize such content.

Online news publishing cannot be successful through a 'business as usual' approach. Media houses ought to constantly innovate and stay on top of trends in online consumption patterns, content packaging and presentation, as well as distribution channels.

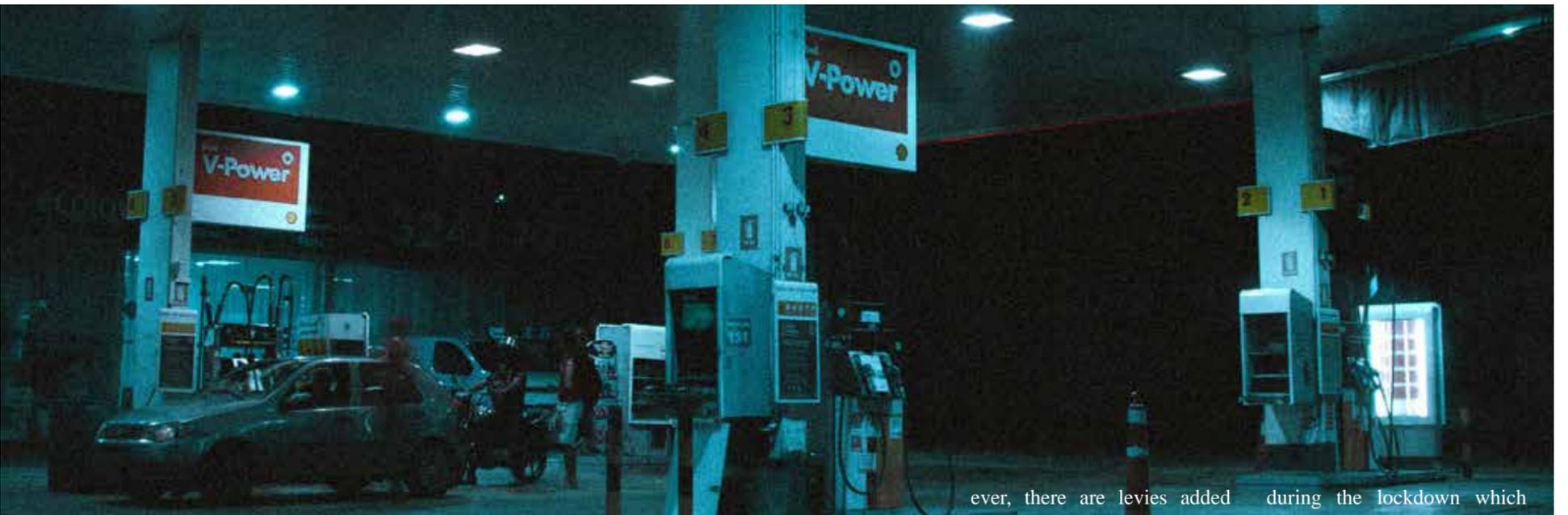
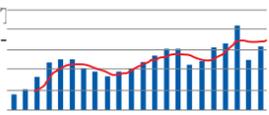
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NPF Accumulates Over P268 million

- Gov't under-recoveries owed to fuel companies
- Lower global fuel prices helped resurrect NPF
- Decline in fuel prices to reduce over-recoveries

KEABETSWE NEWEL

As a result of over-recoveries by fuel companies made possible by declining global crude oil prices, government has accumulated funds in excess of P268 million into the previously drained National Petroleum Fund (NPF), *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

Accordingly, the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) has announced that retail pump prices of unleaded petrol 93, unleaded petrol 95, diesel 500ppm, diesel 50ppm and illuminating paraffin have been reduced by 159 thebe (17.2 percent), 163 thebe (17.4 percent), 141 thebe (15.1 percent), 140 thebe (14.9 percent)

and 188 thebe (23.6 percent) respectively. The price reduction became effective on 13 June 20.

The Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Minerals, Green Technology and Energy Resources, Mmetla Masire, says retail pump prices were reduced due to high over-recoveries recorded since the last fuel price adjustment in April 2020. Despite international oil prices recovering as a result of easing lockdowns globally, the cumulative slate over-recovery has been high and there was a need to manage unit rates and align retail pump prices to the region, Masire explained.

Before the recent re-adjustment, fuel companies over-recovered at around P2.30 thebe

every month per litre sold. This meant that the money was collected and paid into the NPF. Further, government collects 13.5 thebe as NPF levy per litre sold.

Botswana consumes around 120 million litres of fuel every month, according to data from BERA.

According to the BERA May 2020 Unit Rate Slate seen by *The Botswana Gazette*, the import parity price was at P3.78 per litre. Import Parity Price (IPP) is the price of an imported product when landing at the border, which includes international transport costs and tariffs.

Government then set the recommended fuel price at a minimum of P8.50 per litre. How-

ever, there are levies added into the cost per litre at pump prices, which would then hike the total cost of fuel at pump fillings stations to around P9.27 per litre. Since government has set February prices at P8.27, it means filling stations over-recovered by P2.30 in May alone.

This means that over P276 million was made as over-recoveries in May alone. There is a further 13.5 thebe which is collected per every litre sold as the NPF levy. This amounts to approximately P16.2 million which is paid into the NPF every month without fail.

According to Moreri Moesi, Chief Public Relations Officer at the Ministry of Minerals, Green Technology and Energy Resources, the NPF had accumulated P268 million as at April 2020. His superior, the PS Masire, stated however that the figure will rise because fuel companies are yet to remit over-recoveries and the NPF levy collections made in the month of May.

He said monthly, the NPF either collects money or pays out some money, depending on the oil price over-recoveries and under-recoveries. Masire explained that global oil prices have been declining and that the decision to reduce fuel prices significantly in Botswana was in line with the global oil price performance. "The decision will allow fuel consumers to recover from the previous high prices especially

during the lockdown which drained people and companies financially," he stated.

By having consumers pay less at the pump, Masire said the economy shall benefit because operational costs of companies shall decline as a result of cheaper fuel prices. According to him, it means that while consumers will personally save money, so will manufacturers of basic products like food who will reduce costs of their products to the benefit of the consumer.

According to a Motswedi Securities research published on Friday last week, the commodity tracked a weekly loss of around 8 percent. The brokerage firm said one of the causes of the slump for the week was dampened demand sentiment stemming from an increase of new global COVID-19 cases, this being the first increase in new infections following a five-week decline of new cases.

"The idea here (is) that demand will willow as consumers opt to restrict their movements and consequently not spend on oil and oil products. Also playing a hand in the weakening of oil prices in the week was the unexpected increase in US crude inventories in the prior week, as reported by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). Inventories were supposedly at an all-time high of 538.1million barrels," Motswedi said.



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Tlou Aims To Raise P24M To Build Critical Transmission Line

Line to connect Lesedi Project to national power grid

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

In efforts to raise P24 million with which to speed up generating electricity, Tlou Energy has launched a partially underwritten non-renounceable entitlement offer to its shareholders, the company's Managing Director, Tony Gilby, has said.

"We are pleased to announce a partially underwritten entitlement offer of up to 75,030,031 new offer shares at a price of

P0.32 (the issue price) per share," Gilby said in a statement recently. "Eligible shareholders may subscribe for one fully paid ordinary share for each six fully paid ordinary shares."

A non-renounceable rights issue refers to an offer issued by a corporation to shareholders to purchase more shares of the corporation (usually at a discount).

According to Gilby, funds raised from the sale of shares and existing capital will be used to fund engineering and de-



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signing of a proposed 66kV transmission line to connect the Lesedi Project to the electricity grid.

"Grid connection is key to get the power project up and running and start revenue generation," said Gilby. "Development funding can provide a vital financial platform to help rapidly expand Tlou's generation capability. Successfully completing these two items could prove to be a significant value driver for the company. We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support of the company shown by its stakeholders and in particular to our long-term shareholders."

He added that after many years of hard work, the potential to transform the company from explorer to power producer looks to be coming to fruition. "And I look forward to building on our success to date," he said. "The company plans to commence work on the transmission line to connect the Lesedi Project to the electricity grid as soon as possible."

With that, Gilby noted, the environmental and social impact assessment for the project line has been completed as well as route alignment and associated surveys. "We now plan to progress to the design and engineering of the 66kV overhead line and 66kV line feeder," he said.

According to the MD, Tlou is in advanced discussions with development funding institutions interested in providing debt and/or equity capital to fund the next stage of the Lesedi Project. "This work includes but is not limited to drilling of additional wells, installation of generation assets, purchase of capital equipment, and installation of associated infrastructure to develop up to 10MW of power," he said.

Listed on the Botswana Stock Exchange, the Australian Securities Exchange and London's AIM market, Tlou is focused on delivering gas-to-power solutions to Botswana and Southern Africa to alleviate some of the chronic power shortages in the region. The company is developing projects using coal bed methane (CBM) natural gas.

Botswana has a significant energy shortage and generally relies on imported power and diesel generation to fulfill its electricity requirements. As 100 per cent owner of the most advanced gas project in the country, the Lesedi CBM Project, Tlou Energy provides investors with access to a compelling opportunity, using domestic gas to produce power and displace expensive diesel and imported power.



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- Captures container data into the system in line with the release documentation and services to be rendered to the customers.
- Advises customers on the correct or most appropriate mode of service delivery to be rendered.
- Provides service rates and quotations to clients on request.
- Compiles daily reconciliations of all the business handled on daily basis.
- Resolves standard queries and complaints relating to invoicing, delivery, storage, payments, train movements, dispatch.
- Compiles monthly reports on customer complaints and compliments

Qualifications & Experience:

- Diploma or any recognized qualification in Business Administration/Business Communication, Customer Service and/or Public Relations.
- At least Three (3) years minimum work experience in a customer service related environment or public relations capacity.
- Knowledge & understanding of the use of MS suite, ACCPAC
- Good written and verbal communication skills

RECEIVE & DISPATCH OFFICER

The successful candidate will be responsible for checking and accounting for all containers en-route, received and stored in the terminal and ensures expeditious and safe loading/offloading of rail wagons as per standard operating procedures. In addition the incumbent will be responsible for the following, among other roles;

- Checks the condition of containers, verifies and records seal numbers and writes discrepancy reports as well as attach seals for shipment with "no seals" to ensure security of cargo.
- Compiles Arrival list (inspection report) of containers, Dispatch lists and forwards copies of lists to supervisor, Sales, Operations Manager, Shipping lines and Finance.
- Removes labels from wagons, invoices and all related documents and submits to supervisor.
- Prepares and reconciles a daily yard list by physical stock updates in the terminal (daily stock take).
- Monitors and reconciles containers stock on weekly and monthly basis to ensure accurate accounting for the containers (full and empty containers).
- Captures Arrival list, Outgoing list & Container Movements into the system which accounts for both Rail and Road movements.
- Uses Freight Terminal Orders (FTO) and/or export Container Terminal Order (CTO) to prepare loading list and gives loading instructions to the Reach Stacker Operators by this documentation.
- Tracks and monitors daily container movements through NAVIS system.

Qualifications & Experience:

- National Diploma or any recognized qualification in Terminal Logistics/Transport Logistics Supply Chain Management or related field.
- At least Three (3) years minimum work experience in transport & logistics, supply chain or related environment
- Knowledge & understanding of the use of MS suite, Cargo tracking Systems
- Strong written and verbal communication skills

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BERA Executives Are Distracted – Engen Says

- Internal squabbles affects BERA performance
- Petroleum industry feels the effects

KEABETSWE NEWEL

The instabilities caused by internal squabbles at the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA) are a cause for concern and could negatively affect the energy sector regulations, says Engen Botswana Limited Chairman, Shabani Ndzinge.

Ndzinge's concerns were raised in the compa-

ny's 2019 Annual report, released a few days ago. Engen, the only petroleum Services Company listed on Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE), is one of the largest fuel companies in Botswana.

In his words, Ndzinge said the instability at BERA was a cause for concern as this resulted in the authority being inwardly focused and being distracted from perform-

ing their core mandate of providing economic regulation to the energy sector.

BERA is responsible for providing an efficient energy regulatory framework for Electricity, Gas, Coal, Petroleum products, Solar and all forms of renewable energy. It was established by the Botswana Energy Regulatory Act 2016 and started its operations on the 1st

September, 2017. Ndzinge feels BERA has recently been distracted to perform its mandate.

