

TUESDAY: 18 MARCH 2008

Sitting No. 6

[No. 06 - 2008] Fourth Session, Third Legislature

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE****TUESDAY: 18 MARCH 2008****11H00****HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, we will now observe a moment of silent prayer and meditation. Please get seated. You may proceed to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO 2:
MINUTES OF THE 26TH FEBRUARY 2008 AND MINUTES OF THE 4TH MARCH 2008**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members, I put before you two sets of minutes for adoption. The first set of minutes is the minutes of the 26th of February 2008 and the second set of minutes are minutes of the 4th of March 2008. Are there any corrections on the first set of minutes? Any corrections on the second set of minutes? Does the House adopt the minutes? The next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO.3,
MOTIONS**

- a) **Motions without notice**
- b) **Notices of motions**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members are there motions without notice? Honourable Moiloa, Honourable Groenewald, Honourable Matladi, Honourable Hattingh, Honourable Kekesi, in that order.

HON. MOILOA:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, the ANC rises to place a motion without notice to inform the House about the launch of the annual Arrive Alive campaign.

Transport Minister Honourable Jeff Radebe has launched the National Arrive Alive campaign at Boyne in Limpopo on the 13th of March 2008. This year's theme is: "Be part of the solution; road safety begins with

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you."

We remind the House that last December of 2007, 1 419 people died on the South African roads, whereas during its Easter weekend 181 people lost their lives. In both cases the figures were slightly lower than the previous year but we also recognize that one life lost is too many.

The Transport Department this year will be focusing on driver behaviour, vehicle fitness, drunken driving and pedestrian safety.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, we call upon the Members of this House and public at large to observe the rules on the road, be tolerant and vigilant and to be caring patriots. Thank you.

HON. GROENEWALD:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The DA wishes to inform this august House that it strongly condemns the violence and brutal torturing, rape and murders of elderly women in this province.

The first incidence in the last few weeks is the case of an 86

year old woman who was assaulted, presumably raped and injured internally on a farm outside Vryburg. She has subsequently passed away last week.

The second incident took place on Wednesday the 12th of March. A resident of Ottoshoop, aged 61, was presumably raped, burnt all over her body with a clothes iron and stabbed numerous times. Incidentally this incident happed about 150 m away from the local police station. As of yesterday no arrests have been made at this stage.

The DA wants to know what the North West Government is doing to combat such violent cowardly acts such as these in the rural communities. Are these issues being noted and addressed and are police serving in these rural areas fully trained to handle such problems? I thank you.

HON. MATLADI:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, it is with sadness to once again table a motion without notice whereby the United Christian Democratic Party

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wishes to convey its condolences to the family, friends, supporters and the entire South African Nation on the brutal killing of Shimmy Mofokeng near his home in Mulbarton, south of Johannesburg on Monday the 3rd March 2008.

Mofokeng was the owner of a pub and a restaurant in Orlando East and also an actor. The UCDP would like to express great concern with this escalating violence resulting in the demise of useful and resourceful citizens of this country. We call upon the law enforcement agencies to do the necessary as speedily as possible to bring the perpetrators of this dastardly act to book.

Once more, condolences to his wife and family. May his soul rest in peace. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Hattingh?

HON. HATTINGH:
Honourable Deputy Speaker, the DA moves that this House registers its serious concern about the action of officials of the Department of Public Works who demolished, or caused to

be demolished perfectly habitable houses in Pomfret within minutes after 35 families were moved from Pomfret in the presence of a considerable armed SAPS force. Residents were intimidated. Shots were fired. Several children that stayed behind have been severely traumatized by the actions of the police after this incident.

Further, that the House also registers its concern about the deterioration of the level of services in Pomfret during the past months and that steps be taken to restore this community's dignity and see that their basic human rights are honored.

Also, that despite an agreement reached last night between the lawyer of the Pomfret residents and the Premier's Office that the infringement on the rights of the citizens will be respected and that the provincial government will immediately seize to force people to leave Pomfret and will stop the demolition of the houses - demolition teams accompanied by armed SAPS moved into Pomfret again this morning to demolish houses. I thank you.

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HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Kekesi?

HON. KEKESI:
Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, the ANC rises to place a motion without notice that the House note that 15 pupils were arrested at their premises on Thursday 06 March 2008 for being in possession of dagga. The arrest followed complaints to the school principal regarding some pupils who allegedly smoked and sold dagga at Tlhabane school in Rustenburg.

Further note small amounts of dagga were found on the pupils aged between 17 and 19. They were arrested, charged and left in the care of their parents.

We call upon parents to be more aware of their children's behaviour and report drug abuse to teachers, social workers or police. We further call the Department of Education to continuously engage with the Department of Social Services to assist with the drugs programme they call "Ke Moja - I do not do drugs" to help our learners. Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER: That expression is Ke Moja, which means I am right. Do Members adopt these motions? Honourable Vilakazi?

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:
Honourable Deputy Speaker, the motions presented by Honourable Hattingh are controversial and I think I wish to reject this motion, unless Honourable Hattingh presents them as motions with notice so that we can debate them, because the point here as raised suggest that this House has never been presented with a full report on the relocation of Pomfret residents and reasons behind that relocation.

He suggest that the police simply moved in, armed to the teeth and started the relocation process, when in actual fact the relocation process of the Pomfret community has been on the agenda for over five years. Therefore this motion that he has tabled, I do not agree with it and therefore reject it. I wish to move that the House rejects the motion, unless Honourable Hattingh presents it as a motion of notice.

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HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Hattingh?

HON. HATTINGH:
Deputy Speaker, I do have a Rule Book which I can donate to Honourable Vilakazi if he will be willing to read it. He has got no right to reject this motion, I am sorry. If it is controversial and I am not supposed to, then I will leave it then to be a motion with notice, but he cannot reject it, and he actually made a speech here. I do not talk about any recourse. I talked about this government acting above the law. That is what I am talking about.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Members, I am making a ruling on this matter. I listened very carefully as Honourable Hattingh was presenting his motion. It indeed contains debatable aspects in it, because whether or not how officials in the Public Works went into Pomfret or not, it is a matter still to be established to the full sense of this House. That is a matter that you cannot speak with certainty and that is one aspect that I am saying is debatable.
On that base this motion will

then be converted into notice of motion for further debate. Does the House adopt the remaining motions? Next item, Notices of Motions. Are there any notices of motions? Honourable Baloyi.
HON. BALOYI: Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, allow the ANC to deliberate on the debate before this august House about the succession into the position of the head of the State of the Republic of Cuba by his Excellency, Raul Castro, the one that was rejected by Honourable Hattingh.

It is important Honourable Deputy Speaker, to indicate that it is impossible to talk about Raul Castro outside the ambit of Cuban revolution. Thus I will talk about the contribution of Cuba to our country, its internationalism and the fight against counter-revolution. I believe Cuba's selfless contribution to African liberation is driven by a genuine and passionate communism. This debate will remind all of us of the big hearts of the Cuban people and how much we have benefited from these facts.

Honourable Hattingh should

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recall Honourable Deputy Speaker, how the previous government used to torture and assassinate comrades as well as destabilizing neighbouring states such as Angola and Namibia.

Comrades like Benjamin Moloise, Seph Galata, Spider Mkhonto, Andrew Zondo and Solomon Kalush Mahlangu, the Sharpeville Massacre and Honourable Mahlangu, the Winterveld shootings. The list is endless, indeed.

All these massacre Honourable Deputy Speaker represent Honourable Hattingh past evil thoughts. He pretends to be a human rights activist today in criticizing Comrade Raul Castro for defending the Cuban revolution.

Ke dilo tse dintsi tse re ka di bolelang, tse ba di editseng mmusong o a fetileng, wa maisemane le wa bo-colonial.

DEP. HON. SPEAKER:

Honourable Baloyi please read your notice of motion.

HON. BALOYI:

Perhaps this antagonism towards Raul Castro Deputy

Speaker, is provoked by elongated bitterness and flash backs of a loss. Some recalls that he was the Minister of Defence during the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale in Angola.

It must be noted Honourable Deputy Speaker, that Comrade Fidel Castro and Raul Castro acknowledge that Cuba holds political prisoners, but argues it is justified because these prisoners are not jailed because of their political beliefs, but have been convicted for counter revolutionary crimes, including bombings.

Every country Honourable Deputy Speaker, has the right to defend itself in this age of terrorism and particularly Cuba against an ongoing conspiracy forced by the Cuban exile with ties to the United States of American or the CIA.

As for Comrade Raul Castro, he has a reputation as a consensus builder, a man who listens closely to his advisors, delegates authority and holds his underling accountable for their decision. Now Raul is a comrade, regardless of the past Comrade Deputy Speaker.

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Thanks.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I was about to remind Honourable Baloyi that please, he must stick to his notice of motion, once again. Honourable Members, in terms of procedure on notices of motion, Honourable Baloyi has tabled a motion which will be debated in the next Sitting. Today is only tabling of notices of motions, no debate. Can we proceed to the next item?

HON. HATTINGH:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, point of order. I understood, as I have understood when I converted my motion without notice to a motion with notice, that it was in fact tabled as such. Likewise, I understood that the motion which Honourable Baloyi presented here two weeks ago without notice and then was subsequently changed to motion with notice was then tabled as such. I do not understand why you allow a re-tabling and then postpone a debate on it. Today is the date that it should be debated.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members, you

would recall that in the last Sitting when Honourable Baloyi tabled this motion, we agreed that the motion contained debatable aspects. It was not automatically converted, it is not automatic. It gets converted as per decision of the Presiding Officer. Honourable Baloyi was then requested to retable the matter for debate in the next Sitting. We are proceeding to the next item. Please get ready for debate of this motion in the next Sitting.

According to our records we are expecting the second notice of motion. Honourable Hattingh?

HON. HATTINGH:

Deputy Speaker, I think I must get your Rule Book. Mine does not work for me anymore.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

According to our records Honourable Hattingh had notices of motion indicated, according to our records, but now that he has got a different Rule Book, in terms of my Rule Books that motion will then lapse, if he is not reinstating it.

HON. HATTINGH:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I

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think you have entered the debate on two occasions as in previously. If you wish to enter the debate please get the Presiding Officer to sit there, then we can engage in a debate. You have converted my motion into a motion with notice. You have indicated that you have instructed previously Honourable Baloyi to resubmit it. I am still waiting for that instruction, although you have indicated that you have ruled that it be converted into a motion with notice. So I do not know where you get your rules from Honourable Deputy Speaker, but I think you should also involve the House on your version of the rules.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO. 4,
INTERPELLATIONS AND
QUESTIONS**

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I would want to draw your attention Honourable Members to the Question Paper. Question 1 is referred to the Premier by Honourable Hattingh.

HON. PREMIER:

Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. The question asked by Honourable Member Hattingh is for written reply. So I so table the response. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Question 2 is a question asked by Honourable Hattingh to the Premier and is also tabled for the third time for written reply.

