

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

[No. 10 - 2008] Fourth Session, Third Legislature

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

09H00

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members we can now observe a moment of silent/prayer and meditation. You may get seated. We are proceeding. Next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO.2
MINUTES OF THE 27TH MAY
2008**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members I place before you a set of minutes for adoption of the 27th of May 2008. Are there any corrections from the minutes? Honourable Hattingh.

HON. HATTINGH:

Honourable Deputy Speaker I refer to page 30 under ii) notices of motions. I requested and it is not recorded that the ruling of the Deputy Speaker on the procedure followed in the motion should be recorded and referred

to the Rules Committee

because of the serious deviation of the Rules. It is not recorded as such if that is the understanding I will suffice. I believe it should be stated there that the ruling of the Deputy Speaker be recorded and be referred to the Rules Committee for consideration. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Hattingh that change will be made, that was a ruling indeed and the matter will certainly be deferred to the Rules Committee. Any other corrections from the minutes. Honourable Africa?

HON. MEC AFRICA:

Thank you Deputy Speaker, on one of the motions it is indicated that at the time of Comrade Tlhomelang's death ...[Interruption by Deputy Speaker]

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Africa which motion are you referring to?

HON. MEC AFRICA:
The one on comrade Tlhomelang Maape; on page 30. Just to correct that it is indicated here that at the time of his death he worked as a private teacher at Bopaganang Secondary School. It is not correct; at that time he was working for ex-combatants association; so just to correct that he worked there previously but not at the time of his death, I think that is the factual statement that we need to make.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Does the House adopt the minutes with those amendments? We proceed. Next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO.3.
TABLING OF REPORTS AND
PAPERS**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Members I now invite Honourable Mahlangu to table a report of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Sport, Arts & Culture and the scrutiny of 2008/09 Strategic Plan for the Department of Education

budget.

HON. MAHLANGU:
Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, I put before your House the report of the Portfolio Committee on Education for consideration by your House. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
I now invite Honourable Mampane to table a report of the portfolio committee on Health, Social Development and scrutiny of budget 2008/09 strategic plan of the Department of Health.

HON. MAMPANE:
Ke a leboga Motlatsa Mmusakgotla ntetla go sekega repoto e mo Ntlong ya gago e e tlotlegang. Ke a leboga. #
Thank you Deputy Speaker. Allow me to table this report in your Honourable House. I thank you.]#

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
I would now want to draw the attention of Honourable Members that the debates of these reports will take place concurrently with respective budgets votes. Next item.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO.4
PROCEEDINGS ON BILLS:
SECOND READING
NORTH WEST APPROPRIA-
TION BILL, 2008**

- i) Department of Education,
Budget Vote 8
- ii) Department of Sport, Arts &
Culture, Budget Vote 4
- iii) Department of Social
Development, Budget Vote 12
- iv) Department of Health,
Budget Vote 11

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members, let me urge Members to stick to time allocated. I will start by inviting MEC Tselapedi for budget vote 8, Department of Education. Honourable Tselapedi has got a very good record in this House and I suppose he is going to sustain it.

HON. MEC TSELAPEDI:

Mmusakgotla ke rata go leboga, go tsaya tšhono e go amogela gore re na le bana ba ba ntseng ba opela fa re tsena mo Ntlong ya gago mo mosong wa gompieno. Re leboga thata ka dituduetso le dikopelo tseo tsa bona, re lebogela bogone jwa bona mo gare ga rona. Re tshepa gore ga se ba mophato

wa marematlou kapa mophato wa makgaolakgang. Ke rata gape go amogela bana ba rona ba ba leng teng kwa godimo kwa ba ba tlileng go lebelela dit-samaiso tsa letsatsi la ditiro jaaka go rebotse Lefapha la Thuto kwa pusong e e kwa bogareng. Bongwanaka re leboga bogone jwa lona. Lo se ka lwa re ke lo amogele ke bua sek-gowa. Makgowa lo a bona. Nna ga ke lona.

All protocol observed Deputy Speaker, as Africans we forget our history at our own peril. It is important that we take the learning of our history, and the safeguarding of our culture and value seriously. Africans at home and in the diaspora of every social background, education, gender and belief must rise to the core of the cultural renewal and socio-economic regeneration. We cannot escape the political and socio-economic environment in which we exist in the face of the difficulty and crisis. Africans everywhere need to reinvent themselves building on lessons learnt, creating new visions and mobilizing and developing their own resources as the Magazine of African, October 2007 says: "Free at

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

last. Thank God Almighty. We are free at last".

This cry of Dr Martin Luther King in the 60s still echoes deeply in our hearts that how free are we now 200 years after the abolishing of slavery? In reality, how free are Africans on their descendants all over the world to ask this magazine? It appears, unfortunately, even that some people are kept to the past, but in development including education about change. In Africa's case what we have been getting is poverty and dependence in all spheres of life including education. We are at a time when we import models and readymade solutions without much consideration to our own situations. In pursuit of solutions to our problems, be it technological, educational or otherwise, it behooves us to recognize that these solutions have been developed by the rich and western countries for the realization of their own interest.

The search solutions to our problems should therefore be one for alternatives that would mobilize and develop resources and capacities. Alternatives such as our management strate-

gies, our educational models and practices, our compilation of statistics and even the way we allocate resources to our schools in the whole world paradigm shift. We must do everything in our power to sustain the Age of Hope. Given that most of the main categories of the Apex Priorities announced by the President Thabo Mbeki in his 2008 State of the Nation Address, relate to the delivery or so in the Department of Education.

The critical role the department plays in sustaining the age of hope is undeniable. It is our intention to deliver all these priorities particularly on the one target of the enhancement of education and training. Responding further to the priorities outlined by the Honourable Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel, this budget, amongst others, prioritizes teacher remuneration, textbook provision, school building and early childhood development. It is against the background of these and other mandates that I present to you this 2008/09 budget.

Starting with programme 1 - R512.537 million and 8.8% increase to strengthen the

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

administration of the department. Last year a several public service employees were trained in various functional areas of the department. Additionally all senior managers participated in the programme training of public service personnel in various sectors of the department will also continue this year. Thanks for the public service employees we also set aside over R3 million for pay progression R20.1 million for improvement of conditions of service, R5.6 million, PMDS R2.2 million for the grading of few codes in terms of job evaluation.

The departmental communication that fall Inaugural MEC Service Excellence Awards was held during 2007. Aligned to the Premier's Public Service Excellence Awards, the primary objectives of these non-monetary excellence awards were to recognize centres of service excellence, acknowledged the excellent work of officials and further entrench the Batho Pele principles in the service delivery of the North West Education department. Allow me to indicate to the House that we have rekindled activities marking January of every year as the

"Education Month". Our monitoring of the opening of schools was very effective and I wish to thank all of you for enthusiastically participating.

I would also like to thank members and communities who heeded our call for the voluntary cleaning of schools during the Letsema campaign. May I also appeal to our communities to heed our call to register learners in time to avoid long queues on the first day of school. In terms of legal services, this service or directorate in the 2007/08 budget in terms of salary, administration, litigation and other goods and services, with an allocation of R8.229 million in 2008/09, this directorate will continue to provide the department with the required legal advance. In terms of internal security with an allocation of R6.601 million in 2007/08 financial year, the staff component was increased from 3 to 11 at head office and 2 in each region.

The new staff members were suitable equipped to provide information on threats to the integrity of the department. In 2008/09 financial year, document security through digitaliza-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

tion will receive priority. In terms of internal audit during 2007/08 financial year, over R4 million was allocated to this particular unit. The assurance services on the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control and reviews were conducted in the following programmes.

- Adult Basic Education and Training,
- Security Management and Infrastructure, just to mention a few.

Recommendations were then communicated to the relevant supervisors and the implementation thereof is currently being monitored. For 2008/09 financial year, R5.208 million is allocated for this particular unit to execute the audit plan and anti-corruption following the lead in terms of the Department of Finance in the Premier's Office.

Programme 2 Public Ordinary Schools Education, R5 845.226 a 37% increase school funding. In the statement of the National Executive Committee of the ruling party with President Jacob Zuma expressed the intention that "we need to pay particular attention to improving access of poor South Africans to quality

education...intensifying our effort progressively, to introduce free and compulsory education for the poor until at the undergraduate level. As part of this, we must work to implement the resolution that 60% of all schools that is no-fee status by 2009".

Late this year, this province already had declare 928 schools in quintile 1 and 2 as no-fee schools which represents already 40%. This year, in quintiles 1 and 2 increased this number to 957 to bring it to 1732, which has brings us to 55%. During the year, we will prepare in addition of quintile 3 schools, which will bring us to the target of 60% in 2009. Just for the record, according to our formula, if a learner at quintile 1 schools receives R775, at quintile 2 R711 per year, a total of R269 million will be transferred to schools during this financial year.

In terms of (LTSM) Learner and Teacher Support Materials 2007/08 allocation of this support was around R275 million. This money mostly spent on textbooks in grade 12 where the National Curriculum Statement

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

was implemented the first time. The rest of the money went to the learner stationary, Life Sciences kits and consumable for hospitality studies on technical subjects. It is noteworthy that, by October 2007 the department was able to deliver 100% of ordered stationary for all grades for 2008 academic year.

In our previous budget speech, regarding LTSM, I indicated that the department would, for the first time, in line with the norms and standards for school funding implement poverty based funding. 30% of 2007 LTSM budget was, as a result, used on the quintile 1 schools and only 11% on those quintile 5. We are happy to report that R70 million for learner stationery was spent by schools according to the Resource Targeting Table (RTT) in keeping with the pro-poor funding principle.

We have R176 million allocated to LTSM that was exposed by the media analysis were progressively be addressed. Priority will be given to supplying grade R, grade 10 and NCS literature books for grade 12 and learner stationery. In terms

of the educator remuneration, in the statement of the National Executive of the ruling party again, the President of the ruling party said ... "We are committed to restore, uphold and promote the status of teachers by remunerating them as professionals..."

Deputy Speaker, in this very critical regard, we budgeted R167.37 million for the implementation of the Occupation Specific Dispensation (OSD) R53.2 million towards school-based educators in terms of Integrated Quality Management System (IQMS) and R8.8 million for office-based educators in terms of the Performance Management Development Systems (PMDS), which includes the payment of backlogs. For teachers we further allocated R46.15 million for salary progression, R245.7 million for the improvement of conditions of service, R44.9 million for incentives for rural schools, R85 million for the improvement of salary packages of principals, R4 million for social support to and counseling of educators and R2.9 million for the implementation of school grading norms.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Educator development, in the statement of the said ruling party again, it was said that "we must focus in particular in developing the capacity of teachers". In addition we are fully committed to the Human Resource Development (HRD) Strategy Framework Vision of 2015 and its four pillars namely; the initiative joint capacity development, organizational support, governance on institutional development and economic growth on development. One of our strategic goals is "develop the professional quality of the department's workforce". Flowing from this, one of our strategic objectives is "to transform the workplace into a learning organization". The development of our institution based educators remains a high priority of the department.

In 2007 all educators were enrolled in various learning areas like advance certificate of education in political science, mathematical literacy, mathematics and science technology in curriculum and professional development. During 2008/09 financial year, the department together with the National Department will continue with

the development of our educators. During 2008/09 a total of over R46 million will be spent on the developmental need of our educators and other employees. As we invest in the development of our teachers, we have been negligent if we do not remind our teachers of their responsibilities.

It was the Honourable Trevor Manuel and the President of the ANC who spoke of this that the teachers in school and class on time more abuse to learners and no neglect of duty none negotiable. I would like to indicate to the educators that, as much as I acknowledge the right to industrial action, and support it will be remiss of no net to say unequivocal the fast action thus damage the culture of teaching and learning.

I would also like to indicate that in our province we will also apply no-work-no pay principle very consecutively and to those principals and teachers who abuse public funds and learners I would like to stress that the department will take disciplinary action without fear of favour.

In terms of the teachers awards

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

we have participated with pride in the National Teaching Awards as it has become customary. We have scooped some of the major prizes as can be read from the copy that you have there. In terms of our Curriculum Delivery, 2007/08 R4 million was allocated for curriculum implementation in further education and training band. This fund was mainly used for the implementation of the NCS, which was implemented in grade 11. This R4.2 million is allocated for the curriculum implementation on the FET band, which will be utilized for the implementation for the NCS in terms of grade 12 to deal with barrier backlogs.

Deputy Speaker, R10 million is allocated to support over 6 000 grade 12 learners who are unsuccessful in 2007. There are classes conducted in centres around the provinces giving them the opportunity to sit for examinations which is presently taking place for this year. It is a once off exercise for the learners to give them the opportunity before this current epoch exceeds. I want to thank the Bojanala district municipality for promoting our environmental

awareness in some of our schools and funding the dramatization of the grade 12 set works, we thank you very much in Bojanala.

The implementation of our Learner Attainment Programme bore fruit as we finished the 2007 academic year and as the Premier said in her State of the Province Address, Honourable Edna Molewa pointed out correctly that the North West as one of the two provinces that managed to improve the matriculation pass rate with all other provinces with the exception of 1 down. For 2007/08 the special intervention for learner attainment received R8.2 million this year and updated when we continue with more vigour than ever to the tune of more than R9 million.

In the state of the provincial address the Premier referred briefly to our camp in Taung for the Khutsong learners for 445 learners who hosted the intensely learner. And despite all challenges, the project finally proved to be very successful.

The average pass percentage for the schools that participated was over 72% one of our great-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

est moments indeed. We want to say to the learners and the parents of Khutsong that we are proud of this achievement and we want to reassure them that they are part of us and we will do the best to all of them. Re rata go leboga Bafokeng ka go re thusa ka polane ya recovery, re rata gore re re #[We want to thank the Bafokeng for assisting us with the recovery plan; we want to say around]# ... the ordinary public schools that particular number registered in the province and it got our schools to over 2099. We have received and worked through the submitted representations in this regard. Final consultations have started and upon completion I will declare the measures in terms of the government gazette as required by law. No schools will be merged without the adequate consultation.

I would like to thank the Standard Bank and Estrata for the blankets that they provided our learners at Moediville schools. Thanks also to the Bhams Stationery and the Department of Social Development for providing learners with uniforms and educational programmes. Re a

leboga makhosikazi. # [Thank you, ladies] #

In terms of the schools enrichment programme, the R13.85 million for the past year promoted participation intensify corporation without departments and stakeholders in various sporting and cultural events. The outcome of this corporation can be read from the copy of the budget speech. I also announce with pride and excitement that thirteen (13) girls who took part in the national under nineteen (19) netball tournaments at Avion Park in 2007 have been awarded bursaries to pursue degree of their choices. Currently, 21 netball players from our province went through our school enrichment programme and are studying at various universities utilizing the same scholarship.

One of them was chosen at the tournament as its defender and she was studying at gymnasium. All universities in the country with an interest in netball were rushing to recruit this girl including New Zealand sport with a national priority and receive over R10 million this year. In terms of school library and media

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

services R2.5 million was allocated to school library services in previous financial year. With this amount, the department purchased resources for 500 schools, promoted a culture of reading through 3 events and trained 750 teachers librarians. My department together with Kanana retired teachers club and an American non-profit making organization established seven (7) libraries in Kanana in 2008/09.

In terms of the intervention of the Mathematics and Science and Technology Education, our intervention in Mathematics and Science will be intensified in this financial year. Last year we allocated 26 million to this intervention as alluded to by the Honourable Premier. Much delivery occurred at these schools. We all achieved additional teachers R1.6 million was spent on getting the laboratories in the 61 Dinaledi schools functional. We also spent over R12 million on macro-micro science kits. In partnership with ABSA Foundation and in line with our Education Development and Support Centres (EDSC) strategy, we built a state-of-the art mathematics and science centre

at Madikwe for R4 million. Our sincerest thanks to ABSA. I would like to also thank Lonmin Mines for their support to our Mathematics and Science educators.

Through our partnership with ETDP SETA, 74 mathematics and science educators completed a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) with the North West University and were successfully placed in the province. An additional 182 educators were re-skilled to teach mathematical literacy. In this financial year, Dinaledi schools received R760 000 to provide every grade 11 & 12 learner with Mathematics and Science textbooks, dictionaries and calculators. The construction of the laboratories at Dinaledi schools continues; as we speak. In the medium term, R18 million will be used to expand the provisioning of macro and micro science kits to all high schools.

This year, in partnership with the Transnet foundation, and still in line with the EDSC strategy, a bigger state-of-the art mathematic and science centre will be erected in the Moretele area at

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the cost of R8 million. Deputy Speaker, we have implemented our Deaf programme with 10 centres and 1 500 learner in grade 6, 9, and 12. This year, will expand this project to 18 centres with 2 700 learners receiving supplementary tuition on Saturdays. This expansion also includes vacation camps for Grade 12 learners at R5.6 million. Please le se ke la re ga re bereke bagaetsho.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. V. Monareng from Khayaletu Secondary School, Bojanala for winning the Aggrey Klaaste mathematics and technology educator of the year award in General Education and Training (GET) category. This won her school a fully equipped computer centre and science kits and herself a personal computer and R5000 cash. Systemic evaluation, in September and October 2007, the North West Education Department participated in grade 3 National Systemic Evaluation Project. This exercise is still in progress. In this regard, a full report will be issued by the National Department of Education.

The department further implemented grade 3 Quality Improvement and Development Upgrading Programme (QIDS-UP) Baseline Survey in 133 primary schools, which involved 5320 grade 3 learners. The programme received over R10.5 million for educational resources to 215 primary schools, which was amongst others, spent on a baseline study involving 152 schools in quintiles 1, 2 and 3. In terms of Education Management Governance Development (EMGD) much investment was done with regard to the training of school management and School Governing Bodies (SGB). Provincial regulations for the SGBs were developed and are ready for release into the public domain for consultation, which will start in April 2008.

Training of members of the Representative Council for Learners (RCL) was conducted and further support for these bodies will be provided in the form of a seminar in September/October 2008. The many trained ones which appointed the school managers inducted and the conference for the primary school principals will

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

also be held. Here is a bit of a difficult side, the National School Nutrition Programme. Deputy Speaker, through a conditional grant the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) received R87.916 million. The department soon discovered that this funding was not sufficient.

The programme fed 416 952 learners for a week because of the shortage of funds they were decreased to 3. And this year in many of our schools there was no feeding because of lack of money. The department regrets the state of affairs the cake is not enough. The grant allocation of over R103 million feeding will occur this year for 172 days, 4 days a week, that is will be increased to almost 400. We will train some in the handling of food. In terms of the allocation of R3.9 was spent on efforts to make our schools safer places. During the December holidays, 65 schools which were ministerial were provided with the palisade and electrical fence, as well as the security guards.

In partnership with the South African Police Services and the Department of Social

Development we have a number of safety programmes in schools running. In the new financial year, with an allocation of R3 297 million most of the safety in schools activities will continue. Infrastructure this financial year was allocated to the resources and facilities. With this funding, 6 new schools were erected and as indicated by Honourable Premier in her State of the Province Address 125 mobile classes were supplied. Consistent with our plans, however, 21 schools were renovated and 39 were provided with sanitation facilities.

The renovations of the 7 schools and the provisioning of sanitation at 11 schools are in progress and will still be funded from 2007/08 budget. Also with the delivery of 125 mobile classrooms will be continued as we go on. The Department of Public Works is with us on these endeavours. Deputy Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the following donors and partners that contributed towards infrastructure development in Bojanala:

- Anglo Platinum, Anglo Plats (Swartklip and Rustenburg)
- Lonmin Mines, Sun City, Royal

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Bafokeng and Carousel for renovating schools.

- Barrick Platinum South Africa and Bakgatla-ba- Kgafela Tribal Authority for toilets and 9 schools.
- PPC for erecting the new school, Ramokoka Primary.

I would like to express the department's sincere appreciation for the efforts, as our school infrastructural backlog is indeed the greatest challenge that we are facing as a department. With an allocation of R240 million in 2008/09, 2 new schools will be built, renovations will be done at nine (9) through the Department of Public Works, 280 mobile classrooms will be distributed, 50 schools will be provided with clean and 40 with ablution facilities. 20 schools will be rehabilitated through the new department Itereleng Project. Maintenance of toilets will be completed in twenty (20) schools.

In terms of information technology, in the previous financial year, R21.17 million was allocated for information technology of which R5.1 went to phase 3 of the computerization programme and R16.07 million to Education

Management Information Services (EMIS). 42 schools were computerized. In addition, PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC) sponsored computerization of 5 schools and the Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa (USAASA). I would like to thank these two organizations for their generosity. Let me thank the Lesedi technology for renovating computer laboratories at 2 schools and the Bojanala municipality and the Royal Bafokeng for IT equipment supplied to schools.

In terms of programme 3 Independent School and Home Education, Deputy Speaker, an allocation of R7 million for subsidies to independent schools was spent 100% during 2008 financial year. In 2008/09 the allocation increased to R7.5 million. The department promulgated regulations for independent schools and home education. This financial year we see the vigorous application of these regulations. So far, 18 home learners registered.

In terms of programme 4, in 2007 an allocation of R135.776 million was made to special

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

schools and inclusive education which included compensation of educators on the strengthening of special school, hostel subsidies, bursaries, maintenance, learner transport, assistive devices, equipment and vehicles. The strengthening of the special schools also included the transformation of assessment and enrolment procedures I special schools.

During 2007 progress was made, in all the areas mentioned; however, it is worth mentioning that we purchased 9 vehicles and provided a transport subsidy to needy learners and on the 8th of January established the Christiana School for the Blind. In 2008/09 financial year, the department allocates R137.04 for inclusive education and the running of special schools and R68 million for strengthening of special schools that the MEC for Finance Honourable Modiselle refers to in her budget speech.