It has been in the news for the wrong reasons.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rose Seretse and Chief Operating Officer (COO) Duncan Morotsi were alleged to have deliberately mismanaged millions of Pula, according to a report compiled by the BERA board of directors.

The two most senior executives at BERA, Seretse and Morotsi were also alleged by their own board of directors to have personally handled the questionable refurbishment of Lobatse Office Plot 8842, Lobatse Town Centre as well as its controversial procurement process which led to BERA spending an extra P6.3 million despite having initially budgeted just P5.9 million.

Further, Seretse and Morotsi were accused by their own board in a report seen by *The Botswana Gazette* of using BERA funds to acquire luxurious motor vehicles for their personal use. However, Morotsi has come out to openly refute such as incorrect. When the BERA Finance team questioned such decisions, it they were allegedly dismissed, but they won the matter at court. Industrial Court Judge, Justice Bahuma, said in the judgement that BERA boss used public funds at the Authority to fight her personal vindictive battles, totally non-beneficial to the Authority as an organisation.

ENGEN'S PERFORMANCE INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

While the BERA internal troubles are said to have distracted them from performing their duties as mandated by government, the Engen managing Director Chimweta Monga, said Engen performed well against all odds.

He said the retail market continued to be the cornerstone of the Engen Botswana Ltd business, contributing around 70 percent of total portfolio revenues compared to approximately 30 percent of revenues contributed by the commercial market.

During the period under review, Engen made P2.9 billion in revenue, an increase from the P2.5 billion made during the previous reporting period.

Further, Monga said 2019 saw a 9 percent increase in retail volume generated from our existing network on the back of enhanced operational efficiencies derived from dealer realignment, improved inventory holding and productive promotional activity.

"The retail channel also had significant growth in its nonfuel revenue generating activities, with Convenience income recording an overall growth of 10 percent compared to the prior year, with Quick Shops and Fast Food and Alternate Profitability Opportunities (APOs) all showing some level of growth," he revealed.

He further added that Quick Shop income in 2019 increased by 14 percent over 2018, in part due to Coca-Cola beverages being able to stabilise their stock availability to consistently supply Engen Quick Shops.

Disruption in the supply of small pack water was also alleviated by Engen through the signing up of a new local supplier, and this contributed to increased Quick Shop revenue during the last quarter.

Monga said these developments were significant as Coca-Cola beverages and small pack water products are key revenue generating products in convenience outlets.

Further, the Engen boss said the period under review saw an increase in the level of partnerships between energy companies and food franchises in order to provide this offering at retail outlets.

"Alternate Profitability Opportunity (APO) income performed well compared to prior year, achieving overall growth of 6 percent. New agreements with banks for installation of ATMs at various Engen service stations have been initiated and will start billing in the 2020 1st quarter," he stated.

During the year, Engen Botswana Ltd increased the number of its convenience outlets and is looking at increasing retail initiatives in 2020 to continue to grow the nonfuel revenue stream. While no new service stations streamed in 2019, two will stream in early 2020, and despite considerable competitor activity in this channel, the Company said it managed to maintain its robust market position.

Engen made P129 million as profit for the period.

Dividends amounting to P81 million were paid during the year, which is almost double of the P45.8 million paid in 2018.



The instability at BERA was a cause for concern as this resulted in the authority being inwardly focused and being distracted from performing their core mandate of providing economic regulation to the energy sector.

- Ndzinge

Diamonds Dominate Botswana Exports

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Diamonds continue to account for a bigger share of Botswana exports, the March International Merchandise Trade Statistics showed.

According to Statistics Botswana, in March 2020, total exports were valued at P4.6 billion after recording an increase of P1.2 billion (35.3 percent) from the February value of P3.4 billion.

The Statistician General Dr. Burton Mguni attributed the growth to the increase in exported diamonds during that period. "Diamond registered an increase of 29.8 percent (P861.8 million), from P2.8 billion in February to P3.7 billion in March 2020," he said.

Further in the report, Dr. Mguni said the total exports value for March 2020 compared to the same month in 2019 declined by 28.2 percent which translates to P1.8 billion. The decline was from P6.4 billion recorded in March 2019 to P4.6 billion during the period under review.

According to the report, this was mainly attributed to the decrease in the exportation of diamonds, having declined by P2.3 billion (38 percent), from P6 billion registered in March 2019 to P3.7 billion in March 2020.

During the period under review, Asia was the main destination for Botswana exports, having received P2.6 billion worth of the total exports. India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) were the main destinations within the Asian region, having received 31.1 percent (P1.4 billion) and 22.3 percent (P1 billion) of total exports respectively. The most exported commodity group to Asia was Diamonds.

The second destination of Botswana's exports on the period under review was the European Union.

Exports destined to the region amounted to P946.1 million. That accounted for 20.4 percent of total exports during the month under review. Belgium received most of exports valued at P940.1 million, 20.3 percent of total exports during the reporting period. Further proving their supremacy, diamonds were the main commodity group exported to the EU. United States of America on the other received 1.2 percent (P55.9 million) of total exports, comprising mainly Diamonds at 99.3 percent (P55.5 million) of total exports to the country.

Meanwhile, Southern African Customs Union region received exports valued at P859.2 million, representing 18.5 percent of total exports during the period under review. South Africa received most of the SACU destined exports at 17.6 percent which translates to P818 million of total exports during the period under review. The major commodities exported to the region were Copper P280.3 million, Salt and Soda Ash at P199.4 million and Machinery and Electrical Equipment at P116.3 million.

"Diamond registered an increase of 29.8 percent (P861.8 million), from P2.8 billion in February to P3.7 billion in March 2020."



CEO Paid P4m On Suspension

- CEO of mines parastatal earns over P300 000 during suspension
- Minerals ministry awaits board recommendations on report

LETLHOGILE MPUANG

The CEO of Minerals Development Company Botswana (MDCB), Toby Frears – who is on suspension – has to-date pocketed more than P4 million in salary, *The Botswana Gazette* has established.

Frears has been on suspension since June 2019 following allegations of mismanagement of the company's resources. His suspension was meant to enable an independent and unbiased probe into these allegations.

MDCB is a company owned by the government under the Ministry of Minerals, Green Technology and Energy Resources.

Prior to his suspension, it emerged that Frears was paid a monthly package of P364,418 made up of his salary and perquisites. His basic salary was P200,000 per month while an additional P119,175 per month came in bundled allowances. A further P43,000 per month was in currency insulation while

Frears enjoyed a phone allowance of P2000 per month.

Back-of-the-envelope calculations show that for the 12-month period in which Frears has been on suspension to-date, he has been paid P4,373,016.

Meanwhile, the Permanent Secretary (PS) at the Ministry of Minerals, Green Technology and Energy Resources, Mmetla Masire, has confirmed that Frears, who is a South African national, continues to earn his full salary while on suspension.

"He is on suspension until further notice," Masire said in an interview. "He continues to earn his full salary."

Asked about progress in the probe, Masire answered: "The investigations took some bit of time. However, we are hoping to conclude and have an outcome by the end of this month. A report has been given to the MDCB board and we are hoping they will conclude their recommendations as soon as possible."

He would not say anything about the contents of the report.

Frears is said to have been headhunted for the lucrative position by former Minister of Minerals and Resources Energy, Sadique Kebonang.

In early 2019, former MP for Tati West, Samson Guma Moyo, expressed serious misgivings about Frears' style of management at MDCB during a session of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). "If I had (the) power and authority, I would sack you not because I hate you but because I have a problem with your management style and failure to deliver," Moyo was quoted as saying at the time. "Mining is the core of the economy of this country."

Frears' salary and the salaries of other executives of MDCB were one of the astonishments raised by Guma during the PAC hearings.

Among other things, the suspended CEO was called to explain how the government had spent more than P1.2 billion on liquidation of BCL Mine that resulted in the loss of 6000 jobs instantaneously.

COVID-19 Delays BTC Financials

Chairperson and MD say delay is to give auditors time to complete their work after weeks of lockdown even though the more critical ones worked from home. Staff Writer **KEABETSWE NEWEL** reports

The Botswana Stock Exchange quoted telecommunications giant, Botswana Telecommunications Corporation Limited (BTC), has announced that it will miss the release of its audited financial statements which were expected on or before 30 June by at least a month.

According to a joint statement by board chairperson Lorato Boakgomo-Ntakhwana and Managing Director Anthony Masunga,

the publishing of the financial results has been postponed to around 31 July 2020. The company says this is being done to account for the time lost by auditors during the weeks that the country was under lockdown.

According to Boakgomo-Ntakhwana and Masunga, as a result of restrictions on movement of people, external auditors and employees who were critical to the audit process had to work from home but were not able to meet their deadlines. "The impact of

COVID-19 is likely to be pervasive on the upcoming result announcement and this warrants a review or assessment of its potential impact by the external auditors," they said.

As the market awaits the results, BTC has not indicated how the results are likely to be.

The company recorded a profit after tax of P162million for the financial year ended 31 March 2019, a decline of 25 percent compared to P217million recorded in the previous year. This was mainly attributable to an 8 percent decline in revenue from contracts with customers to P1,448million (FY18:P1,567million) and a 28 percent increase in depreciation to P199million (FY18:P156m) due to an increase in investment on mobile and fixed networks.

BTCL SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE

According to a weekly research published by brokerage firm Motswedi Securities last Friday, BTC closed May 2020 valued at P0.85 per share,

which is 3 thebe higher than the previous month's closing price. The researchers said the stock's low valuation attracted a number of investors, which saw the share price climb up slightly from its historic low of P0.80/share, which was touched briefly earlier in the month of May.

May was the first positive monthly movement for BTC for 2020 and has reduced its year-to-date losses to 10.5 percent as at 31 May 2020. "It is interesting to note that BTCL is currently the only stock on the BSE that has gained in value in the second quarter of the year, thus far," the two said, adding that the increased demand for BTCL is expected to continue supporting the share price in the short to medium-term.

Currently most bids for BTCL shares are above the current market price reflective investors increased appetite for the stock, according to Motswedi. The trading of BTC shares improved to 350 000 in May 2020, coming from the stock's lowest month-on-month volume since the company listed, of 140 000 recorded in April 2020. Accordingly, the total value traded for BTCL shares increased to P290 000 in May 2020 from P120 000 in April 2020.

Motswedi said BTC's contribution to total market liquidity was at its highest in three months at 0.83 percent during the month of May 2020. Although BTC's volume traded for May 2020 remains generally on the low end, this was much in line with the generally depressed equity market conditions, according to Motswedi.



GODWIN SEBINA

'Another lockdown and artists will look elsewhere for survival'

A promoter is appealing to Batswana to support a call for 100 percent local lineup at festivals post lockdowns because it is six months since the industry ground to a halt. Staff Writer **GOSEGO MOTSUMI** reports

Observers are predicting that the creative industry will have lost a considerable number of people to other sectors by the end of lockdowns for control of COVID-19 because their livelihoods have ground to a halt. With the announcement of the lockdown for Gaborone and Greater Gaborone that was announced on Saturday and lifted this Tuesday, the ray of hope for the industry to reopen that came with the recent relaxation of the tough conditions was snuffed out.

"I cannot begin to imagine the kind of depression creatives are now in as a result of the lockdowns and cancelled gigs," said promoter Godwin Sebina, who is better known as Exotic, in an interview. "Creatives struggled through the first lockdown, and now the struggle continues. By the

end of the fight against the pandemic, the industry will have lost people to other sectors. No one can choose to stay where there is no light at the end of the tunnel."

Kwaito star Odirile Vee Mampezy Sento, who is a full-time artist, felt much the same before the second lockdown was lifted. He said he was just beginning to collaborate with local and foreign artists towards making some progress in his music career when the disastrous announcement of the second lockdown for the capital was made. But perhaps more tellingly, Timothy Sabutha, who is also known as DJ LaTimmy, had posted that he is seriously seeking counselling because he is losing hope.

For remedy, Exotic is appealing to Batswana for 100% local lineup support in festivals and sees improved

quality music and more investment in local talent resulting from this. "If things don't change by August, creatives will not make any money this year," he said. "We should support our people if we truly believe in local empowerment. This is the chance."

Afro Jazz artist Thabang Garogwe is also in support of the call for a 100% local lineup, saying it is a means of ensuring development of the arts and improving the welfare of artists. "Let's look at farming, for example," Garogwe said. "They stop imports whenever there is sufficient local produce. This does not mean they don't want to see their products exported to other countries but it is a matter of principle to allow locals to sell and benefit without unfair competition."