HON. PREMIER: Honourable Speaker, the response I was tabling is actually for this particular question, for the written reply that was for the third time. The one we have just read is actually supposed to be tabled for the first time, no. 1. So I was responding to Question 2. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

We proceed to Question 3. Question 3 is a question of Honourable Groenewald to a Member of Executive Council responsible for Agriculture, Conservation and Environment.

HON. MEC SERFONTEIN:

Deputy Speaker, I hereby table it. It is question 071120-W138.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Serfontein, if it is

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the correct question, it is supposed to be 080226-W006, if it is the correct question.

HON. MEC SERFONTEIN:

Correct one but with a different reference. I think it was standing over from the previous Sitting, when I wanted to answer it and it was postponed until today. I do not know why it is having a different reference number but it is the correct answer.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The response might be relevant to the question. What might be irrelevant might be the number, because the question says: Kindly indicate, what is the size of the farm.

HON. MEC SERFONTEIN:

Deputy Speaker, it is all there, it is all correct.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I am told that the contents of your answer to the question are relevant.

HON. MEC SERFONTEIN:

Yes.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The only difference is the num-

bering.

HON. MEC SERFONTEIN:

Yes Deputy Speaker, I cannot answer you on that. I was ready in the previous Sitting, but the answer is correct. I apologise for the different numbers but the answer is 100% correct.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The next question. We have just checked that the number that Honourable Serfontein is raising is the correct number. There has been just a mistake on the papers here, in terms of numbering. It is indicated on the covering letter. Can we proceed to the next question? Question 4, a question of Honourable Groenewald to a Member of the Executive Council for Transport, Roads and Community Safety.

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:

Deputy Speaker, I hereby table the written reply on Question no. 080219-W003, to the House, and I am ready with the rest of them.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

We are proceeding to Question 5. From Question 5 are questions tabled for the first time.

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Honourable Gerber to a Member of the Executive Council responsible for Local Government and Housing. We proceed to Question 6, a question of Honourable Groenewald to MEC, Local Government and Housing. These are questions tabled for the first time.

Question 7, Honourable Gerber to a Member of Executive Council responsible for Transport, Roads and Community Safety. Question 8.

HON. MEC. VILAKAZI:

I am ready.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Oh, are you ready?

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:

Yes. Honourable Deputy Speaker, I am ready with all the responses because I want to tackle the Easter transport carnage on the road. I hereby table the response on W010. I have prepared the uniform for you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Vilakazi and Honourable Hattingh, I am not going to allow you to disrupt the proceedings. We are proceeding to Question 8, a question

from Honourable Groenewald to a Member of Executive Council responsible for Public Works.

The question is tabled for the first time. I thought Ntate Thibedi will do like Ntate Vilakazi, to respond to the question when it is tabled for the first time.

HON. MEC. THIBEDI:

Well, Honourable Deputy Speaker the rule of the House says when the question is tabled for the first time you do not necessarily have to respond, and I am following that rule to the latter. Thank you sir.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Thank you very much for the respect of the rules. Question 9, Honourable Groenewald to the MEC for Transport, Roads and Public Safety.

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:

I am ready Honourable Deputy Speaker. I now table the response on W012, Hi-tech number plate recognition devices, "Gabola jaws of life". I do table.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Hattingh's question to a Member of Executive

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Council responsible for Health.

HON. MEC RASMENI:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, ready as usual, I table.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Question 11, Honourable Gerber to a Member of Executive Council responsible for Education.

HON. MEC TSELAPEDI:

I am usually not ready.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Members, it is my intention to indicate that Honourable Vilakazi has done very well. He has done very well by responding to questions, including questions that are tabled for the first time, which in terms of the rules he was not bound to reply, and I just hope some Members will also take queue from that, but in that I must also congratulate MEC for Health, Mme Mma Rasmeni. She is doing very well. Please do not spoil the proceedings. Do not disrupt the proceedings MEC Mangqo. We are proceeding to the next item. Next item?

SECRETARY: ITEM NO. 5, STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

DEP. HON. SPEAKER:

Are there any Members who wish to make statements? Honourable Mangqo, followed by Honourable Hattingh, Honourable Mampane, Honourable Groenewald.

HON. MEC MANGQO:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. I am sure Honourable Members, there will be a copy circulated to the House.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Department of Social Development rises to speak in light of the unfortunate incidents that have unfolded in Rustenburg Local Municipality in Tlhabane, regarding the arrest of fifteen learners who were found in possession of illegal drugs. Young people between the ages of 17 and 19 who are learners at the Tlhabane were arrested for possession and selling of drugs on the 6th of March 2008 and were released into the custody of their parents.

We would like to submit to this august House that the department, together with the Department of Education has in the past identified the challenges that are related to sub-

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stance abuse in the area, and have in the past two financial years dedicated resources channeled at addressing this challenge amongst the young people of Bojanala and Rustenburg Local Municipality in particular. We ran a massive campaign targeting youth during the International Anti-Drug Week.

The Department of Social Development offers services that are targeted at fighting the challenges of substance abuse amongst young people through the Substance Abuse Programme. The North West Substance Abuse Forum continues to avail programmes that addresses the substance abuse challenges in our communities and it is a crucial player in the implementation of the National Drug Master Plan in the Province. The work streams of the Forum are focused on Education and Prevention, Community Development, Treatment and Aftercare and as a Research and Information Dissemination.

We would like to make a call to the community that the efforts which the department and the

rest of government have ensured in the Rustenburg area and elsewhere in our province will not be realized if broader society does not play its role in entrenching ethics and morals which our young people should abide by.

There is a lot of work that has gone into sensitizing communities about the challenges posed by unacceptable levels of drug abuse amongst our children and we believe that the different sectors must join in the fight against this challenge by educating our communities on what can be done to win the battle against substance abuse.

We need vigilant and well informed communities in the fight against this monster. The Ke Moja Campaign amongst others is targeted at fighting drug abuse, has been availed by the department to inform and educate our communities in addressing the challenges of substance abuse.

Parents are further called to realize the strategic role which they have to play in this regard because the family unit plays an important role in entrenching a

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culture of moral society that is sober from influence of drugs and crime.

We call on our parents to take responsibility and provide parenting skills to their children so that our collective efforts can meaningfully rid our society of the ills of substance abuse and crime.

Parents are further advised to request the services of the Department of Social Development when they realize the problems of drug abuse amongst children by calling on the social workers to assist where possible. They can further refer their children to centres that are in their areas offering services in rehabilitation from the diseases that we are talking about.

We can all come up with intervention programmes
Honourable Deputy Speaker, from government and civil society in addressing these challenges of substance abuse but the reality is that this battle will not be won if families do not play a very important role in ensuring that children are parented and they are loved, they

are cared for and they are protected at all times. Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Hattingh?

HON. HATTINGH:
Honourable Deputy Speaker, the question of Cuito Cuanavale is in the news quite a lot these days and I would like to make a statement based on that.

On Sunday the 23rd of March, it will be the 20th Anniversary of the third and final attack on Tumpo which is just across the river from Cuito Cuanavale. This followed attacks on Tumpo on the 25th of February 1988 as well as one on the 29th of February.

Now this heralded the start of the end of the South African campaign in support of Unita in the south eastern Angola. It put also an end to the Fapla offensive that originally started during July and August 1985 when Fapla took Mavinga enroute to Jamba. The offensive was repealed by Unita and the Fapla forces withdrew at that stage to Menongue which is just to the west, about 100km to

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the West of Cuito Carnavale and as well as to Cuito Carnavale.

There was another offence of 1986 that got delayed of the attacks at the Namibe harbour and only got under way in June with eleven Fapla Brigades deployed at Luena and Cazombo pushing southwards and eight Brigades moving east from Cuito Cuanavale where offensive fizzled out after attacks by Unita and as well as because of the logistical crisis after the Namibe harbour attack.

The 1987 offensive kicked off when a Fapla force, including 16 Brigades, 21 Brigades, 47 Brigades, 59 Brigades supported by one Tactical Group and 2 Tactical Group supported by Russian advisers and Cuban troops. They started to move south en route to Mavinga, to use Mavinga as a spring board against an attack on Jamba, the Unita Headquarters.

In early October the Soviet-Fapla offensive was smashed at the Lomba River near Mavinga. It turned into a headlong retreat over 120 miles back to the primary launching point at Cuito

Cuanavale. That is towards the north.

In some of the bloodiest battles of the entire civil war, a combined force of about some 8000 Unita fighters and about 2 000 SADF troops destroyed one Fapla brigade. That was 47th brigade that was destroyed on the 3rd of October on the banks of the Lomba river and it really mauled several other brigades out of the total Fapla force of some 18000 engaged in a three-pronged offensive.

Estimates of Fapla losses ranged upward of 4000 killed and wounded. This offensive had been a Soviet conception from start to finish. Senior Soviet officers played a central role in its execution. Over a thousand Soviet advisers were assigned to Angola in 1987 to help with Moscow's largest logistical effort to date in Angola: roughly \$1.5 billion in military hardware was delivered that year. Huge quantities of Soviet equipment were destroyed or fell into Unita hands and SADF hands when Fapla broke into a disorganized retreat. The 1987 military campaign represented a stunning humiliation for the

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Soviet Union, its arms and its strategy. After 1987 it was estimated it would take Fapla a year, maybe two, to recover and regroup, moreover the Angola Military disaster threatened to go from bad to worse.

As a mid-November the Unita SADF force had destroyed the Cuito Cuanavale airfield and pinned down Fapla's best remaining units, clinging on to the defensive parameters and that is including the logistical area at Tumpo.

Now Honourable Deputy Speaker, the results of the campaign from 1987 to April 1988 were 4785 killed on the Cuban/Faplan side, with 94 tanks and hundreds of combat vehicles destroyed against 31 South Africans killed in action, 3 tanks were destroyed. That was on the 23rd of March at Tumpo.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Hattingh?

HON. HATTINGH:
I am finishing.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
In terms of the rules of the book you referred to later, a Member

other than the Premier or Member of Executive Council may be recognized by the Chair to make a statement on any matter, but it puts time there. It says not for more than three minutes.

HON. HATTINGH:

Thank you. If I conclude, it is for the first time that that rule is being applied. So I do not think anyone of us was aware of that. We had lengthy statements in the past.

I want to conclude Honourable Deputy Speaker, saying a few things. Firstly today I want to pay tribute to the thousands of soldiers who succumbed in Angola war. The Fapla soldiers, the Cuban soldiers, the Russian advisers, Unita and South African Soldiers. To those who have paid the ultimate price, and to the thousands who have been maimed in the same war and to those who today still are living with a daily threat of land mines and are still mutilated by land mines up to this date.

The significance of the war was ... [Interruption] ...

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Honourable Hattingh your time is over.

HON. HATTINGH:

You do not want to hear my last ... I will give you a bit of advice Honourable Deputy Speaker. It is already in the media. I will give it to them. They want to hear. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

I am noting Honourable Vilakazi and Honourable Thibedi. It is also in terms of Rule 131 A (b) that a Member may respond on a statement of a Member, but it says the total members who respond may not exceed one minute.

