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THE

# BR/EF

News Worth Knowing

## MINISTRY OF FINANCE FISCUS BUILDING

**Shiimi proposes procurement  
court to resolve disputes**

THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2025

## MAIN STORY

# Shiimi proposes procurement court to resolve disputes



**F**inance Minister Iipumbu Shiimi has proposed the establishment of a public procurement court to handle disputes, as part of the Public Procurement Amendment Bill of 2025.

Speaking on Thursday, Shiimi said the new court would serve as a specialized forum to adjudicate procurement-related matters efficiently.

“The public procurement court will

## Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
  - \* 16 April 2025
  - \* 18 June 2025
  - \* 13 August 2025
  - \* 15 October 2025
  - \* 3 December 2025

The public procurement court will provide a specialised forum for resolving disputes, ensuring that matters are adjudicated by judges with dedicated expertise in public procurement law.

provide a specialised forum for resolving disputes, ensuring that matters are adjudicated by judges with dedicated expertise in public procurement law,” he said.

The bill seeks to address shortcomings in the Public Procurement Act of 2015, which have been identified since its implementation.

It proposes granting the court powers to hear appeals from the review panel, conduct reviews, and adjudicate non-compliance cases, including disputes over the interpretation of procurement laws.

Shiimi also recommended expanding ministerial authority to allow for expedited procurement of essential goods, works, and

services by directive.

“The bill mandates expedited decision-making, ensuring timely delivery of vital services,” he added.

The proposal comes as the health sector continues to struggle with supply shortages, which Health Minister Kalumbi Shangula has partly attributed to inefficiencies in the current procurement framework.

Shiimi's proposed amendments aim to streamline public procurement processes and enhance accountability while ensuring timely access to critical supplies, including pharmaceuticals and clinical equipment.

The bill is expected to be tabled for further deliberation in Parliament in the coming months.

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## Windhoek in 3,000 trading spaces shortfall

**T**he City of Windhoek says it requires approximately 3,000 trading spaces to meet the current demand, which is increasing alongside its population growth.

Currently, the capital has 17 officially recognised permanent open markets, one communal car wash facility, two products-focused crafts markets, and periodic markets.

Windhoek Mayor Ndesihafela Larandja expressed that this was insufficient, stating that small businesses and start-ups continue to struggle to access capital.

To cater for the shortfall, Larandja said the City Council has approved the Informal Market Master Plan, which was first introduced in 2022.

"Once implemented, the Master Plan will positively transform the entrepreneurial landscape of the City. Development of additional markets will be done in a

collaborative spirit through Public-Private Partnership (PPP), Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT), Joint Venture (JV), and other means," Larandja said.

BOTs are contractual arrangements in which private entities design, build, and operate facilities before transferring ownership to the local authority after a predetermined period.

Larandja urged those who desire to collaborate with the City to be on alert and respond to the first call in the near future.

She underscored the need for more markets for local traders to bolster economic development and job creation and to create an environment where businesses, entrepreneurs, and informal traders can thrive.

"If any investor can come on board to fund the construction of open markets, operate



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them for a certain period, and then at the end transfer them to the City. As well as through joint ventures, where the City and funders come together, pool resources for the development of the city," the Mayor said.

In 2022, the municipality also approved a Spatial Development Framework to allow

the creation of mixed-use developments and increase informal trading spaces.

In the same year, the municipality also revealed plans to introduce open markets in the city centre due to concerns that vendors were devaluing the central business district (CBD).



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# Parcel services drive postal industry growth

Parcel services have become the primary driver of growth in the postal industry, offsetting the decline in traditional mail volumes as digital advancements reshape the sector.

Speaking at the recently held Southern

African Postal Operators Association (SAPOA) Postal Forum, NamPost CEO Festus Hangula highlighted the shift, noting that while traditional mail volumes have decreased, parcel services are experiencing an unprecedented surge.