Fashion post-COVID-19: Will the pandemic lead to sustainable fashion?

Key fashion houses predict a dominance of COVID-inspired designs at post-pandemic shows. However, they say much will depend on how much the government is willing to help production of inputs in Botswana. **RORISANG MOGOJWE** reports

We have yet to determine the real damage from the COVID-19 crisis to the fashion industry. But while 'outside' is slowly reopening and lockdown restrictions are being eased, one thing is clear: the entire supply chain has been hard hit by the pandemic, leaving the survival of many brands both here at home and abroad in question.

In the world of fashion, the question in vogue is whether the new normal will lead to sustainable solutions? The fashion industry in Botswana, booming as it was pre-Coronavirus, has received a wake-up call. However, many designers have told *Time Out* that this bleak moment should be taken as an opportunity. It begins, they say, with production of materials right here at home.

According to top designer Kaone Moremong of "House of Kay," the government should consider subsidising importation levies and taxes on raw materials and machinery, especially for locally owned fashion houses

and clothing businesses. "We should work together to produce everyday clothing for our small population and set up a sustainable industry," Moremong says. "The government can also help by protecting certain products and reserving their supply only for citizen owned businesses. For example, school uniforms and protective clothing. A certain percentage of procurement should be reserved for Batswana owned manufacturers."

Milley Morake of "Made by Millie" fashion house shares the same sentiments. "Our reliance on other countries for almost everything, including the raw materials that we use in the fashion industry, is killing the industry," says Morake. "We should have plantations for inputs and innovate with industries for all kinds of clothing that can supply all local shops."

A public report launched last month titled "Weaving a Better Future: Rebuilding a More Sustainable Fashion Industry After COVID-19," notes that the fashion and luxury are the most nega-

tively impacted of all consumer goods and services, after travel and tourism. The key takeaway from this is that the business model has to change in accordance with demands of the new normal of the entire supply chain, from design to manufacturing and packaging to retail.

According to Blacktrash Clothing designers AKA "Fashion's First Couple" Kutlwano and Gerty, the challenges of the local fashion industry have gone from bad to worse under the onslaught to COVID-19. "Fashion is now considered a luxury like diamonds," says Kutlwano. "Things were only starting to pick up when the pandemic hit our borders and things went from bad to worse with the cancellation of events such as weddings and lifestyle gigs.

"Travel was also put on hold and businesses were forced to close. The industry is trying to absorb the blow it has been dealt by retail businesses being temporarily closed, declining customer spending, cancelled orders and uncertainty of the gig economy.

My estimation is that the crisis will wipe out more than 30 percent of the industry's business in 2020.

But local fashion brands have to contend with tight revenue margins even in regular times. So what of now with much of the economy under lockdown? According to Moremong, 2020 was looking good for business both at home and in international showcasing. But since the advent of COVID-19, the entire industry has been reduced to production of face masks.

Profits, planet and people. What are the solutions?

The issue of sustainable fashion brings about the question of whether local businesses would be able to exist constantly, encompassing economic, environmental and social justice factors. According to the report, one of the solutions is to take advantage of digitalisation. One way of doing this, according to Millie, is online shopping. "In the long run, as business starts to pick up, we should consider setting aside budgets for technologies that can help not only in the creative process of designing and producing but also in marketing and selling."

Blacktrash took the opportunity of

the interview with *Time Out* to call on government and the private sector to help with bringing the supply chain home by setting up factories or textile production centres in Botswana and for innovative ideas to be embraced.

Blacktrash, House of Kay and Made by Millie are some of the many designers that have since turned their skills to designing



and

making patriotic masks in true haute couture fashion. And it seems after the pandemic, COVID-inspired designs will feature at fashion shows.

Hotel Experience: Adapting to the 'New Normal' at Avani

Use of Ultra Violet Light is central to new protocols to conform to CDC and WHO standards at Avani

GAZETTE REPORTER

The hospitality industry has been sent into a tailspin by the sudden onslaught of the coronavirus crisis. From lockdowns to travel bans and border closures, hotels are having to navigate more uncertain waters than ever before. Because the hotel industry are seeing a rapid resumption of 'normal' activity, they are also primed to embrace a host of new practices while adapting to a hotel experience that is just as personalised but far less hands on.

Hotels are implementing enhanced protocols for sanitation and cleanliness, offering new and different services when it comes to hosting their guests and introducing new technologies that will benefit guests and staff alike. One thing is certain - checking into a hotel will be different post-lockdown.

Avani Hotels & Resort in Gaborone has prepared to welcome its guests back and they have rolled out new health and safety measures across its portfolio. Styled AvaniShield, this new programme will see all 32 properties in 18 countries gradually adopt a range of heightened hygiene and sanitising standards to ensure the health and safety of guests and team members. The primary initiatives will be driven by adoption of new technology, such as digital menus and HEPA- grade air purifiers, all in compliance with the guidelines issued by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"Our life has been impacted but our spirit to travel will never fade," said Javier Pardo, Vice President of Operations for Avani Hotels & Resorts, in a statement. "The implementation of new health and safety standards adds an additional layer of protection by bringing peace of mind to Avani guests and team members, as well as emphasising our commitment to ensuring health and safety without compromising on service quality. Not stopping at these measures, we are currently reviewing additional initiatives focusing on rebuilding the environment and the health of the planet threatened by climate change, such as our zero-trash programme and carbon footprint reduction measures."

During these unprecedented times, hoteliers have a rare opportunity to connect with the wider industry, make internal improvements and, most importantly, update and reevaluate existing health and safety procedures. To ensure that their guests will return to a safe space, the hotel has implemented contactless greeting with their guests and Ultra Violet C Sterilisation where the front office will be utilising UVC sterilisation boxes to disinfect key cards, stationery and other high touch objects.

In addition, the housekeeping team has begun testing a cleaning method with UVC light as an extra layer of protection after cleaning which is proven to kill germs and bacteria with 99.99% effectiveness. The hotel will also be setting up disinfectant processes to sanitise incoming luggage, boxes and supplies.

But even before the outbreak of the virus, Avani says it had been working closely with deluxe room care and will continue doing so to ensure that all materials and

measures adhere to WHO standards. As an extra precaution in the post-COVID-19 world, the hotel will be monitoring the overall health of Avani team members and conducting training sessions on new health and safety regulations. After cleaning, each guest room will be sealed for 24 hours - a resting period during which the housekeeping team cannot enter. This waiting period will become mandatory prior to allocating



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How 'Mr Speaker' and 'Honourable BW' keep Batswana agog in these COVID-19 times

The comics have watched Skelemani closely as the Speaker urged MPs to keep their eyes on the ball, excoriating them when they didn't. StaffWriter **GOSEGO MOTSUMI** met them recently

The initial COVID-19 lockdown in April and the highly-publicized parliamentary sessions on BTV inspired creatives to explore their talents on digital platforms. Among them are "Mr

Speaker" and "Honourable BW," a comic pair that burst onto the scene and prompted rave reviews for impersonating the Speaker of the National Assembly, Phandu Skel-
emani, and other MPs.



In their comic inserts that are uploaded on their Facebook page that has attracted more than 54 000 likes, Bokamoso Baitse is the inimitable Skel-
emani while Kefilwe Matsetse assumes the roles of different MPs in the August House. "History was made when the parliamentary sessions were live on TV for the first time and everyone's eyes were glued to the screen in their living rooms," said Baitse in an interview.

He masters the accent of the Speaker of the National Assembly to a fault, replete with the near-stuttering of the native of Mapoka. In this role, Baitse the comedian does much credit to his craft and work as a drama director and actor. He says he has been watching Skelemani at work from the time the former Attorney General was Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2008 to 2014. A lawyer and diplomat, Skelemani has brought to Parliament his courtroom tactics of putting away felons and tenacity of keeping a respectable place for Botswana in the comity of nations, hence his insistence on MPs to keep their eyes on the ball.

"I had been watching other Speakers but there was something different about Skelemani," Baitse told *The Gazette*. "There are a lot of characters we could have chosen to impersonate, but Mr Speaker was in control of his audience and earned our attention, thanks also to his great sense of humour."

After the parliamentary sessions ended, the Maun-based creatives turned their attention to other issues of current affairs to keep their growing audience entertained. They are optimistic that their comedy careers will prosper because they are now being approached for commissioned work. Just last week, the duo was selected as comedy finalists in the First National Bank's "Bodiragatsi Jwame, Lentswe Lame" initiative that seeks to support creative arts during these difficult COVID times.

Apart from comedy, Bantsi and Matsetse are drama directors and scriptwriters for The Voice of Artists drama group that is based in the small village of Kuke in Gantsi. They have participated in the President's Day Competitions over the years and have been happy to return to their day jobs as entrepreneurs in the informal sector when not on the creative scene.



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Thabang inspires love in his new album

His latest offering is a life changing album that relaxes the mind and restores filial love



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Afro Jazz artist Thabang Garogwe went quiet after releasing his provocative 2014 studio album dubbed “Le Romile Mang,” leading many to wonder if he had quit the scene. Fast forward to four years later and jazz musicians suggesting that a revival could be on the horizon on his social media platforms.

They were vindicated last week when Garogwe’s latest offering, “Sesame Kele Nosi,” was released. Garogwe says love is a major theme on this new album that invokes the raw and rough sound of his early records, “Ke A Gana” in 2011 and “Moratiwa Nkamogele” in 2013. “This new offering is a love affair that takes one into the challenges of life as a whole,” he said in an interview. “I believe this is a true reflection of growth as it serves to sell our beautiful country through music.”

The 10-track album is the result of a star-studded ensemble of originally composed Botswana Afro Jazz and Afro Soul tracks. This latest offering was recorded with Touch Records from 2017 until it was completed on 10 May 2020. He worked with the finest talent of Botswana, including Thabo Kgaswane in production, Gomotsegang Rapoo on

that he is still identifying. Plans are also underway to make the product available from all local vendors and courier services for jazz music enthusiasts who prefer a hard copy.

“After four years of not releasing any music, I saw it fit to get back in

the studio and do what I do best,” said the muso. “Botswana have been asking for new work and I had to give them what they wanted. The response has been inspiring, especially in these tough times of lockdown.”

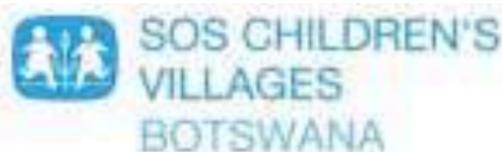
Garogwe plans to have the new album available on digital streaming platforms that he is still identifying

guitar and Lereko Lesole on bass.

“This is a life changing album that brings inspiration, relaxation of mind and restoration of love in our families. ‘Sesame Kele Nosi’ is about having that sense of belonging in a relationship; having that one special person who accepts you the way you are,” Garogwe said.

The music stalwart mastered and perfected his new album during the first COVID-19 lockdown and is working around the clock to distribute the new product to his loyal followers who have been waiting in anticipation for his next release.

Garogwe plans to have the new album available on digital streaming platforms



CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

SOS Children's Villages; www.sos-childrensvillages.org is an international non-governmental social development organisation that has been active in the field of children's rights and committed to children's needs and concerns since 1949. In 133 countries and territories our activities focus on children without parental care and children of families in difficult circumstances. In Botswana SOS Children's Villages operate on three (3) locations, Tlokweng, Francistown and Serowe.

We work on family based, long term care of children who can no longer grow up with their biological families. We also support disadvantaged families to prevent crisis that can in the worst case scenario lead to children being placed in out of home care. Our family strengthening programmes build families' and communities' resources, on their ability to organise themselves and on their responsibility for the well-being of the children.

Head of Fund Development and Communications

Reporting to the National Director the candidate's primary role is to promote, and position, the image and brand of SOS Children's Villages Botswana locally, and internationally, as a leading provider of childcare through proactive communication, branding, fund development and marketing initiatives. This includes effective stakeholder relationship management initiatives and the responsibility for driving local funding streams according to donor demands and priority programmes.