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, sorry, I was standing when you were speaking. My apology. I wonder if the Honourable Member will take a question on his statement.

HON. HATTINGH:

Certainly I will take written questions. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Ntate Vilakazi wants to make a follow-up.

HON. MEC VILAKAZI:

Just in one minute I want to respond. The apartheid regime was beaten hands down in that war. That is what you must remember.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Honourable Thibedi?

HON. MEC THIBEDI:

Honourable Speaker, the period in question that the Honourable Member is referring to was highly publicized, specifically in terms of the battle of Peter Cuito Cuinavale, but the information he is giving this House is highly classified information.

I am interested to know his source, because that information was never made public. Where did he get that information, how did he manage to get in the archives of the former security forces to access that information because that information was never made public. So he is coming with new information. I am interested to know where did the Honourable Member access such highly classified information.

HON. HATTINGH:

May I respond? Honourable

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Speaker, I think a very good source for Honourable Thibedi would have been General Arnaldo Tio Cha Sanchez, the Commander in Chief of the Cuban forces and three officers, Captain Valdez, Colonel de la Guardia and Major Padran Trojello. They were unfortunately, after they defeated Cuito Cuanavale, executed by Fidel Castro. For the rest, it is in the archives and for a little bit I saw it with my own eyes. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Groenewald?

HON. GROENEWALD:
Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The DA wishes to voice their concern about the erection of super slime dam that is intended to serve as a catchment area for Harmony Gold, 9km outside Fochville. The pipeline envisaged to this area is 45km long.

This 800 hectare area is agricultural land which they intend to use and was incidentally the ground used last year by the farmer who won the Farmer of the Year award. The DA wants to know why the North West

Province should serve as a dumping place for the Gauteng Gold Mines' sludge so that the Randfontein area can be cleaned up. Is Fochville now seen as Harmony's dumping ground?

The DA wants to know if the North West Province has been informed of these intentions and wants to know what the environmental impact of this will be on the region, especially in the underground water reserves of this region. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Mampane? Oh, Honourable Premier?

HON. PREMIER:
Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. One is not sure whether that is a statement by a Member or a question for oral reply or written reply, the one that we have just listened to. I think it does have to be clearly stated Honourable Deputy Speaker and I ask that perhaps we get clarity, because if indeed we are required to answer those questions, we can now, here, and certainly one is ready to actually also just get into the discussions with regards to that,

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which if you allow me I will do right away. Thanks.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Can I just allow Honourable Groenewald to clarify that area before we proceed.

HON. GROENEWALD:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. It is a statement I make but at the end I will ask some questions. So if the Premier wants to answer it I will appreciate it. Thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The Premier to respond in terms of Rule 131 A (b).

HON. PREMIER:

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I hope I am not going to make a mistake in terms of that rule, because I have to understand the context of the rule as well, but I just want to say Honourable Deputy Speaker, that this government introduced the new piece of legislation when we got into government in 1994, and one of those pieces of legislation good ones has to do with environmental issues, and in that regard every time where there is a new development required to be implement-

ed, that legislation, with its regulations requires that every and any developer goes through a process that is called environmental impact assessment.

There would not therefore be any development that happens without this process, including the mining industry which was excluded previously, has now been included in what is called EMPR. Even though we may not be aware right now, it is going to be a necessary process to go through for the North West Province and we will cross the river when we come to it. We will certainly deal with these issues and ensure that there is no dumping of waste that happens in our province once that process arises.

However, we must also indicate that every process also requires that if it is an agricultural land, another process gets through, we go through with it and that process is a process of ensuring that we do what is called change of land use management. All those rules and regulations and laws are in place to safeguard whatever Honourable Member is talking about. Thank you.

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HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Mampane?

HON. MAMPANE:
Honourable Deputy Speaker, the African National Congress wishes to make a statement on the visit by the NCOP to our province.

Throughout the years the ANC led with a slogan - Power to the people. It waged a determined political and ideological struggle to ensure that both in theory and practice we live up to the solemn decree of the Freedom Charter: "Batho ba tla busa! - People shall govern! ".

On the 10th to 14th March 2008 the second house of parliament, the National Council of Provinces, extended its campaign of taking parliament to the people to our province and was hosted by Tlokwe Local Municipality at Govan Mbeki Stadium in Ikageng.

The theme of this NCOP visit was "Parliament empowering communities for poverty eradication".

It is on this premise that today I speak on the visit of the NCOP

and its impact on the lives of our people. I believe that this second house of our country's parliament indeed provided an opportunity for the electorate to interact with their leaders on issues of development and a platform for accountability as well, thereby ensuring that our democracy is working, the people shall govern.

Our goal is to create a South Africa in which all can experience an improving quality of life, enjoying equal human rights with equal access to opportunities that freedom has brought us and bound together as a nation.

I brevity, in my talk about the NCOP it is appropriate that I reflect on site visits and public hearings which were held during the visits. The NCOP deployed a delegation to visit four health centres and to visit two farms. These visits as the ANC are welcome as they are consistent with our programme of prioritizing health and education as the core elements of social transformation.

However we must raise our reservation that an opportunity was missed by not visiting areas

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of tertiary education during the tours. The Agricultural College has yet to adapt to the current political dispensation whereas the North West University remains an ivory tower.

The public hearings were held under the following themes: poverty alleviation, education, social needs and the provision of water, service delivery, poverty alleviation and job creation.

As the ANC we acknowledge the creation of work opportunities, must be the primary focus of our economic policies, including through targeted and direct interventions. We also acknowledge the fierce urgency of now, including the need for constant report-backs and thorough implementation. The NCOP gave our people a platform to air their views and opportunity for parliamentarians to listen.

It is important to set the record straight that no amount of negative rhetoric and politically inspired public unrests by faceless leaders are ever going to convince the masses of our people that they are a demoralized nation and today is worse than yesterday during apartheid

and Bantustan regime heydays.

In conclusion as the ANC we have confidence in our future and in the masses of our people. We believe that as people govern and learning from experience we can do more better. Power to the people. The people shall govern. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

This brings us almost towards the end of statements. We then proceed to the next item.

SECRETARY: ITEM NO. 6, TABLING OF COMMITTEE REPORT**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, let me now invite the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Honourable Mokaila, to table the committee report in terms of Rule 214 of the House.

HON. MOKAILA:

Thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Premier, all protocol observed. Allow us to table the report of the public hearings and the Provincial Appropriation Bill

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2008. We are attaching to this report Honourable Deputy Speaker, our verbatim capturing of these and suggestions raised by members of the public during the public hearings held across the province on the 5th and the 6th of March 2008.

The committee is happy to report Honourable Speaker to this House that the public hearings of this year elicited interest and record attendance of 685 across the province with Southern and Central leading respectively with 275 and 225 attendants. It is our hope that this sense of enthusiasm demonstrated by members of the public in our committee work will constitute a turning point in cementing public participation and assist in bringing parliament even more closer to the people.

We are indeed grateful to the men and women in our Committee Administration and Public Participation unit whose tireless effort and mobilization ensured that we avoid the repeat of last year's situation during which some public hearings were rescheduled. To be insured that we avoid the repeat of last year's situation

during which some public hearings were rescheduled. A brief perusal of a public hearing's report would indicate a worrying recurrence of some issues which have consistently made part of our report since 2004. Whilst we welcome the fact that in some instances such repeat complains may be as a results of lack of communication between government departments and the communities. There are worrying instances where people's complains actually constitute testimony of failure of departments to actually provide services to the people.

Let us now deal with the budget overview as seen by the committee and the public. Previous budget Honourable Speaker is just above R16 billion which is expected to increase to R20 billion by the outer year of the MTF period in 2010/11. The total share of the provincial equitable which is R13.8 billion which takes out conditional grants and our own revenue which is just above R500 million constitute or represent only 6.9% of the total share of national revenue distribution.

It is worth noting that this figure

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will remain constant in the 2009/2010 financial years and will decrease to 6.8% in 2010 registering a point 2% decline if we compared to the 2007 financial year. As indicated by the Honourable MEC during that budget speech, the North West was allocated an additional R250 million once off conditional allocation to take into account the impacts of the demarcation to the province since the promulgation of Constitution Amendment Act. We hope that the province would continue to agitate per these amount to come in the next financial years bearing in mind that we estimate the rand value of the impact to actually be around R700 million as it has continuously been argued on this podium by Honourable MEC for Finance.

The budget has also seen during this financial year an introduction of some revision of the equitable share formula waited taking into account the committee survey of 2007 as implemented by Stats SA which indicate or so far indicated previously that there would be a point to decline in the budget allocation of the province by 2010/11.

It is the committee's view that whilst we take the point that issues needs to be raised about the FFC formula on the equitable share, the challenge that is facing the province necessarily is not more about the allocation of additional resources than the implementation of the little resources that actually we have been given. In this regard we wish to make a point as indicated by the Honourable MEC that R240 million has actually been rolled over for a number of provincial departments from the last financial year.

This is more worrying considering that in this current financial year budget that we talk about, conditional grant actually constitutes R2.5 billion of the component that makes out the total R16 billion rand of the budget that we are approving. It means the department continues to fail to implement and to spend conditional grants, this capacity that they have bear within this formula to give additional resources over and above the allocation of the division of revenue would actually be lost to the province.

We use to indicate to this House

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that preliminary indications are that the following departments have contributed to the R214 million rand roll over. Most of which constitute conditional grants as I have indicated.

Agriculture Honourable

Serfontein with R50m, DDLGH with R105m, Health with R50m, Sports, Arts and Culture R12m, Health again R12m, Agriculture CASP program R15m, and Social Development R25m.

We have asked the Provincial Treasury to ensure that more precise and reliable figures which account to the R240m is actually provided to the committee so that we go deeper into who these the faultier departments are. In particular we are interested to find out if there could be any department that may have rolled money arising out of the adjustment budget that this House approved in November 2007, because in our view if it is to be found that any department would have rolled over money that we appropriated through a vote in November 2007, we would take a very deem view of such a department and without threatening anybody it would be very difficult for us to support any future

adjustment of any departments that four months ago would have asked for money that they had not been able to use and have asked that they be rolled over.

We are worried again that the decentralization of the capital budget of the province to individual departments seems not to be working across the province equally to all the departments. Departments such as Social Development who are struggling to spend their infrastructure funding rolling out the phase 2 house shelters for the needy juvenile youth. It is struggling to roll out this money, the hospital revitalization plan is also not proceeding as expected and we are worried that if this trend develops, that the capacity of this department to roll out infrastructure fund actually would make some interventions from Provincial Department of Treasury or even from Public Works itself.

We have caused conscious of the fact that even Public Works in some instances have been found to be wanting in the implementation of the infrastructure budget. We welcome

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Treasury intervention in terms of IDIP and we hope that in future meetings and interactions between this committee and Treasury would go deeper in terms of how IDIP is expected to assist the department and making sure that budgets are stand.