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“Perhaps more importantly, the digital capabilities that fan the fire that is destroying paper mail have also given rise to parcel business which, I think, is growing at a very fast pace,” Hangula said.

He called for strategic reforms, urging postal operators to adapt operationally and policymakers to support the sector’s commercial growth.

“The logistics industry will not wait for us to get our ducks in a row. We must claim our position as the best logistics operators in this fast-growing market,” he added.

**C o m m u n i c a t i o n s**  
Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN) Chief Executive Officer Emilia Nghikembua also spoke at the event, commending NamPost for its strategic investments in last-mile delivery, e-commerce logistics, and technological innovation, positioning it as one of Africa’s leading postal operators.

She emphasized the critical role postal networks play in enabling businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs), to access digital markets.

“They are the silent enablers, ensuring that goods, services, and information traverse borders and reach consumers with efficiency and reliability. The postal network is not merely a delivery service, but it is a critical infrastructure that binds communities

together and fosters economic growth,” Nghikembua said.

Despite these opportunities, the sector faces challenges. Nghikembua reaffirmed CRAN’s commitment to reforming regulatory frameworks to foster innovation, ensure fair competition, and expand postal services to underserved areas.

“The postal sector is not just about delivering packages, it is about delivering possibilities, connecting people, and empowering economies,” she said.



## Hello Namibia



MARCH 2025 - MARCH 2026

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## Trans Kalahari Border bottlenecks causing hours-long delays

A recent Time Release Study (TRS) conducted by the Namibian government has revealed major inefficiencies at the Trans Kalahari Border Post, causing substantial delays and disrupting trade operations.

The study identified several critical issues, including frequent power failures affecting the ASYCUDA World system, inadequate financial bonds by clearing agents, and redundant administrative procedures.

These inefficiencies highlight deeper

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structural, procedural, and system-related problems that require immediate attention to improve clearance times and facilitate trade.

One of the major concerns raised is the impact of these inefficiencies on truck movement.

The study noted that poor road conditions exacerbate delays.

"The potholes along the entry-exit route are slowing down traffic and creating congestion, increasing the risk of accidents," the report stated.

To address these challenges, the study recommends procedural improvements, enhancements to customs support systems, and necessary infrastructural adjustments. Among the key procedural recommendations is transferring the assessment function to clearing agents to streamline tax payments and customs declarations.

"Licensing conditions for clearing agents should consider compliance levels, with penalties for non-compliance," the report stated.

Additionally, the study calls for the accreditation of compliant clients to speed up processing and proposes the establishment of a centralized Document Processing Centre to reduce redundancy in the system.




To enhance operational efficiency, the report recommends establishing a dedicated risk management unit at

customs headquarters.


"Investing in research and training in risk management, rules of origin, valuation, and classification will help customs officers make informed decisions," the report noted.

The study further highlights the need for mandatory information sharing among customs sections to prevent revenue leakages and ensure smooth operations.

Infrastructure deficiencies were also identified as a major hindrance to efficient cargo movement. The report pointed out that the current location of the scanner



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# TENDER

First date of publication: 14 February 2025

**TENDER NO: DBMNE0522 BABYLON ACCESS CONTROL and/or AVIGILON SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM CALL OFF CONTRACT AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE IN WINDHOEK**

**DESCRIPTION:**  
Debmarnamibia is seeking experienced Service Providers for the Security access control systems and Security surveillance systems maintenance services at the Namdeb Centre in Windhoek.

**SCOPE OF WORK:**  
**Babylon and or Avigilon Systems** - The scope of this tender encompasses the Namdeb Centre Security Access Control Systems maintenance and repairs commitment resulting in the highest reliability and maintaining a constant systems availability of 98%. Qualified skilled technicians must be equipped to work on the access control system and the surveillance systems.