Job Summary

- Participates in the development of corporate strategies and Collaborative partnerships-in fulfilment of the of SOS Children's Villages mandate;
- Develops and implements communications, fund development and marketing, and public relations strategies that promote the reputation and corporate image of the organisation as a leading provider of childcare; SOS Children's Villages in Botswana
- Develops and manages the internal and external communication channels to ensure an effective and efficient information flow to staff and key stakeholders;
- Develops an advertising and media campaign to increase public awareness of the activities of SOS Children's Villages;
- Coordinates the production and distribution of publications, including ensuring up to date information is sourced from staff and other stakeholders;
- Responsible for the development and delivery of a direct communications strategy which achieves successful partner acquisition and retention;
- Ensure strong relationships are developed and maintained between SOS Children's Villages Botswana and key stakeholders;
- Keep up-to-date on current fundraising programmes and trends in the non-profit sector and disseminate the information to relevant colleagues, as appropriate
- Identify and pursue new sources of funding including corporates, individual giving, major donors and digital/online.
- Build and maintain relationships with major donors of all types, develop leadership giving; and coordinate the solicitation by other affiliated staff, board or volunteers, as appropriate.
- Proactively researches potential donors and stakeholders likely to support SOS Children's Villages Botswana.
- Ensures development and implementation of a Corporate Social Responsibility ('CSR') programme, which engages the corporate community and builds collaborative relationships

with a wide range of partners and supporters.

- Develop and implement a comprehensive annual resource development plan with strategies for donors and prospects.
- Develops and implements sponsorship programmes and events that are aligned with the mandate of the SOS Children's Villages;
- Works with the National Director to implement an effective internal communications strategy;
- Manages and develops the department's human capital, instilling a high performance culture in order to achieve the organization's strategic objectives.

Required Qualification and Experience

- BA Degree in Communications, Public Relations, Marketing or related field.
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- A valid class B Driver's License
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Closing Date: 26 June 2020

The Toyota Kalahari Desert Race is A Legend in Southern Africa's Motorsport



The month of June marks the Southern Hemisphere's winter solstice or mid-winter that traditionally occurs around 20th or 21st day of June each year. During this period, the Earth's axis is tilted furthest away from the sun and is positioned directly over the Tropic of Capricorn. But for the SA Cross Country Series (SACCS), its sponsors, officials, teams, competitors, thousands of enthusiasts and Botswana businesses and spectators, the month of June traditionally celebrates the running of the majestic Toyota Kalahari Botswana 1000 Desert Race (TDR 1000). Regrettably, like similar events worldwide, this year's race has had to be sacrificed in view of COVID-19

The Toyota Kalahari Botswana 1000 Desert Race has been in existence since 1975. As legacy has it, Piet Lambrecht was in Gaborone organising a hunting permit when he saw a poster ad-

vertising the Trans-Kalahari Road Race. Lambrecht, navigator Giel Potgieter and the team's source of wherewithal Hans de Lange, entered a Ford F250 and much to their surprise and that of the organisers,

the trio romped to a historic victory.

Lambrecht won again the following year, this time with Tony Hawken, who could "talk to the English speaking journalists", as navigator and Doep du Plessis

fulfilling an important supportive role.

Such stories are a far cry from today's hugely successful and professional Toyota 1000 Desert Race, the corps d'elite of the SA Cross Country Series. The TDR 1000

has a magnificent legacy as the event with one of the longest running sponsorships in South African, and now also Botswana, motorsport. Toyota took ownership of the event 40 years in 1981 ago and to-date have 17 overall victories under their belt.

only overall winners to be declared at events. In 1992, it was decided to split the championship into Special Vehicle and Production Vehicle categories with overall winners recognised in each category.

Toyota, a keen supporter of the decision to move the TDR 1000



For the first 12 years, 1981 to 1992, the event was run in the Vryburg area of the North West Province with Toyota scoring two overall victories in 1988 and 1989 via Andre Kock/Koos Coetzee in a Toyota Land Cruiser and Philip Malan/Richard Leeke senior in a Toyota Hilux. Between 1981 and 1991, the rules made provision for

back to its roots in Botswana, dominated the Production Vehicle category from 1992 to 1999 with Kassie Coetzee and Apie Reyneke winning the Toyota 1000 Desert Race seven times. Kassie Coetzee and

to page25



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The Toyota Kalahari Desert Race is A Legend in Southern Africa's Motorsport

from p24

Leeke senior won in a Toyota Hilux in 1992 in Vryburg. The inaugural TDR 1000 in Botswana in 1993 marked the turn of Apie Reyneke and Lucas Dreyer to win in a Toyota Land Cruiser in 1994. Reyneke then teamed up with Robin Houghton with the pair going on to win in 1995 and for three years in succession from 1997 to 1999, with all their wins coming in a Toyota Land Cruiser.

The years 2000 to 2011 were lean years for Toyota crews with the overall Production Vehicle victory going to Neil Woolridge/Kenny Skjoldhammer in a Mitsubishi Pajero in 2000 and a Ford Ranger in 2001. Woolridge also won the event in 1996 with Paul Vermaak in a Nissan Sani. During this period, other notable Production Vehicle category winners included a hat trick of wins for Hannes Grobler and Richard Leeke senior in a Nissan Hardbody in 2002, 2003 and 2004 with Grobler again taking the laurels with Francois Jordaan in 2006 and Hennie Ter Stege in 2010 in a BMW X3.

Nissan's winning streak also included a win by Alfie Cox/Ralph Pitchford in 2005 and three consecutive wins by Duncan Vos with Richard Leeke senior in 2007, Louis Weichelt in 2008 and Ralph Pitchford in 2009. Chris Visser/Japie Badenhorst were the last of the overall Production Vehicle category winners in a Ford Ranger in 2011 before Toyota again took total control of the championship in 2012 with Duncan Vos/Rob Howie in a Toyota Hilux breaking the spell.

With the monkey finally off their back, Toyota has basked in glory by dominating from 2012 with the Vos/Howie win to the present day. Anthony Taylor and Dennis Murphy in a Toyota Hilux were victorious at the final round of the event in Kumakwane, just outside Gaborone, in 2013.

The year 2014 saw the introduction of some significant changes, chief among them being relocating to Jwaneng, approximately 160 kilometres west of Gaborone, which is home to the world's richest diamond mine. Jwaneng came with new terrain and a level playing field for all plus a 'Pot of Gold' for competitors, with the TDR 1000 the only marathon event on the SACCS calendar, now scoring double points.

The Taylor/Murphy team made it three in a row when they clinched the overall title in 2014 and 2015 while Leeroy Poulter and Rob Howie, after a stellar performance in their Toyota Hilux, were crowned 2016 overall champions. The years 2017 and 2018 belonged to Dakar legend Giniel de Villiers and Dennis Murphy in the FIA Class Toyota Hilux.

In accordance with the Botswana authorities' philosophy of tourism diversification, elevating communities and meeting the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment, the TDR 1000 – which is the largest sporting and social event in the country and a major financial donor to the local community – relocated to the copper

mining town of Selebi-Phikwe in 2019.

The new terrain proved a major challenge, and for the first time in eight years a privateer team took overall honours ahead of the more fancied factory teams. Chris Visser and Phillip Herselman in a Toyota Hilux posted a race winning time of just over 7 minutes ahead of the closest factory rivals. Visser last won the TDR 1000 in 2011 alongside Japie Badenhorst in a factory Ford Ranger TDCi.

Over the years, the battle for supremacy on the gruelling TDR 1000, with terrain often more suited to four-wheel drive vehicles, was as intense in the Special Vehicle category for two-wheel drive frame vehicles. This category has also seen several Botswana competitors like Keith du Toit, Mogrey Mabile, Lepso Mosope, Julio Ferreira and Atang Makgekgenene, who won the event on two occasions in 2004 and 2005 with Buks Carolin, compete in the SACCS championship.

Buks Carolin was the first recipient of the overall Special Vehicle title in 1992 in Vryburg. Carolin, followed by Rob Wark in 1994 and Marius Beaurain in 1996 in Botswana, made TDR 1000 history by winning in single-seaters. Buks and brother Richard Carolin also carved their niche as the only sibling combination to win a TDR in 1995.

Father and son combinations to have proved their mettle on the TDR 1000 include the Czepeks, Franz senior and junior, who won three years in a row from 1997 to 1999 and added a fourth victory in 2001. Nick and Ryan Harper in 2006, Kallie and Quintin Sullwald in 2007 and 2011, Herman and Wichard Sullwald in 2013, Wichard and Herman Sullwald 2014 have added to the father-and-son aspect of the race.

The only other Special Vehicle team to have recorded a hat trick in this demanding event was Shameer Variawa and Siegfried Rousseau from 2008 to 2010. Evan Hutchison and Danie Stassen were victorious in 2012 and 2015, with teammates Dave McShane and Leander Pienaar taking the laurels in 2016.

Mark Corbett and Juan Möhr 2000, Greg Daus and VZ van Zyl 2002, John Weir-Smith and Geoff Minnitt 2003, husband and wife Marius and Jolinda Fourie 2017, father and daughter Coetzee and Sandra Labuscagne 2018 and Lance Trethewey and Adriaan Roets 2019 all took a win apiece.

Regrettably, like all other major sporting, cultural and corporate events worldwide, the TDR 1000 in Selebi-Phikwe, had to be sacrificed in June 2020 in view of the global COVID-19 pandemic. SACCS together with its partners Toyota, Botswana Tourism, SPEDU, Selebi-Phikwe Town Council and BMS, are monitoring the devastating effects of the current situation very closely and will announce plans for 2021 in accordance with relevant government and economic guidelines once these become available.



JWANENG 26 June 2016, The annual Toyota Kalahari 1000 desert race attracts a number of motor sports lovers in Jwaneng. Motorist competing during the race on 26 June 2016. (Pic: MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)



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THE KING OF CASH

How Ram Cashes in the Choppies Millions

Although not illegal, shrewd businessman Ramachandran Ottapathu strategically squeezes every thebe that he can through a chain of more than 20 companies most of which he has shares. It is easy, because CEO, Ram appointed these companies as Choppies suppliers. These outfits raked in over half a billion pula between 2017 and 2018 only from Choppies. Corporate governance and integrity are against such transactions. **KEABETSWE NEWEL** and **TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO** waded through Ram's intricate web of wealth

A scrutiny of the Choppies 2018 annual report shows between 2017 and 2018, Choppies procured goods and services from around 35 companies which are listed in the report under *Related Party Transactions*. In all those companies, over 20 of them are directly linked to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ramachandran Ottapathu, who is better known as Ram, through shareholding, making him the largest financial beneficiary from Choppies. Records of the remaining few are either unavailable in the Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) system or are owned by Ram's business partners. Under *Related Party Transactions*, the 35 companies were paid approximately P514 630 000 for supplying unspecified goods and services to Choppies between 2017 and 2018.

The Botswana Gazette has established that Choppies CEO, Ram, has shareholding in over 20 of these companies while the rest are owned by his business partners. Others had no records at CIPA but this publication has it on good authority that he has stakes in them.

CHOPPIES' P500M RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Adam's Apple Proprietary Limited

Its shareholders are Damodaran Mullappilly (5000 shares), Padmarajan Valsala (1000 shares), Rootlet Proprietary Limited (9344293 shares). NB Damodaran Mullappilly is the sole owner of Rootlet. The company was paid over P4.8 million between 2017 and 2018.

Arcee Proprietary Limited

President Mokgweetsi Masisi owns 10 percent while Ram owns the remaining 90 percent. The company was paid almost P9 million between 2017 and 2018.

Ascending Returns Proprietary Limited

The company is solely owned by Fasaay Investments Proprietary Limited, a company owned by Farouk Ismail, Choppies's second largest shareholder and Ram's business partner. Between 2017 and 2018, it was paid over P1.15 million by Choppies.

Ausi Holdings Proprietary Limited

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy owns 25 percent while Ajantha Proprietary Limited owns 75 percent. Ajantha is solely owned by Ram. In 2017 and 2018, Ausi was paid P706 000.

Bagpiper Proprietary Limited

Ram co-owns this company with Sathyan Poolath Raghavan Nair. The company received over P5.7 million between 2017 and 2018.

Balance Fortune

(Share holding information unavailable from CIPA). Between 2017 and 2018, this company was paid over P6 million for the supply of goods.

Cornbill Proprietary Limited

This company was paid P124 000 between 2017 and 2018 for the supply of goods to Choppies. Cornhill is owned by Angrapa Proprietary Limited which belongs to Kamoso Africa Proprietary Limited. Kamoso's major shareholders are Ram (112722153 shares), Botswana Development Corporation Limited (177615668 shares), Iapef 2 Rmbv7 Kamoso Limited (334274512 shares), Newshelf 1392 (Rf) (Pty) Ltd (105352820 shares), Narayanan Ottapathu (10100130 shares), Kamoso Africa Proprietary Limited (19354176 shares).