We make a call once more and we are not happy about the recurrence of the call that we are making about the capacity of the Economic Development and Tourism to perform in terms of its allocation on its conditional grant. We have stood on this podium year in and year out and called on Treasury and the respective department to make sure that programmes folds the budget enfold funds are allocated are actually implemented and we are worried that once more we are at the point where we are forced to make this call and it is the committee's view that in this financial year we should actually make this call to the Honourable Premier that the capacity of this department receive your attention in terms of making sure that the department is able to implement its programs sufficiently.

Financial management capacity

of the Department of Education had received some attention during the 2007/08 financial year and we hope that going forward this department would pay particular attention to strengthen its capacity to make sure that what we have had to do in November 2007 during the adjustment budget does not happen this year Honourable Tselapedi.

Agriculture department had shown some improvements since the faithful code of 16 January 2006 during which statements were made at the NCOP in relation to the state of finances of this department. We are however fear a worrying slump in terms of capacity to stand conditional grants as we have indicated previously with the department struggling to spend the cast amongst others conditional grants in this financial year which amounts they have asked that they be rolled over.

Over all the provincial budget overview is such that the departments in general are struggling to spend conditional grants and it is important that Treasury together with the departments

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which are affected institute specific targeted intervention mechanisms to ensure that the necessary interventions are made to increase the capacity of departments to actually spend their conditional grants.

What are the policy considerations that we have dealt within the committee? One Chair, relates to the capacity of the province to increase the casino levies as part of revenue generation and it is the view of the Portfolio Committee that Provincial Treasury together with our Gambling Board should ensure that we collect what is due to the province in terms of casino levies which are due to the province from casino operators.

We are also conscious of the fact that we are losing a lot of revenue through illegal gambling from other illegal operators who are operating in the province and for that we are calling on the Provincial Treasury, Community Safety, and the North West Gambling Board to ensure that we constitute a dedicated task team which have SAPS, which will ensure that we fight illegal operators because it

is their operations which are denying this province revenue that could assist in attending to other service delivery demands of the public fiscals.

We have made a point again about tourism levy on numerous occasions, that as we grow our tourism traffic as a percentage of the total number of visitor people who come to the province, it is also important that we take advantage of these numbers by introducing a province deficit legislation which shall enable the province through operators across the province to collect levies which will accrue to the provincial fiscals.

We have also made a suggestion that we need to increase the capacity of the Transport Road and Community Safety Department to collect not only what is due in terms of outstanding traffic fines but to collect adequately what is guaranteed to be levies arising out of vehicle registration which takes place in the province.

National Treasury is estimating that all provinces are to under collect by 11% and this is worry-

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ing considering the fact that vehicle population across the country has actually seen a steady increase at least before the introduction of the National Credit Act there has been a steady increase in terms of vehicle population across the country and the North West Province is not an exception in this regard, that is why it is important that we collect this revenue.

The School Nutrition Program, what we are making a proposal there as a committee that we need some restructuring of the payment model of the school nutrition program, to make sure that we unlock a lot of funds which actually go into administration that such funds should go into what this fund or what this scheme is dedicated to and that is feeding the majority of the learners who are in our public schools who should benefit from this service that government is rendering.

In terms of the FFC Formula Chair, we have already made a point that our challenge is far much more than our share of the equitable share but our challenge is our capacity to spend money. But we would want to

make a call as a committee that there is a need for the North West Province to coordinate its view on what the North West provision is with regard to the equitable share formula, so that a presentation or a position is not developed only by Treasury which presentation may not be reflective of the entirety of the provision of government at the policy level as a whole.

The point that we have made previously therefore is, making that proposal that we need to make, we must bear in mind that economic and fiscal disparities across the provinces and nationally may not be eliminated at once and we must not make the mistake that we normally make thinking that equitable means that there should be same or equal allocation of resources across provinces.

As we build our capacity to implement and to roll out the funds that we are using, it is important as we make this point that we consolidate a provincial government view on this matter. We are making this point Deputy Speaker, because when we attend activities in Cape Town where these matters are

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discussed in fact two weeks ago when we were in Cape Town, the North West is not recorded to have sharply raised its views formally through the national budget council on the equitable share, and it is therefore that we don't raise it amongst ourselves as the province but we also consolidate a view that we make the part of discussions at the national level.

In terms of roads and infrastructure, we are worried that because of our disadvantage as a province that we have got a fewer share of national road as compared to urban provinces like Gauteng and the Western Cape, we are underperforming in terms of our ability to access grants which are rolled out for road infrastructure and in this respect we are proposing that the relevant department together with Treasury continue to agitate for the province to receive even far much bigger amount recognizing the rural mentioned extend of the rural road network that the province has.

Conditional grants we need to increase the specific capacity as we have mentioned for all departments to utilize our condi-

tional grants because this inability to utilize this fund or in the long term affects even negatively our total share of the national distribution of revenue. We have looked at the growth fund which was introduced by the Honourable MEC for Finance which is indicated to have about R300m in its suit fund. Our view as a committee is that we need some form of an alignment and integration and consolidation of all economic development interventions in order for us to maximize impact, and in this regard it is our considered view that whilst we welcome the initial enthusiasm by the private sector in terms of contribution to the suit fund of the growth fund, the share of the private sector and the province and the share of the private economy is not demonstrated in the R300m that is part of the provincial growth fund suit fund, and it is therefore important that the province continue to harness the interaction on participation of the private sector and the economic development programs of the province.

In dealing with the efficient energy challenges in the province, it is our view that as a province

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we need to develop our own strategy and join the national Department of Minerals and Energy and other provinces in developing a North West specific energy efficiency intervention particularly by doing simple things within government departments switch off our heaters when we go back off after half past four. Turn off the lights in government offices, use our heaters sparingly and not even allow that heaters be brought from home to government offices which are not energy efficient. These are the proposals that we think that the government could do as part of our contribution to energy efficiency in the country.

In conclusion Honourable Deputy speaker, the committee will bring the following financial year towards the completion of this year in particular:

" Increase our attention and capacity to pay attention to financial oversight across all departments in addition to the quarterly reports that we table every quarter in this House.

" We shall work jointly with the Portfolio Committee on Education, the Department of Education and Provincial

Treasury to go deeper into the circumstances which led us to the situation of the adjustment budget of R720m in 2007. The issue of the accuracy of learner and educator numbers in our public school would be interrogated sharply.

" It is important for us to be precise on how much and onwards do we spend resource on the Department of Education because we have constitute the single most largest portion of government allocation of the public fiscals in the province.

" We would also be holding public hearings to ensure that there is value for money in infrastructure spending particularly on roads and public schools an hospitals, to make sure no shoddy work continues to constitute and characterize work that has been done by contractors who benefit from procurement policies which is meant to assist merging contractors, that even those who are emerging should themselves be held to the higher standard of service delivery and quality assurance than any other.

" The committee will also pick on specific strategies implemented infrastructure of the project to make sure that we do

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on logo inspection on all public infrastructure projects to make sure as I have indicated that there is value for money that we are spending and that we would be passing in terms of this budget as a province.

" Lastly Deputy Speaker, once more we are indented to the hard work as this committee of the staff, the administration that has made sure that the public hearings for this year runs very smoothly, achieved achievements that we have indicated that we have achieved in terms of attendance and we hope that this will spread through out all committees of your House that this is reflective of the general work that we do as a Legislature, and finally the committee on behalf of the Portfolio Committee I wish to table this report and advice your House that the committee has deliberated on this report and proposes to this House that the budget for the 2008/09 be approved by this House to be stand by government department. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Thank you Honourable Mokaila. May I draw the attention of the House that this report was tabled in the House as per the

requirement of Rule 215. If the House adopts this report, we will now move to the next item which is also tabled in the House as per requirements of Rule 215 does the House adopt the report? If it does we then proceed to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO 7;
PROCEEDINGS ON BILLS
SECOND READING: NORTH
WEST APPROPROATION BILL
2008**

a) Debate on the Provincial Budget.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
Honourable Members let me take this opportunity now to invite Honourable Matladi as the first speaker on the speaker's list on the debate, please note that your time is 7 minutes.

HON. MATLADI:
Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. We agreed on 8 minutes in the working committee.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:
I am saying your minutes ...
[Inaudible]...

HON. MATLADI:
Honourable Deputy Speaker,
Honourable Speaker,

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Honourable Premier,
Honourable MECs and
Honourable Members of the
House I greet you this day and I
am happy that today and yester-
day we have had sufficient rain
fall.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the
budget speech as presented in
your august House shows the
efforts the Hounorable MEC has
taken in researching the world
economy especially the prob-
lems of the US economy that
she confidently thought would
not affect the brick economics.

Deputy Speaker,
Mokhuduthamaga wa Lefapha
la Matlotlo o tthagisa dintlha
tseo di tsenang mo tekanyetsok-
abong ya gagwe. O tthagisa go
tlhoka maitemogelo le jone bok-
goni ba go tsamaisa puso le one
matlole tota. Go a gakgamatsa
go be go ntse jalo ka gore go
dirisiwa madi a mantsi go katisa
badiredipuso. Fa e le gore ga
ba gole mo katisong go raya
gore molato o teng golo gong-
we.

Nevertheless should agree with
me on following news of econo-
my in these countries, one
should not forget that the coun-

tries that are mentioned are the
countries, except two, that fall
under G7 countries and they
control the largest portion of
percentage of world economy.
As we speak today the economy
of China is feeling the heat of
the problems in the US econo-
my.

Gongwe mananeo a katiso ga
se one, e bile ga a maleba kgot-
sa go isiwa katisong batho ba
ba sa katisegeng, un-trainable.
Gongwe ba newa the skills,
dithupelelo tse di sa lebanang le
maemo a ba leng mo go one.

Se sengwe MmusaKgotla gore
re nne le ba diredi ba ba sa kgo-
neng go tsamaisa puso le mat-
lole a yone le kwa bo masepa-
leng le go fitlha le yone puso ya
bogareng go nale virus, mme
virus e re ka e sekaseka mmogo
ra fitlhela e le gore sa ntlha a
batho ba tsena mo di tirong
goya ka merit, bokgoni ba bone
le maitemogelo a ba tlang ka
one le dithupelelo (qualifica-
tions) tse batlang ba ditshotse
gotla go tsamaisa tiro e batse-
nang mo go yone, kgotsa a ba
tsena fela ka botsala le gore ba
ikana ka mang mme ba se fitl-
helele se re eletsang ba ka se
dira.

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Madam Speaker, it is true that the economy of our province is dominated by two economic sectors mainly mining and agriculture. The concern that I had it seems we know that these two sectors are employing many people; much is not done to ensure the support of these sectors. What is the government doing to make sure that Dinokana, Gopane slate mine after 10 years of being announced starting, nothing has been done to assist the people of these two villages and the result therefore would be too grossly to contemplate.