**CLOSING DATE: 20 March 2025 at 12:00**

**REQUEST FOR ELECTRONIC TENDER DOCUMENT:**  
Registered businesses interested in providing such services are requested to register at **Asite Marketplace**: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/> to obtain a tender document with reference number **DBMNE0522 BABYLON ACCESS CONTROL and/or AVIGILON SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM CALL OFF CONTRACT AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE IN WINDHOEK**



**ENQUIRIES:**  
The Procurement Officer  
Tel: +264 61 297 8481  
Email address: [e-tender@debmarine.com](mailto:e-tender@debmarine.com)

Subject line: DBMNE0522 BABYLON ACCESS CONTROL and/or AVIGILON SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM CALL OFF CONTRACT AT THE NAMDEB CENTRE IN WINDHOEK

**Bidders must register on our electronic platform Asite Marketplace: <https://za.marketplace.asite.com/> to participate in this tender.**

**DISCLAIMER:**  
Debmarnamibia shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this tender and furthermore reserves the right not to extend this tender into any future tenders, negotiations and or engagements.

Debmarnamibia shall not accept submissions rendered after the closing date and time.



forces trucks to re-enter the process after being released, causing unnecessary delays. A redesign of the border layout to separate scanning and exit lanes is recommended.

"The current location of the scanner forces released trucks to re-enter the process, causing unnecessary delays. A redesign of the border layout is necessary to separate scanning and exit lanes," the study advises.

The report also calls for immediate road repairs to improve traffic flow and reduce the risk of accidents, which would significantly

speed up border operations.

To ensure the effective implementation of the recommended measures, the study suggests establishing a dedicated monitoring mechanism.

"NamRA should establish a task force to evaluate progress and update stakeholders regularly," the report recommended.


Collaboration with other government agencies and donors is also encouraged to ensure the proposed solutions are effectively executed.

The study follows a partnership between NamRA and other border agencies responsible for assessing and collecting taxes, duties, fees, and charges while facilitating trade and safeguarding Namibian borders from illegal importation and exportation of goods.

Supported by the SADC Secretariat under the SADC Trade Facilitation Programme, the study aimed to identify bottlenecks in the clearance process and provide practical solutions.

The findings reveal that, on average, it takes 5 hours and 31 minutes to clear imported goods from arrival to exit. For exports, the total clearance time averages 4 hours and 34 minutes, with key delays occurring at various stages, including customs processing, inter-agency coordination, and payment processing.

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**ENQUIRY NO. E026-ND-2025**  
**THE PROVISION OF SEWAGE REMOVAL SERVICES**

**SCOPE OF WORKS**

Namdeb Diamond Corporation (Pty) Ltd hereby invites reputable and suitably qualified service providers to submit their proposals to provide Sewage Removal Services in Southern Coastal Mines.

**The Scope of Services shall primarily consist of:**

- Collection and Disposal of Sewage Effluent; and
- Chemical treatment of sludge build-up in septic tanks.

**COMPULSORY PHYSICAL SITE INSPECTION**

A compulsory Physical Site Inspection (PSI) shall be conducted on **Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025, at 07h30. Only Tenderers who attend the Site Inspection shall be eligible to participate in the tender process.**

**ENQUIRY DOCUMENTS**


Interested parties may contact Elizabeth Markowitz, at the below listed details, to register and obtain a copy of the enquiry documents:

Email: [elizabeth.markowitz@namdeb.com](mailto:elizabeth.markowitz@namdeb.com)  
Tel.: +264 (63) 238 502

**SUBMISSIONS**

All documents in support of the requirements must be submitted via e-mail to [tender@namdeb.com](mailto:tender@namdeb.com)  
The closing date and time for submissions is: **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 14h00.**

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# Vision 2030 bootstrapped itself in the triple challenges: Poverty, unemployment & inequality

By Tio Nakasole

Given that Namibia is currently in its sixth National Development Plan, now is a good moment to take stock, get in touch, and talk about topics that are both of national significance and mutual interest.