Cottonvale Proprietary Limited

It is owned by Ram, his partner Farouk Ismail and Seetharaman. It was only paid P17 000 in 2017 and 2018.

Dissel Dow Holdings Proprietary Limited

The company, which benefitted P66 000 from Choppies between 2017 and 2018, is owned by Angrapa Proprietary Limited which belongs to Kamoso.

Electrometric Enterprises Proprietary Limited

(its shareholder details are unavailable from CIPA). It was paid P10.6 million between 2017 and 2018.

Feasible Investments (Pty)Ltd

Its shareholders are Farouk Ismail, Ram and Avinash Kochaniyan Mukkapuzha. Between 2017 and 2018, over P56.6 million was paid to this company.

Ghanzi Highway Filling Station

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy owns 25 percent while Ajantha Proprietary Limited owns 75 percent. Ajantha is owned solely by Ram. The company received P138 000 between 2017 and 2018.

Holario Investments Proprietary Limited

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy and Ajantha Proprietary Limited (which is owned solely by Ram) are shareholders. The company received over P846 000 between 2017 and 2018 only.

I Qube (Pty) Ltd

(its records are unavailable on CIPA). Information sought by this publication points to Ram having shares in this company. He however told this publication to check CIPA records. Between 2017 and 2018, Choppies paid I Qube around P93 million.

I Qube SA (Proprietary) Limited

This company is based in South Africa. It was paid P34.5million between 2017 and 2018.

Ilo Industries SA (Pty) Ltd

Registered in South Africa, this company was paid P19.2 million between 2017 and 2018 by Choppies.

Industrial Filling Station

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy and Ajantha Proprietary Limited (owned by Ram) are shareholders. It was paid P297 000 by Choppies between 2017 and 2018.

JB Sports Holdings

The clothing retailer is owned by Rajesh Karunakaran Nair, Ram, Julian Kuracheril Mathew and Midhun Julian Mathew. It received P60 000 from Choppies between 2017 and 2018.

Keriotic Investments SA PTY LTD

Based in South Africa, this company received over P89.7 million between 2017 and 2018.

Mackinnon Holdings Proprietary Limited

This company was paid P308 000 between 2017 and 2018. Its shareholders are Nalamalapu Anji Reddy and Ajantha Proprietary Limited, which is owned solely by Ram.

Mall Motors Botswana Proprietary Limited

Owned by Mohamed Ismail, it was paid P161 000 between 2017 and 2018.

Maximel Enterprises Proprietary Limited

It is owned by Angrapa Proprietary Limited. Angrapa belongs to Kamoso. The company received P38 000 between 2017 and 2018 from Choppies.

Nestral System Pvt Ltd

(Records unavailable at CIPA). The company was paid a over P22 million between 2017 and 2018.

Pennywise Investments Proprietary Limited

Paid over P402 000 by Choppies between 2017 and 2018, Pennywise is owned by Muhammad Aijaz (10 shares), Ram (100 shares).

Pinestone Proprietary Limited

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy owns 25 percent and Ajantha Proprietary Limited owns 75 percent. Ajantha is solely owned by Ram. The company was paid over P3 million between 2017 and 2018. **Prosperous People**

Proprietary Limited

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy owns 25 percent while Ajantha Proprietary Limited owns 75 percent. Ajantha is solely owned by Ram. The company received P297 000 from Choppies between 2017 and 2018.

Q Tique 79 (Pty) Ltd (Records unavailable at CIPA)

A staggering sum of P40.5 million was paid by Choppies to Q Tique 79 (Pty) Ltd between 2017 and 2018.

RBV Consultants SA (Pty) Ltd

Based in SA, the company was paid over P20 million in 2017 and 2018.

Rbv Marketing Proprietary Limited

Rbv was paid over P1.2 million by Choppies between 2017 and 2018. It is owned by Kamoso Africa Proprietary Limited.

Tim Tam Proprietary Limited

Its shareholders are Nalamalapu Anji Reddy (25 percent), Ajantha Proprietary Limited (75 percent). Ajantha is owned solely by Ram. During the two years of 2017 and 2018, it received P4 000 for the supply of goods to Choppies.

Tow Bar Pty Ltd

(Records unavailable at CIPA)

It only received P9 000 from Choppies between 2017 and 2018 from Choppies.

Vet Agric Supplies Proprietary Limited

(Shareholder records unavailable at CIPA). Between 2017 and 2018, Choppies paid the company P94.5 million for the supply of goods.

Vet Agric Supplies Proprietary Limited

(Shareholder records unavailable at CIPA). Between 2017 and 2018, Choppies paid the company P94.5 million for the supply of goods.

White Coral Proprietary Limited

Nalamalapu Anji Reddy owns 25 percent while Ajantha Proprietary Limited, which is wholly owned by Ram, controls 75 percent. It received P64 000 for the supply of goods.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, INTEGRITY ARE AGAINST RAM'S TRANSACTIONS

Related party transactions, the *modus operandi* through which these companies were paid, are those transactions through which Choppies directors, especially Ram as CEO and major shareholder, used the companies that he himself owns (and his business partners) to supply Choppies with goods and services. In simple terms, it means a director transacting with himself. As CEO, it was Ram who decided to appoint the companies in which he has shares to supply Choppies for a profit.

This publication sent a questionnaire to Ram in a quest to establish why Choppies chose to do business with around 35 companies the majority of which the CEO has a direct stake in. *The Botswana Gazette* further asked Ram whether Choppies being a publicly listed company, Ram sought the approval of shareholders and the board before appointing the companies which he has ownership in to commercially benefit from Choppies. Ram did not answer any of the questions, saying all the information is contained in the annual report. He also did not respond as to how as CEO, he minimises conflict of interest and favouritism when the companies he owns supply Choppies with goods and services. We raised questions of best corporate governance.

RAM, BOARD ADMIT TO POOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

In the report compiled by the then board of directors in 2018, it is stated that it is not a legal requirement in Botswana to provide such a report but in the spirit of good governance and in terms of the King IV code, it has been considered appropriate to issue this report (corporate governance). In the annual report, it is stated that in terms of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) charter, the ARC found Choppies to have been deficient in good corporate governance as per the legal report which was presented to the Emergency General Meeting last year. Then, it was noted that there is an urgent need and requirement to overhaul the governance structure at Choppies to bring it up to international best practice standards.

The Choppies Board and CEO last year, having accepted this im-

portant recommendation, assigned this responsibility to the ARC and to report back on its recommendations for approval by the Board. Choppies CEO Ram also publicly admitted the corporate governance shortfalls and said he was willing to make amends.

It is written in the Annual Report that the ARC found that Choppies lacked levels of authority (approvals framework, leaving all the powers to Ram). There was also a lack of a committee of the Board to act as a mechanism to evaluate and monitor business acquisitions and disposals, as well as the absence of a code of ethics and business practices and the re-assessment of the various Board committees, including their charters as a point of departure. Consequently, Choppies admitted and is currently undergoing restructuring to improve its corporate governance.

The Executive Director at Botswana Centre for Public Integrity, Pusetso Morapedi, says though it could be legal, such transactions are unethical. She points out that the CEO also being a shareholder in a string of companies that supply the same company that he manages daily means he is conflicted. Morapedi says such a CEO has inside information and can always use it to exploit personal commercial benefits at the expense of deserving and competitive Botswana, especially in a public company. Further, she says prices can be inflated to ensure that such companies make a killing from Choppies to maximise commercial interests.

An official at Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) also says in such related party transactions, there is always conflict of interest. He says in such transactions, companies are always treated as independent legal entities but on the ground the proceeds will benefit the shareholder who may own or have a stake in all the companies. "Transactions are not done at the arms length principle," says the BURS official. "Prices can be inflated to deplete the revenue made by the supplying entity to end up declaring smaller taxes and to favour the related parties. There are possibilities that the companies can also be used to conduct transfer pricing."

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE (Before RADJENG J)**

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY
and
LIQUID GOLD ENTERPRISES (PTY) LTD
SITHEMBISO DEBRA GUMEDE-MOSES

CASE NO. CVHGB-002876-18
Plaintiff

1st Defendant
2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the 1st and 2nd Defendants will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 29th July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 1030hours
PLACE OF SALE : Lease Area No. 1911-KO
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being Lease Area No. 1911-KO situate on **Portion 129** (A portion of Portion 106) of Farm forest hill No. 9-KO in the South East Administrative District of Botswana, measuring **213m²**, held under Notarial Deed of Cession No **MA 562/2011** dated **13th day of October 2011** made in favour of Liquid Gold Enterprises (Pty) Ltd with developments thereon being office space at Lot 129 Unit D.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 11th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



DITIRO P. GABOBKWE c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Road
Extension 11,
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE (UB)
(VR/mm/10705) 73900288

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE (Before SECHELE J)**

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
MARGARET K. BONTSENG

CASE NO: CVHGB-001382-15

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the Defendants will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 6th August, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 1430hours
PLACE OF SALE : Tribal Lot 213, Ramotswa
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Tribal Lot 213, Ramotswa** situated in **Bamalete Tribal Territory** measuring **1210m²** held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. **MA977/2013** dated **13th day of December 2013** made in favour of **Margaret K. Bontseng**, together with developments thereon being a three bed roomed house, bath and toilet combined, kitchen, sitting room, varander, fence and gate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)

(Before LEBURU J)
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE**

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
KABO SKHEBO SEBELE

CASE NO: CVHGB-000662-13

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the Defendants will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 31st July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 12:00 pm
PLACE OF SALE : Tribal Lot 4424, Molepolole
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Tribal Lot 4424, Molepolole** situated in **Bakwena Tribal Territory** measuring **960m²** held under deed of memorandum of agreement of lease No. **TL 322/2003** dated **11th day of August 2003** together with developments thereon being a three bed roomed house, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, toilet and bath combined, double garage and screen wall, sliding gate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)

(Before DUBE J)
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE**

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY
and
MEHLULI KENNETH

CASE NO. CVHGB-001525-18

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the 1st and 2nd Defendants will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 24th July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 1030hours
PLACE OF SALE : Tribal Lot 2155, Mogoditshane
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Tribal Lot 2155, Mogoditshane**, with development thereon being an unfinished structure/house comprising of double door garage, master bedroom, kitchen (open plan, dining room, living room, sitting room. Combined bath and toilet, 3 bedrooms, servants quarter attached to the main house, separate and complete two and half house, screen wall plus electric fence, sliding gate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 11th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



KEBONYEKGOSI NTEBELE
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Road
Extension 11,
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE (UB)
(VR/mm/7216) 76943030

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE (Before LEBURU J)**

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
THABO MOLEFE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003188-17

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the Defendant will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 23rd July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 1030 am
PLACE OF SALE : Lot 12707, Gaborone
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendant's right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Lot 12707, Gaborone** with developments thereon being a house comprising of four bedrooms all ensuite, kitchen (open door), lounge, veranda, half paved, half lawn, boundary wall, electric fence, sliding gate with motor, swimming pool, carport, storeroom with toilet and bath, measuring **651m²**, held under deed of transfer no. **665/2012** dated **29th March 2012** in favour of **THABO MOLEFE**.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 11th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



KEBONYEKGOSI NTEBELE
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)
71694303

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE (Before RANOWANE J)**

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
SEGAMETSI FAITH SIMON

CASE NO: CVHGB-001870-11

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the Defendants will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 31st July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 10:00 hours
PLACE OF SALE : Tribal Lot 1742, Metsimothabe
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendants' right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Tribal Lot 1742, Metsimothabe** situated in the **Bakwena Tribal Territory** measuring **936m²** held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. **MA393/2010** dated **13th day of August 2013** made in favour of **Segametsi Faith Simon**, together with developments thereon being a three bed roomed house, castle roof house, master bedroom in suite, sitting room, kitchen, toilet and shower, screen and sliding gate.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12th DAY OF JULY, 2020.



OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE (Before TAFA J)**

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
and
THABO MOLEFE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003055-17

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court the following immovable property hereunder of the Defendant will be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 28th July, 2020
TIME OF SALE : 1030 am
PLACE OF SALE : Tribal Lot 2724, Mochudi
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Defendant's right, title and interest on a certain piece of land being **Tribal Lot 2724, Mochudi** situated in the **Bakgatla Tribal Territory** measuring **1413m²** held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No **TL 564/2006** with developments thereon being a sitting room (open plan) kitchen, 1 master bedroom, 1 bedroom, bathroom and toilet, Pit-latrines toilet, store-room.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 11th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.



