



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

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For immediate release.

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MEDIA RELEASE

OPM clarifies the Matter on Independence Day Celebration Expenditures

1. An article titled **“Budget winners and losers”** published in *The Namibian* newspaper of 03 March 2022 (cover page) has reference.
2. The newspaper reported that *“the government has put aside N\$25 million for Independence Day Celebrations. This is a hike from N\$2,5 million in the previous financial year”*.
3. The Office of the Prime Minister hereby dispel such assertion as inaccurate and misleading information. It is thus regrettable that the newspaper chose to make little efforts to confirm the facts with the relevant authorities before producing their story.
4. *“The Independence Day Celebration remains a cardinal act of fostering nation building, cohesion and solidarity. It further signifies the foundation for a peaceful, united and solid Namibian House. Government sets aside a reasonable budget for this important, historic annual national event. It is an opportunity for all Namibians to celebrate,”* says I-Ben Natangwe Nashandi, Executive Director in the Office of the Prime Minister.
5. The public is, therefore, informed that government budget books confirm that government has only allocated N\$2,500,000.00 for the National Independence Day Celebration and not N\$25 million as reported in the newspaper.

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