Programme 5, Further Education and Training colleges, consistent with the intentions of the Honourable President of the country Thabo Mbeki as expressed in his state of the

nation address our department will intensify its participation in the Joint Initiative on Priority Skills Acquisition (JIPSA). We welcome government's continued intervention in the Further Education and Training colleges through the recapitalization of the FET colleges, we will persist with strengthening of training of FET institutions. During 2007/08 colleges received bursaries totaling of R5.5 million to fund their participation in the NCV and R5 million for participating in the old NATED programmes. In spite of the poor performance of mathematics and engineering, the results of 3 colleges were exceptionally high.

At this juncture, I would like to thank the Danish Embassy once again for the valuable contribution towards the development and consolidation of our FET colleges.

In terms of programme 6, Adult Basic Education and Training over R110 million and an increase of 0.3%. Last year, adult education received an allocation of over R102 million. For the first time, text books covering ABET levels 1 to 4 were

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

delivered at ABET centres. Also for the first time, ABET levels 1 to 3 learners wrote common provincial papers and the moderation of Continuous Assessment (CASS) and question papers in general were done effectively. In 2007 the department trained 150 ABET educators as assessors and 20 as moderators. Towards the same goal, an additional 150 were trained as coaches and mentors. To improve the financial management in the centres, we trained 42 centre managers on financial and project management.

Deputy Speaker, in regard to the Kha Ri Gude Mass Literacy Campaign which the President announced in his state of the nation address, the North West Education Department during 2008/09 will train grade 12 master trainers who will provide basic literacy classes to 27 000 functionally illiterate adults and youths over 16 years olds.

Programme 7, Early Childhood Development Deputy Speaker, as part of the poverty alleviation and the Expanded Public Works Programme, the Honourable President of the country men-

tioned the training of the ECD caregivers and practitioners which was echoed by the Honourable Minister of Finance in his 2008 budget speech. During 2007, this programme was delivered with excellence in our province. We have just approved the posts of 17 officials, on contract, to continue with the delivery on this programme. As in the previous two financial years, in 2008, we will continue to train 630 ECD caregivers and practitioners.

During 2007/08 over R11 million in terms of EPWP the department trained 330 caregivers on NQF level1 and 300 practitioners on level 4. Schools were provided with basic resources to incorporate grade R into primary schools. This process will continue. During this financial year, Early Childhood Development centres will be handed over to the Department of Social Development. However, the Department of Education will retain the responsibility for curriculum delivery and the training of the practitioners.

The last vote, Auxiliary and Associated Services over R56 million a decrease of 2.5% HIV

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

increased Deputy Speaker. With the conditional grant of R10 million in the past year, much was achieved in terms of HIV programme. The conditional grant of over R12 million will be used for advocacy educator development to education, care and support, monitoring and support and administration.

In the previous year, we allocated over R57 million to examinations. With this allocation, we managed to administer grade 12 examinations with great success, of course it was indicated by national that we did work once. I wonder opposes that? 2007/08 allocation was further spent on full scale grade 11 external examination. This was done only by one other province. I can, however, assure you Deputy Speaker that this will bear fruit when the grade 12 candidates write their first National Senior Certificate examination at the end of this year.

We administered two external examinations (May and October) for adult learners and grade 9 Common Task for Assessment (CTA) parts A and B. This year, we will ensure

smooth implementation of the first National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations. As I already mentioned, we are challenged with grade 12 learners will, for the first time, sit for this examination. In addition to the distribution of exemplar question papers, we will meet this challenge with preparatory examination in September that will be written in the 11 big subjects.

The grade 10 and 11 underperforming schools will write common midyear and year-end examination papers in 10 subjects. ABET level 4 examinations will be conducted in June and November. The grade 9 CTA's part A and B will be administered during the last quarter of the academic year. External assessment instruments will be implemented in grades 3 and 6. As I indicated earlier, all candidates who have not finished the NATED 550 Senior Certificates will get an opportunity during May/June 2008. This year's examinations programme receives a budget of over R63 million.

In conclusion Deputy Speaker, in the spirit of the President's 2008 state of national address, I

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

want to assure you that, within the North West Education Department, this financial year will indeed be one of "Business Unusual" and "All hands on deck". I want to warn everybody that anybody without their hands on deck will have no hand. There comes the usual story I thank who who and also who. I just want to say that I thank the team education that is with me today never have I the privilege to serve with the man like ntate Mveli, never in this government. I have an opportunity to serve with the man like ntate Mveli, a man after my own heart, we move together we do not fight, we work. I salute you.

I salute the Premier, who has continuously given a support we were scarred last year with the R722 million. We thank you and madam Modiselle for coming through for us, we thank you leader of government. We thank all the MECs mastering partners, it has been a great ride together. We thank all the Members of the Legislature, the people who does us accountable, the Chief Whip has been very vigorous on that and I thank God.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Moruti Tselapedi, you were certainly maintained your good record in this House. You have completed you input in 50 minutes less 10 minutes, you still had 10 minutes. I'm now proceeding to invite the chairperson of the portfolio committee on education Honourable Mahlangu to present a report on behalf of the committee.

HON. MAHLANGU:

Thank you Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive Council, Members of the Legislature, guests, ladies and gentlemen. We are living in a time of peace and prosperity and we have a good fortune to be living in one of the most import countries in world. A nation dedicated to freedom, equality, democracy and quality education for all. Out optimism and integrity has ceased the moment, so now is the right time to set the expectations the provincial education with out effort to create a democracy of excellence.

The committee met with the department on the 06th of May 2008 to outline its annual performance plan which is more

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

than R6 billion which the department also indicate that is not enough for the department and also for education in the province. Our interaction with the department brought to the forth the following concerns:-

- The office of the Auditor General has indicated that the capped leave could not be rectified by the persal system.
- The asset register in which some assets were not bar-coded and some could not be located.
- The unauthorized expenditure which amounted to R2193 984 million
- We also raised the issue of the demographical pressures in Bojanala and Southern region which are experiencing an influx of learners as a result there is overcrowding in schools.
- Shortage of classrooms in the province
- Lack of computer rooms, laboratories and libraries: most of the schools do not have special room that could be dedicated to be used as computer laboratories and no educators to facilitate the teaching of computers.
- There was also an issue of crucial unfilled posts affecting service delivery especially in the

regions.

- In schools also we also raised a concern the use of drugs by learners and lack of discipline by learner and teachers.

On the issue of special schools, the committee indicated that there should be inclusive education and physical adaptability in schools for the disabled. The location of the scholar transport budget in the Department of Transport did not assist the problem which we have raised for the past 14 years about learners who are walking long distances to school.

The school nutrition feeding programme, service providers are not paid on time. As a result learners are not fed appropriately and as indicated by the MEC in his budget speech that the days have been reduced from 5 to 4 day because of the budget constraints.

- We raised an issue of poor monitoring of schools by the Area Project Office's because many schools are complaining that they are not seeing this project office anything for them.
- The dissemination to schools

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

concerning the Further Education Training Colleges (FETC's).

- Lack of continuous training of School Governing Bodies (SGB's).
- The incorporation of the Grade R's without the provision of classrooms and resources is a concern to the committee.
- The issue of the farm schools and the plan to merge some of the farm schools, the plan thereof was also a concern to the committee.
- The implementation of the no fee school policy in the province. The problem we are raising is that it is not clear whether there is a problem with the policy or there is a problem with the funds in this particular policy.
- Poor management of schools which results into poor results.
- The implementation of the Kha Ri Gude project is a very serious concern to the committee.

It is often been stated that changing education philosophies and methods is as difficult as moving a graveyard. Today we have an opportunity to make changes in our educational system that could have far - reach-

ing consequences for our country and the province.

Many of you today know we face a new situation with the new economy that was ushered in with the new democracy. This economy is forcing us to address two major shortages for our province and out country. Firstly, we need world class engineers, scientists, business leaders and professional of all kinds. Secondly, we have a critical shortage of highly skilled young people who are capable of operating, maintaining and developing the new technologies on our manufacturing and service industries. Our education system seems to be unable to sustain these challenges.

The committee after looking at these matters recommended the following to the department:-

- To build more classrooms for the learners in different regions
- The Department should develop a strategic intervention with regard to provision of mobile classrooms that are safe for the learners.
- The Department should recruit staff to crucial posts and not forgetting the implementa-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

tion of the gender equity policy.

- The Department should support and monitor the Area Project Office's (APO'S) in order for them to monitor and support different schools.
- The Department to ensure that public ordinary schools are accessible to learners with disabilities even though there are budget constrains.
- The Department to ensure the National feeding scheme is beneficial and service provider are paid on time.
- The Department to facilitate an outreach programme to inform learners, teachers, principal and parents about the further Education Training enrolment.
- Training principals in school management.
- Investigate and report to the committee about Kha Ri Gude project
- Also to report to the committee about the Mankala High School in Makapanstadt about the ...[inaudible]... that took place there.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, we need to retrain our teachers and principal to take on these larger roles and we need to the help of the public to support these

changes. Certainly there are no single pillar to resolves our problems in education and tinkering around the ages when do either. Many still believe that a liberal education is viable for all and that 4 year BA degree is best or every possible for all students. The point I'm making is that is that we have essential need for highly skilled world class workforce. Currently we finding that many students graduating from high schools are not only untrained for the world of work but are unemployed. The situation is even worse because most non academically oriented students and high school drop outs are unable to benefit adequately from the FET colleges. The shortage of the highly skilled workforce is therefore survival issue for our province and our country in general.

It is "business unusual" for the Department of Education; it is "business as usual for the regions for the APO's because as the committee we are concerned about some of the activities taking place in these areas.

In conclusion, the committee commends the Department of Education on its performance

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

and budget plan presentation and pledge to support the vote. However the committee further reminded the department to ensure that there is quality service delivery in schools. The Committee requests the House to vote and support the budget. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Mahlangu did very well, 8 minutes out of 10. The next speaker is Honourable Matladi your time allocation is 8 minutes.

HON. MATLADI:

Motlotlegi Motlatsa Mmusakgotla ke a dumedisa. The grade 12 results have improved at 0.2% from 67% to 76.2% in 2006/07 respectively. Out of the 21 372 learners who passed, only 5 060 passed with university endorsement. Many reasons could be attributed to the low numbers in university entrance poor pass rate, including failure to provide quality education due to huge classroom enrolments. Lack of computer rooms, laboratories and libraries in most of our schools, crucial unfilled posts affecting teaching, substance abuse and

lack of discipline in schools, poor management of schools, poor monitoring of schools by the area project offices and many other sector that I can enlist.

The budget allocation for the department has a shortfall of R288 million, it was supposed to have been R7,211 billion which could have only accommodated basic needs but the final approved allocation amounts to only R6.9 billion. The shortfall could take the department back to the over expenditure of the previous financial year which should be avoided. Due to lack of capacity, the department hired consultants to perform duties which were meant for employed officials. At certain R84 000.00 Gobodo was hired to assist in preparing the financial statement, coordinate the audit, review and align policies and identify weaknesses in the system and provide recommendations.

Again, Gobodo was employed to assist the asset management for training to correct the asset register at an amount of R342 00. For the third time Gobodo also performed duties of the Chief

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Financial Officers at the cost of R212 040.00 and the total of the money used by consultants is R1.2 million. The committee would like the department to minimize the employment of consultants in order to save funds for service delivery. It becomes a double expenditure when officials employed are paid and their work is done by consultants who also get paid. The department employed consultants as well to perform head count of its personnel and the consultants couldn't do a good job, nevertheless they were reemployment to repeat the very same exercise and were still paid.

For the year 2007/08 the number of people employed by the department is said to be 35 262 (thirty five thousand two hundred and sixty two) we believe this figure is correct since it also includes the vacant posts. We received a report of another strategy to verify personnel numbers that one of having to pay at hand instead of employees receiving their salaries at the bank. We wish the department luck in this endeavour. The education development trust schools and classrooms for

the Department of Education. Other infrastructure projects are done by the Department of Public Works.

The report the committee received states that Public Works takes time to complete projects while the trust is always doing its work in time. Public Works talks of poor quality of the education trust projects and we think this has to be resolved to have more duplication of duties. We also support that members of the trust who are employees of their respective companies should resign from the trust when their employment contract are terminated. The department is reported to have crucial unfit finance positions which are said proper and smooth procurement procedures.

The 2008/09 strategic plan page 7 reports 30% vacancy rate and the cooperative centre alone with 34.5% while regions are at 27.6% vacancy rate. This is amazing since qualified educators are unemployed and some are said to be in access, why don't they fill up the vacant positions? The Adult Basic Education and Training aims at

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

improving good quality education and training to all adults and youth who have not gone through the main stream of education system. Nevertheless, ABET literacy has not improved as expected and ABET system is not reducing the number of illiterates and functional illiterates as such enough.

Since 1996 curriculum has been changing from OBE curriculum 2005 NRC today we are talking about new curriculum statement, which is now being implemented at grade 9. It is stated educators will continue to receive support from curriculum specialist to enable to improve and the quality of learning and teaching in the classroom. The question is did these educators get proper training or are they only have baked which results in work not being done thoroughly and they are not understanding exactly how the new curriculum statement would differ from the others that had been there before and would results in confusion in the classroom situation and leads to the poor results at the end of the year.

Wellness in schools, especially during payments of grants is

also reported where the girls who have children leave the classrooms and sometimes are accompanied by their boyfriends to go and share the grant that is meant for taking care of children. We would like this as well attended to in our learning sites. No fee schools, a very good project but it has got the very problems that I have highlight number to be increased especially the poor rural schools in the province and to some schools exemption from payment of school fund is a disadvantage to the school financially, therefore such school reject the no-fee exemption. Money is paid to schools supposed to be managed by untrained SGBs some schools are even without bank accounts and the report is that the funds are always used not for the necessary items that would help the school but rather for other items very much unimportant.

Revision regarding allocation of funds to schools to be done as well as payments to be received in time to allow schools to use the funds. Finally Honourable Deputy Speaker, I received a report from the Ottosdale/Delareyville Ms Nel

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

who is having a problem about the two kilometer tarred road that has been closed living residents to use a very dangerous gravel road and she is ferrying the learners from point A to schools everyday using the dangerous gravel road. Last week she nearly had three accidents on the very same roads. She has reported the matter to the department to Mr David Artwel, the site manager, the contractor Mr P. Seoposengwe, the consultant Steven Morufu and even to "Beeld koerant" where she was really seeking help. Also sort the help of Honourable Gerber in order to present it to the House. These measures have been taken but today the department hasn't attended to the matter.

As I close Honourable Deputy Speaker allow me as well to congratulate Honourable Tselapedi and rre Mveli for being so cooperative in working with the portfolio committee every time we've got issues to raise with them, they respond. We wish them all the luck and want their vote to be passed. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Gerber will not do what Honourable Matladi has done, you have 8 minutes.

HON. GERBER:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus congratulate Mr Mveli with his promotion to Superintendent General a few months ago we wish him the very best for the way forward and we want him to succeed to better the situation of education in our province. In the few minutes at my disposal, I today want to put a case for better subsidies for independence schools in our province. Firstly, I want to put facts and I urge the department under the Honourable MEC to listen with an open mind to it.

1. If all the independence schools in South Africa should be closed and the learners should have to go to states schools, the budget for education should have to be increase by 4%. In the North West it would be R279 million. At the moment we subsidize independence schools with only R7.3 million a fraction of that R279 million. You save in our province R279 million on independence schools but you give back only

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

R7.3 million, I think that is not business.

2. For the last 3 financial years the education budget were increased by 13.4%, the budget for independence schools were increased by 12.2%. It seems if the department is facing out the budget for independence schools, whilst economically spoken, it would be better to increase subsidies for independence schools.

3. The North West government subsidizes only 19 out of more than 50 it may even be 70 independence schools in our province. The Free State on the other hand subsidizes almost all independence schools in their province.

4. It is mist that only the rich send their children to independence schools. 80% of all independence schools in South Africa cater for middle and lower middle class people. Only 20% of those schools is really rich such as the school of the Minister of Education also send or has send a child to an independent school.

5. Most of the independence schools in North West who do not receive subsidies from the department are schools for black children. I'm thus not only

canvassing for a few Afrikaners schools but also for the many and majority of Black learner who do not get any subsidies from the department in this regard.

These, Honourable Deputy Speaker are the facts to consider, if you look at it with an open mind, nobody should be against subsidies for independent schools.

En nou my pleit vir 'n nuwe bedeling vir onafhanklike skole in ons Provinsie. Die rol wat onafhanklike skole kan speel om goeie onderwys in Suid-Afrika te kan verseker word tans dink ek, deur die Regering onderskat. Onafhanklike skole is besig om in Suid-Afrika onder alle bevolkingsgroepe en onder alle godsdienstige groepe te groei. Die Regering moet nie daarvoor ongemaklik of bedreigd voel nie trouens hy behoort dit te verwelkom en dit te ondersteun. Dit maak die finansiële las van die Regering ligter. Die Staat bespaar tans 4% op sy onderwys begroting in ag genome die huidige aantal onafhanklike skole in Suid-Afrika. 'n Deel van daardie 4% in Noordwes R 275 miljoen behoort terug geploeg te

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

word in skole wat onafhanklik funksioneer en aan dier vereistes wat die departement stelsel voldoen. Dit is 'n goeie belegging wat die regering sou maak. Verder is dit ook 'n bewese feit dat onafhanklike skole oor die algemeen beter vaar in matriek eksamens as statskole. Statistiek bewys dit. En die staat hoef nie daarvoor jaloers te voel nie onafhanklike skole het oor die algemeen beter opgeleide onderwysers as statskole.

Die Staat sit met duisende onvoldoende gekwalifiseerde onderwysers en daarom kan elke reg- denkende mens verstaan dat daardie skole ook swakker sal presteer. Aan die anderkant behoort die Staat dankbaar te wees vir elke ouer wat volle verantwoordelikheid neem vir die onderrig van sy kind en wat bereid is om 'n groter bydrae vir die onderrig van sy kind wil betaal. Maar dan behoort die Staat ook hierdie inisiatief te beloon deur 'n gedeelte van wat hy bespaar in die onafhanklike skole terug te ploeg. Ek kry soms die indruk Agbare Adjunk Speaker dat die Staat 'n koue skouer het vir onafhanklike skole. Daar is

skole in ons provinsie wat jaar na jaar al die prosedures volg om aansoek te doen vir subsidies. Een skool weet ek doen dit sedert 2003.

Ek het daardie skool se leër gesien en die korrespondensie wat daarin gevoer is. Daar is geen kommunikasie van die kant van die departement nie. Geen redes word aangevoer waarom subsidies geweier word nie. Ek dink dit is 'n skande en behoort reg gestel te word. 'n Laaste woord oor daardie leerlinge waarna agbare Matladi verwys het, meer as 400 leerlinge wie se lewens bedreig word omdat hulle in busse vervoer word tussen Ottosdal en Delareyville op 'n baie lewensgevaarlike pad. Ek het twee weke gelede vir die LUR vir Vervoer en Paaie 'n brief geskrywe en dit onder sy aandag gebring. Hy het onmiddellik terug geantwoord en gesê daar sal dadelik aandag gegee word aan die probleem.

Gister is ek weer in kennis gestel dat die pad onrybaar is en dat die saak steeds nie afgehandel is nie. Die kontrakteur het eers beweer dat hy nie deur die Staat betaal word nie en

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

daarom nie met die werk kon voortgaan nie en nou is sy probleem weer dat daar 'n probleem is met sement. Ek vra die agbare LUR van Onderwys en die Departement dat hulle dringend aandag aan die saak sal gee. Daar is leerlinge wie se lewens in gevaar is. U moet ook met hom praat. Dit lyk my, my praat help nie. Ek wil net sê die kinders se lewens is in gevaar en dit sal nie help dat die Departement op die ou end vir begrafnisse betaal nie. Hulle moet die pad regmaak sodat die kinders veilig oor die weg na die skool gebring kan word. Dankie agbare Adjunk Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Gerber you were on time. We are proceeding. The next speaker is Honourable Mokomela-Mothibi. You have already spent a minute of your time as you moved to the podium.

HON. MOKOMELA-MOTHIBI:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Premier, Honourable Chief Whip, magosi le bo-mmakgosi ba ba mo, all protocol observed.

Without giving this august

House a lecture on the South African constitution, it is very important to also reflex on the obligations imposed by the constitution. We know for the fact that our supreme law has the Bill of Rights and amongst these rights we have the socio-economic rights. These rights include their right to access adequate housing, healthcare, food, water, social security and education. I'm therefore more interested in the education right for now.

I believe that education and training is one of basic human rights and that all individuals in respective of race, class, gender, age, factual orientation and physical or disability should access it. Under transport for us to realize this education right is to ensure that proper resources are put in place. We are very much aware that our government in rural areas like Manthe in Taung is committed to provide transport to pupil but little has been done so far. This should be prioritized as part of department's strategy to improve quality of schooling.

The department provides little or no funding in this area, however,

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the National Education Department is committed to provide transport to school children who walk long distances. In this very issue, the parents, brothers and sisters of the learners should be told that those bicycles are not theirs but particularly for the scholars. It should not happen like it is happening in Manthe whereby the bicycles are taken by brothers, mothers and fathers.

Under infrastructure, the budget for education 2008/09 thus reflects availability on infrastructure expenditure but it does not reflect the course of provision and how this has changed overtime. We are experiencing the challenge of construction of classrooms and sanitary facilities for our educators and pupils. It is not surprising today that some of our schools are using pit and bucket system of toilet. We therefore urge the department to expertise this process of infrastructure as we foresee the health hazard for our learners. Many equipments cannot be ignored at this juncture; most of schools lack these many equipments. They have laboratories that have no equipments, computer centre that

have no computers until now when the MEC for Education has just told us that the Bafokeng have contributed IT, our gratitude to them. There are libraries that have no books.