KEBONYEKGOSI NTEBELE
c/o **RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
Extension 11, Gaborone
P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE(UB)

APPLICATION FOR LOST DEED

NOTICE is hereby given that undersigned intends applying for the certified copy of Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. FT 168/2009 dated 19th day of February, 2009 made in favour of KATSO MOTHIBI in respect of the below-mentioned property, namely;

CERTAIN : piece of land being Lot 18486, Francistown;

SITUATE : in Francistown Extension 27;

MEASURING : 347 m² (Three Hundred and Forty Seven Square Metres)

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy, are hereby requested to lodge same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, Gaborone within 3 (three) weeks of the publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 05th DAY OF JUNE, 2020.

EZEKIEL ATTORNEYS
P. O. BOX 481 AEJ
GABORONE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO. CVHFT 000 278-17

In the matter between:
STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
 and
MOATLHODI MATHALA

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Stanley Sikalesele Mbolai** to the Highest Bidder:

DATE OF SALE : 24th July 2020
TIME : 9:30 a.m.
VENUE : Tribal Lot 54 Shashe Ward, Tonota Village
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The Defendant's rights, title and interest to Tribal **Lot 54, Shashe**, situate at shashe in the **Bangwato Tribal Territory**, Measuring **2429 m²**, held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease **No. FT TL 224/2005** dated the **6th June 2005** registered in favour of the said Moatlhodi Mathala, a plot comprised of an office block with 3x offices, fitted kitchen, 2x water system toilets, 2x ambulation water system toilets, fenced and some improvements therein.

CONDITIONS OF SALE : detailed conditions of sale may be inspected with Deputy Sheriff Stanley Sikalesele Mbolai on cell **No. 71635200/2415504**.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2020.

PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEYS
 Unit 16, Haskins Building
 Plot No. 469/70, Blue Jacket Street
 P.O. Box 3537
FRANCISTOWN
2412300 / 73966100



SOLOMON J IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO. CVHFT 000 141-16

In the matter between:
STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED
 And
THEOTOL (PTY) LTD
SEWELO TAOLE
JAMES KELATLHELETSWE TAOLE

PLAINTIFF

1st DEFENDANT
2nd DEFENDANT
3rd DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff KEITSENG LETLHOGELA** to the Highest Bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 31st July 2020
TIME : 10:30 a.m.
VENUE : Tribal Lot 8744, Tatisiding Village
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The Defendant's rights, title and interest on a certain piece of land being Tribal **Lot 7844, Tatisiding Village**, situated at Tatisiding in the Tati Tribal Area, measuring **1023 m²**, which property is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease **No. FT TL 1184/2014** dated the **16th September 2014** together with development thereof being house with 2 bedrooms, sitting room, fitted kitchen, toilet + bathroom, 3 bedroom slab, fenced.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash and Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise detailed conditions of sale may be inspected with Deputy Sheriff Keitseng Letlhogela on cell **No. 74777581**.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2020.

PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEYS
 Unit 16, Haskins Building
 Plot No. 469/70, Blue Jacket Street
 P.O. Box 3537
FRANCISTOWN
2412300 / 73966100



(Before Segopolo J) IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB - 002036 - 19

In the matter between:-
G4S BOTSWANA LIMITED
 and
EDUCATIONAL & COMPUTER SERVICES (PTY) LTD
BUPE MALANGA

Plaintiff

1st Defendant
2nd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following movable property will be sold by public auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF N. OOKAME** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 07th July 2020
TIME : 1100am
VENUE : Gaborone-West Police Station
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1XComputer, 1X3 piece sofas, 1XFloor Carpet, 1X Table, 1xStand, 1XMusic System, 1XWall Mirror, 1XCabinet, 1X Table with 8 Chairs, 1X Double Door Fridge, 1X Washing Machine, 1X Microwave, 1XDisep Freezer, 1XFlat Screen, 1X4 Basebeds, 1X Beroom Suite, 1X Fridge, 1XPiano, 1x2Fridges, 1X Book Binding Machine, 1x2 Computers, 1x10 Office Chairs, 1XPhotocopying Machine, 1X 4 Office Tables, 1X Printer, 1X6 office Cabinets, 1XMicrowave, 1XComputer.

TERMS OF SALE : Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise details and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 16TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



N.OOKAME
 Cell: 72879169/77435503
 c/o RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS
 Plaintiff's Attorneys
 Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
 Extension 11,
 P.O. Box 70567

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE (Before Garekwe J)

Case No. CVHGB - 000643 - 18

In the matter between:
CONSORTIUM INVESTMENTS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
 and
CERTIFIED BUSINESS GROUP (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following movable property will be sold by public auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF N. OOKAME** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 06th July 2020
TIME : 1100am
VENUE : Gaborone-West Police Station

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1x 2 piece sofas, 1x4 photocopying Machines, 1xPrinter, 1xComputer, 1xBinder, 1xGillotin, 1x7 Office Chairs, 1x4 Office Tables, 1xSofa, 1x6 Office Tables, 1x4 cabinets, 1x coffee table, 1x4laptops, 1x5 chairs, 1x4 office tables, 1x printer, 1x2 cabinets.

TERMS OF SALE : Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise details and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 16TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



N.OOKAME
 Cell: 72879169/77435503
 c/o RAMALEPA ATTORNEYS
 Plaintiff's Attorneys
 Plot 3171, Morupule Drive
 Extension 11,
 P.O. Box 70567
GABORONE (UB)



President Dr. Mokgweetsi E. K. Masi addressing the media at the State House after taking part in a Virtual UN GLOBAL COMPACT Leaders Summit on 16 June 2020. This year's UN Global Compact Leaders Summit marks 20 years of uniting business for a better world. (Pic:MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)

(Before RANOWANE J) IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB -000222- 17

In the matter between:-
LETSHEGO FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED
 and
MARX VICTOR VALELA

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following movable property will be sold by public auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF N. OOKAME** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 08th July 2020
TIME : 1100am
VENUE : Broadhurst Police Station
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1 X Silver Mercedes Benz Registration Number B 484 BAW, 1 X 4 Piece Sofas, 1 X 4 Piece Sofas, 1X Table, 1X Sports Bike, 1X Sony Music System, 1X Everlast Gym Bicycle, 1x LG Flat Screen, 1X Samsung Microwave, 1X Defy Four Burner Stove, 1 X Singer Fridge, 1X Hisence Fridge, 1X KIC Fridge, 1X Hoover, 1X 4 Basebeds, 1X Deep freezer

TERMS OF SALE : Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheque otherwise details and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys Office.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 16TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



N.OOKAME
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COVID-19 has changed so many things forever across the world... why does it not feel that way in Botswana, yet?

Seeing is Believing

KABELO BINNS
GUEST COLUMNIST

We humans are a strange bunch and Covid-19 proves this. The context is simple, never in living history have the lives of more people across the world been more at risk. The interconnectivity of the planet, provided by international airlines, ensured that millions of people moved from China and interacted with billions across the world within weeks of the first published cases of the now famous virus: Covid-19s. With cases now spanning the world from New York, to as close to us as Metsimothabe, we need little more evidence that the world has become a very small place.

For the most part in Botswana and the region at large, we have done very little to actually change our behaviours and apply social distancing as a new way of life. As they best way to stop the spread.

As bodies start to pile up across the world, the warnings are frustratingly only very slowly getting home. World leaders, religious leaders, corporate leaders, work mates, friends and family have all warned of the dangers of this virus... and yet we still have citizens not doing even the very basics to avoid this virus #WashHands.

Lines, a hundred deep, form outside District Offices, Kgotlas and Schools across Botswana every day. Social distancing is what one is told once you get to the front of the line. Hundreds of people are in line before 07h30, with so many it is impossible to serve everyone, many are turned home. The online system helps... but frankly it is three weeks late and is temperamental at best. The pressure is on for people wanting to get out. Just to walk about, just to get some air. Just to escape the pressures of being confined with the same people for the last three weeks. Like prisoners, citizens across Botswana find themselves staring out the windows, with envy, at the many people seemingly not

part of the lockdown.

Cars, full of essential service employees (it is assumed), continue to zoom around all day. Retail stores across Botswana remain full, with lines outside shops replacing the lines we used to form inside. Somehow lining up outside is a better form of social distancing than inside. These are indeed strange times. Social influencers posting images of partially deserted streets of cities does not help... What would help, would for them to ask people... no not ask, but demand people to stay home! As this thing will not go away if we only partly lockdown. Lockdown should mean locked down.

The irony is that as we only

It really is worrying how few take the Covid-19 risk as seriously as it should be. The sad reality is that we are not unique, the world over, this calm before the storm is what was seen. People were dying yes, but again unless it was someone you knew closely it was nothing to 'worry' about... And then Idris Elba and his wife posted that they had the virus... and then Prime Minister Boris Johnson contracted it too, then Richard Quest got it... suddenly the nearly 50,000 dead, because of the virus in the USA, had some context. Admittedly in Africa we are pretty familiar with 'thousands of dead stories'. Just think of the death tolls over the Christ-

to burry. We need to see mass graves, like they now have in New York city, being dug in Gaborone and Francistown. Seeing is believing they say.

But the possibility to change behaviours is always there before we get to far down the dark road of Covid-19. What might help would be for our social leaders and local super stars to start playing a more meaningful role in this story, for instance they too could start sharing and posting when they get coronavirus. The use of the word "WHEN" is not an error, as the fact remains a significant position of our population WILL contract the virus. Thus, it is not something to be shunned but rather it is

coronavirus then they would have something in common with one of the world's leaders in entertainment looking to help farmers in the region. Rather than shy away and not tell the world, for fear of victimisation or being treated like a vagabond, as there appears to be some shame and stigmatisation that one would need to endure. Quite the opposite is what the local celebrity stands to gain. This would be a chance of world fame, or at least National fame. We need the likes of Vee, Makwala, DJ Fresh and Bissau to have contracted Covid-19 for us to take notice. We do not wish them illness; this is just a point being made... but notice how this point sinks



have 22 reported cases of Covid-19 on day 21 of our lockdown, and somehow this is not enough to get us panicked yet. The stats are not stacked in favour of those trying to keep us home. There are 22 nameless cases across Botswana, we assume quarantined away from the public for our own safety. Compounding the issue, we have had only one confirmed death from the virus, this further reduces the fear factor of getting the virus. Crazy that we need more to die before we take this issue seriously. Then there is the 'I'm cool and/or important' factor that has so many people getting out with or without permits to fill the malls. Game City and Airport junction have looked like a busy Saturday for 21 days. In fairness a lot of essential services are found in malls, supermarkets, banks, hardwares, pharmacies and fuel stations are standard features of most large malls. So, they would always be a center for many to gather, and not be "Extremely Socially Distant".

mas break from road accidents. Or the thousands that die from malaria in Africa every year. Let's not even get into the death toll from HIV and AIDS. So maybe we need a little more to shake us.

The sad fact is that even when global super stars got the virus, we only momentarily noticed. As we approach nearly 200,000 dead across the planet and over 2,5 million known cases across the world, we still are not moved. For the most part in Botswana and the region at large, we have done very little to actually change our behaviours and apply social distancing as a new way of life. As they best way to stop the spread.

What will it take? one might ask for us to be shaken enough into making these changes. Sadly, it may require us to see the actual effects of the virus. The videos of patients suffocating in hospitals overflowing with the sick. We need to see the freezer trucks parked outside hospitals filled with bodies that families are not able

something that needs to be accepted and in fact promoted so that fans and followers can start to 'believe' that this virus is here and is real. In fact, from a personal brand and marketing perspective being the first celebrity to declare their status would gain great mileage. Just look at Idris Elba again, he has now recovered and is "deeply humbled to be alive and well". He is now working with the United Nations, in his role as a UN Ambassador, and has helped to launch a \$40m (500 million Pula) scheme with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The fund is intended to help support farmers and food producers in rural areas globally during the pandemic states a report from the BBC. "It's about food", says Elba, "It is about the basic necessity for human beings, and that will run out if farmers can't farm", due to lockdowns or economic collapse.