What is the Department of Economic Development doing to assist the people of Dinokana and Gopane to get the license to mine their slate and what is the Department of Local Government and Housing doing to facilitate the acquiring of the license since they are the first people to launch the project through the district municipality.

There are other mining projects that cannot compare, that the main problems are capacity as human resource in these departments to assist our communities. Agriculture is one failing

department in the province year in, year out that I sometimes wish it would be attached to other departments which one cannot even tell because also education has its own problems, Health department its own problems, but these are the departments that one can be associating with the ones that can help the Department of Agriculture in its troubles.

What criteria is used by Agriculture to fund projects. In the previous public hearings of the Public Accounts meeting, we were really down founded to hear the story that the procurement of this department in project is the worst. Where have you ever heard of projects of the next three years already have been allocated to contractors who are failing in their first year of giving a project.

I wonder whether the officials of this department ever visit the project they have given people.

Ga e le gore ba di etela ke ipot-
sa gore a ba bona tiro e e
dirwang e tshwanetse madi ao a
ntshiwang. Go tshwanetse ga
diriwa r-eshuffle mo lefapheng le
re tsenye batho ba ba tla kgo-

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nang go thusa balemirui gore re bone lefapha le dira tshwaelo e e batlegang mo ikonoming ka go fokotsa tlala le bothhoka tiro. A madi a se tshole a busiwa go tse ga a dira. Dimasepala di na le diproject tsa temothuo, ba feng madi ao ba a dirise gore batho ba rona kwa dinaga mag-aeng ba bone ditiro le matshelo a bone a tokafale.

The Honourable Chairperson of the Committee has already talked about the roll over of R240m, and he has mentioned several departments that do have a say in this including the Agriculture Department I have talked about, Health Department, Social Development, Sports Arts and Culture and others.

Referring to the speech of the Honourable MEC of Finance in the previous financial year, she mentioned that funds will be taken from the departments that are failing to perform to be given to those departments that would be able to use them for service delivery. When one checks whether this has born fruit for us the answer that one get is it is not a law, it has not been easy implementing it nevertheless, it

could have been a very good action to help in the problem.

But now I am wondering when it was presented into the House was it not refreshed into in order to look into this issue of whether it is working for or against the laws. The North West Province have the net reduction in the equitable share of revenue at R700m over the MTEF and this resulted from the disestablishment of cross boundary municipalities where areas including Themba, Ga-Rankuwa, Mabopane and others that had contribution in economic development in the province had to go to Gauteng and what came to the North West were the Merafong with its problems, areas dent out resources, schools you mention them, area with some of the residents build on the dolomite that have to be removed from one area to the other, which would also be causing the North West province some finances.

Now the question is why it appears that the North West Province is being stripped naked of even the mere resources that could have helped in alleviating poverty from its communities

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while what comes to us is the thing that cannot help us so much.

Ngwana yo o sa le leng o swela tharing. Goreng re sa itelele? Re lele kwa puso ya bogareng. Re kope kokeletso ya madi a kgaogano, the equitable share e e newang diprofense. Fa motho o leba o lebisisa o bona porofense e tshwana le Kwa Zulu-Natal e bona the equitable share of R41b mme North West yone e bona R13b. Le fa go buiwa ka di-palopalo, kgolo ya the population as one of the strategies that are used in sharing the revenue, gonne motho o tla o belaela gore e kete re kwa tlase thata e seng gore go lebelelwe le dintlha tse dingwe tse di bontshang fa porofense ya rona e le thata ya dinaga magae e ise e tlihabologe sentle mme le yone e tlhoka ditlhabollo gore go nne le koketso.

Ke dumelana thata le puo ya mo-Premier fa a ne a le kwa banquet kwa Potchefstroom fa a ne a re North West e tshwanelwa ke go ikuelwa ka kabo e re e boneng; the equitable share of revenue. Re a mo tlatsa mme re sa ntse re tlatsa le modulasetulo fa a re a dintlha tse di goroge

kwa puso ya bogareng gore re bone gore a ba ka se re tlhomogele pelo. Bagaetsho Motswana a re mma-motho o amua le fa a sule, mme re tsaya gore le ga go ntse go na le mabaka a re a newang sengwe re ka se bona.

Education remains the largest item with budget at 41.9% and in the previous financial year this department had overspend its budget at about R1.2b. When looking for the cause of the over expenditure it becomes very clear that there were miscalculations. If one can be asking Motlotlegi Tselapedi if he knows the number of the learners and the educators in the province I doubt if he would be able to give us the numbers. This has resulted in the mess that we faced towards the end of 2007.

The cross border story has been indicated by the department as have been featured into the problem that they faced, but we are not convinced and we are urging that this department must go back and employ the personnel that would be able to deal with these sensitive issues and that the problem they have had

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should never recur.

During the budget publicans, community members are concerned about allocation of tenders in different departments as well as municipalities. Tenders are set to be awarded to friends, relatives, not to the people who have good and relevant qualifications and skills to perform at the contract. This has resulted in the work been left unfinished because of poor management of funds. If the work is complete it is of a very poor quality and this requires extra funds for a redo of the work that had already been done. I can give an example of the mending of the roads in the North West Province and I am happy that the MEC of Transport, Roads and Community Safety is among us.

The tenders allocated to people who patch the roads, they patch it this week. Two weeks to come the hole is open, is wider than it was before it could be patched, it is an example. And also the cracks in the houses that are build by the contractors in the North West that we had taken to also have proved that we are ending up with the bad products for the money that we

have paid being the tax people's money.

As I am nearing my conclusion Honourable Deputy Speaker, allow me to talk about the problem regarding the entities in the North West Province government. For the department with entities it has come to the notice of the Finance Committee and the Public Accounts Committee that entities are not doing well. The management board of these entities always being disintegrated. Also the management board not being on board in order to run the business of the entity, rather the CEO and the Financial Officer being the people that would go ahead in running these issues, although the accounting officer is supposed to be the management board.

So the finances are not well managed, there are problems of fraud, we do have several cases if I can mention the case in the Parks and Tourism Board which is an entity in the Department of Economic Development and others, and we are saying we have a concern if the entities are doing what they were established to do or if they have

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taken a different route from the work expected from them.

In the argument that we have had, we have even had departments trying to prick out of these entities saying don't blame us on behalf of entities, make them accountable to the House why they are doing what they are doing, but we are still convinced that it is the department and the MEC that is given a budget and the budget also includes the transfers that are given to the entities therefore it becomes the soul responsibility of the Honourable MEC concerned to be accountable for the money he/she transferred to the entity to monitor it that its doing its work.

With the addition of the work and the report that is given by the Honourable Chair as the United Christian Democratic Party we would like to support this budget and say we are there to support the Honourable MEC of Finance and the department and say to it that there is accountability for the finances of the public. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The next Speaker would be

Honourable Molema.
Honourable Matladi has even exceeded time she referred to of the Working Committee.

HON. MOLEMA:

Thank you very much
Honourable Deputy Speaker,
Honourable Speaker,
Honourable Premier,
Honourable Members of the Executive Council, Honourable Members of Provincial Legislature, Distinguished Guests, good morning.

Honourable Speaker the African National Congress had a vision of economic transformation and its point of departure. On this matter we are guided by the Freedom Charter principle which states that the people shall share in the country's wealth. Much as we accept that as a country we have made substantial progress in transforming the economy to benefit the majority, but serious challenges of unemployment and poverty are still a major concern to us.
Honourable Deputy Speaker, progressive development in our province as a results of some budget that belongs to the communities, whilst our economy is making progress all the way we

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became disturbed by those departments who under-spend their budget this giving communities a negative impression leading them to conclude that our government is not providing efficient, effective service delivery to them.

Stringent majors, key areas to focus and target need to be set for this none spending and this none performing departments. Portfolio Committees need to spend sometime, to re-look at the rules to ensure that government departments account to us in a period of by annually to check on progress made by our departments. This is not impunity by ensure that our communities benefit from wealth of the country.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, we have noted that our province has no infrastructure policy. This should be inline with our province quest that accelerating implementation of the second economy which will look at the mechanism of delivery and impact of poverty on the lives of women, youth and rural communities, so that we request our government to look at this matter urgently.

We had noted on whether the infrastructure budgets on the departments has increased or not, but our concern are the following Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Health and Education are poor on delivering infrastructure. We strongly believe that infrastructure development is conducive to labour intensive and labour based employment.

We were sold to this idea, to a project called MIDZ as a Premier location for new industrial investment but progress report in its development has been few and far in between. The aim of MIDZ was to create and empowering small, micro, medium, enterprises (SMMEs) and this is clearly inline with implementation of the second economy intervention and prescribed by ASGISA, Provincial Growth and Development Strategy.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, as I conclude I would like to urge the House to research on major put on to trap the remedy understanding and therefore under performing departments that are putting our government in a negative light. I therefore sup-

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port the budget vote. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The next speaker will be Honourable Hattingh.

HON. HATTINGH:

Dankie agbare Adjunk Speaker.

I think I must firstly congratulate the MEC for Finance in an eloquent way that she presented the budget, as usual. But I think that's where the compliments will end. My question is, and I put it also to the MEC: "When is this a convincing and inspiring budget?" I am not of the opinion it was not. I think it can be described as dull and uninspiring and certainly will not provide solutions for the faltering North West economy. That is partially to blame, it is not the MEC's fault, because of the failure of the crucial agents of delivery in the North West and the continued failure of them and here I refer to unnecessary I think, to local authorities as well as our provincial departments.

The theme of the Minister of Finance was business unusual; I regard this as business as

usual. Although the MEC referred to the failing North West local authorities and the lack of capacity in provincial departments to expand their budgets it was also reiterated here this morning, there was no solution to the problems.

Understandably so. I think we must realize that we have run out of solutions to the problem.

Why? Because we have lost so much expertise and so much capacity at all levels of government. Provincial sphere, Local sphere and National sphere.

Why? Because of redeployment policies where people are deployed and redeployed regardless of their capacity and ability to fulfill the function.

Crucial functions in this country are simply failing, lack of planning, I'll come to that. I also had a look at the previous two presentations of the MEC and its very strange how we move on from time to time to different words, different acronyms. If you can think back, there was a time where RDP was the flavour of the month that was replaced by GEAR. The 2006 budget the flavour of that month was PGDS. Do we still remember what it means? It appeared throughout the speech. So with

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ASGISA, the word ASGISA was so eloquently used to remind us in two past speeches, in the current speech it's gone. What happens to initiatives that get announced over the years with a lot of enthusiasm, lot of planning PGDS, and then what? What happens then? I leave that with you. My concern is that there are no budgetary penalties on underperforming departments. In almost all cases of the budget allocations to these departments were increased, regardless of the fact that the relevant departments perpetually failed to expend their previous budget allocations.