Reading Vision 2030's preface, in which the late president Sam Nujoma emphasised that "a national vision is a perception of the future, which reveals and points to something new, beyond what is already available and accessible," brings back many happy memories.

"The goal of Vision is to improve the quality of life of the Namibian people to the level of their counterparts in the developed world by 2030," he added.

All of this points to a national development or transformation agenda that was created to address some of the three main socioeconomic problems of poverty, inequality, and unemployment. Given Namibia's progress, these issues are frequently viewed as interrelated, and if they are not adequately addressed in the most recent National Development Plan (NDP 6), the future will unfairly evaluate by those in charge of national planning and development policy as they influence the socioeconomic well-being of the nation.

## Phenomena

Poverty is a national phenomenon that cannot be studied in isolation, as it goes hand in hand with inequality and unemployment, thereby pressurise the difficulty of monitoring the aspects of poverty. With reference to Namibia, poverty



**The goal of Vision is to improve the quality of life of the Namibian people to the level of their counterparts in the developed world by 2030.**

is particularly common in female-headed households, extended families, inhabitants with low level of education, farmworkers and the marginalised communities such as the suns and dhemba's tribe to mention but a few. They became prey to poverty due to their nomadic way life or origin, low literacy rate, as well as access to opportunities. Although the successful country does not guarantee that everyone can be equally well of, but how can Namibia put together a bullet-proof antidote to poverty.

It is undeniably concerning, if not critical, that the high unemployment rate of 36.9 percent in 2023 compared to 33.4 percent in 2018 continue to rise, is causing social unrest and restricting economic growth. Each of the five-year National Development segments was designed to experiment with the realisation of job creation, economic diversification, and the foster sector within the framework of Vision 2030. This development becomes a challenge as the core of Namibia's economy, however, is unquestionably dependent on

the fluctuations of global commodity markets and export of unprocessed goods.

According to Namibia Statistics Agency report in January, the country's trade deficit balance stood at a deficit of 2.7 billion, worse when compared to a deficit of 129 million and 2.1 billion recorded in December 2024 and January respectively, which was the lesser of two evil. There is no doubt, Namibia consumes a lot of foreign goods, services, and activities, which is confusing because most of the commodities that are exported are semifinished and raw materials, such as copper, cut diamonds, gemstones, granite, lead products, marble, uranium, and zinc. Another mysterious reality is, Namibia is a significant producer of uranium oxide but does not manufacture boats, cars, or parts for them. This has made a home economy that is heavily reliant on imports worse, which in turn kills investment and job possibilities in the processing industries that produce revenue.

### **Lopsided**

Peer review is not necessary to categorise or draw attention to Namibia's alarmingly high unemployment rate. Undoubtedly, graduates who enter the workforce each year and are not accommodated account for a large portion of the high youth unemployment rate. In particular, Namibia had underemployment and cyclical unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic, and if the labour force is not ready to support this new industry, it will soon experience structural unemployment. Khomas region unemployment continues to be a thorn in the flesh of the city due to rural-urban migration; the rural areas failed to provide subsistence living in agriculture and allied activities, and as a result, more feet continue to enter for greener pastures. One should bear in mind that out of exogenous factors that may be out of our control, the understanding of the bearing it has is that, year in and year out, it hinders development

and growth and leads to a low standard of living, high income inequality and even higher poverty in Namibia.

Inequality is another thorn in the flesh of the realisation of Vision 2030 in Namibia. Relatively, Namibia extols the virtues of an upper middle-income status yet enjoyed the unenviable reputation of having the most unequal income distribution in the world, behind South Africa and Brazil. A lack of education and jobs and the legacy of apartheid were some of the main drivers of inequality. Additionally, there has been mischaracterisation or misguidance of wealth distribution and policies from the rich to the poor, which did not bear the expected outcome. This practice includes willing buyer - willing seller, income tax cut, women's empowerment, affirmative action, and zebra representation. Obviously, not all have been a drop in an ocean, but the question remains, are all these practices solve the fundamental problems of descent shelter, access to housing, access to capital or to a further extend access to means of production.