So, if one was a smart celebrity in Southern Africa, and if said celebrity did contract

in when one of our celebrities were to get ill?

Sadly, this is the kind of action that we need to get citizens to take notice of the risks we face. Imagine what BAMB, in Botswana, could do with a little of the 500 million Pula that Elba has raised and is looking to spend in countries just like Botswana? However, as many of our social celebrities are currently only sharing images of their emptying bottles of wine or their selfies in deserted bus stations it is unlikely that Elba will be looking to Botswana. As he needs to see too. As seeing is believing.

Batswana, Government can only do so much. They really are doing their best, we can each help, by staying at home. We can stop playing catch and mouse with the law enforcers trying to keep us safe. We can each help by taking this virus and the new normal seriously. Let us not have to see our loved one's dead to believe #Covid19isReal #StayHome.

For more thought leadership stories from Botswana log on to www.xchange.co.bw

2020 Theme - "Made to Shine"

From Page 13

forms of discrimination and violence in those regions, where the majority of the general population are relatively dark-skinned. In other words, a greater degree of contrast in pigmentation often gives rise to a greater degree of discrimination. That appears to be the case in some sub-Saharan African countries where albinism is shrouded in myth and dangerous and erroneous beliefs. The figures on violations against persons with albinism are telling. There have been hundreds of cases of attacks and killings of persons with albinism reported in 28 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa in the past decade. The attacks have several root causes including ignorance, longstanding stigma, poverty and most abhorrently, harmful practices emanating from manifestation of beliefs in witchcraft. The alarming reality is that these horrendous practices continue today.

The manner in which discrimination faced by persons with albinism manifests itself, and its severity, vary from region to region. In the western world, including North America, Europe and Australia, discrimination often consists of name-calling, persistent teasing and bullying of children with albinism. Little information is available from other regions such as Asia, South America and the Pacific etc. However, some reports indicate that in China and other Asian countries, children with albinism face abandonment and rejection by their families.

UNITED NATIONS

ASB Statement On International Albinism Awareness Day 13 June 2020

On behalf of the Albinism Society of Botswana, it gives me the greatest pleasure to commemorate with you the IAAD 2020 under the theme "Made to Shine."

Today we seek to remind Botswana Government, once again, that the protection of citizens, and in particular persons with albinism, is an obligation embodied in the constitutions and domestic, regional and international laws of Sub-Saharan countries. The overall aim of the International Albinism Awareness Day is to create the much-needed awareness that members of the public and governments at all levels need on the challenges faced by persons with albinism and ensure the total eradication of all forms of discrimination, dehumanisation and stigmatisation associated with the condition, as well as provide the necessary tools that will improve their well-being.

In Botswana, the majority of people with albinism are both desperately poor and isolated from mainstream community activities. Many people with albinism lack even the most basic needs. Poverty, stigma and discrimination tend to cause persons with albinism to withdraw from social situations to avoid being noticed. Many become emotionally unstable, develop less assertive personalities and even begin to consider society as being generally unkind and rejecting. These traumatic experiences have created reinforced several challenges for people with albinism, including social, discrimination, bullying at school, skewed medical help, socio-cultural myths and beliefs because they are not removed by withdrawing.

People with albinism have always suffered twice in Botswana,

in the sense that they have a disability that is not recognised as a disability. In Botswana, people with albinism do not enjoy fully their rights and fundamental freedoms while their dignity is not respected due to lack of adherence by the state to the universal principles of rendering services to people with albinism. The Botswana situation of failing to accede or incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability and so they continue to have their rights violated. This because Botswana serves people with disability through policies which cannot be enforced in courts of law to meet legal expectations as needed by disabled people.

While we acknowledge that significant strides have been made to address the needs of persons with disabilities, a lot more still needs to be done. Having laws specific for people with disabilities in place would be a good starting point. The need to have laws specifically tailored for disability rights would create a pathway to solving some of the very knotty issues such as the right to dignity and to equal and inalienable rights like everybody else.

In order to help address the marginalisation of people with albinism, on 13 June 2017, 26 June 2017, 13 December 2017 and 13 June 2018, the Albinism Society of Botswana strongly petitioned and recommended to Parliament and its portfolio committee on health and Hiv/Aids the following:

- Botswana Parliament should adopt (the) Disability Policy in its sitting of 26 JUNE 2017.
- Parliament should sign and ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons Living with Disabilities which is

overdue.

- Parliament must incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons Living with Disabilities into the Botswana Disability Policy in order to end violation of people living with albinism in Botswana.
- Parliament should align Botswana's health, education and employment policies and programmes with the CRPD and CRC so as to protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities.
- Parliament must enact empowerment laws that grant persons with disabilities certain privileges consistent with their levels of disability.
- Parliament should improve the methodology used during surveys and other data collection efforts so as to strengthen government and development stakeholders' capacity to identify and assess people with albinism who are at risk of social exclusion.

While these recommendations are important, they will remain meaningless until and unless they are implemented by Botswana Parliament. That is why, time and again, we earnestly remind the government that all the plans and commitments should move from rhetoric to action and delivery, and that leaders should be held to account for ensuring that the human rights of citizens are upheld and not violated.

I also want to urge the Government of Botswana to assess and plan their responses to the global Covid-19 pandemic. Botswana must also observe a moment of silence to all people who passed on since Covid-19 across the world. As ASB, we offer our condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones to Covid-19 across the world.

I take the opportunity to remember my dearest friend, colleague and mentor, Professor John Makumbe, who sadly died in 2013. 'Prof' overcame the stigma of albinism to become a renowned academic, human rights de-

fender and fierce critic of President Robert Mugabe and was the key figure in the country's civil society. He often joked that he was lucky to be alive as he was almost strangled at birth by the midwife who believed his mother had an affair with the white missionary who lived down the road.

Despite all his achievements Prof was a humble man with an amazing wit and sense of humour. I recall an incident in May 2003 when police in Zimbabwe broke up a peaceful meeting of civic and religious leaders at a church in Harare, beating and arresting those present. John Makumbe arrived late and was arrested as he entered the building. He was beaten and tortured. He emerged to declare: "I am a rainbow nation all in one: black, white, yellow, red, purple. It's all here."

But the most famous of his quotes and the most relevant to what we are trying to achieve here in Botswana is: "When people fear their government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty."

As the civil society, we pledge ourselves to increase our efforts to raise awareness about disability issues and to empower people with disabilities to actively participate in the political, social, economic, cultural and religious discourse by creating strategic partnerships to advance the rights of persons with disabilities. We also want to build capacity for the Albinism Society of Botswana to be able to engage the government about a legislative framework appropriate for persons living with albinism.

Let me end by thanking our friends, the Centre for Human Rights Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria, Amnesty International and the United Nations Human Rights Council, the Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany and the media fraternity for empowering and nurturing civil society organisations like the Albinism Society of Botswana.

Aluta Continua!
Thank you.

By Sergeant 'Yellowman' Kgosietsile-Chairman- Albinism Society of Botswana
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Parliament must incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons Living with Disabilities into the Botswana Disability Policy in order to end violation of people living with albinism in Botswana.



Court Cases Looming Over Season Ending Decision

BONGANI MALUNGA

The inevitable talk of court cases resulting from the Botswana Football Association National Executive Committee's decision to end the domestic season and declare champions and confirm relegation for some clubs has gathered pace in recent days.

Reports reaching this publication indicate that certain clubs are considering challenging the NEC's decision as they believe that it was mathematically possible for them to avoid relegation in the last 10 games of the season, the clubs are expected to take the legal route. As of match-day 20, there was a one point differential between the 11th and 14th team on the log, the relegation battle was set for a thrilling end as other clubs were not yet in the clear.

On Sunday, the NEC convened for a meeting a took unanimous resolution to conclude the BTC Premiership and lower division tables as

they were at the time the season was suspended, this saw Jwaneng Galaxy awarded the league title while TAFIC, Molepolole City Stars and Miscellaneous have been relegated. TAFIC found themselves in the relegation zone due to an inferior goal difference compared to Morupule Wanderers who are level on points with TAFIC.

The concerned clubs are of the view that a better alternative would have been to consider the season "null and void" and start afresh next season. One particular club referenced the French Ligue 1's decision to halt the season with the French national court blocking teams from being relegated, this will see clubs such as Amiens and Toulouse remain in the league after being initially demoted to a lower division

The BFA NEC is adamant that they referenced Article 75.1 of the BFA Constitution (Unforeseen contingencies and force majeure) which states that, "The National Executive

Committee shall have the final decision on any matters not provided for in the Constitution or in case of force majeure."

BFA Secretary General Mfolo Mfolo told *Gazette Sport* that he was not aware of any clubs planning to take the legal route but he also underlined the association's stance on clubs taking football matters to court, stating that there will be serious repercussions for clubs that decide to take such matters to court.

"We do not pay attention to rumours, especially those from social media. To answer your question we are not aware of reports of teams challenging the association's decision. Football matters must not be taken to court, clubs are well aware of the consequences of taking that route. The Constitution is very clear when underlining that football matters must not be taken to court," Mfolo stated.

In the past, clubs that have taken football matters to court have been fined or docked points.



Foreign Players Finally Paid

BONGANI MALUNGA

Following initial reports of foreign players in certain clubs not being able to benefit from the COVID-19 Relief Fund, the latest reports indicate that indeed the players have been paid through assistance from the government. A source confirmed that the players received their share of the relief package on Saturday evening.

Earlier last week reports reaching *Gazette Sport* suggested that foreign players plying their trade in Botswana were experiencing contrasting fortunes in relation to salaries.

This publication had been that foreign players from clubs that have been assisted with wage subsidies from the Government have been paid while other foreign players from clubs which did not apply for wage subsidies had not been paid since the original lockdown (April). Fresh information states that the foreign players have been paid while local players will receive financial assistance this week, a minor delay has resulted in the local set of players having to wait a bit longer to receive their

packages.

Last week a coach who preferred anonymity informed this publication that denying foreign players relief packages would have been bad for the country's image in relation to welcoming foreign talent. The coach was speaking at a time when the payments had yet to be confirmed.

"I would like to applaud the Ministry and the Government for a great initiative, it has helped us a lot. I have four foreign players in my squad, they have received their salaries because of the wage subsidy arrangement. However, other clubs' foreigners have not been paid. We are at risk of compromising our relationship with foreign players, Botswana will struggle to attract foreign talent going forward. With limited grants, no prize money and not enough club sponsorships clubs have failed to generate funds to sustain themselves in such difficult situations. Foreign players have no other means of making money, football brought them here and they also have to enjoy the same benefits as their counterparts, they make the same contributions to our football," the coach stated.



Orange FA Cup Fate To Be Decided

BONGANI MALUNGA

Following the Botswana Football Association's decision to end the 2019-2020 domestic football season on the advice of the COVID-19 Medical Committee, the fate of this season's Orange FA Cup was not addressed in the association's statement with questions continuing to linger around how the competition will be ended.

The association already declared Jwaneng Galaxy as the league champions with the league set to end as it stood as of Matchday 21. With the Mascom Top 8 already concluded earlier this year, the Orange FA

Cup and the promotional playoffs are the only competitions yet to be decided.

The Orange FA Cup was set to resume from the quarterfinal stage with many clubs still vying for the trophy. Clubs such as Notwane, Galaxy, Township Rollers, MR Highlanders, Calendar Stars, Police XI, Masitaoka FC and Gaborone United were still active in the competition before the national lockdown.

Initial reports suggested that a committee appointed by the association to coordinate the playoffs will also decide the direction of this year's FA Cup.

BFA Secretary General Mfolo Mfolo revealed that

the above mentioned committee has not been selected yet, he also underlined that the committee will only focus on the playoffs while a different arrangement will be made for the FA Cup.

"There is a governance structure in the Orange FA Cup contract, the LOC of the competition will assess the situation and send a recommendation to a steering committee. This is a force majeure, it is a situation was brought about by things beyond our control, it will not be classified as a breach of contract, this will be dealt with accordingly," Mfolo told Gazette Sport.

Orapa United were the defending champions of the competition, they were eliminated by Pontsho Moloi's Gaborone United. The competition was last played in mid-March.



Last year October, Zebras midfielder Lebogang Ditsile was axed from the national team for sneaking alcohol into the Zebras camp.

Athletes Warned Against Alcohol Consumption

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Alcohol consumption by local sportpersons should be discouraged as it has an effect on their fitness, character, and entire career development, sport experts have warned.