I think a very fair period to analyze budget expenditure would be after the Third Quarterly report. After that we get fiscal dumping where people get dumped with money without proper planning. I want again to refer to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. And while I'm saying that name, it should and it could have been a key factor in poverty alleviation in the province and I'm also wondering why do you have the department we look at their programmes. In the first nine months of their eight proj-

ects that they had, then they transferred money directly to two projects. On the other six projects, they did not expend one cent. My question: why do we have such a department? Why don't we just transfer their money straight out of Treasury to the projects? Because there appears to be no planning, no monitoring, nothing. Not a single cent expended in nine months of the budget on MIDZ, R43. 262 million, Beef beneficiation project R3 million, Wild silk project R 1 million, North West Parks Infrastructure R 5 million, Wild silk R0,75 million, Air thatch R2 million.

MEC once again we expected in the budget for the past eleven years. MIDZ security project, but why do the media not report all that anymore, they seem through it. We had promises occurred for MIDZ to provide by 2010, 25 000 job opportunities. This was announced in this House, what happened ?. Even in media last year's conference in the budget the way it is been presented.

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment could only explain 21% in the

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first 9 months of the current financial year on the agricultural support, on communal land world and that is history. The Public Accounts Committee visited 2 of the 44 projects from the DED projects as it was investigated by the mortifiers from all the farms. If I can align to House 64 beneficiaries, so called beneficiaries who each received a grant and with the Land bank loan they have purchase that land and abattoir was at that stage slaughtering 30 000, processing 40 000 chickens a day. What is left of it?

We had 64 workers at least 64 at least but they had work and probation period they became land owners and they had worked, what is left today there is nothing. When we loose the farm, we lost infrastructure because Land Bank has taken it back, the North West Cooperation has taken back, then we sit with nothing. They are even worse than before, before the government supported them because in the past they had worked. They worked for farmer, now they have got nothing. They have lost their work, they have lost the land. Government has lost everything.

Everybody has lost. Land Bank has lost and will never be able to cover the loses and the cooperation has lost, everybody has lost, well perhaps not everybody, I think the previous owner and there is only beneficiary of the 64 who was seen being driving around with his Q7.

So the rest, everybody including the government tax payer has lost. Is that what we want to do? These are the projects, the same projects, whilst there are some for few days there were media reports about this when the project was launched, when the people took position of the land, that was the highlight but let the media go back there today and see the poverty and see the people going away without work, nothing left, this is not the way we should do it and there are many reasons that can be given for the failure of this and the other 44 projects that were investigated.

Let's carry on to Department of Sports Arts and Culture. They were not penalized in the budget, and to pick on library's day could only expect 27% of the budget in the North West ... [Inaudible]...including only

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13% of maintenance of libraries and 20% of community library services. Let's state maintenance and this awesome major shock under the budget I think everybody will agree. Last week and it was referred to, we visited with the NCOP the Agriculture Centre in Potchefstroom, and there are 3 projects at present that are going EPWP projects to renovate buildings. One building is been renovated at R7.6 million it is a hall, you can build a new hall of the same size for less than that, I don't know how it got in such state, but I know there is no maintenance money. Department of Agriculture blame Public Works, Public Works blame the Department of Agriculture, they say what ... [Inaudible]... anymore. The same hall it's a national heritage, it is in surface, it is an administration building; all are in the same order of neglect because there are no funds available for maintenance. We cannot let our infrastructure go down on this way.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the budget 2008/09 once again failed to address a serious deliberate hindrances and once

again there were poor and mediocre performance. This is something that needs to be addressed in; it is not the MEC's responsibility. We are going towards an election there is an executive and everybody needs money but what we do with that money and I can go on and number of examples of failures here around there is a commitment I think of each an every Member here that's willing to do that but I think we fall down at the capacity level, explaining level in the departments. Honourable Deputy Speaker the DA supports the budget and I just appeal on Members and Colleagues to be more vigilant in the oversight function because this budget really needs that. I thank you.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

The next Speaker will be Honourable Gerber, and he will be followed by Honourable Mokomele-Mothibi.

HON. GERBER:

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. I see that this year's budget is a fairly balanced one. We could expect after the decision taken by the ANC in Polokwane and the important

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meeting in January this year that there will be pressure on the budget to be more socialistic.

We realize and accept that the government must do more for the poor. They must build the houses, they must provide more hospitals and better health care, and they must increase social grants. We understand that but there is also the other side of the coin. The fact is that government over the last two years increased social grants by R22 billion all over South Africa. This kind of increases cannot be done for ever.

I have sympathy with the Honourable MEC in this regard; we still have a lot of poor people in our society. People are crying out all over the country for a better life. They expect that government who promised it should do something about it. On the other hand it is also true that something drastically should be done to make those poor people less dependant on social grants. The goal must be to make more and more people less dependant on social grants. That's a better option would be to invest in job creation. Saying

that I must stress that is not the governments responsibility in the first place to create jobs. It is the government's responsibility to create a situation where in the private sector will be able to create jobs. Secondly it is the responsibility of government to create infrastructure to ensure that it is possible for the private sector to create more and more jobs.

Good roads as an example is essential in this regard. Public transport is essential in this regard and I think all our Members will agree and most Honourable Members will defer to it that roads and public transport in our province should be much better. In the North West we have some of the bad roads in the country. We have railway lines but we do not use them effectively.

I urge the government again and the Portfolio Committee Chair also said that I urge them to give more attention to the roads in our province; not enough is done to do a good job in this regard. I foresee that the next disaster after Eskom may be the total collapse of the road system in our country within the

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few years.

Tweedens wil ek iets sê oor die onderwys begroting. Na die debaat van verlede jaar toe daar byna ? miljard rand te min begroot is, is die Vryheids Front Plus tevrede met die bedrag wat vir onderwys begroot is. Die vraag wat ek vandag egter wil stel is dit: Kry ons werklik as ? provinsie waarde vir ons hoë onderwys begroting? Alhoewel ons baie onderwysers het wat self-dissipline toepas, is daar ook baie onderwysers wat nie hulle kant bring nie.

Baie onderwysers is nie behoorlik opgelei nie en baie van hulle doen byna niks om hulle kwalifikasies te verbeter nie. Sommige onderwysers is lui, sommige van hulle kom laat by die werk, sommige is afwesig en dit het ons gevind wanneer die Portefolio komitee skole besoek het; dat die hoof nie eers daarvan bewys was dat hulle tydens skool ure net verdwyn.

Ek dink dit het hoog tyd geword dat daar van die kant van hierdie wetgewer geëis word dat alle onderwysers en amptenare in die Department van

Onderwys hulle werk behoorlik doen, dat hulle stiptelik op tyd by hulle werk en by die skool aankom en dat hulle hul sal bekwaam vir die werk wat hulle moet doen. Ons onderwys begroting moet diens lewering tot gevolg hê. Ons spandeer sewe miljard rand hierdie jaar daaraan. Ten slotte, wil ek iets sê oor diens lewering. Ons spandeer sewe miljard rand hierdie jaar daaraan.

Ten slotte, wil ek iets sê oor die landbou begroting, as ons die begroting van Sport, Kuns en Kultuur vergelyk met die begroting van Landbou, dan dink ek is daar ? waanbalans. Die Landbou Department kry vanjaar vyf-honderd -vyf- en veertig miljoen rand, terwyl die Department van Sport, Kuns en Kultuur drie-honderd-en- vyftig miljoen rand kry. Ek sê nie dat ons die Department van Sport, Kuns en Kultuur se bedraag moet verminder nie, maar wat ek wel sê is dat die Landbou in vergelyking met Sport, Kuns en Kultuur meer moet kry.

Landbou behoort weer ? belangrike department in ons provinsie te word. Ek dink hy is op die oomblik ? stiefkind en ons kan nie die Landbou straf as ons die

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department wil straf omdat hulle nie resultate die afgelope jare gelewer het nie. Daar is baie opkomende boere wat gehelp en gestimuleer moet word en daar is terselfdetyd baie kommersiële boere wat ook aandag moet kry want kommersiële boere moet sorg dat daar kos op die tafel is vir Suid- Afrika se bevolking van meer a vyftig miljoen mense. Sonder voedsel op die tafel kan die land nie goed funksioneer nie en kan daar ook nie ekonomiese groei plaasvind nie, en daarom vra ek die regering erenstig dat hulle volgende jaar die begroting na hierdie saak aandag sal gee. Die Vryheids Front Plus sal die begroting ondersteun.

HON. DEP. SPEAKER:

Thank you very much Honourable Gerber. You did very good in terms of time. Honourable Mokomele-Mothibi.

HON. MOKOMELE-MOTHIBI:

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Premier, Honourable MECs, Honourable Members of Provincial Legislature, ladies and gentlemen. Honourable Deputy Speaker, allow the ANC to delib-

erate on the budget speech debate before this august House. Through the Freedom Charter we promised that the people shall share in the country's wealth. January 8th statement of the ANC prescribes that the activities engaged in during the course of 2008 will form the foundation of this programme.

It is from this premise that I direct that the people's budget must be utilized for the purpose it is allocated for by all of our departments. And thereby focus on gender issues, employee wellness and social transformation as well as implementation and monitoring. Firstly Honourable Speaker, I hope most of us here are aware that 30% of parliamentarians are women which put South Africa as number 8 in the world intensive gender equality in government. The country moved quickly from position of 141 before 1999 to number 8 when the African National Congress adopted a 30% quota on its party list.

Private sector is still lacking behind with women representation Honourable Deputy Speaker. Research still shows

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that 85% of all top management positions and 80% of all senior management positions are in the hands of men. We know that many women can outwork men. I am saying it boldly Honourable Deputy Speaker. Considering that 52% of the population is made up of women and there are 1.2million known women on the voters roll. It is clear that we need to strive for 50/50 as our ultimate goal. But not all women in parliament are actively taking up women's issues as priority. We do have good equity legislation and policies but more funding still needs to be pump in to it so as to be able to vigorously implement it.

Secondly healthy employees always contribute positively at work. Thus ensuring that the objectives of their organizations are optimally met. However this should be a conducive and hospitable environment for employees at the workplace to feel at home. Anyway we do not say they should forget that they are on duty and sleep on duty or maybe just being relaxed. They should know that they are supposed to protect the integrity of this House. Psychological, spiritual and physical health of

employees should be seen holistically as they contribute to an individual being all to operate at an optimum level. If any of the above should falter the employees will not be able to perform even the most minimal of jobs. Some of the key objectives which need urgent funding are to launch the consultative document on employee health and wellness strategic framework made up of functional pillars of HIV/AIDS which is aligned to the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan 2007/11, Health Management, Occupational Hygiene and Wellness Management.

Thirdly Honourable Deputy Speaker once again we must question the strategy of departments spending aimlessly in March so that they are not guilty of having unspent funds must be discouraged with all the vigor that we can master. Money that is used for meaningless procurement of goods and services at the expense of real investment that could contribute to fighting poverty. It was actually stated clearly by the chairperson of this committee. We submit that because of the more regular interaction between depart-

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ments and portfolio committees, it makes sense that all committees must engage departments on the financial management as well as the findings of the Auditor General so that oversight is exercised and corrective action where necessary is effected immediately when it is detected.