### **Policymaker's arsenal**

Redistribution wealth in itself does not create more goods and services in a nation. A good example is, assume you tax the rich three billion worth of money and use that money for charity programs. In the short run, that initiative prolong the living standard of individuals, but no wealth of goods or services of capital investment have been created from which the majority can be employed, where everyone with disposable income can spend it back to grow the economy. However, this is not to say government planner should try to abandon all these, but they should try to create a national costume of wealth creation first from its natural resources, that will enable a fully participation of investment in the economy both from local and foreigners.

It was so interesting that in 1990, when the structure of government itself changes

significantly, through the commercialisation, which draws the line of demarcation when it comes the government department and other sectors. For this reason, it was designed well for statistical classification, social accounting matrix and data mining in terms tracing the performance and development of key sectors. Having a good record of key sectors is essential for any domestic economic growth, investing in them, the probability of economic growth will be higher than investment into several non-key sectors. Ultimately, is crucial in the government policy-making process, as it will enable them to tailor policies to the needs of the domestic economy.

### Utilize greener pasture

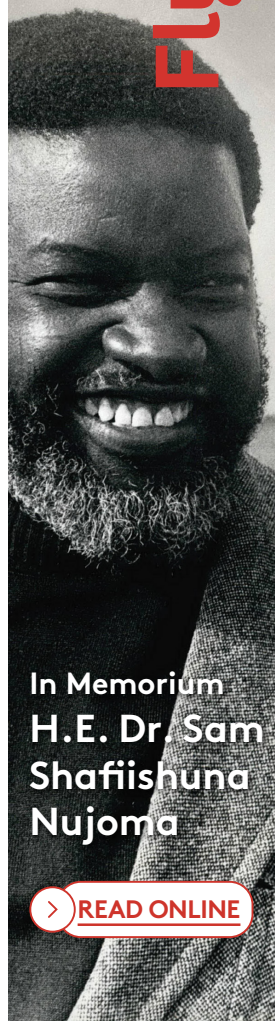
With the emerging industries of oil, gas and green hydrogen, with Namibia's abundant energy reservoir, energy will position Namibia and if well supported, will have diminish some of these triple challenges. Energy is an important factor influencing this triple challenge as it nearly used in all production of goods and services. In terms of workforce, it will help Namibia to do immense great amounts of work than they can do if they were to continue to rely on South Africa or Zambia for energy. At the heart of the myriads of developments that surround these projects, a very simple question should be to solve on how will ordinary Namibians

benefit, if at all, from any of this? This is what Namibian so keen to hear. Concomitantly, as these new projects emerge, the area of interest should be access to quality energy services for the inhabitants and equality of job opportunities across races and disadvantaged group, enable Small Medium Enterprises to play a role, while ensuring environment protection. I conquer with David Landes who also emphatically, stated that "all economic (industrialisation) revolutions have at their core an enhancement of supply of energy, because this feeds and changes all aspects of human activity".

Over and above, these are the main problems that Vision 2030 is trapped in, and for that realisation vision to come to fruition, the government need to get their eyes off decays and focus on the real root cause of the problem when it comes to employment creation strategies, inequality gap alleviation strategy in order to nib in the bud the level poverty that the country has been faced with.

***\*Tio Nakasole is an Economics Honors degree holder, MBA final student, and a Research Analyst at MONASA Advisory and Associates. The views expressed do not represent those of his employer. - theoerastus@gmail.com***

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## EU, Germany commit N\$240 million to Blue Benguela Current programme

The European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation have committed N\$240 million (€12 million) to the Blue Benguela Current Action programme, an initiative aimed at protecting one of the world's most productive marine ecosystems.

The programme seeks to safeguard the Benguela Current, which runs along

Namibia's coastline and supports abundant marine resources essential to food security, employment, and economic development across Southern Africa.

"The Blue Benguela Current Action represents a significant step forward in uniting regional and international stakeholders to safeguard the rich biodiversity of the Benguela Current. Together, we can ensure that our ocean



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06:40

Mon-Fri



resources are preserved for generations while fostering economic growth and social inclusion," said Erongo Governor Neville Itope.

Germany's Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) will implement the project, focusing on strengthening regional ocean governance, promoting sustainable economic opportunities, and enhancing climate resilience in Angola, Namibia, and South Africa.

The Benguela Current provides a crucial economic lifeline, contributing approximately 5% to Namibia's gross domestic product (GDP) and generating N\$10 billion annually, according to President Nangolo Mbumba.

"Sustainable fisheries, marine spatial planning, and ecosystem-based conservation efforts are essential for preserving biodiversity while fostering

economic growth in coastal communities dependent on fisheries, aquaculture, and eco-tourism," the EU stated.

The programme, running until March 2028, aligns with the Benguela Current Commission's (BCC) third Strategic Action Programme (SAP 2023-2033) and is expected to reinforce the EU-Namibia partnership for sustainable marine resource management.

"The European Union has been one of the strongest voices promoting the governance of the seas, aligning with our agenda 'Setting the Course for a Sustainable Blue Planet,'" said EU Ambassador to Namibia, Ana Beatriz Martins.

She reiterated the EU's commitment to strengthening regional ocean governance, ensuring sustainable livelihoods, and preserving marine biodiversity for future generations.

Balancing Growth and Social Upliftment:

# The National Budget in a New Dispensation

25 March 2025 | 09h00-11h00 | Hilton Windhoek



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**Prof Teresia Kaulihowa**  
Associate Dean: NUST (Panelist)



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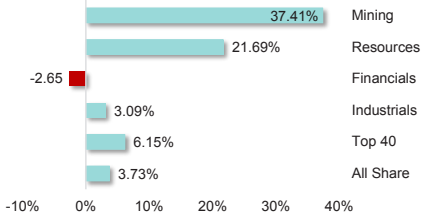
### Commodities

Spot Gold	2952.75
Platinum	983.12
Palladium	946.76
Silver	30.95
Uranium	63.70
Brent Crude	70.39
Iron Ore	95.80
Copper	9759.35
Natural Gas	3.99
Lithium	9.85

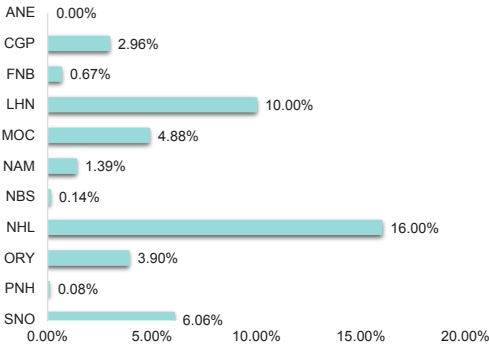
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USD/ZAR	18.3543
EUR/ZAR	19.2300
GBP/ZAR	23.7662
USD/CNY	7.2464
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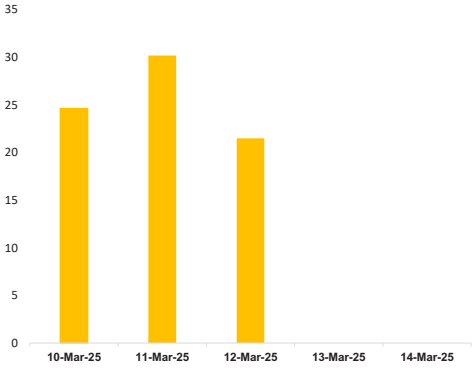
### JSE Sectors: Year to Date in %



### NSX Local Stocks: Year to Date in %



### JSE ALL SHARE VALUE TRADED (ZAR BILLIONS)



### Global Indices: Year to Date in %