Under PPM, does not seem to be assisting educators instead it frustrate them. During the opening of schools and taking parliament to the people we saw pathetic cases whereby the teachers of grade 1 were overloaded with plus minus 78 learners and when those of higher grades were having only 32 or less learners. This causes overcrowding in so much that in Moshosho Primary School in Manthe the governing body packaged a shack for learners. We can just imagine how do learners concentrate in a extreme changes of whether during different seasons of the year.

In Klerksdorp district, at Galaletsang children were squeezed in a classroom of unbearable conditions with regard to chairs, desks, floors and physical structure of the school let alone the two shacks that were constructed from old iron and zinc from work depart-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

ment by parents. Because of PPM classrooms are not built according to the roll of the school and teachers are not employed according to the number of learners. This leaves principals, governing bodies together with educators with their morale and passion for teaching being very low at the same time we expect good results.

Much as we acknowledge and comment the department for increase of principal's salaries as MEC has alluded to, we then say managers in our province still earn less than others of their counterparts in other provinces. Despite the fact that the education department was required to improve their salaries for retention strategy purposes more than any other thing, I wonder if they have maybe substantial reasons for not doing that. Deputy Speaker, this is matter of concern that cannot be excluded from this debate. More effort should be placed to those who are going to be future grade 12.

Schools year has the responsibility to ensure that other grades are well encouraged and prepared for entering their grade 12

and it must be noted that this is their ultimate fate to put them in the mainstream of higher education. Discipline for both educators and learner's is of outmost importance as they still lack of it in some few schools. I further would like to comment the Department of Education for reducing the ill discipline behaviour at most schools, it is not like the way Honourable Matladi has just alluded to there is discipline at our schools we have seen it.

From my opening I made mention of socio-economic rights amongst these rights, we have access to adequate food and water. Without discussing these rights in details, I strongly believe that the government has a social responsibility to ensure that these rights are realized by all who are in need, so all learners should be fed during school hours. School fees, we are aware that there is a substantial variation in fees paid within the high quintiles. We therefore suggest that there must be uniformity in paying schools fees; furthermore we have noted that there is no legislation in place to limit the level of fees or of increasing such fees. This has

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

left other schools without learners on the other hand having others overcrowded.

Nevertheless, we appreciate the fact that the department is at 40% and pushing for more that 50% during this year as he says MEC for Education today.

There is no rewind button that can be pushed for the opportunity to provide quality education to be played again. Education is necessary to develop and free the potential of each child in this wonderful country of ours. It cannot be accepted that in the constitutional democracy which we fought for we live in a country where the potential of some children are met whilst that of others is neglected and destroyed.

About Early Childhood Development, I did not hear in past years about facing in of grade R into mainstream having being budgeted for especial with regard to physical structure like just to give one example a 5 year old still learns through play indoor and outdoor but our schools in North West give them formal education due to lack of resources. I have never come across even a single primary

school that caters for grade R and has outdoor equipment.

In conclusion, there is indeed a continued urgency that even though much has been achieved since 1994 we need to recommit with renewed energy and vigourness with the necessary resources to address challenges. I say children are our future so we must invest in them. I thank you the Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Vilakazi yesterday I referred to you Rule 80, I don't want to repeat that and other Rules that I said I may want to use as a way of conducting members' conduct. I'm now proceeding to the next speaker I saw Honourable Groenewald, you have 8 minutes sir.

HON. GROENEWALD:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Premier, Honourable Members, officials of the department.

Ek begraag met hierdie paar worde begin vir oggend, ek begraag vir hoor met die LUR Afrikaner difineer in hier Suid Afrika as Afrikaner beskou.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

With the budget of R6.99 billion that is 34.6% and that is more than a fourth of the total budget for the North West province.

The Department of Education had the opportunity to perform and get anything in place for the 2008/09 budget year. The DA believes that the education department will never again slip up with the budgeting of service delivering objectives and money needed to make positive progress in education department. The previous year under budgeting of nearly R1 billion was a disaster for the department and nothing positive for the Legislature of the North West province. The Legislature cannot afford that such mistakes happen in the department where the future of children are at stake. There are only 6% of the North West province population aged 20 and above who has higher qualification than grade 12. How can economy of the province be established and grow if education qualifications are such a low percentage.

The Department of Education has an enormous task on their shoulders to see to it that more students go to university and other institutions for further qual-

ifications to better their skills for the future.

Onrus op die universiteit, die sporadiese onrus op die kampusse van die Noordwes Provinsie is 'n groot rede tot kommer veral as saak beskadiging plaasvind deur die studente. Die gevoel wat gewek word is dat daar nie op 'n behoorlike wyse gekommunikeer word tussen die universiteitsowerhed en die studente nie. Noordwes kan nie sodanige gebeure laat plaasvind op ons kampusse nie. Dit strem die verloop van klasse en dosente kom nie deur hulle syllabuses nie.

No fee schools are already being implemented in all quintile 1 schools in the province and are funded by the department. One of the goals for the 2008/09 year is to fund all quintile 2 schools and give them support also. Many of the quintile 1 & 2 schools are falling apart and it is important that the department start with a huge renovation programme all over the province to better this year in the disadvantaged schools. The Premier promised in her state of province address on the 15th of February 2008 that all 300 divi-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

sional grade R classes which will be added to 50 pilot classes in each school will have basic resources, equipment and learning and teaching support materials.

The subsidy budget allocated for all four regions to subsidize the grade R classes must be used to the benefit of the schools and the children in these classes. There are a few organizational challenges in the department. With an average vacancy rate of 30% in the department, problems will pitch up. Crucial financial posts are unfilled, therefore effecting proper and smooth procurement procedures which will not take place and follow and that will effects service delivery such as no salary payments to teachers, late payments, wrong appointments of staff and educators. School management is an issue to be driven in urgent way.

The moment you have well trained management teams in all schools will minimize the problems in education by more than a half. It is important that the department prioritize the uplifting of management in all schools by task team who gives

the necessary training to the schools and both and better the morale of the teachers. The DA have the problem with councilors and that is the very urgent issue, the problem of councilors who visits schools in the southern region and I've got the document in hands it is on my table, Matlosane get information from headmasters regarding head-hunting of teachers, that is not the duty of councilors but the Department of Education. This matter must get urgent attention from the MEC as well as the HOD of the department. There is no way that confidential information of teachers can give to any councilor of any political party.

To establish mega schools in the province, after consultation with stakeholders can help the department to safe a lot of money. However, the possibility is there to create new problem such as longer distances for learners to schools, transport are problems, no school activities in the afternoon, and no interaction between parents to both loyalty to new school. Student transport remains a big problem for the Department of Transport, Roads & Safety. The

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

allocation of transport in certain arrears after the survey was done shows that there is enormous increase in the number of children who want to make use of transport.

The conclusion is that there are still hundreds of children who do not attend schools because of the lack of transport. The Minister of Education Naledi Pandor wants the schools to have a national pledge pronounce on a daily or weekly basis by children of all schools in South Africa. The DA will support the idea but government must be very sensitive to all cultural groups in the country. If the pledge is incorporated by all schools with a positive attitude to build a new nation and a better future for our children, it will work. If the pledges are there to keep reminding people of back past, it will be of no use.

The need in the province is growing day by day to uplift the literacy levels of people. There are very high levels of illiteracy and that must be a priority for the department to reduce this illiteracy by creating employment and increase productivity. The ABET system must face the

challenges of the communities and must also to be used successfully in the department. The R40 million allocated for the extension of ABET will help and uplift the performance of the system. With hungry children in schools, no education can take place. The importance of school nutrition programme can never be under estimated, although the programme create job for about 1 154 unemployed women the purpose remains to keep the children who do not have food at home and to better the life for the youth.

The department must also motivate all the schools in the province to establish good gardens to help produce their own food. To comprise a schools or schools on any an easy task to fulfill by the department, however the challenge is to have special rooms for computers and to have qualified teachers to handle computers with the learners. In many schools which has already received computers, the problem is that these computers have not been connected and is of no use to the learners.

Agbare Ajunk Speaker, my besoek aan skole is gevind dat

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

baie van die rekenaars in kluiise toegesluit is, en nog nooit gebruik is nie. Die rede daarvoor is hoofde is te bang om hierdie toerusting in gewone klaskamers te sit omdat die klasklamers nie beveilig is nie. Daar is nogsteeds baie skole wat geen veiligheidsheining om hulle het nie en dit laat die deur oop vir kriminele om vrye toegang tot skole en leerders te verkry. Dit is ook hierdie ongewenste elemente wat verdowingsmiddels, wapens by skole binne bring tot nadeel van die skole se leerders en ook ons gemeenskappe.

Any government wants to see that the people of its country are well educated without the necessary equipments; library in schools or of the province, the government will never reach the target to educate all the citizens. The importance of libraries is reading material in the language of the community. The challenge the department has to see that at least all the schools in the province have a library with enough literature to improve the demand of schools in our communities.

Groot dank aan die hulp van die

LUR en sy Departement wat in die verlede 'n minder bekende sportsoort soos byvoorbeeld rolbal en sekere soorte karate finansiële bystand gegee het. Hierdie finansiële ondersteuning aan hierdie soort sportsoorte help oo kom agtergeblewe sportsterre na vore te bring en hulled da nook te laat presteer aan die einde van die dag.

The DA supports the budget of the Department of Education for the coming year. I thank you. Ek dank u. Ke a leboga.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I'm now inviting Honourable MEC for Education moruti Tselapedi to respond for the debate.

HON. MEC TSELAPEDI:

Mmusakgotla tla ke simolole ke leboge motlotlegi mme Matladi ke ntse ke mo reeditse. Ke tsaya gore dipolotiki tse tsa motlhakanelwa di re ruta rotlhe sengwe. Ke utlwile mo ngangisanong e a e tshwereng le rona ele dintlha tse di senang bana ba phefo, re di leboga di le ka tsela eo. Ke tsaya fela gore nka bua selo se le nosi gore mo ntlheng ya madi re simolotse go banta mala a rona go boloka

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

madi mme dikopano ga di tlhole dile teng ka go nne re leka go boloka madi. Motlotlegi Modiselle ga a na magic wa go tlisa madi a mantsi ka fa tlase ga boeteledipele jwa moPremier.

Re tshwanetse re dirise se se leng teng. Ga ke itse gore ke ka go sa rate ga mongwe. Beng ba me ba ke dirang le bona botlhe ba eletsa o ka re Lefapha la Thuto le ka bo le na le madi a otlhe a le a tlhokang. Bangwe ba bankane ba me ba re dirang mmogo le go tsumula mo go bone jaaka bo mme Mangqo ba a tsumula gore tshele le lefapha. Re rata go leboga bothata ke gore bogobe jo ga bo bontsi jaaka rene re ka bo batla.

Deputy Speaker I do not think that I should go to every question here because indeed they are many. I think basically this fall into categories, the chairperson ntate Bacos Mahlangu indeed a pillar of strength I think all the things in terms of recommendations that he has outlined I will agree with them that they should be done. Basically we agree with them. I think all of the Members have said all these things that needs to be done

and there is not even one that we disagree. They are only categorized in two sections.

1. Most of them need money. Whatever you want us to do in terms of development and infrastructure will need money and therefore it continues as an effort in terms of what we get from the fiscus and the prudent use of the budget and wise allocation. That is why we have in our presence we have tried to strengthen through the help of Department of Finance. The finance unit in the department. Ntate Botha is here also and mme Dintswe as the new additions in the department at very senior levels to strengthen that department.

I don't think clerks and others would add value. I believe that people hired here at this level will have to add value and they know that is only value that we want them to add. We are confident that this unit will flourish under the leadership of ntate Botha. There are issue that has been explained here of PPM which seems to be worrying mme Mokomela in particular is that there is a two side on this coin, I agree that the present model called the PPM is very

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

difficult, I agree we have tried but at the moment I must be very clear even nationally we have not found the best model the one that we came up with we have piloted it, it is here in the province and the report was that it is even worse.

I do not want to really expose my managers into serious situations here but the issue goes to time tabling also. The issues goes to when you've got more learners, you've got more notch, you got more teachers than they get periods to 30 or 35 minutes also. There are two sides to this coin, the responsibility by the department to get a better model and the responsibilities of the site managers to be truthful and to do correct time tabling if you get a time table of 30 or 35 you are going to have a chance of time that is unused, therefore we need more teachers. If we go to 35 or 50 minutes, you will find that we've got very little time left and we don't need that many teachers as it has been said.

The issue of head count, this was done together with the Department of Finance here is to WCD did this and indeed they

were given this top of task twice. The first it was before I was there I heard when they were given this task is that actually it was for the second time. This technical people have got all reasons today politicians sometimes they don't make sense but they think that they make sense to themselves. The issue is many at time when they have done that to overrule them after the DPC have done something becomes very difficult and unpalatable process.

It was not really well done in some senses but it did give us a good eye view. What we are going to do this year is literary to wake up the ghost if are there, we are going to do it very thorough and we are working with Department of Finance closely on this one to do it with the Department of Education the way we did it but it was done by officials, we have taken over and I believe that it will be done very much correctly. Lastly, chairperson the other grouping of these questions can go to discipline. When we speak about school safety, we speak about drugs in schools, when we speak about teachers who ill disciplined and other things.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

I don't want to go into the issue of transport because I think nstate Vilakazi is very much able to deal with this matter and indeed this morning I'm happy to say that it seems the document now is out, it has been given to us to look at but I believe that he is ready to deal with this matter. I admit it has taken a long while for this document to be finished that we can together look at this problem but you know that it is handled in that department. Sometimes Members of this House makes me dizzy with their questions because sometimes they say get out of the issue building schools concentrate on education, when you got out of the matters of transport to concentrate on education, they say but this is your responsibility.

I don't know whether it is my responsibility? There is a debate in other provinces actually the nation should have that maybe education should have its policy on this matter of transport, it should be handled by education. But this House knows what happens here and you know that it is in transport and I have confidence in nstate Vilakazi that we will work together

er on this matter. The last one on discipline I believe that the situation in this country demands that morale degeneration should be pursuit with revolving vigour and vitality. I believe that the Honourable Premier the government is really pursuing this route to try to revive the issue of morals, nowadays is actually mouth bubbling. We are in a situation where people go and beat other people and break doors and pour water to other learners when they are arrested, they say speak to the police we must not be arrested. Just see to it that we don't get arrested.

We are in South Africa where everybody believes that they can do everything even it is wrong and illegal and they must be left free. I say the situation facing education where teachers are molesting children and after that they get a very good disciplinary case, they get some lenient sentences, they say move to Odendaal and then we will take your level down you will be PL2 from 3 so go there. They appeal saying no actually even this last sentence is not correct, in terms of procedure and substance it is unfair it must

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

sit and teach in this school and continue to do what I have been doing, I have done nothing wrong even though I raped the child, I have done nothing wrong. When we dismiss them they say you can't do this thing now. Teachers who try to help children who are molested at home fear for their lives.

The issue of discipline here is that you find a bad school. I will show you a bad principal. You find a good school; I will show you a good principal. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members I would want us to run through this budget programme by programme quickly.

Programme 1 : Administration R512.537 [Agreed]

Programme 2 : Public Ordinary School Education R5 854.226 [Agreed]

Programme 3 : Independence Schools and Home Education R7.350 [Agreed]

Programme 4 : Public Special School Education R137.708 [Agreed]

Programme 5 : Further Education and Training Colleges R153.201 [Agreed]

Programme 6 : Adult Basic Education and Training R110.170 [Agreed]

Programme 7 : Early Childhood Development R164.165 [Agreed]

Programme 8 : Auxiliary and Associated Services R56.125 [Agreed]

This brings us to a total budget of R6 995.482 billion do we adopt the budget? [Agreed].

Now moruti Tselapedi you can go and spend money.

Honourable Members Budget Vote 8 has now been adopted. I have now an honour to invite Honourable MEC Duma Ndleleni to present the Budget Vote 4 for the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture.

HON. MEC DUMA:

Deputy Speaker, Honourable Premier of the North West Province, Members of the Provincial Legislature, leaders of political parties, Executive mayors, mayors, speakers and councilors, magosi a rona, commissioners, HODs and other officials of government, chairpersons and representatives of public entities, business communities, sports ambassadors, artists, cultural activists and expects, comrades, distin-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

guished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Honourable Members of the Legislature we are ascending this podium to present the 2008/09 financial year in line with our 5 year strategic plan. We do so bearing in mind the challenges and achievements of our young democracy central to our policy speech yet again, is the African child to whom we have referred to in our previous budget speech. The African child is watching with keen interest as we all involved and engaged in strategies to implement and address much interesting programmes, crime prevention, economic transformation, social cohesion, nation building, good governance, public sector infrastructure programme, poverty eradication, job creation and development of a global partnerships for development.

Our Department of Sport, Arts & Culture programme seeks to have this child as a major beneficiary of these strategies referred above. The future belongs to the child. Bagaetsho kana motsogapele o rile ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa. This is a

wisdom left behind by those who came before us which simply translated means: "A child is brought up by the community".

Having said this Deputy Speaker, the strategies above seek to afford the African child to grow in conditions of prosperity, unity and democracy. These should be values that transcend all continents of the world so that each child must enjoy world peace and security, sustainable growth and development of all countries and where all nations are treated as equal. This child should be protected from tasting xenophobia, tribalism and racism.

It should be regarded as being a crime against the principle of participatory democracy if communities are forced to become spectators in their own development and empowerment. In 1955, our predecessors and struggle ancestors proclaimed in a loud and clear voice that "The people shall govern". We are sure that we are following in the right footsteps of those whose vision lives with us today. The reality of that vision is that people must participate in the daily grind of their lives. They must

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

take charge of the decisions that determine their destiny.

We reiterate our policy position to the service delivery model of ensuring that our department is visible to communities, where departmental officials are placed within communities for community development and empowerment. This devolution of functions to district and service points, allows for the distribution of human resources, infrastructure in the form of offices and authorizing environment for swift decision making. Our people in the villages, townships, farms and towns will walk or travel less hours to get our services.

Traditional leadership structures and local municipalities will always play a key role as our partners for development. This is in addition to all of our stakeholders and clients in sectors of sport, art & culture. Deputy Speaker, we are developing a workforce that is knowledgeable, accessible and client oriented. We are conscious of the fact that a lot of training is needed in order to maximize these qualities. Our head office staff continues to receive training that is relevant for policy develop-

ment that should guide our service delivery and monitoring and evaluation tools of that delivery, while our district personnel receive training that relates to facilitation and implementation of programmes.

It is for this purpose that the department put systems of good governance in place so that our officials within the department are empowered to carry the mandate of the department forward. The more the departmental officials have relevant knowledge, the better their vision will be to deliver expected services. We owe this to ourselves and the people of this province. Deputy Speaker, the devolution of powers and operational reconfiguration complies with the PFMA and other policy pre-prescripts. Further thereto, as per consensus during the departmental strategic retreat held on 14 -17 August 2007, we have:

- realigned the mission and vision of the department
- Introduced the departmental brand promise which is "We share your passion for art and play".
- Consolidated our values
- Revisited and amended our strategic goals and objectives

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

- Prioritized key deliverables in line with policy speeches
- Implemented the decentralization and devolution of responsibilities to the 4 districts and 21 municipalities and 99 ward clusters in the province
- Incorporated key projects/activities that were not assigned to the department after the strategic plan.

Needless to say Deputy Speaker, our revamped strategic plan further informed operations within the department. In so doing our operational plans focuses for the MTEF period in the following:

- The implementation of the performance management and development system
- The implementation of the supply chain management which optimizes the upliftment of the PDIs as expressed in the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act
- Implementation and strengthening of the district model
- Provision of administrative, financial and technical support to district and service point management
- Implementation of Public Finance Management Act and related regulations

- Development and promotion of creative industries, performing arts and sports activities for economic growth.
- Development and promotion of competitive sport through high performance programme
- Promotion and enhancement of healthy lifestyles
- Promotion of social cohesion using sport, art and culture as platform
- Declaring war against illiteracy
- Promotion of community art centres
- Integration of national crime prevention strategy in departmental programmes
- Promotion of recreation rehabilitation programmes in provincial correctional centres
- Identification and election of strategic partners/funders in support of departmental programmes
- Support and promote of exchange programmes in support of the department's strategic objectives
- Ensuring support and transformation of all state institutions
- Ensuring alignment and implementation of priorities as identified in policy speeches

Honourable Deputy Speaker, we

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

hold an view that these specific deliverables are in line with all that we stand for. We believe that these capture the essence of our strategic plan and shall further assist in the evaluation of our performance and the performance of the officials of our department. We are currently negotiation a partnership between the University of the North West, the University of Art and Design in Helsinki and Mmabana Arts, Culture, Sport Foundation. These institutions should work together in art and culture programmes or curriculum that will focus on the development of key priorities or genres that must be addressed, and those are:

- Craft development centre
- Film and video production
- Performing art and
- Fashion design

This is how this partnership is going to work. The two (2) universities; the North West University and the University of Helsinki will design art and culture programmes in close collaboration with the Mmabana Foundation. Mmabana will expand and improve its current programmes so as to realign with the programmes of the

(two) 2 universities. Mmabana shall in turn link with community art centres. We hope to expand on the community art centres that exist currently. These community art centres must be small Mmabana in villages and in rural areas and they are going to be located in the 99 clusters that we are operating our programmes in as a department.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this partnership must help us to improve and move with speed in empowering our arts and culture and artists. This model must create levels of excellence in which students, learners and artists develop full potential that must be equal to any in the world. We will identify other partners that will benefit the arts and culture fraternity in the province. The SABC North West region, national film and video foundation are such partners that must be drawn into the fold.