Honourable Deputy Speaker in conclusion to continue the practice of committees working as ...[Inaudible]... and not in an integrated fashion examining financial management and policy simultaneously will further weaken our role. On this note Honourable Speaker, I support the budget vote on behalf of ANC. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER:

Re a leboga mme Mokomele - Mothibi. Re laletsa mme mma-Modiselle, MEC wa Finance go tla go re ema ka lefoko.

HON. MEC MODISELLE:

Thank you Honourable Speaker, Honourable Premier, Honourable Members extinct ladies and gentlemen. Honourable Speaker let me at the outset thank the chairper-

son, Honourable Sam Mokaila and the portfolio committee members for indeed interrogating the provincial budget and participating in the debate today. We appreciate the public hearings held in all the regions of the North West and we really acknowledge and appreciate the interest and enthusiasm that our people are beginning to show in their budget.

The Provincial Treasury also had an opportunity to meet with the portfolio committee on the 13th of March as stated by the chairperson. We appreciate the comments, advise and share with them the concerns they had expressed about the challenges that we all face. I will begin by responding to the report of the Portfolio Committee of Finance as presented by the Honourable Chairperson Sam Mokaila. The chairperson has raised very critical issues gathered by the committee at its public hearings. I strongly believe that these issues are core to the people's needs and therefore requires special attention in the financial year ahead. Not only by the Department of Finance but by all of us Honourable Members. Most issues raised at the public

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hearings and here today will best be dealt with by the relevant departments. These issues must therefore be directed to those departments so that they can be responded to comprehensively during their interaction with their respective portfolio committees and subsequently with the debate in this august House.

Amongst the issues raised however, there are those which I consider are transversal and will require my attention today. A lot have been said about the R240m under spending during the 2007/08 financial year. These are mainly conditional grants and I wish to respond as follows: The Provincial Treasury is assisting departments with appropriate intervention to improve their capacity to spend through various mechanisms including the infrastructure delivery improvement programme. Since the third quarter, significant improvement in expenditure transfer within provincial departments has been noted but I wish to indicate the following. I deliberately didn't include this information in my budget speech.

The Department of Developmental Local Government and Housing will roll over a total R105m. These funds were only transferred during January 2008 from the National Department of Housing for the Khutsong Community. However three municipalities still have to provide the bulk infrastructure before the construction of houses can commence. Discussions are in progress between the Provincial Department of Development Local Government and the National Department of Housing to address the matter of bulk infrastructure.

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment will roll over about R70m. The R55m was approved during the November 2007 adjustment estimates. The National Agriculture transferred R35m to the province during February 2008 with R20m still to be transferred during March 2008. This grant is funded for a 2 year period and the total sum is to be fully spent by the end of March 2009. The under spending of approximately R15m is estimated on the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP).

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The grants due to the lack of agricultural engineers, project management skill within the department. The Infrastructure Delivery Improvement Programme (IDIP) programme extended to the department should address and hopefully resolve these obstacles in the future.

The Department of Health will roll over R48m, the under spending of R40m is estimated on hospital revitalization grant for the Moses Kotane and Vryburg Hospitals as the result of the inability of the contractors to perform within scheduled time frames. The Department of Public Works has since appointed appropriate project managers to address this delivery of projects in this area. The forensic pathology services possible under spending of R8m is due to the delay in design and planning of the construction of four forensic mortuaries, currently 70% of the total grant is committed.

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture will roll over approximately R8.4m for new community library services grant spending as a result of the late finalization of plans, tendering and

the recruitment of staff. The Department of Social Development will roll over approximately R35m. The delay in the allocation of sites by the municipality resulted in a set back on infrastructure delivery of child care protection centers for about R25m and the tender was only advertised on the 2nd of March 2008. The Victim Empowerment Center at R10m could not commence as Naledi Municipality had not finalized the allocation of the site. Hence the funds were redirected to complete the secure care centers.

On quality assurance we think that we are going to address this area through the infrastructure delivery improvement programme the IDP which is been implemented in departments in assisting to address the value for money through improved forward planning and the effective usage of allocated funds. The Provincial Treasury will improve the level of quality assurance and impact of the allocated budgets through progress checks which are currently only randomly executed. Last year's budget speech indicated that the departments that were unable to spend their allocations budgets,

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will have their funds redistributed. Though this doesn't appear any where in the PFMA.

During the adjustments estimates in November 2007, a total of R186m was in fact taken from provincial departments mostly for under spending on personnel and the money was redistributed to the Department of Education to mitigate budget pressures in that department. The following Departments and the amount are as follows:

- " From Social Development we took R124m.
- " Economic Development we took R5m.
- " Finance, believe it or not, we took R15m.
- " Sport, Arts and Culture R12m.
- " Office of the Premier R12m.
- " Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment we took R6m and
- " From the Contingency Reserve R13m. So, we did follow through with what threatened.

Regarding electricity impact in the North West, nationally Eskom has directed that industrial mining to operate at a 90%

capacity to stabilize the national grid which to a large extent is being implemented. Further more the power utility Eskom warned the residential and commercial users through municipality to cut their electricity usage by 10% in order to allow the demand to fall below 3000mega watts. Eskom is currently in the process of preparing a plan for load shedding which is likely to be implemented with effect from the end of March 2008 and with a large extend exempt critical services. It is only after the finalization of this Eskom plan that the impact of the electricity in the North West can be determined.

Now all of us must conserve energy. So, my plea is that the electricity burns day and night in the whole of Garona building. From time to time I have past here at midnight and the lights are just blazing over everywhere. So, we've got to do something about that as well. Ga ke itse gore molato ke eng. #[I don't know what the problem is.]# I have already talked about the moneys that were surrendered by the other departments and a point has been raised by colleague Mothibi about march

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spikes I cannot explain. It is in fact a great concern. At the end of the third quarter the three departments and these are the following departments, colleagues bear with me. Economic Development, Sport, Arts and Culture and Social Development. I am not going to say what their expenditure rate was then.

But here is the picture now. As at the end of the fourth quarter these three departments showed below indicating expenditure percentage of 75%. That's all I am saying. But as at February 2008 the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has spent 79% of their allocated budget. Department of Social Development has spent 73%; Department of Economic Development has spent 82%. I cannot stand here and tell you exactly what has happened. I can only report to the House but just to indicate that the "march spike" is indeed worrisome and needs further scrutiny and I am hoping that next year I will perhaps be able to indicate to you that we did do inspection in order to find out where this money was spent and how.

Regarding the growth fund, all I am going to say is that, the North West Provincial Government has approved the establishment of the North West Growth Fund in order to enhance economic growth and accelerate socio-economic development within the province. The fund at the moment has strength of R300m which is made up of a commitment of R50m from the North West Government and a further commitment by the private sector to contribute towards funding to the value of R250m once the fund is being implemented. A comprehensive report is going to follow. The Growth Fund will be implemented shortly as the trust has gone for registration as we speak. Two trustees have been appointed and the Pan African as fund managers to assist the implementation of the trust fund. We have undertaken to have a workshop with the portfolio committee in order to really explain what this fund is all about and how it is going to work.

Regarding the budget inquired in the ...[Inaudible]... increases of the vehicle registration. I wish to respond just briefly as fol-

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lows: the vehicle registration cadles for the North West Province has been increased to the same as the national average and implemented with from the 1st March 2008. So the result may not be readily being seen at the present moment. Regarding the ...[Interrupted]...

HON. SPEAKER:

Honourable Modiselle just pause for a moment please. Honourable Ndleleni take your sit. This is not where MECs and their officials consult. That you do in your offices. The head of departments are here because they have an interest on what the overall budget is all about. We need to response to MECs not to pursue office work. Please take your sit Sir, and don't disturb my House again. Honourable MEC please proceed.

HON. MEC MODISELLE:

Thank you ma'am. Regarding the departments that benefited from the adjustment estimates, in other words the monies that were surrendered by other departments. It's only the Department of Education which received R722m during the adjustment estimates of 2007/08

and I must say that it is very lucky that this department will overspend its budget mainly on personnel. Other provincial departments received additional conditional grants as I have indicated from the national departments. We know what happened in the Department of Education, there was a miscalculation during the disestablishment of the cross boundary municipalities and also this matter will require a special input between the portfolio committee, the Department of Education and the Department of Finance to further elaborate.

Regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment, the total budget for the department is R...[inaudible]... including conditional grant as R160.05m and infrastructure amounting to R165.07m this financial year. The overall expenditure has increased from 58% to 72% during the third quarter and this is at the end of February 2008. The under expenditure on the conditional grant of R55m of which R35m was received only in February 2008 which must be spent over for 2 years ending March 2009 contribute to the total under

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spending of this department. The remaining R20m will still be transferred during March 2008.

There was a comment on the national nutrition programme. Also we have promised that we will have a workshop between Treasury, Department of Education and the portfolio committee. But just to say that the school nutrition programme is a national priority and is funded in terms of national policy directives. The Department of Education will perhaps elaborate on the implementation of this programme in their budget speech. Now I have read the report that this MEC last year stood here and promised all kinds of functions. We have followed through and it is claimed that we are always making excuses that we are short staffed and all of the rest within the Department of Treasury. Colleagues the first law of economics I have learned is that the needs are limitless and yet the resources are very scarce. But with that this department thus cut its coat to fit the fabric so I think that the remark is misplaced. We maximize the few resources at our disposal. We regularly receive and review

monthly financial reports from departments. We provide advice and direction. We have gone further to assign a member of Treasury in order to assist with financial management and generally how to plan and implement the projects. Where there are serious problems we meet on a one on one at a value high level and that is MEC, HOD and CFO.

We also receive and review the monitoring report. Just to mention a few monitoring systems that are in place. So is not as though we are sitting there twitling. Regarding the casino levies I wish to state the following that in fact we must understand the casino levies in this province how they work. Casino levies of R0 to R4m, the levy is only 3%. From R4 to R8m the levy is only 5% from R8 to R12m the levy is only 7% and above R12m the levy is 9%. It is important that we understand this. Gauteng Province charges a flat rate of 9% but the reason for this is that we couldn't do that because it could potentially shut down the smaller casinos such as the Tusk Mmabatho. We therefore introduce this scheduled growth as indicated

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above as our growth value and is much less of course if you compare it to Gauteng.

However we are in the process of revising the North West Provincial Gaming Act and all the levies will be revived upwards. We also intend rolling out at least one thousand limited payout machines and we intend to seriously clam down on all illegal operators which could have a positive impact on our gaming revenue. I think that the relevant MEC will elaborate on this during the budget speech.

Now regarding the matter of public entities and where they report and account I will just refer Honourable Member to the PFMA clause 65 but suffice to say the way in which we interpret clause 65 of the PFMA is that public entities account to the relevant MECs. I thought that I had only 10 minutes and I am not sure whether I have answered all the questions. I am sure I have not. So undertake that this questions no! I will be failing if I do not talk about the FFC.