There seems to be a growing trend of alcohol consumption by local sportpersons, just last year October, Zebras midfielder Lebogang Ditsile was axed from the national team for sneaking alcohol into the Zebras camp.

A few weeks after that, other four Zebras players in Mothusi Cooper, Mothusi Johnson, Onkabetse Makgantai and Thero Setsile were suspended from the Zebras by Head Coach, Adel Amrouche. This is after they were caught drinking alcohol while in camp a circumstance that has sternly been shunned by sport experts.

A University of Botswana (UB) sport science lecturer, Dr Tshuphang Tshube is against athletes' alcohol consumption stating that it has an effect on their performances, due to its impact on the body during exercise.

"The primary two effects on performance are dehydration and energy production," he said in an interview with *Gazette Sport*. "Alcohol dehydrates the body and this lead to susceptibility to injuries. In addition, the breakdown of alcohol interferes with the liver's production of glucose."

Dr Tshube said alcohol also exposes athletes to bad character, and in some cases, unsafe environments. "A lot of athletes have been involved in near career ending accidents due to alcohol," he said.

Just earlier this year, national team runners in Onkabetse Nkobolo and Baboloki Thebe were involved in an accident after sneaking out of the national team's camp. The athletes allegedly went out partying and were reportedly under the influence of alcohol when their car overturned near SSKB camp in the wee hours of the morning. Nkobolo sustained serious injuries during the accident, he is still undergoing treatment.

With that, Tshube who is also a former athlete noted that coaches and managers must be ring leaders in advising athletes against alcohol consumption. "Curbing alcohol consumption amongst athletes requires character development amongst athletes, coaches and managers," he said. "We need to have good leadership in teams. Coaches whose conduct is bad is likely to influence athletes to be deviant."

Former national team runner Glody Dube agrees with Tshube. Speaking with this publication in an interview, Dube noted that sport does not go hand in hand with alcohol. "If one wants progress in sport, he or she must avoid alcohol," he said. "We have seen excessively talented athletes careers were shortened by alcohol."

At Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC), Chief Executive Officer Tuelo Serufho also urged athletes to refrain from alcohol consumption as their careers are very short. "And they need to make moeny when they still can, so it is advisable for them to refrain from drinking while they are still active," he said. "I mean they still

have ample time to drink as they wish when they retire from sport, we have seen other international athletes doing that."

Professor David Cameron Smith of the University of Auckland also concurs that alcohol is not good for athletes and their careers. He told United Kingdom based publication, *The Guardian* that one night of drinking could wipe out the hard-earned results of months of hard graft.

"One of the key determinants of success is not just event-day performance, but the continuous gains and improvements that are made through the long, arduous grind of training," *The Guardian* quoted Professor Smith as saying. "Most people should be aware of the impact alcohol has if you consume it the night before a race, but not everyone appreciates the disruptive impact it has on the way your body adapts to handling the training, and that's the most important part."

Dr Mike Young of Athletic Lab which is the premier sport science research and athletic development facility located in North Carolina is also against athletes' alcohol consumption.

He says alcohol has effects on the musculature of the body; muscle growth is inhibited by alcohol consumption, and alcohol also can lead to increased weight gains due to its caloric density. "The calories in alcohol are pretty much just empty calories, so the body treats them as a fat and converts the sugars in alcohol to fatty acids in the body," the Athletic Lab website quoted Dr Young as saying.

ROAD TO SPORTING SUCCESS: ISAAC MAKWALA

With Tlotlo Kebinakgabo

On 5 July 2015, Isaac Makwala sped to a 400m personal best (PB) and national record of 43.72 seconds at the La Chaux-de-Fonds meet in Switzerland. This is the athlete who is regarded as a late bloomer and has never represented Botswana at junior levels.

Born in Tutume in 1985, Makwala made his first national team appearance as a senior athlete (aged 22) in 2007. More than a decade later, Badman as Makwala is affectionately known is the national record holder in all sprint races, namely the 100m (10.20), the 200m (19.77) and the 400m (43.72).

However, to sustain the records, Badman went through tough times in his early career and only got to turn fortunes around in 2014 under the tutelage of Justice Dipeba.

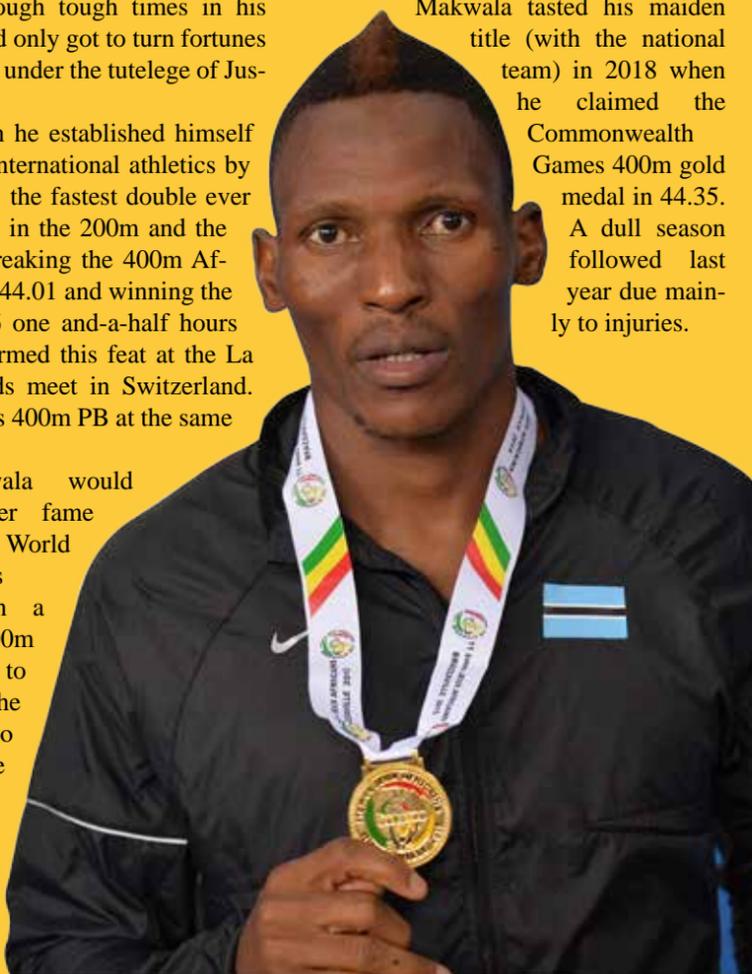
That is when he established himself as a brand in international athletics by accomplishing the fastest double ever in a single day in the 200m and the 400m races, breaking the 400m African record in 44.01 and winning the 200m in 19.96 one and-a-half hours later. He performed this feat at the La Chaux-de-Fonds meet in Switzerland. He recorded his 400m PB at the same meet in 2015.

But Makwala would achieve greater fame at the 2017 World Championships when he ran a solo time 200m trial in 20.20s to qualify for the semi-finals. Two hours later, he qualified for the final after going 0.06 sec quicker. He had to run

the solo time trial because he was barred from taking part in 200m heats after he was suspected to have the Norovirus. But he also did not run the 400m final where he was the most significant threat to the eventual champion, South Africa's Wayde van Niekerk.

Now aged 35, Makwala is undoubtedly one of the best athletes that Botswana has ever had, considering his record that speaks for the man. He is a two time 400 African Champion (2012 and 2014), IAAF Diamond League 400 trophy winner and 2018 Commonwealth Games 400m champion among many accolades that he hold.

Proving himself hard to put down, Makwala tasted his maiden title (with the national team) in 2018 when he claimed the Commonwealth Games 400m gold medal in 44.35. A dull season followed last year due mainly to injuries.

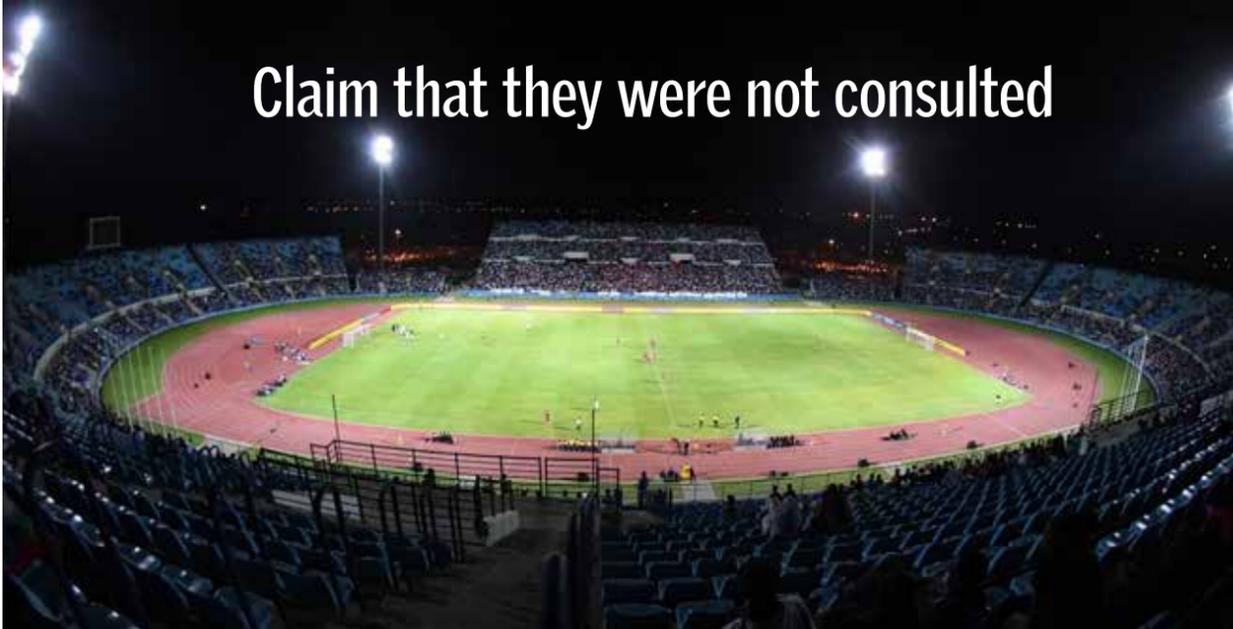


The Botswana Gazette SPORT

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2020

TAFIC Challenges BFA Decision

Claim that they were not consulted



It is worth noting that with 10 games left, there is a high chance of ending the season on a positive note. "Mind you, with the BFA's decision TAFIC is relegating with 18 points and what is worth noting is that the three teams above us also have the same points. - Sebina

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Relegated TAFIC Football Club intends to challenge the decision by the local football governing body, Botswana Football Association (BFA) to end the 2019/2020 football season.

After being interrupted midway and halted for three months due to outbreak of COVID-19, over the weekend the BFA take decision to end the football season. In their press release the local governing body states, "Having considered the prevailing the circumstances in Botswana the guidelines provided by BFA medical committee as well as financial resources needed to return to play, the National Executive Committee unanimously agreed to end the football season. In ending the season, the effect is that the team at the summit is crowned champions and the ones at the bottom of the table are relegated"

To this regard TAFIC Chairman Carlos Sebina says they are not impressed by the decision taken by the BFA more so that there was no consultation. Hence their decision to challenge the BFA resolution.

In an interview with *Gazette Sport*, the TAFIC Chairman said that they will challenge BFA decision because the committee disregarded the consultation of critical stakeholders being the football teams. Sebina said it is worth noting that with 10 games left, there is a high chance of ending the season on a positive note. "Mind you, with the BFA's decision TAFIC is relegating with 18 points and what is worth noting is that the three teams above us also have the same points. This means that with these 10 games that are not played, there is a high possibility that we could have accumulated more points and improved our position in the log standings. Our contention should not

be perceived as if we are fighting BFA. We have the interests of football and that is why we will only challenge the decision within BFA internal structures," Sebina revealed in an interview.

Further Sebina said the BFA's decision has the potential to push sponsors away therefore there is a need for thorough engagement about the issue. Sebina's conviction is that BFA executive committee could have engaged all the team's representatives before taking the decision.

Contrary to claims of lack of consultation BFA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mfolo Mfolo said that every team was consulted with correspondences before the decision was taken. "We consulted all our members, it is only that any decision taken will not favour everyone. So that is why some teams are complaining," Mfolo told *Gazette Sport* in an interview.

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