Meeting the challenges of infrastructure development in the arts and culture sector, in meeting the objectives of the programmes identified we need to expand and develop infrastructure particularly in townships

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

and villages where such infrastructure does not exist. We have identified 3 specific areas of infrastructure development and expansion for the arts and culture sectors. These arrears are:

- Establishment of a Mmabana centre in Dr. Kenneth Kauda district
- Upgrading and maintenance of the existing Mmabana structures and equipments thereof
- Building of Community Arts Centres in the 21 municipalities as mini-Mmabanans. The long term view is to create a community art centre in each of the 99 ward clusters.
- That infrastructure must continue to provide theatres in community art centres and Mmabana centres.
- Provision of galleries for visual arts and other exhibitions within the community arts centres.

On performing art: Performing art is the most popular form of recreation and entertainment in all communities, which can also be used as a tool for nation building, mass participation and social cohesion. Artists must be assisted in ensuring that their performances in performing art

transcend tribal and racial barriers. However, performing artists also need tools that must assist them to ensure that they implement the programmes in an easy way that is empowering. Our district and service point model agitates for active participation by communities through the formation of local cluster district and provincial structures.

In the performing art areas we are also going to focus on the areas of drama, music, dance, poetry and story telling. All of these forms of performing art we will identify talent, performing of activities, supports for formation of groups or companies, support for various performing art platforms and ensure that performing artist are well supported to be place in a position where they can compete with the rest of the world. The visual art sector will be one of the key priority sectors that will pay attention for the next 5 years. We have identified painting and photography as our key programme in this sector. The Mmabana centres and community art centres will be used in the facilitation of the programmes.

In the craft sector, we want to

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

build a craft centre in the North West province that will be competitive in both local and international markets. We are finalizing the establishment of the North West Craft and Design Institute as promised in our last budget speech. We will work closely with other stakeholders such as Invest North West, SEDA Platinum Incubators, North West University and other government departments such as Economic Development and Tourism and the National Department of Art, Culture, Trade and Industry.

The infrastructure we are targeting in this province is support for these crafters. We are targeting to build four (4) craft hubs in the province; one in each of the districts. These hubs must be centres for product development and promotion and to ensure that these products find markets in the province, country and internationally. Mmabana centres, community arts centres and other identified spaces will provide accommodation for the crafters.

The fashion design sector, our department will continue to support the North West Fashion Design Week to be build into a

sustainable entity. The Heritage and museums, the heritage indaba that we promised in our last budget speech was held on the 13th and 14th of March 2008 at the Mmabana Convention Centre. Outcomes of that indaba addressed the following:

- to ensure that all inclusive participation of stakeholders in the heritage development and transformation of the sector is undertaken
- Identification of key heritage issues in the province
- Definition of heritage policy guidelines
- Recommendation of sound heritage strategies to ensure efficient and effective management of heritage resources in the province

We are in the process of finalizing a heritage and museum management plan. Such a plan shall be closely tied to the heritage routes for our province namely N14 Bakwena Platinum route in Bojanala district, N12 Treasure route in the Dr. Kenneth Kauda district and the Western Frontier route in the Dr Ruth Mompati district. The plan will also address a comprehensive strategy for name change for purposes of restoration and

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

removal of offensive names. As part of this comprehensive heritage and museum management plan, we shall continue to engage other partners in our cost to develop our heritage sites with a keen eye on said growth and in the development of local and district economies.

Addressing issues of heritage infrastructure Deputy Speaker, we will attend to further development of heritage sites in the province, development of museums, development of cultural villages and crafts outlets. We are pleased to announce to this august House that the process of appointing and placing the board of Mmabana has been successfully completed. We have further appointed both the CFO Mr Allan Losaba and CFO Mr Frans Thupaemang. These appointments bring us to a firm believe that Mmabana has been placed to be a machinery that is well oiled to achieve all the objectives for which it was created. This institution will play a pivotal role in the development of our young people with passion in sport, art and culture in the province.

Other statutory bodies responsi-

ble in the department, we are also pleased to announce that we have appointed governance bodies for institutions that are put under our department. These bodies are the Provincial Art and Culture Council, (PACC), the Provincial Geographical Names Committee (PGNC), Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (PHRA) and Mmabana Foundation itself. We share the same values of good governance in these institutions.

Issues of language services Deputy Speaker. We will embark on a vigorous campaign to promote African languages. Our key aim is to:

- Increase number of African writers
- Increase availability of literature in African languages
- Increase number of readership in African languages
- See improved access to learning and knowledge through usage of African literature
- Participation in mass campaigns to fight illiteracy.

We have established 21 Writers Associations one in each municipality and also ensured the formation of the provincial writer's

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

association. The Writers Association has identified the establishment of publishing house as a key empowering tool. We are therefore forced to look into the possibility of establishing a publishing house through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement.

In 2009 and that budget is in page 31, 32 and 33 and I want to put it before this House for adoption. Honourable DDG and other officials of our department, Honourable Premier in absentia, Members of EXCO, committees of the department and the Provincial Legislature that we account to, stakeholders of our department. Thank you for your support and ensuring that we as a department function and we function effectively.

In conclusion, we wish to borrow from the wisdom of Lou Austin whose observation about the meaning and important of purpose is very instructive and relevant to us as individuals, as colleagues working in a team of the Provincial Department of Sport, Arts, & Culture, as a province of the Republic of South Africa, as a country that belongs to the continent of Africa and as chil-

dren of a larger universe. Austin says: "You are here for a purpose. There is no duplicate of you in the whole of the wide world. There never has been, there never will be. You were brought here now to fulfill a certain need. Take time to think that over."

Honourable Speaker, this august House must have noticed that the child is central to all our policy speeches. That child whom we spoke of at the beginning is here for a purpose. The child has sporting and or arts related talent that should be nurtured, talent whose purpose is to empower the child, the child's family and the community where the child comes from. The purpose is not to indulge and dwell in self-destructive and negative activities. Conditions of that talent to grow depend on how this department/government and the people of this province/country, partners and community at large cooperate in facilitating systems for the growth and development of that child.

It is the purpose of this department to put systems of good governance in place so that officials within the department are

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

empowered to carry the mandate of this department forward. Ke lebogile, ke lebogela dinao tsa baeng botlhe ba ba tlleng kwano gompieno go re reetsa. Ke lebogile thata. Ngiyabonga. Enkosi. Baie dankie.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Members of Executive Council who have presented their budgets, if we were to allocate or to put them in an order of sequence in terms of time management, Honourable will be number one. He is the first Member of Executive to present a speech in less than 40 minutes. We are proceeding I now have a pleasure of inviting chairperson for the portfolio committee on sport, art and culture Honourable Mahlangu to present a report on behalf of the committee.

HON. MAHLANGU:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, I formally present the report of the committee which is already circulated in the House for consideration by your House. I want to take this opportunity to put before your House the concerns and recommendations of the committee.

On the 15th May 2008 the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture briefed the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture about its strategic plan for the current financial year 2008/09. I must indicate that the committee was very pleased about the presentation of the department and how the envisage doing their work for this financial year. As a committee we engage with a department on certain issues that we wanted some resolve and I think as the committee we are very happy for the responses we got from the department. The issues that we engage with the department were on the management and Administration, Arts and Culture, Library and Archives Services, and Sports and Recreation.

Furthermore the Committee was briefed on the Mmabana Arts, Cultural and Sports Foundation performance plan for the year 2008/09 as a public entity of the Department of Sports. The concern that we raised as the committee for the attention of the department with the MEC is already addressed. One of the issues that we raised was the AGs report. Two issues of the

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

committee that we are raising from this report one was that the department did not perform a risk assessment during the 2006/07 financial year. The risk management was not developed and did not address the risk identified. A fraud prevention plan was developed but not implemented.

On human resource, the department did not have an approved human resource plan. More effective system of monitoring and managing staff trends for example productivity and sick leave trends were not implemented. The finale approved human resource structure was not implemented by the department. Nonetheless, we also want to congratulate the department for receiving an unqualified audit report. The issues we raised with the department were as follows:

- The retaining of trained and experienced employees in the department. The unfilled vacant posts.
- The non -signing of performance management plan, the development and implementation of the Equity Plan.
- Lack of implementation of the

supply chain management and training system.

- 2010 FIFA World Cup we also raided the legacy projects, budgets and the time frames for the department of look at as this 2010 World Cup is not an issue for the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture but for all departments in the province. We indicated that we think the department of sport should be making sure that all these matters are addressed for the 2010.

- On the issues of libraries the promotion of mother tongue books in libraries. The installation of computer with internet access in libraries. The accessibility of people with disabilities in libraries (sign language, books and hearing devises).

- The effectiveness of the Siyadlala Mass participation programme the committee indicated that it is time that we must see result from this programme. We have seen plans good ones on this programme it is now time that we must see results coming out of this programme.

- Lack of sports and recreation in the province that the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture, Education and municipalities should look at this matter because it is a serious con-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

cern for the committee that municipalities seem to be not taking this matter very seriously.
PAUSED: 2008/08/06

- The issue of Mmabana Arts, Cultural Foundation the issue that was raised which is long outstanding, the land on which Mmabana Culture and Sports Foundation building are situated are still not registered. This matter I'm not sure when is it going to be resolved, but as the committee we hope the department will still have to meet and resolve this particular matter.

- The slow progress in the establishment of mini-Mmabana's in different areas. We are happy that the decentralization of the department to regions and municipalities is taking place but we are registering a slow progress in the establishment of mini-Mmabanans in different municipalities in the province.

- Role clarification between Mmabana Arts, Cultural Foundation and North West Provincial Arts Culture Council should be addressed also where possible proper and serious coordination between these structures should take place.

- Deliberations of these matters the committee decided that we should then look at the recommendations that the department should be addressing. We also recognized that the department is one of the lowest funded in the province even this financial year I think the budget for this department has been reduced. We are saying that the department should look at other sources of funds from other companies which are making business in the province to attain envisage programmes which they must not be able to address in the province because of the financial constraints from the provincial government.

- The Department to develop and implement the Communication policy.

- The Department to implement the signing of performance management plan by all employees.

- Better coordination between Mmabana Arts, Culture and Sport Foundation and the North West Arts Culture Council.

- The issue of the mass participation programme that it should be measure of how much people are coming out of that programme who are successful in sports activities that they are

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

engaged in.

- The coordination between the Department of Sport, communities and the Department of Education when dealing with sports. We just heard this morning that around R10 million has been budgeted for sport in the department of Education, how we bring these resources together to promote sport in our communities.

As the committee we are satisfied with the presentation by the department, we therefore want to move that this House accept this budget. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I now have a pleasure of calling Honourable Matladi.

HON. MATLADI:

Motlotlegi Motlatsa-Mmusakgotla, ke setse ke dumedisitse. Ntelle e re fa ke simolola go tseno mo dipuisanong tsa tekanyetsokabo eno ke akgole Motlotlegi Kgosi Mangope le ba a dirileng le bona mo nakong e e fetileng gore ngwana a bitswa Mmabana a ba a kile a tsalwa o a re fileng tse dintsi tse re di itseng. Ke sa batle go balakolla ba ba

rapeletsweng mo setheong se, ba ba isitseng porofense ya Bokone Bophirima kwa setlhoeng se se kwa godimo go fitlha le gompiono. Ke tlatsa motlotlegi Mokhuduthamaga fa a re go tshwanelwa gore moonoo le maitlhommo a setheo sa Mmabana ka nako e se neng se dirwa a latedisiwe mme a diragadiwe gore re bone dikuno le tse di fetang tse re nang le tsona.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Sport, Arts & Culture budget has increased from R320.2 million in 2007/08 to R327.1 million in 2008/09. During the previous financial year however, this department has received a qualified audit opinion and chairperson has already outlined for what reasons the Auditor General was not happy about the management of finances in the department. Also the very same annual report, there are two sections that I would like to outline, the section namely Klein-Marico recreation centre which received a disclaimer audit opinion as well as Donkervlei rereaction and adventure centre also a disclaimer and these are indications that the financial management system in the department

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

is not yet up to scratch.

In Programme 1, Management and Administration, the following challenges have been highlighted: The first one insufficient skilled personnel, insufficient office space, insufficient maintenance of buildings and we would like to get clarification on the departmental plan to fill in its vacant positions in this current financial year. We also have the issue of books in libraries that have to be updated because the report is very old books are in libraries and they do not help the readers even those who go for reference into our libraries.

There are computers in libraries but the report is that the internet is not yet connected, so it becomes very difficult for readers to network and to use the internet although it is in existence. Make libraries reader friendly to people with disabilities and we have already said the sign language, hearing aids and many others have to be attended to in order to address this. If the above hiccups or challenges cannot be addressed, we realize that the libraries would be white elephants they wouldn't bear our

communities any fruit.

Sporting codes are still segregating our rural and urban communities in the province where some codes are said to be for urban because of the resources in urban areas. And those codes that are less expensive that do not need complexities are referred to the rural areas. Learners in both rural and urban schools including the farm schools also have access to sporting facilities alike. We have looked into strategic plan, the annual report and we would like to say so far the report that Honourable MEC has presented regarding the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup are not yet reverberating, they are not yet giving us the oomph to see that indeed we would be hosting this world cup. We want the following to be addressed together the MEC with other MECs of different departments conditions of our roads. When I debated transport, roads and community safety I referred to the issue that bojanala bo ngokwa ke ditsela tse di siameng". I even referred Honourable MEC then to areas of tourism that needed attention especially the road networks.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Also as we are talking let us look into other tourist attraction sides that have to be looked into by Honourable Duma Ndleleni in preparation for people who will be coming to the North West province that we can gain economically and our people that are poverty stricken can also have something to gain from this endeavour. Socio-economic preparedness of the province is not yet well up to scratch and there are barriers that we have been told would be existing on who sell what where. These are the issues that we would like to be brought into the House to be debated so that our people can prepare themselves.

Motswana o rile "mosele wa pula o baakangwa go sale gale". Re dikile re bone metholo ya pegelo ya an entity e e bitswang North West Provincial Arts and Culture Council e yona e neng e e nale mathata a se kana ka sepe. Ke tla nopola mathata ale mararo a a tlhageletseng mo go yona. Ntlha ya ntlha ene ele board members ba ba tsamaileng ba resign mme go bonala gore ga go ise go thibiwe phatlha ya bona mme mo nakong e khutshwane re itumelela pegelo ya gore other

board members has been placed in the positions to continue with their work.

Also there was a problem of the finances that could have been paid into the accounts of the council yet they were running short of some amounts. The example is instead of this council receiving R3.1 million only R2.3 million was deposited into their coffers. They were expecting the R3.6 million into their account by the 1st of April of the financial year 2006/07 and this R3.6 million was meant for bursaries and assistance of learners and according to the report this they have never received. The council received an adverse audit opinion and we would like to find out if the department ever visits this council to do its monitoring. We however, as the UCDP would like as well to add our vote and say let it pass. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Our next speaker is Honourable Groenewald.

HON. GROENEWALD:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislature and officials of

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the department. With an increase of about R7 million from the 2007/08 budget year to the 2008/09 budget year I'm afraid that the amount is too little for the department with such a large responsibility to the community of the province. There are a lot of challenges in the programme management and administration insufficient skilled staff. This is not only the department in the Legislature who are suffering from the lack of skilled people, but is a general problem in the Legislature of the North West Province.

The portfolio committee wants to know what the department is doing to train their staff and after training to keep them in the department. The department must look into the salary scale in the different categories and most important of all, it must be able to compete with other departments in provinces in South Africa. Insufficient office space, that is not acceptable that any department needs to suffer because there is not enough space for their activities to be managed well. With a growing department and a growing demand from all the regions in the province for both sport

facilities, better and more equipped libraries it is high time to address the problem of office space in the province.

Insufficient maintenance of buildings, no organization or department can function well and serve the community if the buildings can't be used to their full potential. Therefore, it is important to keep up the maintenance of the apartment building and that will also help to keep the spirit of the staff high. The maintenance of these building on a regular basis will save a lot of money in the long term. In Programme 2 cultural affairs, also have a lot of strategic goals to be reached. To keep communities healthy, it is important to create, promote and develop sustainable sport, art and culture activities of the programmes.

With the shortage of this kind of programmes in the communities, the department has a big task to fulfill. They must look for new investments to give the support to the communities to develop into the province for the better of all the citizens in the province. The biggest challenge in the department is to see that

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

they address the shortage of sport, art and culture facilities to meet communities' needs and of course the maintenance of such facilities. The limited sport school grounds and general sport facilities keep the youth away from mass participation and the lot of other problems creates that is not good for the health and also for our young people in our communities. The communities demand more sport facilities and service delivery without sport, art and culture entities that will enhance the participation in sport arts and culture activities.

Agbare Adjunk Speaker, dit kan nie genoeg beklemtoon word hoe belangrike sport fasiliteite in ons gemeenskappe is nie. Sport fasiliteite bring gemeenskappe bymekaar waar gemeenskaplike belange bedryf kan word. Dit bevorder 'n kultuur om op trots te wees met spanne wat presteer en gedissiplineerd is. Die departement het voorwaar 'n enorme taak om in hierdie behoefte van die gemeenskap te voorsien. In sportfasiliteite en ook in die afrigting wat die reëls ken in verskillende sportsoorte en wat dit dan ook aan die einde van die dag kan toepas.

Everyone of us is very excited and looking forward to the 2010 World Cup Soccer in South Africa. The Royal Bafokeng Stadium is unscheduled and will be completed by the end of 2009. The DA wants to see all culture heritage opportunities presented by 2010 World Cup will benefit communities in the province and will also be sustainable after 2010. We must have well informed communities in the province, the moment people had the facility of library with enough books and access to internet, they have the opportunity to know what is going on in the world.

The committee wants to see that more libraries are built and equipped with enough mother tongue language literacy to give more people the opportunity to expand their knowledge. Honourable Speaker, there is a serious lack of ICT infrastructure in the rural areas of the province. Many libraries are allocated with computers for internet use, but it is not connected. These kind of facilities are of no use for the communities and it is just a white elephant. The department must see that the necessary Telkom

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

lines are installed for the use of these technologies in the rural areas.

Programme 4 of the department, sport and recreation includes very important issues in the community and lives of people. Sport management functions, relevant bodies to stimulate development of sport, recreation to provide financial assistance, school sport to ensure that all learners have access to sport facilities. Mass participation programmes are aimed at intervening in the identification social illness in the society. With the budget in hand, it will take a lot of good management from the MEC and his department to put the money where it is needed the most. The importance of the different sport, art and culture associations is to see to it that they implement the sport policies and all the other policies that the communities get the benefit that all programmes are sustainable, that transformation takes place, that FIFA Confederation Cup in 2009 and 2010 FIFA World Cup be a success in the North West Province.

Groot dank aan die hoof van die

LUR in sy department wat 'n minderbekende sportsoort soos byvoorbeeld rolbal en sekere soorte karate finansiële bystand gegee het. Hierdie finansiële bystand aan hierdie soort sportsoorte help ook om agterblewe sportsterre na vore te bring en hulle dan ook te laat presteer aan die einde van die dag.

The DA will support the budget of the department for the coming year. I thank you. Baie dankie. Ke a leboga.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Thank you Honourable Groenewald. I now invite MEC Duma to respond to the debate.

HON. MEC DUMA:

Thanks Deputy Speaker. Let me start with challenges of skill, our staff and retaining staff. We have, as a provincial government, identified that as a challenge. Strategies have been put in place to address that because an audit was done to all government departments particularly addressing senior management. As a department we have also went and address skills challenges to even the last employee of our department. We have identified all the gaps. We have

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

put a plan in addressing skills challenges in the department ours in discussion with the DDG not more than two weeks ago on the implementation of that plan we are ready to deal with the challenges of skills shortage.

The problem of retention, I think it is a problem throughout the government because the private sector is the most attractive in remuneration of individuals. We as government compete with the private sector and it is difficult to retain skill in the public sector. It is more difficult to do so in smaller provinces because the budget is also small in competing with bigger provinces like KZN, Western Cape and Gauteng in terms of remuneration. We are doing our best as a provincial government to compete in remuneration of staff. Risk assessment and management, the HOD has put that strategy in place in October 2007, it exist it is being implemented. The provincial finance department has assessed the department on the existence of that tool and they found that they are happy that we have implemented the risk assessment and management tool.

On the issue of proper supply management chain, we as the department have looked at that tool, we have identified its weaknesses, we went into discussion with senior management of the department we know what the challenges are and we are equal to address those challenges as a department it is not something that we are not giving attention, we are paying full attention to ensuring that we comply.

On the promotion of mother tongue I think our report here in the budget speech has indicated what we are doing both in fighting illiteracy but also in staffing. The community libraries the staff that must go there and training that they must receive. Also the buying of books have also been addressed in our budget speech that part of the conditional grants for libraries this year part of it is going to go in the stock of books and books that are used by communities in the province particularly the use of mother tongue. The issue of the internet connection, we have discussed with the Department of Finance, one of our officials attended our senior management meeting we discussed with

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the challenges because they are supposed to assist in the implementation of linking our computers and all infrastructure with the internet connection.

There is a strategy in place developed between ourselves and the Department of Finance in ensuring that we resolve this problem. We are hoping by the end of October/November this year will belong to the past. There are other challenges of budget because it is not going to be easy with the concept of connecting because it is not land-lines it is other concept which may be very expensive technology to access. We will be confronted by the lack of funds in addressing the problem completely. The problems of Mmabana belong to the past around the AGs report. All of those problems we will ensure that when we report very shortly to the committee we will indicate how we have dealt with all of those problems, they now belong to the past.

The PACC is giving bursaries to Arts and Culture students. There was a situation where controls financial management in the PACC as a structure was a big

challenge. That is why we couldn't continue to put funds where those funds were not properly managed and controlled. We then transferred those funds in the period 2006/07 to Mmabana Foundation and it was implementing that programme. For all the committees in the department now, Mmabana is going to take charge of the financial management and control of the funds and the funds of the PACC all of those because Mmabana has now more than increased capacity. We in fact challenging all institutions of government about the controls and financial management as more than we think we are the best in ensuring that that happens. We have the requisite skills and the personnel.

About the 2010, we said 2010 we identified all of those legacies we have done so in our budget speech. And if we are supposed to be engaged let us be engaged all whether we can deliver on those legacy projects and whether we have the necessary budget to do so. Where we are standing we are in a position to deliver on the legacies identified in our budget

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

speech. The last issue is that sometimes we tried on dangerous ground when we think knowledge must belong to individuals, society educate its own individuals so that those individuals come and put back what society has given them and that knowledge does not become exclusive domain of individuals. We acknowledge the role that can be played by individuals. The community art centre is not different from Mmabana, Mmabana is a community art centre it is just a community art centre at a bigger scale, it is not different. What we want to do as a department is to ensure that all community art centres that have the equipments, the training that Mmabana gives. That is why building on that we are bringing the knowledge from professors in the North West University, professors in the Helsinki University to ensure that the programmes that Mmabana gives are now given in an expanded and accelerated way. That knowledge does not belong to the person who originated the concept of Mmabana it now belongs to us but we will not plan it as our exclusive domain. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members I would now want us to run the House quickly through the budget. We will run it through programme by programme.

Programme 1 : Administration
= R56.808.000

HON. MALOYI:

Deputy Speaker we want to make a proposal; a proposal that must migrate to the next budget vote. What we will do we will then migrate back to the vote of sport, art and culture immediately after debating social development. We are trying to address the question of quorum.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

We defer this budget vote and take concurrently with that of Social Development because the rule requires us to have two thirds in a House before we adopt the budget and two third is constituted by 22 Members. I now have the pleasure of inviting Honourable Mangqo to present budget vote 12 for the Department of Social Development.

HON. MEC MANGQO:

Honourable Deputy Speaker,

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Honourable Speaker in her absence, Honourable Premier Molewa also in her absence, Honourable colleagues in the Executive Council, Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature, Honourable Executive Mayors and Mayors, Honourable Speakers and Members of the Mayoral Committees. Honourable Councilors, Members of the House of the Traditional Leaders, Magosi a etsho a a tlotlegang, different Political Parties, Our social partners, the NGOs, CBO and FBOs, Members of the Media, Comrades and friends, distinguish guests, bagaetsho botlhe.

We present the Budget Vote Address today, as the last in the current term of governance, inspired by the milestones that we have covered in our journey to improving the living conditions of all of our people, the poor and the most vulnerable in particular. We present this address this year as we mark the 40th anniversary of the passing away of one of the greatest champions of civil rights, Dr. Martin Luther King, who on the 3rd of April 1968, would deliver what would be viewed as his premo-

nation address coined, " I have been to mountaintop" only to leave us the following day.

We have come here today, Deputy Speaker, to say that in the memory of Dr. King, Oliver Tambo, Lilian Ngoyi, Hellen Joseph, Joe Slovo and Chris Hani, we have been to the mountaintop. Of particular interest, Deputy Speaker is that exactly 55 years ago, on this day, history would be made as Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing would be the first people in recorded history to reach the summit of Mount Everest. We join in their memory today as we reveal details of the Panorama we glanced with them, from the mountaintop.

Delivering his last address at Memphis, Tennessee, on the 3rd of April 1968, Dr. King said, as I quote "well. I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about it now. I just want to do God's will. And God allowed me

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we as a people, will get to the Promised Land"

We tread in the footsteps of giants today, as we say, the suffering of our people has taken us to the mountain and there we saw the Promised Land. We have descended the summit of the mountain, clear of the duties we have to fulfill to eradicate the suffering of our people, as we lead them to the Promised Land. Deputy Speaker, we did not go to the mountain out of our own will. We were sent there by the people and we delivered on this mandate. The people have spoken and we dedicate this budget vote address to the poor, the religious communities, community builders, the most vulnerable and indeed the proletariat amongst our people. Deputy Speaker we continue to strive for the improvement of a service delivery that can deliver on the objectives we have set ourselves.

The complexity of social chal-

lenges makes that social work profession indispensable. It is for this reason that social work profession has been declared a scarce skill in the country. In view of this factor, the national provincial departments have developed a strategy for the recruitment and retention of social workers. The department has developed a partnership with the North West University to ensure the increased intake of social work students. Bursaries have been provided to 132 students from disadvantaged communities. 17 students who had already enrolled at a time when they receive bursaries have graduated and currently employed by the department.

Thirty unemployed graduates have been identified for the internship programme with 10 skilled in Media and Communications, 5 in Information Technology, another 5 in Human Resources Development and Management and 10 in Records Management. They will all be placed in the current financial year. The department introduced ABET programme for its employees in August 2007 and

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

104 of our employees are currently attending classes. We congratulate them for the remarkable progress they continue to register.

We continue to be affected by the exodus of skilled and experienced senior management members as we had projected in the previous financial year. We however would like to point out that this is not a problem that is unique to our department as generally such exodus of skilled workers affects the social cluster departments due to the scarce skills sought by others. We continue to be concerned about this exodus of skilled workers from the public service to the private sector as this affects institutional memory and culture. We continue to look into intensifying staff retention strategies and ensuring that we employ fresh graduates who will be patriotic and committed to the public service. In the midst of these challenges, we remain inspired that tomorrow will be better than today for we have seen the Promised Land.

Deputy Speaker, we have collective responsibility to entrust our future in the hands of our

children as they will be the defenders of the freedoms we have fought for and the custodians of our nationhood. We have committed in the previous financial year to taking services to children so as to mark progress in our developmental objectives. Foster care services targeting 5000 children were fast-tracked and we are proud to announce that not only have we delivered on that but we have surpassed expectations as we reached a total of 8000 additional children who are currently under foster care. The draft Provincial Adoption Strategy has been developed and action plans are to follow in this regard.

Deputy Speaker, the realization of a better future begins with the resources we invest in our children from young age. In the midst of the challenges we continue to face, we remain inspired that families are not shaken by fears of the future; they are prepared to do God's will. The establishment of family services directorate has provided strategic leadership to programmes and projects to improve the well-being of families. A director has been appointed along with other crucial posts to the functioning

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

of this director. R3.8 million has been allocated for this purpose. The department hosted a family conference where 300 delegates attended in the fight against social ills bred by absence of family leadership, material assistance was provided to families at risk NGOs providing services to families we funded. As part of our intervention in placing families at the centre of building the moral fibre of society, the department joined a provincial delegation that attended Ethical Leadership Conference in Bahamas.

Community dialogue workshops were undertaken where 120 stakeholders were orientated on information cascading regarding moral regeneration programmes. Four district workshops were held to promote awareness on the Draft Family Policy reaching 250 stakeholders. Our families have spoken they have seen the glory of God and they prepared to embark with us on a journey to the Promised Land. The abuse of substance continues to paint the picture that the idea of a promised land is far fetched for our people. We reject this notion as we say that having seen the

Promised Land, we shall not allow any obstacle to discourage us.

In promoting the implementation of National Drug Master Plan, a consultative meeting with the Central Drug Authority, Department of Social Development and other stakeholders was held. This partnership process has witnessed the development of the Draft Provincial Mini Drug Master Plan whose aim is to reduce the demand and supply of licit and illicit drugs. Rolling out of Ke Moja Substance Abuse prevention strategy through the province has seen 57 service providers educators, mental health coordinators, members of SAPS, civil society and social development. Thirty-two schools were reached during the roll-out of "Ke Moja" Programme through the province, which number shall be tripled as outreach programmes become our primary focus.

Deputy Speaker, the view from the mountaintop once more assured that none shall ever be superior that the other, we were all created equal despite the differences in our physical abilities.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

We are all God's children to persons with disabilities we have seen the Promised Land. Moretele One-Stop Centre has been identified as part of both improvement and expansion of services to the eligible. The centre was earmarked for people with disabilities but the current renovation is an attempt to mainstream people with disabilities; hence inclusion of other departmental programmes in the centre. Service providers for departmental infrastructural development are on site and the renovations are in progress. Implementation of transformation model for Itsoseng Handicraft Centre as part of Gobodo recommendations has been a success. Renovations for first phase of the centre were concluded in line with the service delivery norms and standards. Posts for the institution were advertised and interviews concluded. Draft guidelines on the recruitment of board members are in place. The vision and mission of the centre was reviewed guided by Integrated National Disability Strategy and the Disability Policy. Admission criteria have also been developed in line with the norms and standards.

R2 million was awarded to Triest Centre to provide outreach programme to 16 community-based disability organizations and ABET training to people with mental disability. 16 day care centre and self-help projects have trained on centre management, record keeping and basic financial management. The North West University has approved training manual. Examination was written by all those enrolled wherein 50 % passed and were awarded certificates. Sixty people with mental disability received ABET training. As Dr. Martin Luther King teaches us, "Longevity has its place" these words are an inspiration to all of us to continue to improve the living conditions of older person. Implementation plan on popularization of the older persons Act has been designed to ensure effective information dissemination to communities and stakeholders.

This includes capacity building programmes for coordinators and partners on regulations for implementation of the Act. Train the trainer workshop was conducted for empowerment and development of staff and part-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

ners as well as the roll out plan for training of community structures, NGOs, FBO and other partners. A total budget of R41.4 million was allocated for this purpose. In promotion and protection of the rights of older persons, 1200 older persons were reached during international day of older persons leading to the honouring of the eldest person in the Moses Kotane and Rustenburg municipalities in Bojanala District who recorded a 136 years. Two hundred grandparents were honoured for the contribution they have made in their societies and the roles they played in parenting grandchildren, care giving in terminally ill family members and for being bread winners for their families.

Ten older persons were provided with wheel chairs to enhance mobility. Promotion of care and support through partnership with Kgetleng Local Municipality was undertaken to ensure integration of services for older persons with disabilities during Christmas. Service provider has been appointed for renovations at Sonop Home for older persons aimed at improving the living conditions in terms of norms and standards for residential

facilities. Transformation plan for state run facilities has been approved and the quality assurance tool has been developed to ensure improvement and compliance to legislative mandates. State run facilities received honours during the recent Premier's Service Excellent Awards.

As we descended the mountain Deputy Speaker, we descended inspired by the glory we saw at the Promised Land. We saw a land of milk and honey, where HIV/AIDS was a distant memory, defeated to eternity. Despite the challenges of our day, we are encouraged that we are capable of defeating this enemy to the poor and most vulnerable amongst our people. The department funded 40 home community based organization which includes 13 new home community based organizations and 4 HIV/AIDS prevention/partnership programme with love life. It has been a challenge to release the funds on time due to the delays in the registration of organizations in the system. The department has however, registered progress in resolving this hiccup and it is anticipated that such problems will never be

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

anticipated again.

The department has also visited all funded organizations in Bojanala, Dr. Ruth Mompoti and Dr. Kenneth Kauda Districts and an intervention plan has been developed to address all challenges experienced by these organizations. In order to enhance the performance of the department in relation to the national and provincial strategic plans on HIV/AIDS and STIs the department has filled the post of Director HIV/AIDS Programmes as well as six posts of assistant directors within the unit. The local victim empowerment programme forum members have been trained on minimum standards for service delivery as directed by victim empowerment integrated policy. In finalizing the implementation of a strategy to sustain three victim empowerment centres to improve services rendered, posts for the centre manager and the senior social workers have been advertised. Thirteen volunteers receiving stipends, pending the finalization of the implementation of the strategy.

As we reached the mountaintop Deputy Speaker, we looked

back and saw the anarchy of poverty disguised as xenophobia and many other forms of prejudice. We saw how some amongst us had lost hope and gave into lies fed by poverty that our brothers and sisters were stealing our jobs. We shed tears at this scene as we now condemn the spate of attacks that have been carried out by siblings against siblings. As we look forward into the future we saw today's foes marching to the Promised Land side by side led by Enoch Sontonga as they sang Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika! The poor of today shall get to the Promised Land and witness the eternal defeat of poverty. The department championed the development of the provincial poverty eradication strategy as mandated by the provincial cabinet.

The department in partnership with the South African Scout Association for the roll-out of a programme called Food for Life to 1 250 scouts. Starter packs were issued to young people in all four district municipalities to start backyard gardens. Beneficiaries were trained on food production and garden maintenance as planned.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Possibilities of replication to other areas will be informed by the sustainability and benefits realized upon completion of assessment by the department. R1.32 million has been budgeted for in this regard. The leadership of unemployed youth was previously in conflict with the law from the previously volatile Naledi Local Municipality has been mobilized by the department and the municipality to establish Bophirima Youth Development Programme, aimed at providing care and support to orphans, children with disabilities and child-headed Households.

A camping excursion for 85 members of these target groups and the youth leadership was conducted during December 2007 in preparation for the establishment of the development programme. Once again South African Scout Association played an important role in the Moral Regeneration Camp for these young people

Bophirima Youth Development Programme has been funded R1.2 million and will start implementing in June this year. The delay was as a result of lack of

proper accommodation in close proximity to the targeted beneficiaries. Our sincere appreciation to Naledi Local Municipality for providing office space to the group. The official launch of this project will follow and announcements will be done similarly. The department has joined the national department and other provincial departments in Masupatsela Youth Pioneer Programme. This is an initiative that was conceived from the bilateral co-operation agreement in the social development sector between the Honourable Minister Zola Skweyiya and his Cuban counterpart. The programme seeks to recruit 1 040 unemployed youth from prioritized municipalities over a period of 3 years to massify registration of ECDs, increase the number of beneficiaries and thus addressing current backlogs in the early childhood development sector and youth unemployment.

Three new drop-in-centres have been funded. These are "Be green and Active" in Kagisano, Nkgokare in Mazista in Kgetleng and Ratang Bana in Bokfontein in Madibeng. "Tshwaraganang le Unicef" in Madibeng, has

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

been strengthened to prepare for the project centre and vegetable garden establishment. The total cost for the four centres is R3.59 million. The department once more successfully hosted four district Readira Awards in preparation for the provincial community builder of the year awards. The North West Province was well represented at the national event. The Matlosane based Steward Nhlathi Science Engineering and Technology Institute who won the National Youth Category and also scooped the overall National Community Builder Award.

The department further assisted the Executive in Chief, the young Sir. Stuart Nhlathi, to go on observational visit to Taiwan National Science and Buddhism Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation in Taipei, Taiwan. A total of R1.3 Million was spent on the provisional awards. In our efforts of improving conditions for service delivery, we continue to place matters of policy implementation and service delivery planning, monitoring and evaluation at the centre of management development. In the current financial year, we

undertake to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of the departmental programme performance as well as foster the participation of relevant and key stakeholders such as municipalities and sector departments in all planning processes. Deputy Speaker we have been to the mountaintop and we now take this opportunity to intensify our march towards the Promised Land. R350 000 has been set aside to ensure alignment of key policy salient thrusts such as PGDS, MDGS, SONA and SOPA policy directives amongst others in our planning processes. R200 000 will be spent on reviewing the departmental monitoring and evaluation framework by September 2008.

The supply chain management intends to improve and transform the service delivery system by engaging the historically disadvantaged individuals to participate in the procurement process of the Department of Social Development. The directorate will, with its service delivery improvement and transformation plan, host 4 supply chain management awareness campaign to communities in each of district. These awareness cam-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

paings will enable us to empower the rural and local communities to gain access and participate in our procurement process using the preferential procurement tools. During this awareness campaign, more information pertaining to the departmental procurement system will be disseminated.

The directorate is targeting 51% of historically disadvantaged individuals participation which will address poverty eradication, promotion of local business and strengthening of co-operatives and all other self sustainable projects. We will continue to ensure that effective human resource provisioning, organizational development and transformation services. Advocacy and training programmes for employee's health and wellness programmes will be intensified. Management of employee relations is one crucial factor we will focus on as we build a strong team of commitment public service cadres. Deputy Speaker, though it might seem as a long journey and at times we might be weary, it needs not matter, we have seen the Promised Land and our children shall get there.

R3 Million has been committed towards improving conditions of early childhood development facilities with 200 new sites being subsidized. In rendering support 150 social auxiliary workers will be trained and R2 million has been set aside for this purpose. Skills audit report for then ECD service will be undertaken as we strive to ensure the reliability of ECD services database. R1 million will be spent in this regard. Monitoring system need continuous improvement and the department will continue to strengthen tracking systems for ECD and grant beneficiaries.

A reliable data base for orphans and vulnerable children will be developed to the tune of R1.5 Million. Services to children in conflict with the law will be improved with integrated management plan for the secure care centres. R25 million has been set aside for the functioning of one centre in Ngaka Modiri Molema. A comprehensive strategy will be developed for homeless children. As we rally behind the hope of a better Africa and the world for all of our people, a provincial indaba on the needs of child refugees

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

will be held in the current financial year. For the current financial year, Child Care and Protection Services receive a budget of R82, 729 million. In the overall the programme will see a rise in subsidies to all institutions engaged in the improvement of the living conditions and protection of the rights of our children

Deputy Speaker, we are not prepared to wonder in the desert for 40 years before we arrive at the Promised Land. HIV/AIDS is prepared to take us on this undesired path. We have been to the mountaintop and we have seen the Promised Land, we shall march side by side with our children there. HIV/AIDS shall not be an obstacle. The department has allocated an amount of R 31.7 million in transfers to support and strengthen the Home Community Based Care services, Prevention and Advocacy Partnership Programmes and R2, 6 million for Drop-in Centres. This will see the strengthening of 52 existing community home based care centres & Drop-in-Centres, 4 new community home based care centres, 4 new Drop-in-

Centres and 4 new HIV/AIDS Prevention and Advocacy Partnership Programmes. The increase in funding will also see an increase in the number of caregivers who will be taken through the EPWP.

In order to strengthen Orphans and Vulnerable Children Support Programmes, the department is currently hosting a provincial summit to develop a provincial orphans and Vulnerable Children Action Plan. This plan will see coordinated action by government, business & NGO's in addressing the plight of orphans and vulnerable children in the Province. This will be followed by the launch of Provincial Action Committee on Children Affected and Infected by HIV/AIDS (PACCA) in July, and the rollout of structures in districts and local municipalities.

The department will also undertake an impact assessment study on all organizations funded to deliver HIV/AIDS related services to determine gaps, to deal with equity issues, and to inform the development of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS intervention plan to guide the department. The World AIDS Day

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Commemoration, this year, will see the Department of Social Development hosting 4 district build-up events for the World AIDS Day commemoration. This is to scale up the fight against the increasing infection rates of HIV. The HIV/AIDS programme receives R40, 535 million in the current financial year.

The pursuit of happiness cannot be realized in the hopelessness of substance intoxication. We know that the ills of substance abuse shall be defeated, for we have been to the mountaintop. This year the department will implement the secretariat improvement plan for the Provincial Substance Abuse Forum, implement the Provincial Mini Drug Master Plan and the model for substance dependant youth in residential facilities. R 100 000 has been set for the latter commitment so that we have a very clear process on how to deal with it. Access to treatment and rehabilitation services for substance abuse will be improved through the establishment of 1 state run treatment centre to the cost of R10 million. We are further called to mitigate against possible rise in substance abuse dur-

ing 2010 through the intensification of awareness and advocacy of substance abuse programmes in all identified participating municipalities. R650 000 has been set aside for this purpose.

Deputy Speaker, we shall get to the Promised Land with all of our people, none shall be left behind. The department will intensify capacity development on Disability Policies, guidelines and strategies at all levels through improvement of service accessibility, intensification of advocacy programme, information management and research, creating opportunities for employment and growth through economic empowerment projects and facilitation of increase on subsidy rates. We will further increase the capacity of state to deliver through participation in the reviving and launching of local forums as well as to enhance good governance through participation in inter departmental and intra provincial forums. Services to Persons with Disabilities receive a budget of R18 million in the current financial year.

Deputy Speaker, the idea of a

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Promised Land is that where all of our older persons are treated with dignity and honour. It is a land where the memories of a nation will be used to build a better future. We have been to the mountaintop and we have seen the Promised Land. Registration of Facilities for both community based service and residential care facilities remain at the centre of our priorities with regard to services for older persons. These facilities committed to improving the living conditions of the older persons will in this financial year realize a growth in the subsidy allowances, which we believe they will come in handy against the beyond control inflation we continue to experience which continue to push our prices high and deny the opportunity to the poor to be able to access food and the necessary basics that they need.

We will further create an enabling environment through strengthening the existing forums and local organizing communities for older persons, strengthening community based care services, ensure protection of older persons from abuse cases and intensifying capacity

building at all levels. The department will further intensify family preservation programmes with special reference to heritage to ensure integration of services. Granny Headed Households will be profiled and awareness and moral regeneration programmes will be embarked upon. Subsidy increments will be ensured for community based care services in the previously disadvantaged communities to create equitable distribution of resources. The care and services to older persons receive a budget allocation of R43, 262 million.

As we build the moral fibre of our society through empowerment and development of the most vulnerable of our people, establishment of cluster implementation forums for children, families, disabilities and older persons will be intensified. Our families shall lead us to the Promised Land they have been with us to the mountaintop. Four centres will be established for the development and costing of One-Stop service centre model to the amount of R12 million. Ethical leadership advocacy campaigns focusing on the youth will be undertaken to the amount of R250 000. Improved

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

family relationships are crucial to the creation of a healthy minded society and to achieve on our goals in this regard, four reference groups will be established to the amount of R250 000. A strategy for provision of family services will be strengthened to the amount of R350 000. Care and support services to families receive a budget allocation of R7, 217 million from a mere budget of R1 million in the previous financial year.

The idea of our Promised Land is that of a developmental state. Its objectives necessitate that all hands should be on deck to better the lives of our people. Intergovernmental relations framework provides opportunities to be explored by the department as a form of intensifying partnerships. In this regard we will work with the municipalities to work towards a structure that mobilizes political and technical leadership between the province and the municipalities in fast-tracking social development services at ward level. The department will work with all relevant parties towards the establishment of a structure that encompasses the MEC for Social Development and

Members of Mayoral Committees responsible for social development services across the municipalities in what will be known as MUNIMEC. The main aim of this structure is to establish mechanisms for service delivery as well as coordination and integration with local municipalities.

R 1, 4 million has been set aside for the Provincial Faith Based Organizations (FBO) Conference and the official launch of the Provincial Faith Based Organization Forum. A further R 1m has been set aside for funding of the forum to ensure that all their plans are implemented with minimal financial constraints experienced. This department has to ensure that parents also play their rightful role in homes, families and communities. Because "charity begins at home" it is important that parents and families are assisted and enhanced to provide guidance and support to their children in building them into responsible and caring members within their family and community setup. A Provincial Parenting Network will be launched in ensuring that parents and all relevant stakehold-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

ers in Moral Regeneration and Child Welfare are provided with a structure and platform to operate, be seen and I heard Honourable Duma Ndleleni saying "Ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa!" We urge our state-led and private or community owned institutions, to meaningfully engage with us on a transformation path we have set on, for all funded institutions. The developmental challenges we continue to respond to necessitate this process of transformation and it will benefit all of us.

The Review of the Poverty Eradication Implementation Plan and development of the poverty eradication system (PES) implementation plan will be undertaken in the current financial year. This will see the establishment of the war room as mandated by the President of the Republic and the Premier of the Province. Feasibility studies will be conducted in 15 local municipalities targeted as possible service areas for enterprise development. R12 million has been earmarked for the establishment of cooperatives to intensify Poverty Eradication Strategy projects. We will invest resources to initiate productive

economic enterprises as part of departmental Quick-Win projects, including Institutional Bakeries. R12million has been budgeted for in this regard so that our people can produce bread into areas where they found themselves.

Improved material support for the needy and vulnerable refugees will be embarked upon, by establishing 4 district Food and Clothing Banks at a budget of R6 million. The department will strengthen the financial muscle of two Flagship Programmes in Mathateng and Madikwe to the amount of R2 million. For the roll-out of Masupatsela Programme, Core Programmes of the department will carry the costs estimated at not less than R 15m, including staffing and all other requirements like transport and furniture for the establishment of Special Programmes Unit where the Masupatsela Programme will be located. This is a directive by Cabinet that all provinces this year should ensure that the Masupatsela units are established so that they carry out their activities. The province will once again host 4 District Rea-Dira Awards and the Provincial

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Community Builder of the Year Awards. Prizes for the district awards and the provincial event will be increased to award our winners accordingly. R 2, 6million has been allocated for Community Builder Awards in this financial year.

Deputy Speaker, we have been to the Mountain-top. From now on, we just want to do God's will. May I take this time, to send my heartfelt appreciation for the support and encouragement I continue to receive from my loving family. My mother and my children continue to be a rock upon which I remain enchored. The Acting Head of Department of Social Development, Mme Lindile Kgasi, a child of the revolution, born and bred into the revolution, together with her dedicated team of public service cadres in the department continue to go beyond the call of duty to ensure that we deliver on our obligated mandates to the multitudes of our people. Deputy Speaker, I remain grateful to these soldiers of the public service revolution, who were there to provide the necessary climbing tools as we ascended the mountaintop; they too shall see the

Promised Land.

Sincerest thanks to our social partners, for coming on board to translate our revolutionary objectives into meaningful practical results on the ground. The support and leadership I have been receiving from this august House has been enormous and I remain grateful to this. To my political home, the African National Congress, I am encouraged by the lessons I receive from you to continue as a soldier of the National Democratic Revolution. Our 2008/09 departmental budget breakdown is as such;

Programme 1: Administration receives R101, 570

Programme 2: Social Welfare Services receive R407, 389

Programme 3: Development and Research receives R98, 564

Deputy Speaker, I present you the total departmental budget of R607, 523 million for 2008/09 financial year for your vote. May I ask the Members of this House to please pass the budget the children are waiting and the elderly are patiently waiting to receive the services they desire. I thank you.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Thank you Honourable MEC I now call upon Honourable Mampane the chairperson of Social Development Committee to present the committee report thank you.

HON. MAMPANE:

Ke a leboga modulasetilo wa baduladitulo, Maloko a rona a Khuduthamaga, badiri ba rona ba ko lefapheng, ba Ntlo ya Segosi le baeti botlhe bao ba eng teng fa. Honourable chair of chairs we are all working towards reaching the millennium developing goal by hourbing hunger by 2014. Therefore I believe that it is important to work as a team in order to reach this objective jaaka motsogapele a kile a re "Kgetse ya tsie e kgonwa ke go tshwaraganelwa e bile gape sedikwa ke ntšwapedi ga se thata." Whilst we acknowledge the good work that the department has done, we raised as a portfolio committee the following concerns:

- The department was in process of reconciling and verifying fixed assets to the fixed assets register. However the fixed assets in the register could not be physically verified and in

certain cases physical assets could not be physically traced back to the fixed register. As not all assets were bar-coded or the asset register could not contain sufficient details.

- There was no evidence of any analysis or reconciliation of charges levied by the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety for the utilization of pool vehicles. The expenditure amounted to R3.9 million for the period under review. It has been established that incorrect tariffs were used resulting in incorrect charges to the department. There is consequently doubt about the completeness, accuracy and accuracy of such expenditure.

- It further noted that the department incurred penalties in respect of late submission of log sheet, resulting in fruitless and wasteful expenditure. Such expenditure had not been disclosed in the financial statement as required by Section 40 (3) of the PFMA.

- Although target set out were in line with strategic goals, certain targets were not achieved by the department. The portfolio committee honourable chair of chairs raised again as usual a concern about shortage of social

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

workers and counselors which we think that it contributed to the increase of drug and alcohol abuse in schools around the province. There is also another concern raised by the committee which is the high staff turnover within the department. There is a few number of substance abuse practitioners in the province, the department though is getting there it is not yet achieved the equity target.

Giving these concerns we also came up with resolutions as a portfolio committee that the department of Social Development should collaborate with the Department of Education to deal with the issue of early childhood development centres. We also wish that all provinces should standardize the salary level of social workers to avoid the movement from one province to the other. They should also speed up the implementation of older persons' Act. The department should employ more community liaison officers to monitor and assess projects or non governmental organizations funded by the department. We wish that the people in old age home should be treated equal regardless of their racial

classification because in some of the homes funded by the department, you find that our black grannies are kept right at the back and they are not given care as white grannies. We also wish the department should implement their retention strategy they are having.

In conclusion Honourable Deputy Speaker, the committee commended the department on its impressive strategic plan/ budget presentation and also requests the House to approve the budget for the 2008/09 financial year. The committee gave the department a time-frame of six months to implement the resolutions taken by the committee and then it will exercise its oversight role to monitor the progress made. May God bless you all. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Re a leboga mme Motlotlegi mme Mampane. Nako ya gago o e tshwere. Ke tla bitsa motlotlegi mme Matladi.

HON. MATLADI:

Honourable Deputy Speaker in budget speech during the 2007/08 financial year, the Honourable MEC promised that

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

80% of the remaining social service posts will be filled and necessary resources will be availed. We follow up in this matter to check if this target has been reached. We however thanked the Honourable MEC For the training plan of the social workers that has been arranged with the University of the West and believe that it will relief the department of the challenge of shortage of social workers in due course. We were aware that out of the 300 targeted recruits only 149 of previous year financial posts were filled. So we are still concerned. It was less than 50%.

The shortage of social workers cause negative impact on service delivery it also suggest huge workload for them resulting in multitudes of stresses as attributed by the Honourable MEC. There was another element of lack of resources for the social services which included the shortage of office space. In Bophirima we found that were even housed in one room in the hospital of Tshwaragano, in Vryburg they were housed in the Health Department Offices. And they do not have office equipments including computers and

telephones you name them. Also the shortage of pool cars was a problem and they were asking for subsidized cars to do their task. The package and salary of social workers has been promised to designed in a way of enticing or winning the social workers to come and work at the rural North West Province. We are checking if this package is in place and we are aware that we were told that it will be worked by the province together with the national department and it is overdue we want to know where it is. Regional managers in social development were not filled the positions there of. But the district managers were acting on rotational basis and we would like to believe that this scenario has been corrected and the managers are now in place.

Honourable Deputy Speaker there has been fraudulent cases reported in the Department of Social Development. Where the officials in the department were helping themselves with the grants of the beneficiaries. We were told that the department will look into them and the perpetrators being brought to book. We want to find out what was

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the exact amount of money or the funds that were involved in these cases. We also say time-frames in bringing perpetrators to book has to be shared with us. Because if you leave it open handed it will and it will never happen. There is SASSA, an agency that is well known to be governed at national level. Nevertheless it works in the province and the problems and the suffering are of the provincial communities. So as you present the issues of SASSA we would like to check if it is possible for the Department of Social Development to as well check with the national department if they could be helping in monitoring what SASSA is doing in our province.

The problems in changing of dates, their payments of grants, the long queues at pay points still continues, our senior citizens waking up too early in the morning. You find them in these points at 5h00 in the morning irrespective of the weather conditions waiting to queue up in order to get what is due to them. The tents, toilets, water supply and chairs still not available in some of the pay points. Different organizations including burial

societies are taken advantage of our senior citizens by presenting these schemes to them which rob them of the pension that they should be enjoying.

Waiting period of processing of the application of grants to be given is still very long. More than 3 months, some people go beyond the five months of the cases that have presented to us. We would like to urge the department to look into this including the security of pensioners who always get raped, robbed and killed during the days of getting the pensions.

Child grants are not used for caring of children. Is there any way that the use of these grants can be monitored? We have another challenge of crisis centres in the province. In these crisis centres there is no social the worker who is full time. They are seconded to the crisis centre in addition to the everyday workload that they do have. There is no budget in the crisis centres. Lack of resources to a point that those who are working in the crisis centre sometimes have to fetch their own mieliemeal to cook or prepare food for the people that have set refuge for the people in the crisis centres

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

and they depend on hands out from other departments. If we can't manage the crisis centres why have them? We would move that the social worker be appointed to the crisis centre on a full time basis and also that a budget in your department be made for these centres.

Maintenance of children is also a challenge in this province although we know as well that this is the department that has a national competence. Parents wait for a long time before they can receive their maintenance funds, long after months have ended. In one district I was told that they receive theirs after the fourth of every month. They sometimes stay months on without any funds when there is a delay between the working place and the office in order to access the funds from the father or whoever who is responsible to maintain. It was once reported that the departmental officials helped themselves to this funds. We understand that this office does have the control at national level but we are saying to our province could the department as well be lobbying to look into the problems because the North West people are the people that

are suffering. There is no national constituency. Our people are at the grassroots.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, when the Honourable chairperson of the committee was presenting this the report, she alluded to this House that the Older Persons Act has long been over due for implementation. During the time of public hearings we went out, we entice our community members by telling them how this Act will be helping our elderly people as well as providing job opportunities for people that are unemployed. For those that will be able to have groups and taking care of a group of pensioners or people that need to be taken care of has been asking how far it is and presently we have another challenging Bill the one on Amendment of Social Assistant that has the content almost as the same as those of that one in the Act of older persons. And they talk about people especially our ...[inaudible]... getting their pension funds at 60 years of age. It was long ago when this was presented. Today in the amendment we still come up with pension. So will still need this to be

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

addressed and I want to support the vote on the social development with the facts that I have presented. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Our next speaker on this debate is Honourable Hattingh.

HON. HATTINGH:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Yes I think the MEC must be very proud of climbing all these mountains to get to the top. She is extremely well and I am also happy to her smiling here today. She doesn't smile very often. And why I say this Honourable Deputy Speaker, is because if one would look at the website of this department I think the only updated item of the whole website is the smiling MEC and the situation that we don't see very often. So, I want to congratulate you on the picture on the website but I also want to urge you please! Everything else is at least 2 years old. Please do something about the website because people will think I think they will justify and start comparing the efficiency of the website and the efficiency of the department. And that is really a bad example. And it is also reflected that

1 477 visits to the website. Now compare that to a well-kept website of Honourable Rasmeni of Department of Health. More than 3 1500 visits to the website and is not ideal she hasn't got the 2006/07 Annual Report on it but there is nothing on your website. It is very sad reflection on your department Honourable MEC.

On the administration there are certainly question marks also highlighted by the Auditor-General. The unauthorized expenditure in the increase in the previous financial year to a quarter of a billion rand accumulated from 2001 and nothing has been done about it for all those years, that is for the past seven years. Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Matladi referred to cases of fraud in the department but it is strange that the national department allows the provincial department will actually from time time report on those officials who stole tax payers money but there is a deafening silence coming from this department. Why are we covering up the people who stole the money?

The Auditor- General again

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

that the department did not comply with Section 43 (b) of the PFMA pertaining to the fraud cases that have been reported during the year and has not been enclosed in the financial statement. A list of investigations states the possible losses were also not provided for audit purposes. Why these cover-ups? Why don't you expose what is going on in your department? Why do you keep it closed? Honourable Deputy Speaker, I want to move on to something very serious. This morning on the way here I listened to a Radio interview for about an hour about the shortage of social workers in our country. Now look; what are we doing with the private sector, NGOs, social workers in our province? I want to give you salaries of a social worker in Kwa - Zulu Natal. R10 700 per month, for a senior R12 800, Mpumalanga R10 081, for a senior social worker R14 000, Limpopo R 9000 and R10 000 respectively and the North West R6000 per month for a social worker. And that has been unchanged since 2001.

Now I heard the very caring words from the MEC. But are

your words supporting their payments? Unfortunately it does not. In fact, an organization called the North West Coalition of Social Services sent you a letter in February this year of which you acknowledge receipt but nothing more. This is a crisis. The NGOs are losing their social workers and there is nothing else. There is a shortage at every level. Honourable MEC I request you to go into the situation, please find the money to support the NGOs in maintaining and keeping their social workers. Another very crucial aspect that I would like to reflect on in this department, MEC rightly said those people are waiting, the children are waiting I agree with you. But they are waiting for you to get a system in place to monthly on time pay the subsidies to the orphanages to the old age homes which you are not doing. This is the single most item that I've been involved in mostly in the North West Province in any department. Old age homes, orphanage homes, NGOs phoning me saying we are 4 months behind with our subsidies. We cannot go on.

We cannot buy food for the chil-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

dren. Then I have to phone. I get 1/5 responses. The person involved is either on leave, sick leave, in a workshop, in training or all of the above yes you are laughing but sometimes I can't understand where people or nurses and all of those people don't get their salaries, orphanages don't get money to buy food because of the failure of the department to pay subsidies, these people who should have paid get their increases and bonus every month, they go home and enjoy their lives while people are suffering because of them not doing their work.

Honourable Deputy Speaker there need to be a system in place where this is been regulated and there will be monthly and in time payments of these subsidies. There is no reason why all those centres should wait from April to June/July for a subsidy. I've got here an example of an organization which received in 2007/08 only 4 months subsidy. Each and every one must be taken up and it takes 2 to 3 weeks to be sort it out. This is not right. 2008/09 again is one of those years the poorest of the poor will be able to celebrate. Food parcels will be able again

freely, and will be distributed and I am very happy for that because our many people are in need of this. But it was also said in 2004 before the election and 2006 before the election and now before 2009 election.

What I am asking that would the responsible distribution through year in year out of food parcels and it should not be linked to elections. Why did it die up? Why should it suddenly come up now again? I am asking the question but I've got the answer. There is a certain guy he is not a parliamentarian, nothing, is got nothing to do with parliament, provincial Legislature but he was spotted that he distributed food parcels in the Umgundlovu District Municipality. It is far away from us. The question is why should a politician who has got nothing to do with government, Legislatures or Parliament not even an MP, why should such a person to call upon people and distribute food parcels as if that person is giving on behalf of his party? This is the problem and that persons name happens to be Mr. Jacob Zuma.

Now this is unacceptable to por-

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

tray an image that the party is actually subsidizing and buying food parcels and handing up to people in the run-up to the elections. I don't think if anybody can approve of that unless you are a cheap politician.

Honourable Deputy Speaker I want to close before you shut me down as usual. But as I conclude I don't here the MEC clear, I heard something about 14 years in the dessert. I know you have been 14 years in a dessert there is 26 years left to get to 40 years. Don't let us wait another 26 years before we start real delivery of this department of the North West Province. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The next speaker is Honourable Kekesi

HON. KEKESI:

Ke a leboga motlotlegi MotlatsaMmmuskgotla. Batlotlegi ba Ntlo eno, dikgosi le bo-Mmadikgosi, borra dikgang ke a dumedisa mo tshokologong ya gompiano. Ke a leboga motlotlegi. Honourable Hattingh we will never, never get tired of climbing up and down the mountains before our people all of them could get a better life.

That I can assure you. So don't worry about our climbing up and down because you are not the one who is climbing up and down. Leave the ANC alone.

Honourable Hattingh with regard to the NGOs, who are phoning you time and again, please Honourable Hattingh you are the Member of the Legislature. Tell those people to phone the MEC directly so or the department. You are not the department nor the MEC. So your work is to pass the budget of the department. You don't have access to that budget. Please inform them not later than today [interrupted]

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Kekesi I would want you to address the House through the Chair so that there is order in the House. Because that might cause some confusion.

HON. KEKESI:

I am sorry Honourable Deputy Speaker, I know that you' got some rules, can you protect me. I am speaking and Honourable Hattingh is speaking. He had his chance. Honourable Deputy Speaker with regard to those who are phoning time and again

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

from the Honourable Member they must know from today that the Honourable MEC Mangqo is the MEC for the department. If they ever want to order or to say something they must phone her or the department; not the honourable Member. The work of the Honourable Member is to pass the budget. He doesn't have any access to the budget.

The other thing with regard to food parcels is that even yesterday, even last year December we had no elections but food parcels were distributed to the poorer of the poorest. We don't just come out with food parcels during elections because we know that we are committed to a better life for all. Through out the year we do distribution of food parcels. With regard to our Honourable JZ the President of the ANC, he is our president Honourable Deputy Speaker. It is unfortunate that DA doesn't have president. So please those who do not have a president don't say anything about our president. [Interrupted on a point of order]

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Kekesi may we listen to a point of order?

HON. HATTINGH:

Honourable Deputy Speaker point of order, the Member speaking refer to a certain Mr. Zuma as Honourable. He is not a Member of this House, she is misleading this House and I request that she must withdraw it.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Yesterday I drew your attention to a rule that does not allow any Member to interject when a member is on the podium. I am reminding you to make that observation. As to referring to a person outside this House as Honourable or not, depends on an individual Member. If a Member chooses to refer to a person outside the House as Honourable, we would not have a problem with that. So that one is a pure matter of the individual who is on the podium at that time. Can we then proceed and please allow Honourable Kekesi to complete her debate.

HON. KEKEKSI:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. You know what Honourable Hattingh? I am sorry Honourable Deputy Speaker you know what? Comrade JZ Zuma is my President. To me he is

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

honourable because he is my leader. You are the one who set fire. So, ikemisetse go ora. Honourable Deputy Speaker I have been observing that you will say you have rules that you have put on place but you don't implement those rules. Just now you have said no one should interfere when other Member is on the podium but continuously Honourable Deputy Speaker leaves Honourable Hattingh to continue with that manner. Can we respect this House Honourable Deputy Speaker? Debate ya ka e tlhakantshitswe.

Ke a leboga motlotlegi. E re ke bua se ga rona gongwe ga go kitla go nna le disruption eo ke e boneng. Mme Mangqo gompieno re tlile fa go tla go fetisa tekanyetsokabo ya lefapha la gago. Re a kopa mma gore dikgoro tsa lefapha la gago di bulwe. Se re tswang go se bua gompieno re bua e le dikgwetlho, ka bana ba rona ba dikhutšana bao ba tlang mo seterateng. A go se nne jalo ka gonne gompieno re tlile go go neela tšhelete. E dirisiwe sentle go fokotsa botlhoka tiro, lehuma le tlala.

Motlotlegi Mangqo, re kopa gore

bagolo ba rona ba tlhokomelwe sentle; bogolo jang ka dinako tsa dikamogediso. Fa go ne go ka kgonega, gongwe dikgwedi tse tharo, ban e ba ka apeeelwa moronyana kgotsa yona sopo pele ba ka amogediswa. Seo se ne se ka fokotsa botlhoka tiro ka gore re ne re tla thapa mo dirijening tsa rona dile di nne re tla thapa batho ba le babedi kgotsa ba le bararo mme seo ko moago re fitlhele e le gore re fitlhelela go fokotsa botlhoka tiro.

Kwa Ward 2 ko Masutlhe bagolo ba rona ba sa ntse ba bona ba sotlega tota. Jaaka motlotlegi Matladi a setse a kaile gore ditulo ga di a fitlhelela bagolo ba rona mo dikamogedisong ba botlhe. Kwa Ward 26, mo Mafikeng, batsad ba t eng ga b a bone social worker go tla go ba kwadisetsa bana ba bang ba tshwanetse ke gore ba amogele madi a kgwedi le kgwedi. Re ka leboga fa lefapha le ka tsaya tsia go bona gore kwa Ward 26 ba a thusiwa. Le rona ko diconstituency tsa rona motlotlegi MEC re tla leka go go thusa mabapi le ... [Interrupted] Honourable Deputy Speaker, justice has not been done to me because Honourable Speaker you gave Honourable Hattingh chance to

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

disrupt my debate and there after I am informed that my time has passed. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Mangqo please respond and be on time. I will appreciate it if you could use less minutes.

HON. MEC MANGQO:

Thank you Deputy Speaker. I will try and navigate through the questions. I think we must confess that the issue of the split between the Department of Social Development and the agency of SASSA did leave us with a bit of work to try and ensure that our assets are bar-coded and everything else is put into place which is quite a massive process which could not be taken in a short circuited time. For that we acknowledge the observations that were made by the committee and also communicate that the MUNIMEC took a decision. Those matters shall be completed by the end of November 2008 so that processes leading to outer year should be leaving our books clean so that we are able to perform beyond expectation.

We also acknowledge that there

have been challenges in terms of the type of capacity that we had in the department that is why we could not realize a 100% delivery on the services and the strategic objectives that we set in the previous financial year. We will continue to improve where we are expected and over work our members who are willing to continue to assist and serve the people as they have been employed to do so. We acknowledge Honourable Members that not all public servants and civil servants in particular would commit to the jobs that they are employed to do. Not only that they don't want to do the job, there are many human factors that affect them, which we will continue to strengthen our wellness programme so that we realize much more production than elements that we find sometimes in our institutions.

We are collaborating with the Education Department but let me take this opportunity again to explain that early childhood development which is referred to in the Education Department it talks about children who are between the age of seven who are in Grade R and who are

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

being prepared to go to the formal education. Now social development accounts for children who are new born to the children who are six years of age. By law such children the minute they reach a year you can raise them within an educational institution which is your crèche, your centres because they need to be developed in terms of their comprehension and all other factors that makes them children who are well fed in terms of their educational needs.

This challenge did not come easy because there are budgetary constrains that affected all the Department of Education and Social Development in the two sections of the children that we are talking about. But we are now realizing a massive intake interms of your early childhood development service centres relating to the 0 to 6 years of age. I am saying with confident that in the Education there is stability because the child have to start with Grade R before you go to Grade 0. Education Department does with a curriculum because they are custodians of curriculum in defining the type of education

that must take place at a crèche which is run by social development. What we do we recruit them, they train them, capacitate then we take them back to the classroom where they suppose to take care of our children. So that collaboration will be strengthened as we continue to open the sites through the budget that we are getting.

Transformation of institutions of older persons is a long going effort and I am going to request Honourable Hattingh to really assist us because it does indicate that we will have to come forward with all the institutions which do not want to transform. Unfortunately for us those are institutions that are historically embedded but we found them in the system of government. Every time when we tell them to comply they do not want to and they run to you Honourable Hattingh. Please when they run to you the best method which I believe the two of us is our interest is to ensure that we provide the services on an equal basis to all our citizens. Call them and see them to discuss why we are not giving them the money. Without saying much it will assist all of us very much.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

You know they do malicious compliance. When you ask them how many black people do you have they will say fifty. You go in the middle of the night, the fifty elders are sleeping on the floor all the whites other people are sleeping in beds. They are treated differently in the same institutions. We will give you statistics if you want because we visit them, they are not telling you that but we do that in the department. If we can sit down I will give you statistics. I think at some point we must come back to this House so that we must expose this social ills. This institutions of segregation must come into an end. But I don't want to undermine the fact that they may be treated and we are not doing our work as well. If you find them please report them to the authority so that we can assist each other so that we can assist each other in building a cadre of social service so that we which all of us can be proud of in the future.

The other element which I want to speak about is that, I think mme Matladi has raised very profound issues that all of us agreed that they form part of socio-economic and social clus-

ter challenges. Part of the report that I was reading we did not get into the details Honourable Matladi on how we are going to address these things. The new staff for public administration together with the team that has been appointed by the President are concluding within the next two months the dispensation of social workers so that we equalize and we begin to open opportunities for them to be able to grow because the sector itself does not give them the opportunity for them to grow. If they want to grow they will have to leave social work programmes go to teaching, research and other areas where there is much more money.

Let me conclude by talking about SASSA again. It is an agency which was established by an Act of Parliament. It is a national body. What it does is to administer and disperse the funds to legible members of our society who must get the all types of grants that are listed there. Now we don't have custody over SASSA but we do have areas where the problems that are being identified. We have empowered through the delegation of particular areas of

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

the Act by the Minister to provide that oversight on his behalf. We have continuous meeting with SASSA on monthly basis where they are expected to provide us with full accountability and report on the work that they are doing. My plead again would be to all members, where there are challenges, in relation to the payments of grants, conditions to which our elderly people are exposed, the attitudes of the SASSA employees bring a report to the department so that we assist each other in ensuring that we take up the matters and addressing them and make sure that the Minister is aware of these issues. I agree we need organized volunteers so that we are able to deal with these things.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I need to talk about the unauthorized expenditure. Honourable Hattingh you are talking about the matter of the past. This matter has not happened in the last three consecutive years. In 2004/5/6 there was a conference on a deliberate decision from the party that I come from, a government of today to ensure that we increase uptake and intake on people who are legible

who live in conditions that are inhumane and we did so understanding that the budget was limited but we needed to do that. We did that. We went out into streets campaigns. People registered. Today people are enjoying benefits of being citizens of South Africa. Please don't refer to that matter again. But I agree that all issues that have been raised we will attend to them and we will bring a report to the committee as expected. Thank you
Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members we running through the Department of Social Development programme by programme.

Programme 1: Administration allocated R101, 570: AGREED
Programme 2: Social Welfare and Services allocated R407, 389: AGREED
Programme 3: Development and Research allocated R 98, 564: AGREED

This brings us to the total of R607, 523. Does the House approve the budget?
[APPROVED]. Honourable Mangqo you can go and spent.

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

We are proceeding to the previous vote and that is the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

Programme 1: Administration:
R56, 808,000 AGREED
Programme 2: Cultural affairs
: R79,288,000 AGREED
Programme 3: Library and
information Services :
R102,743,000 : AGREED
Programme 4: Sports and
Recreation : R88, 311, 000 :
AGREED

Total budget of R 327, 150 000, do we approve the budget? [APPROVED]. Ntate Duma you can go and spent. Honourable Members the time is 13H45. This House is adjourned and we are coming back at 14H45.

**THE HOUSE STAND
ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH**

**THE HOUSE RESUMES AT
14H45**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Members I have the pleasure of inviting Honourable Rasmeni to present the Budget Vote No. 3, Department of Health.

HON. MEC RASMENI:

Deputy Speaker, Honourable Premier, Mme Molewa, colleagues in the Executive Council, Members of the Provincial Legislature, Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on health: Mamateya Mampane, our Head of Department Dr Keneilwe Lydia Sebege, our stakeholders and partners in the health sector, Management team of our department, distinguished guests and comrades, learners that I invited here le baagi ba Porofense ya Bokone-Bophirima, dumelang!

It is with a great degree of delight that I rise to address you today. I do so, inspired by the notable strides which this government seems to have made to turn yesteryear's pessimism and despair into hope and optimism since the advent of democracy. Thereby, confirming the words of former President Nelson Mandela that "a good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination." Deputy Speaker, on the occasion of us taking office, this "good head and heart" enjoined us after our freedom to move our country forward decisively towards the

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

eradication of poverty and underdevelopment by improving the quality of life of all our people in many critical areas of social existence including health.

Today I am sure we can all look back with great pride and say, indeed "when freedom does not have a purpose, when it does not wish to know anything about the law engraved in the hearts of men and women, when it does not listen to the voice of conscience, it turns against humanity and society." That we are here, have been here, and are set to be here in the next term of government is confirmation of the fact that we have not abused our freedom and the trajectory we are following is correct. Therefore, Deputy Speaker, what remains for us is to harness all that we've achieved and to indeed embark on business unusual and ensure that all hands are on deck to speed up change.

It has been said that "Thoughts lead on to purposes; purposes go forth in action; actions form habits; habits decide character; and character fixes our destiny." To turn this into an incorrigible

truth, in 2008/09 we shall use our wherewithal to ensure that we speed up change in our bid to accelerate the advance towards the goal for "Health for all". To this end, we shall marshal all our resources inclusive of all our health personnel to put all hands on deck to make sure that we deliver on our mandate to indeed create a better life for all. This contract and promise, is what has bound us together, and shall continue to shape our character and destiny.

Therefore, as I present this Budget Speech, to outline our plans for 2008/08, I shall take instruction from this undertaking and the resolutions of our 52nd National Conference which confirmed the centrality of health in resolving the twin challenges of underdevelopment and poverty.

The Apex priorities which both the President and the Premier pronounced on as a mark of all our commitment to speeding up change in a business unusual mode shall also serve as an important guiding light of the course we have got to travel, and so shall other national and international policy imperatives which we have got to respond to. However, before I outline our

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

plans, Deputy Speaker, I would like to invite this august House to join me and the rest of the world in celebrating 2008 as the 30th Anniversary of the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978 and herein recommit our Department to the undertakings made on the occasion of this important International Conference which was held in the former USSR.

Amongst others, this conference adopted the Primary Health Care approach as the best approach to the delivery of health services. The conference also emphasized the need for urgent action by all governments, all health and development workers, and the world community to protect and promote the health of all the people of the world. Thirty years on, it is worth noting that the need for urgent action is still on. Thus, as part of our contribution towards ensuring that we eradicate the world's extreme poverty and hunger, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases, we shall work steadfastly towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and the Apex Priorities. Accordingly, in the year 2008/09

we shall ensure that we act steadfastly and in tandem with the rest of our colleagues to work incessantly towards the achievement of the said objectives and other health priorities which have been adopted by the National Health Council' in this penultimate period of government.

Deputy Speaker, as many will know the transformation of our health system began a long time ago. To accelerate on its achievements, we undertook, in the year preceding, to embark on a range of measures to deliver on our mandate. Therefore, it is with sincere humility that I stand before this august House today to give an account of our performance against the milestones we set for 2007/08. As I do this I shall also outline our plans for 2008/09 under the relevant sections. Thereafter I shall indicate the resources we require this House to support us on in order to discharge our mandate. In preparation for the 2010 FIFA World Cup, the department had set itself a number of deliverables to achieve in the 2007/08 fiscal year. They included the revitalization of

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

institutions to meet the required FIFA standards, procurement of ambulances, training of EMRS personnel and upgrading of equipments used in our health institutions. I am glad to report that 60 ambulances and 12 response vehicles worth R22 million were procured in the past financial year. These ambulances and vehicles will not only be used for purposes of 2010 World Cup, but they will continuously be used to strengthen the Emergency Medical and Rescue Services in the province. Training of EMRS personnel in the Klerksdorp EMRS College is continuing to ensure that these procured ambulances and response vehicles have people who men them.

In 2008/09 we shall continue to strengthen these services by ensuring that there is a defined and elaborate strategy to deal with and mitigate disaster. We shall also ensure that high-tech communication tools are installed in our emergency vehicles and centres, a scheduled replacement programme is followed to replace all existing emergency vehicles that have traveled in excess of 200 000 kilometers, and emergency

services personnel continue to receive high level training at our EMRS College in Klerksdorp which is a model for the country. In 2007 we undertook to build new infrastructure and to replace old and dilapidated buildings. I am glad to report that 2 Community Health Centres under the revitalisation programme, that is, Phela and Mogwase have been completed and are now functioning, 9 clinics were completed, 2 Community Health Centres, that is, Phedisong and Tigane have been upgraded and extended.

This year, we will ensure that Moses Kotane and Vryburg Hospitals are completed, and handover six Community Health Centres. In a bid to strengthen revitalization, we shall integrate health technology in the revitalization programme and increase the number of hospitals that are on this programme.

Furthermore, we shall also complete the construction and commissioning of outstanding health posts, and provide legacy projects for 2010 and beyond. Guided by ASGISA and our business as a service oriented organization, the department undertook in the previous year

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

to build our employees' skills in different areas. We are glad to report that: More than five thousand five hundred employees have been sent to different training programmes to up their skills, three hundred and twenty three employees were on the ABET programme, one hundred and eighty six employees registered for learnerships, whilst one hundred and forty students were on the internship programme, and fifty five Community Health Care Workers were trained on a comprehensive NQF level 4 course. The department also awarded ninety six (96) bursaries in support of various study programmes.

In the year 2008/09 the department shall continue to expand on these achievements by continuing to provide more bursaries. We shall also accelerate the training of community health workers and continue with our commitment towards the development of youth skills through the internship and learnership programmes. In our quest to produce nurses who are the backbone of our health care service delivery we shall continue to increase the intake of

nurses in various degree and diploma courses. This shall be with the view to building on the achievements we made in 2007/08. In terms of this, we recorded the following progress: 1207 nursing students were enrolled in nursing diploma courses, 168 students were enrolled for the basic nursing degree courses with the North West University, 136 students were enrolled for post basic diploma courses in nursing and 86 learners were on the auxiliary nursing learnership programme.

Deputy Speaker, I announced in the House last year that our department was working with other departments to ensure integration towards providing a response to HIV/AIDS. This approach I said was guided by the National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan 2007-2011 that was launched by the Deputy President Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on the 30th April 2007. On this I am glad to report that the Department conducted a collaborative and consultative process to develop a Provincial HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan 2007-2011 which is aligned to the National HIV/AIDS

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Strategic Plan 2007-2011) Different Provincial Government Departments; including sectors such as COSATU, Business, people living with HIV/AIDS, Municipalities and NGOs participated in the development and alignment of this strategic plan. The interventions in this strategic document are guided by the four priority areas, namely: Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support, Research, Monitoring and Surveillance as well as Human Rights and Access to Justice.

In 2008/09, we shall accelerate the implementation of this plan by: strengthening our prevention initiatives by expanding PMTCT services and increasing health promotion initiatives, strengthening treatment, care and support by increasing VCT uptake and accrediting more facilities to provide Antiretroviral Therapy (ART). We shall also strengthen our partnerships with NGO's and accelerate the implementation of Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (OVC) programmes, strengthening monitoring and reporting of the plan including matters of human rights and access to justice for those who are infected and affected.

To mitigate against Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) we shall continue to ensure that health care professionals are trained on the syndromic management of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) throughout the province. This intervention shall be complemented by the distribution of both male and female condoms. The challenge however remains the reluctance of partners to come for treatment. In this regard we shall encourage partners to come forth for testing and treatment. We shall also accelerate the High Transmission Area (HTA) Programme aimed at truckers and commercial sex workers.

Deputy Speaker, we all know of the urgent response required to mitigate the TB crisis. I can report that, in our province, I personally together with departmental officials conducted 4 TB awareness campaigns to reinforce and demonstrate commitment of the department to the control of the TB epidemic in rural communities. At these meetings the traditional and municipal structures pledged their support to the efforts of the department to fight TB. Capacity

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

building for facility staff, doctors and nurses was intensified in 2007. The focus was on provider initiated HIV testing and counseling of TB patients; including prevention of infections. Through this initiative, 62% of TB patients were tested for HIV and 57% of those tested were HIV positive. 87.1% of those who tested positive were initiated on the prophylactic treatment. In order to accelerate on these achievements, a TB turnaround strategy has been developed and we shall fast track its implementation.

The department's response to disease outbreaks has been outstanding in 2007. We responded promptly and appropriately to all outbreaks such as hepatitis A in Ramotshere Moiloa, Diarrhoea in Tswaing, Food poisoning at Bethel High School, suspected Measles at Onkgopotse Tiro Middle School and meningococcal meningitis. Fourteen cases of Malaria were reported and investigated. Upon investigation, all cases were found to be imported from areas outside the province. Case management has been intensified through training of health care professionals and

also through public education and environmental management. This year we will continue to strengthen the management of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

The Malaria vector control programme has been consistently implemented since 1997. One thousand and seventeen dwellings were sprayed with residual effect insecticide. Food hygiene and safety efforts were intensified amongst food vendors / hawkers during the month of October 2007 in all 4 districts. The food safety initiatives culminated in the celebration of World Food Day on in Rustenburg, Bojanala Platinum District. Rustenburg was targeted specifically because it is a FIFA 2010 World Cup host city in the North West Province. Healthcare Waste is successfully managed at public healthcare facilities. We will strengthen our port health services as part of preparing ourselves for the FIFA 2010 World Cup. As part of our commitment to improve maternal, child and women's health, we shall entrust our Health Services Branch to ensure that strategies to reduce morbidity and mortality among infants,

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

children under five years and mothers continue to be implemented and strengthened.

To improve quality of care, we shall ensure that systems to monitor the quality of clinical care in all our public health facilities are strengthened. To achieve this, we shall ensure that there is continuous implementation of Infection Control Policies including TB infection control, as well as the management of infections in postnatal and neonatal units and maternity units, the regular conduct of clinical audits, morbidity and mortality meetings, and the supervision of Primary Health Care facilities. We have trained governance structure members on monitoring and evaluation, report writing, presentation skills and meeting procedures.

This training was intended to build the capacity of members so that they can make meaningful contribution in the running of the department. Furthermore, the Provincial Health Consultative Forum was held in August 2007 in compliance with Section 61 of National Health Act which requires us to interact with the public to update them

on the departmental performance and allow them more space to input to our programmes and performance. We are excited as this has shown how our communities are prepared to walk hand in hand with us towards enhancing quality health care. As part of our commitment to this objective of promoting community participation in our affairs, we shall again this year hold another consultative forum. The passing of Traditional Health Practitioners Act no 22 of 2007 shall also provide us with an opportunity to organize and capacitate our Traditional Health Practitioners in working towards the inclusion of African Traditional Medicine into our health system.

As regards women empowerment, we have established and launched six more Women in Partnership against HIV/AIDS (WIPAA) structures, to ensure that the whole province is covered. Forty women from WIPAA have been trained as basic counselors for survivors of gender based violence such as rape, domestic violence and child abuse. Towards strengthening this programme, the department will form community

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

fora to strengthen our referrals for lay counseling for survivors of gender based violence. We shall also provide basic training for caretakers and supporters of HIV negative neglected children who are prone to abuse and contracting HIV.

As part of implementation of our disability programme we have trained twenty five nurses and twenty five front line personnel in the first phase of the Sign Language. This was meant to enhance the capacity of health workers in making health services more accessible for the deaf community. This financial year, the second phase of the Sign Language training will be conducted for fifty health care workers. We are also going to train forty young people on mobility and Instructors course in partnership with Umsobomvu Youth Fund and the South African Guide Dogs Association for the Blind. Towards youth, we have managed to renovate three youth centres at Kraaipan, Borakalalo and Khutsong. These youth centres operate as one stop centres and are able to provide youth with access to clinical matters, reproductive health services and computers.

Deputy Speaker, youth skills development clubs providing catering and security services have also been established and registered as businesses in five youth centres. To expand on this we will roll out this initiative to other youth centres. This shall be with a view to enhancing youth capacity to attain skills and create jobs for themselves to address the unemployment and alleviating poverty.

To strengthen our human resources, Deputy Speaker, we shall intensify our efforts to improve the working conditions and motivation levels of all our workers. To this end, acting through our Corporate Services Section, we shall continue to implement the Occupational Specific Dispensation (OSD) and expand it so that it covers a broader spectrum of health professionals like medical doctors, dentists, medical and dental specialists, pharmacists and emergency medical personnel. We shall also strengthen the recruitment, appointment and retention of personnel that are critical to the delivery of our mandate; and to peak our performance, we shall ensure that our performance management

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

system is strengthened such that the speedy change and delivery that we are all enjoined to make true, through business unusual, are indeed a lived experience.

To improve our medical services, we shall ensure that we prioritize attraction and retention of full time specialists for our tertiary services. We shall also continue to strengthen tertiary health links with academic institutions and the private sector, as was announced by the Honourable Premier on the occasion of her State of the Province Address in this august House in February 2008, herein therefore, is our confirmation that we shall set up a Centre of Excellence, with the University of Witwatersrand Medical School and a British non profit organization known as Ameca to enhance the capacity of the medical personnel to respond to health concerns of rural communities.

Deputy Speaker, to carry out our plans for the year 2008/09 the department has been allocated a total budget of R4, 222,549,000. As your servants, we are indeed humbled by this

appropriation. Nevertheless, Deputy Speaker, we feel obligated to seek your indulgence and that of your august House to give us more support in pursuit of those priorities which are critical to our mandate but for which there is either insufficient or no required resources. For the House's interest, the affected priorities which require attention so that they can be fully implemented are: Integrated Health Management Information systems, upgrading of our information and communication technologies infrastructure, EMRS business Plan in preparation for 2010 and Telemedicine Strategy. Beyond these, the following also require attention in order to be fully implemented: the Human Resources Plan, Transport Strategy, Health Technology strategy, Modernization of Tertiary Services, fully fledged Medico legal services, Revenue Management including debt recovery, as well as physical infrastructure.

Therefore, Deputy Speaker, it is our hope and trust that we shall indeed obtain your favourable support with regard to the priorities we have identified above. However, before I conclude I

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

would like to invite your support, and that of this august House to approve the budget vote of R4, 222,549,000 of the North West Department of Health. For efficiency and management purposes. This vote has been allocated as follows in accordance with our budget programmes:

Programme 1 Administration
R174, 628: AGREED
Programme 2 District Health
Services R2, 052,040: AGREED
Programme 3 Emergency
Services R148, 309: AGREED
Programme 4 Provincial
/Hospital Services: R1, 084,885:
AGREED
Programme 5 Central Hospital:
R117, 317: AGREED
Programme 6 Health Sciences
and Training: R125, 288:
AGREED
Programme 7 Health Care
Support Services R129, 023:
AGREED
Programme 8 Health Facilities
Management R391, 060:
AGREED

Therefore, Deputy Speaker we ask of this noble House to support this Budget Vote in its totality and the allocations per programme.

In conclusion, Deputy Speaker, allow me once again to assure the people of the North West and the Legislature of the department's commitment towards ensuring that there's successful implementation of our plans. We undertake to ensure there is prudent financial management and accountability in utilizing public funds which are appropriated by this House. Let me take this opportune moment as I bow out to thank my husband Solly Rasmeni who is sitted up there Ibhubesi and my kids for their support and understanding throughout. You were indeed a pillar of strength I could rely on. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks, as I hereby do, to the Honourable Premier of the North West Province, Mme Edna Bomo Molewa for the support, assistance and leadership she accorded the department with the greatest genius.

My heartfelt appreciation is also extended to other Members of the Executive Council, and the Legislature for providing a platform for democratic debates on health matters of the province. I know the intention was never to belittle our debates but at the

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

most to ensure that we indeed deliver on our mandate of delivering quality health care services to our people. Deputy Speaker, my thanks also go out to the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Health and its members, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, for relentlessly giving advice to the department and keeping us on our toes and also to thank the management of the department. Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The only two Members of the Executive Council who have performed very well today are Honourable Duma Ndleleni and Honourable Nomonde Rasmeni. She performed very well. Now I have the pleasure of inviting the chairperson of the portfolio Committee on Health to present the report to the House.

HON. MAMPANE:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Members of the Executive council, colleagues, departmental employees, different stakeholders our honoured guests. As we all know that the Strategic Plan of the Department of Health was tabled in the House and subse-

quently referred to the portfolio committee for scrutiny. Thereafter there was an interaction between the department and the committee. So after the interaction there were concerns raised by the committee and they were as follows:

- The report on the two roomed health posts, number of these per district
- Status of health posts offering twenty four hour service.
- There was a drop in terms of the expenditure pattern at 96.2% of the budget Compared to 99.4% that was used for the 2005/6 fiscal year.
- Community Health Centres offering 8 hours service in the province.
- Rescue vehicle cannot be utilized due to shortage of trained personnel. For example when we went for an oversight in Rustenburg, there was a rescue vehicle which was fully equipped and could not be used because only the station manager was skilled to use it. So whiles he was busy with administrative work the vehicle would stand there and they would seek help from the Fire Department.
- Service is very poor at Victoria Hospital even though

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

people are paying lot of money.

- There are long queues in public hospitals and patients are not being attended to on time.

We acknowledge the service that is been rendered by the Bophelong Hospital but we are saying let it happen in all hospital that we are having in the province.

- We still have shortage of Medical Personnel e.g. nurses, doctors, specialists especially in rural areas.

- Ambulances are still being used as patient transport and this result in the shortage of ambulances in cases of emergencies.

- We still have high incidents of ambulances involved in accidents.

- The machinery and equipment purchased during the year amounting to R11 206 597 had not being captured in the asset register or reflected as additions and therefore constitutes understatement of assets.

- There is high infant mortality rate in the province because of the lack of systems in place to monitor.

- Certain assets purchased in bulk were recorded as a single asset in the register and not as individual items. These assets

were therefore not individually bar coded for identification purposes or were required, written off/ retired.

We then came with the following resolutions:

- The department has to forward the progress report offering 24 hour services, though we received that report but we didn't go through it yet.

- The department has to effect their recruitment and retention strategy.

- There department should budget for patients transport, as it is expensive to use ambulances for transporting patients.

- Increase number of rescue vehicles and skilled personnel to improve response time of ambulances.

- The department has to ensure that all employees in all our health institutions are adhering to the Batho Pele principles.

- To come up with a strategy to decrease the infant mortality rate.

- There is a need for better management of hospitals that will ensure there are no long queues and shortage of medicines.

- Ambulance drivers to be taken for advanced driving

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

courses, to minimize ambulance accidents. It was our wish that ambulance drivers should be taken for advance driving courses to minimize ambulance accidents

- The department should intervene in the Victoria Hospital to ensure better services rendered because even if it is a private hospital it is serving our community.

In conclusion, Deputy Speaker you know I am very economic with time. Despite the limited budget that the department is having, it showed improvement by rendering quality service to our communities. The committee therefore commended the department on its impressive strategic plan/budget presentation and also requests the House to approve the budget for 2008/09 financial year. The committee gave the department a timeframe of 6 months to implement the resolutions taken by the committee and then the committee will exercise its oversight role to monitor progress made. Ke a leboga

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Thank you Honourable Mampane. Our next speaker is

Honourable Matladi.

HON. MATLADI:

Honourable Deputy Speaker I have already greeted the House. When one is sick the place one thinks of, which can improve ones condition and relief one from pain is the hospital. In the North West some people have had a negative experience from a place where they thought they will heal which claim to be the place which worsens their condition. In recent report to the House, the Department of Health has lost some cases others not defended against patients that through negligence lost some parts of their bodies, some parts so valuable to include even sexual organs or being having a sexual dysfunction.

I will read and refer. It is not a joke. It is very serious. This cases have caused the department huge amount of money and Honourable Deputy Speaker, we want to know measures that the department has put into place to prevent further occurrences of such cases if not to reduce them. I've got cases that I can refer to you now. The case of C.D. Leteane

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

was paid R67 000 by the department. Another case of Aletta Kock who was also paid R25000 by the department, the other case of Sanie Duba who has been paid R 1, 460, 773 I can go on but what I need to do is to go straight to the total that the department has lost in dealing with this cases to the amount of R10, 9 560,606, 42 and next to the cause for the department losing so much money is written medical negligence.

Another problem experienced by the department is the high infant mortality rate. And I want to believe that amongst many factors attribute to that mortality rate is again negligence. The committee is been given a report about the budget which was given to municipalities to build health posts or what we refer as people who are not in the Health Department as two roomed clinics. This morning we have a report that outlined some of the issues that we would like to know about what happened to the finances. We've got an example of municipalities like Mafikeng Municipality that received this amount but did not build the health posts or rather

use the funds for something else. Now what we are saying to the department is that they must do follow up such municipalities and retrieve the funds to be used for what they are meant for.

We have looked into other regions Bophirima, Bojanala, Moses Kotane and Rustenburg and we have seen the list of health posts that have been erected. We thank the department for having provided us with information. The department has a challenge of infrastructure. A backlog of clinics and hospitals to be build as well as buildings to be maintained. Out of 16 clinics to be build by public works on 6 had been build and there is a delay regarding the erection of Vryburg and the Moses Kotane Hospitals. Conditions of mortuaries in some of the hospital are upholding. Sewerage systems need maintenance, waste management systems of others are a health hazard to community members.

We believe that the department is in full cognizance of Batho Pele, it knows how this policy has to be implemented. Nevertheless our patients are

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

still ill treated in these health institutions instant of receiving care. The Honourable MEC has talked about the purchase of ambulances about 12 of them in the previous financial year. We are happy for the purchase. We caution the department that the allocation criteria should be looked into because in the previous financial year we could understand it was skewed it was not evenly distributed especially the rural parts of the province always are without EMS. It is difficult for clinics to operate for 24 hours even those that are registered to be of service for 24 hours and the department has always given reasons for this but we are not convinced. We believe work has to be done.

The department is applauded for the improvement at Bophelong Provincial Hospital. The new section that operates there is indeed a positive strides. While appreciating this improvement one feels disappointed regarding the state of Victoria Hospital when standard has dropped and people of the North West are always running to Gauteng Private Hospital in order to get healed. We believe that as South Africans we also have the

right to one of the best private hospitals in the province instead of getting healed in the nearby provinces. The department has improved in their financial management although we regret the fact it has to loose its Chief Financial Officer. From a disclaimer to a qualified report that is indeed an improvement for the 2006/07. Yet the list of items to be attended to coming from the Auditor General is still endless which means that we cannot be complaisant we still need to go and attend them. We urge the department to perform a serious monitoring role to the Provincial Council on AIDS it has never been of the ground to an extent that SCOPA has to come with strict resolutions that were adopted by the House. Honourable Deputy Speaker we need an account on the implementation of these resolutions. As we are delivering, HIV/AIDS is busy taking our people but we are very slow in doing what is suppose to be done in order to help even those who are already suffering from this epidemic.

To highlight my concern the following findings were made on HIV/AIDS:

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

- Include inadequate monitoring by management which resulted in professional nurses resulting not attending the training as required.
- Medicine inventory shortages during the year at certain institutions
- No registers maintained for campaigns
- No promotional material was available at certain premises
- Female condoms shortage at certain clinics
- Computers and printers were not available at certain institutions.

As I am nearing the ending of my debate Deputy Speaker in the meeting that we had with the department I sighted the agreement that this department had with COSAS accreditation programme and I was referring to two hospitals that could not obtain anything above 20% and because of that reason were remove from accreditation programme. The department plays deaf or not even remembering what they were and they kept on saying tell what hospital you are talking about. Today I am telling you these hospitals being Jubilee and George Stegman. We are happy that other hospi-

tals have been up to scratch the percentages that has been reported show that work has been done in the department there is an improvement.

As I close my debate chairperson ke rata gore ke re vote e ya health, e fete e phase gone go a bonagala gore go na le kwa lefapha le yang teng. Ke a lebo-ga.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Our next speaker is Honourable Hattingh.

HON. HATINGH:

Honourable Deputy Speaker I think when one looks at where the department comes from and may I refer to the Sefularo legacy, I think the department has come a long way to overcome the Sefularo legacy through the years. Although some of them is still left there. I mean in the Sefularo days I was almost apprehended at the gates of the Jubilee Hospital when I wanted to do a visit. Nowadays I am even treated with tea while the managers are making friendly calls to the MEC. But you see I was allowed to the premises. That is what I call progress. But we still need to make progress

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

on overcoming that legacy.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, what is of concern and it should be to all of us is that the North West Province receives the least smallest budget in South Africa and that comes through the national fiscas. Why should we be satisfied, why should we be modest? Certainly our needs in the vast rural areas are more than the organized areas like Gauteng. The capita spending on Health in the North West announced to R767 per capita and is considerable less than the weighed national average of R1 014 per capita. It is 70%. Why should we be happy and satisfied by that?

A promise perhaps we can relate to the Northern Cape. Their capita spending on health R1 248 indicating that we are far behind and we are in the worst position of all the nine provinces of South Africa. Obviously that will extrapolate ...[inaudible]. The low health expenditure affects on the statistics provided for causes of premature mortality in the North West. Premature death caused by HIV/AIDS is 39.6%, lower respiratory tract infection is 5.6% and TB is 5.1%

all considerably higher as the South African average. The increase in infant mortality which indicate the probability of dying before the first year of life or during the first year of life went out from 3.68% in 6.91% that was the statistics given to us and that was in a five year period.

An increase of child mortality and that is children age under five short up from 4.53% to 7.6 % during the same period this is a serious reprimand that the North West should get the budget that should address our health problems and should be getting along with the rest of South Africa. Further more an obligation of the department to spend this budget once we get it and should get it timeously and efficiently. According to World Health Organization and the UN Children's Fund preventable disease such as respiratory infections like Pneumonia, Malaria, Diarrhea, Measles and Malnutrition are identified as key leading causes of child mortality in developing countries and we are experiencing it in the North West Province.

HIV/AIDS accounts for 40% of

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

child mortality and in the North West Pneumonia has been identified by the department as been dominant in childhood. In the childhood disease pattern and that may be an indication for higher under five mortality rate in the North West Province. This can also be linked to the lack of proper funding that the child mortality death related to HIV/AIDS in the North West Province is increasing. That's about funding. Honourable Deputy Speaker yesterday in Parliament the National SCOPA threatens provincial health departments on real harsh terms setting them with prison terms if they continue to conceal the lack of capacity in their departments in order to receive conditional grants for central government. Vincent Smith, he's the chairperson, ANC member said it is against the PFMA and the ANC prescribed penalties or five years imprisonment. This how serious it is.

The members of SCOPA were feeling very frustrated by the fact that when questioned about the failure to account timeously for money being spend on conditional grants are hospital revitalization, HIV/AIDS, health pro-

fessional training. Provincial heads blame lack of capacity. But in order to get the grants in the first place, they had to apply to the DG of the National Department of Health, certifying that they are able to comply with the conditions which include that they do have the capacity to spend those funds. Which they now claim after they did not spend it that they don't have. Now how does it impact on the North West Province? The name of the North West Province specifically mentioned at national SCOPA because we failed to spend R283 million on the hospital revitalization grants. Honourable Deputy Speaker this has been coming with us for a long time and there were warnings in the quarterly reports from treasury that this is happening but I think we need to build the capacity, bring back the capacity in the department MEC to meet the criteria that can be judged fairly on the ability to can spend very scarce resources and that is money.

Honourable Deputy Speaker the third issue that I like to touch on is the Provincial Council on AIDS. Now Honourable many Members had make calls that it

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

be disbanded, but what is really encouraging that there is the revitalized effort led by the Deputy President to revitalize councils on AIDS. I think we can do very well by also getting our Provincial Council on AIDS to get inline with the national initiatives. There was also a meeting on Tuesday chaired by the Deputy President where it was decided that the council's oversight of the national strategic plan of HIV/AIDS should be strengthened and SANEC should work hand in hand with provinces. And that every provincial council should have at least one representative on the National AIDS Council.

Honourable Deputy Speaker with those few words I want to conclude by saying that we support the budget and the good work that is being done in the department. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Hattingh is amongst Honourable Members who have done very well in terms of time. I now invite the Honourable Madoda.

HON. MADODA:

Dankie chair. I agree with

Honourable Hattingh for atleast for once that despite substantive issues that we have to raise on this vote, the performs of this department over the years shows remarkable improvement. Let me just refer you back to the days where hospital were very dirty, without facilities, there were barely management systems, the supply and maintenance of medicine was very chaotic we remember when the morale of staff was very low and there was high staff turn over in the department, when actually the penetration of health services within the rural areas and informal settlements and arm dwellings was very low. That situation has now been turned around and we must be thankful to the management in the Department of Health for this progress.

We now think as the portfolio committee the management systems within the department are well integrated both at provincial and district level and facility level. We wish to urge the department to continue to maintain this good management system. Honourable Deputy Speaker this department is after the Department of Education. It

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

is also the biggest. It takes around 25% of the budget of this province and I am sure Honourable MEC is aware that it requires good leadership and stewardship. And the way we have interacted with her so far it is very clear that she takes that responsibility very serious.

As I argue Honourable Deputy Speaker on the safety budget, that collaboration various departments and other players in the growth of drug abuse and alcohol and smoking especially amongst young people needs ongoing attention. We all know the role of alcohol and drugs in the growth of HI/AIDS, crime and other diseases. Therefore this particular problem places a responsibility on us as the Department of Health to continue to collaborate with other department like sports and social services to deal with this time bomb. There is this problem of health facilities that are not delivered on time. We call on the department to continue to work with the Department of Public Works to find ways to improve the delivery health facilities.

Honourable Deputy Speaker I

have heard a singular a rare privilege of being admitted to Bophelong Hospital. I am therefore qualified to say something about the services of that hospital and I want to that. Bophelong Provincial and Victoria Private Hospitals look like a refugee camp. For God sake Honourable MEC let Victoria improve. As Honourable Matladi was saying, it is sinful that we see patients from Mafikeng traveling to Klerksdorp and Johannesburg to seek medical attention. We will therefore support any means Honourable MEC where you will strengthen the existence of the private wards in our public hospitals because we think that they are far much better than in this case Victoria Hospital.

There at some point Honourable MEC of abuse of emergency vehicles by careless and inexperienced drivers who are in the employ of the department this has resulted in us not being able to build a well intake stock of vehicles for the service. We request that the department to continue to pay the attention to this problem to ensure our drivers take care of our resources. The fact that the department

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

has escalated the intake of students nurses in the colleges is commendable. This is central to attacking the problem of shortage of critical staff especially in poorly resourced areas. Nursing however Honourable MEC is one of the mainly skills that we need in our health facility. We therefore plead that the recruitment and retention of this skills to poor areas remains the area that you focus on and that government support you in increasing allowances, provision of rural allowances, housing and any other facility that will lead to retain staff in poorly resourced areas.

Honourable Hattingh has already spoken about the issue of high infant mortality. In comparison to other provinces we find that infant mortality in the North West is on average on higher than the national percentage, we therefore request that the department looks into this matter and confront it forthwith. We noted that the department committed itself to improving the room and effectiveness with partnership with groups such as the youth commission, NGOs, private sector and communities in order to strengthen the provi-

sion of health services. We believe that this can only bring more ownership among our people for their own health. We therefore urge Honourable MEC to and build partnership to deliver health services

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this department has been spending no less than R40 million per year on laboratory services. This will escalate to R60 million for the fiscal year 2010. By any standard this is very high. We do understand that however it is necessary to be spending here. We call on the department to look at how they could re-structure this approach so that we mitigate this high cost. Again we need to continue to infuse in our management systems the value of giving good service at progressively cost effective ways at whatever level. In conclusion we wish the department well in this financial year. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I have the pleasure to invite Honourable Rasmeni to respond to the debate.

HON. MEC RASMENI:

Thank you very much

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

Honourable Deputy Speaker. Going straight to the questions and comments raised. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members who have debated in this budget speech, for the support that they have given to the department and also the comments and for commending the department for its improved or if I may say outstanding performance compared to the previous years of which was really proud of the department and this also give us more energy and also more excitement to go back and do our work much better than we have done before.

The chairperson of the committee in her report also alluded to the fact that the department should forward certain reports that emanated from the deliberations that took place between the department and the standing committee, whereby the committee and this House would like to have more information so that they can be more informed about the activities that the department is engaged in. Deputy Speaker, I won't go through all the questions one by one trying to avoid to upset the Honourable Deputy Speaker. I

want to be the good Member of this House. To the issue of the health posts, I was talking to the chairperson of this committee this morning that the health posts is like the ghost that is refusing to die. It keeps on coming back. You deal with it but it keeps on coming back.

So I hope today I will deal with this matter and put it to rest. We also welcome the comments made by members of the committee to say that they have observed some progress in this department. In Bojanala I would say 99% health posts that have been built, they have been officially opened and are operating. Also in Bophirima District is the same. In Ngaka Modiri Molema we are having problems as they have mentioned here. As a department we have intervened we are helping those areas that are experiencing some problems. We are going to try and deal with this matter and put it to rest. Same thing in the Kenneth Kauda District we have intervened as a department to deal with this matter.

The department has actively addressed the adverse management through accreditation

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

of hospitals. I have seen it is true and internationally accredited organization. The realignment of the adverse events investigation through the launch of the patient safety group, this group tries to respond to the question of cases that we have lost at the department and resulted in us paying large sum of money. We have launched this patient safety policy or guideline aimed at assisting doctors, nurses the management. It's a tool that helps them to avoid the causes of these cases in the department. The second programme that we have launch is called Triach Programme which categorizes the patients. There are three levels of categories. The emergency cases patients, second emergency and stabilized patients. These issues are trying to deal or do away with the problem of finding ourselves dealing with negligence cases and find ourselves paying large sum of monies.

The issue of Batho-Pele we are dealing with this issue on almost on daily basis there is an ongoing inservice training, we have workshops. We have Batho Pele as part of senior management

performance agreement to ensure that this principle is being implemented by all employees starting from the highest level to the lowest. Regular patients safety surveys are done in each and every facility we have in the province and patients complain box are also there in our facilities particular in the hospitals. The critical issue that has been raised by several Members here is the higher infant mortality rate in the province. Indeed this is still the problem. We are trying by all means to find ways and means of addressing this problem. Members will remember that last year at some stage a report was developed to identify the extent of the problem in the province which was tabled before the standing committee. We are putting monitoring system to try and mitigate and also reduce this serious problem that we are having.

The suggest or recommendation that has been made by the committee that we need to develop a strategy that is aimed at addressing this particular problem is well received. That strategy will be tabled before the committee. Honourable Hattingh the

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

issue of the capita spending has been discussed on several levels. The EXCO has deliberated on it extensively. It is receiving attention. The Provincial Council on AIDS (PCA) the SANEC meeting that has been raised here; indeed we have been invited to this meeting. We sent some representatives to this meeting to also benchmark on how best we can review the Provincial Council on AIDS structure. We are instructed by the EXCO to see to it on how best we can do to ensure that this council is performing well guided by the guidelines that are developed at the SANEC level. So we are dealing with this matter. I am sure the processes that have been unfolding, the appointment of the CEO of the board will also assist us in turning that structure around. Deputy Speaker, some of the issues that are raised here we will on our daily contact and interaction with the committee and this Legislature share on how are addressing this issues. Thank you very much.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members, I am now inviting the House to run quickly through this Budget Vote pro-

gramme by programme

Programme 1 Administration
R174, 628 AGREED
Programme 2 District Health
Services R2, 052,040 AGREED
Programme 3 Emergency
Services R148, 309 AGREED
Programme 4 Provincial
/Hospital services: R1, 084,885
AGREED
Programme 5 Central Hospital:
R117, 317 AGREED
Programme 6 Health Sciences
and Training: R125, 288
AGREED
Programme 7 Health Care
Support Services R129, 023
AGREED
Programme 8 Health Facilities
Management R391, 060
AGREED

Does the House approve the budget ? [Approved.] Before we move to the next item the MEC for Social Development requests me to makethis announcement that guests invited for Social Development which was scheduled for 14H00 due to the change of programme here that has changed. The MEC says that the arrangement made at the Hotel School where those guests will assemble there for some relaxation. I am told that

THURSDAY: 29 MAY 2008

Sitting No. 10

dinner is arranged immediately after this Sitting. The Department of Health also requested me to announce that there will be a Gala Dinner in SABC Hall at 19h00.

**SECRETARY: NEXT ITEM
CLOSURE**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

We have reached the end of the business for today. The House will adjourn until Thursday the 5th of June 2008 at 9h00.

**HOUSE ADJOURNED UNTIL
THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2008**