Colleagues as you know FFC is reviewed every year. I don't

know for how many years I have been the MEC in this department. I get so confused. I think its probably two years. Through out these two years on a yearly basis we have submitted recommendations to the commission. We went further than that. We commissioned consultants, I think is Pricewaterhouse Coopers to just assess the economic Impact that the disestablishment of cross boundary municipality will have on the North West. They indicated the ...[inaudible]... you how our budget in fact they indicated at the time we were going to rite off the board with R2b. Almost on a yearly basis is not just the MEC for Treasury, this becomes the EXCO recommendations to the FFC. We are recommending that ... [inaudible]... doesn't favour rural provinces. It is even worse if you go back to my budget speech; I did indicate that stats South Africa is indicating that the demographics we are decreasing in the North West. If we can generally compare ourselves to the rest of South Africa.

Now the main weight in the FFC is based on demographics so we must bare this in mind. I

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have done personally everything. The only thing Madam Speaker I have not done is stand on a desk and do certain things that are done in the clubs. Honourable Hattingh I do thank you for your kind remarks. Just to see that we lead in South Africa 2008 so there is freedom of speech in abundance. But that year points unnoted. Now that the other questions I have not answered, I undertake that they will be answered in writing and forwarded to this august House at the next Sitting.

Madam Speaker I am going to conclude and please allow me to say the following. The budget that we presented in this august House on the 4th tells a story of a government determined to accelerate social transformation. We must all provide leadership and direction for agreed policies and that there are effective implementations. The portfolio committee must invigorate their oversight constitutional mandate. We are all in this together. We must also strive to balance between maximizing the well being of today's citizens and the responsibility and duties we owe the future generation. After all

we are the trustees of the resources not only for this generation but for the future generation. We must leave this province a better place. Ke a leboga, baie dankie I thank you for your attention.

HON. SPEAKER:

Re a leboga mme maModiselle. Honourable Members mme Mma-Modiselle makes two interventions. One is an area around the spikes in March and says that she will play oversight and report back at the next budget date probably the next budget speech in 2009. Now in the mean time that responsibility falls within the portfolio committee so that we don't have to wait for 2009.

The second point she raises is the interpretation of the PFMA about who those entities fall under. Her interpretation is that parastatals or any other entity outside the department is accountable to the MEC. With respect ma'am that might be the interpretation of the MEC for Finance. For this House any entity, organ anything that we spent a cent on as the state, falls under the jurisdiction of a given portfolio committee. So you have rights as the commit-

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tees of this House to call those entities and those organs of state to account. They may fall under particular MECs but they are under the jurisdiction of whatever portfolio is holding oversight over that particular department which has ...[inaudible]... those entities.

Now Members does the House in principle agree with the budget? Yes. Mme maModiselle the process here as I remember it well is that after we have dealt with this budget of the province we will then be adopted. May I continue members to call on the chairperson of the Committee on Finance, ntate Mokaila to present a report on the final mandate to the NCOP.

HON. MOKAILA: Ke a leboga Mmusakgotla. Ntletla go ema ke fana ka pegelo ya Komiti ya ditheetso tsa phatlhalatsa tse re di tshwereng ka molawana wa maitlhomo wa karogano ya matlotlo a dinaga tse di tswelletseng pele ka kgwedi ya Moranang a tlhola malatsi a le matlhano le a le marataro, mo dikarolong di le nne tsa porofense ya rona ya Bokone Bophirima. Ko karolong ya Bophirima re nnile le kopano eo e neng e tsenetswe ke batho

ba le masome a robedi le bobedi (82) . Kwa karolong ya Bojanala ba ne ba le masome a robongwe le robongwe (99), karolo ya Bogare makgolo a mabedi le masome a mabedi le borobongwe (229), karolo ya Borwa makgolo a mabedi le masome a supa le metso e le metlhano (275).

Komiti e na le, e bile e kgotsofetse gore dithulaganyo tseo re nnileng le tsona le metseletsele ya go gokaganya le baagi go utlwa maikutlo a bona mo Molaong kakanngwa wa Karogano ya moruo wa naga. Re kgonne go fitlhelela batho ba le ba ntsi ba ba kgonagalang, mefama yotlhe. Re kgonne go e fitlhelela. Bašwa, bagolo, bomme, badiredi- puso, badiredi ba mafapha a mangwe a puso, bakereki jalo le jalo. Go na le dintlha di le mmalwa tse re kopang go di fetisa tse baagi ba di buileng mo dikopanong tsa rona le bone. Ntlha ya ntlha ke gore baagi ba sa ntse ba sa itumelele ntlha ya gore ngwaga wa ditšhelete wa puso ya bogareng le ya porofenseng o sa ntse o sa tshwane le wa pusoselegae. Baagi ba sa ntse ba sa itumelele mokgwa o re rulaganyang matlotlo a rona ka

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one. O sa ntse o sa ikaege go ya ka ditlhokego tse ba dumelang gore di dintsi mo, segolosegolo bommasepala ba magae. Baagi ba sa ntse ba sa itumelela gore lefapha la bosetšhaba la matlotlo o ka re le ikaeletse gore monongwaga le tla otlhaya mafapha ao a sa diriseng madi ka go tsaya madi ao. Mme go tsaya madi ao baagi ba re e tla be e le go otlhaya baagi ka gobo e le bone batla timiwang go itumelela maungo a tiragatso ya ditšhelete tseo mo go tliseng ditirelo kwa baaging.

Baagi ba sa ntse ba dumela gore o kare puso ya bosetšhaba le ya porofense di ka fetisa ditiro dingwe tse di diriwang bosetšhaba le mo porofenseng tse ba dumelang gore di ka diragala; botoka thata fa di ka fetisiwa ko pusoselegae gore di dirwe ke baemedi ba puso bao ba gaufi le baagi. Gape ba sa ntse ba ngongoregela gore puso ya bosetšhaba le ya ya bogare e sa ntse e dira ditekanyetsokabo tsa bone tse di sa tsamaisaneng le mananeo a bo mmasepala a bidiwang di-Municipal Intergrated Development Plans.

Baagi ba sa ntse ba ngongoregela thata gore bommasepala ba ba se nang bokgoni jwa go diragatsa diporojeke, segolosegolo tsa go agiwa ga matlo o kare ba thusiwa le gore puso e tsereganye segolosegolo lefapha la porofense le tsereganye go thusa bommasepala bao. Sa bofelo baagi ba sa ntse ba ngongoregela gore baithaopi ba ba dirang mo Lefapheng le la rona la Boitekanelo (Health) ba ba ithaopileng ba ba thusang balwetse ba rona ba ba tshwereng ke bolwetse bo ba TB le HIV/AIDS o kare ba ka thusiwa ka go tlhatswiwa matsogo mo tironng e entle e ba e dirang.

Morago ga ditherisano tse, Mmusakgotla baagi ba dumellane ka bongwe jwa pelo fela gore o kare molaotlhommo o, o ka fetisiwa ke Palamente mme mo dikopanong tse baagi ba dumellaneng ko go tsona ke kopano ya kwa Bojanala, Bogareng ya Ngaka Modiri Molema le kopano ya kwa Bophirima mo baagi ba dumellaneng ka bongwe ba pelo gore le ga re dirile dikatlanegiso tse, molaotlhommo o, a ko o fetisiwe gore e nne molao. Mme ke ko karolong ya Borwa (Southern) fela e baagi ba neng ba bua ba

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sa kgale mathe gore moalotlhommo o atlanegisiwe fela morago ga gore go tsewe tsia dintlha tse baagi ba di buileng. Re kopane re le komiti go atlhaatla dintlha tse baagi ba buileng ka tsona le go ngunanguna re le komiti ka dintlha tse baagi ba buileng ka tsona.

Mme re le komiti re dumellana ka bontlhabongwe gore le ha re utlwile se baagi ba se buang le rona re le komiti re ngunangunile ka dintlha tse di mo molaongtlhomo o, re kopa Ntlo e ya gago Mmusakgotla gore ga e dumela e go fe tetla ya gore ripoto e, o e beye monwana go re e re ka Labone ga kgwedi e e tlhola malatsi a le masome a mabedi re e ise kwa Ntlong ya rona ya bobedi ya Palamente kwa Cape Town, NCOP re fa baemedi ba rona ba North West maatla a go ngunanguna le go dumellana gore Molaotlhommo o ya karogano ya moruo o wa naga e fetisiwe le gore porofense ya rona le baemedi ba rona kwa Motse- Kapa ba dumellane le gore molao o, o fetisiwe go nna molao. Ke a leboga.

HON. SPEAKER:

Re a leboga rre Mokaila.

Honourable Members does the House agree that this Bill, the final mandate be send to the NCOP by this august House? [AGREED]. We thank you very much. The final mandate will be signed and be sent to the NCOP Parliament delegates of the North West Province. Next item please?

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO. 8
TABLING OF STRATEGIC
PLANS****HON. SPEAKER:**

Mme ma moPirimiri ke kopa o dire jalo mma.

HON. PREMIER:

Thanks Honourable Speaker. I rise to table the Strategic Plan in terms of the PFMA as required but also the necessary National Treasury Regulations. We have in front of us today to table to your august House the Strategic Plan from the Office of the Premier. The second one is from the Department of Education. The third one is for Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment. The fourth one being for the Department of Finance and the next one Honourable Speaker being from Social Development,

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the other one is from the Department of Public Works. The next one is from Transport, Roads and Community Safety. The next one being Health as well as Economic Development and Tourism.

All of them are for the period starting from 2008-2011 as it is required in terms of the format. We have to do this 5 year plan with the operational plan for the 3 years which should be contained in the Strategic Plans themselves. There are, however, Honourable Speaker, two of the departments that have not yet submitted their Strategic Plans and that is the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, and the Department of Developmental Local Government and Housing.

The Strategic Plans will, if allowed, be tabled on Thursday if the House will sit very briefly Honourable Speaker because those are the only two. They were still at the printers when we enquired for purposes of proper distribution in the House. So, it is those two which will be missing for today Honourable Speaker.

We will also like to bring to the attention of this august House that the Strategic Plan from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism foreword thereof has not yet been signed by the Member of the Executive Council and I am sure that the relevant explanation will be provided as that gets discussed. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER:

Re a leboga mma. Members the Strategic Plans for various departments and the Office of the Premier have been tabled. They stand referred to the relevant portfolio committees and standing committees. We will of course be awaiting the tabling of the two remaining departments on the 20th when this House sits. May I also proceed to take this opportunity to table the Strategic Plan for the North West Provincial Legislature. Members quite excitingly this concludes the business of today. This House is adjourned until the 20th of March 2008. I am reminded to remind the Honourable Members that the House will not sit at 11h00 again. It will sit at 9h00 sharp.

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Thank you.

THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED