

**TUESDAY: 27 MAY 2008**

Sitting No. 9

[No. 09 - 2008] Fourth Session, Third Legislature

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**LEGISLATURE OF THE  
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

**TUESDAY: 27 MAY 2008**

**10H00**

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members we will now observe a moment of silent prayer or meditation. Honourable Members may get seated. We proceed to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO.2  
MINUTES OF THE 20TH MAY  
2008**

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members I put before you a set of minutes for adoption of the 20th of May 2008. In the absence of any corrections does the House adopt the minutes? We do. We proceed to the next item

**SECRETARY: ITEMS NO.3  
MOTIONS**

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

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members are there any motions without notice? Honourable Mahlakeng, Honourable Mangqo, Honourable Moilola, Honourable Mampane and lastly Honourable Kekesi.

**HON. MAHLAKENG:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker Sir, thank you very much and good morning. Honourable Deputy Speaker, Mogahlo o moholoholo wa African National Congress o ema mona ka molomo wa ka ho tliša motion without notice ka bošodu\* ba qobane boo ileng ba etsahala maane sebakeng se seng se ho thweng ke Lonely Park hona mona Mafikeng. Mohlomphehi Motlatsa Moetapele wa Ntlo ho bonahala boshodu bona ba boqobane bo ntse bo tswela pele bo etsahala haholoholo bathong bana ba

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Bangladesh e ka sitana le ba India. Kapo ba ma-India. Empa maane Lonely Park ho ile hoafumaneha ka bomadi mabe bo bohohoholo boshodu bona bo entswe ke le polisa lebitswang Eric Molefe Tsatsi.

Mohlomphehi yona wa lepolisa hantse a yetsa boshodu bona bo sutu o yile a ba a sebedisa sethunya sammuso, jwale Mohlomphehi Motlatsa moetapele wa ntlo, mapodisa kebatho bawo rona rele sechaba retshwanelang homathela hobona jwaloe ka ha otseba, empa hobanal legetlong lena Mohlomphehi Tsatsi a yentse taba ena ka mokhwa a ratang kateng. Le ha hole jwalo re re rolela mapolisa a sebetsang le yena katiba hore ebe a ile a mo tshwara a mo kwalla ntlong lefifi ntle lehore ba bapale leyna, mme tse ding rese re tshepile hore lefapha le ikarabelang le tla dealer le yena le molawo mme re re mapolisa a no halala howone hore ho ntshiwe dikwintanyana tsena tsenyane ka hare ho bone. Ke a leboha Mohlomphehi Moetapele wa ntlo.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Does the House adopt the motion ? We proceed to the

next motion.

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The African National Congress hereby rises to place a motion without notice to inform the august House about the cases of birth concealment that are arising in our capital city in Mafikeng.

According to the statistics of police the cases of baby dumping are on the rise around Mafikeng. Last week on the 19th of May 2008, 2 cases were reported and the first incident that was reported by one of the members of the community a 6 months old baby girl was put in the plastic bag and left at the dumping side near Bophelong Provincial Hospital. On the very week another case of a similar nature was also reported. Honourable Deputy Speaker, as the ANC we condemn this evil doing by our people and we urge all our parents to see to it that they put a watchful eye on their girls and on the other women that are doing such things.

It is also important to remind all our mothers, women and girls

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about the right they have, which can be of assistance in an alternative good choice that they are making. The right we fought for and are now part of our policies in our country. We have the reproductive right policy that can be applied and that can be utilized.

We also urge our community to assist the police by reporting the perpetrators in these acts of ill discipline. We thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Does the House adopt the motion? We proceed to the third motion.

**HON MAMPANE:**

Thank you Deputy Speaker, allow the African National Congress at this moment to pay homage to one of its outstanding members and freedom fighters, comrade Elizabeth Sehako Dire who passed on the 09th of May 2008.

Comrade Mma Dire as she was affectionately known was born on the 02nd July 1936. She died after a short illness from cancer of the stomach and liver. At the time of her death she was

residing at Huhudi in Vryburg Bophirima region where she spent most of her life.

Mma Dire was a political activist during the liberation struggle against apartheid and joined the united Democratic front in 1985. She was one of the founding members of Huhudi Civic Association known as HUCA also a member of the then Transvaal Action Committee TRAC and Detainees Committee which was known as "Descom".

Comrade Mma Dire was once arrested during the notorious State of Emergency in 1985, she joined the ANC after it's unbanning and made significant contribution in the reconstruction and development of our country. We thank the Dire family in particular for contributing a daughter committed to the qualitative transformation of the lives of the majority at the expense of her own life.

May her soul rest in peace. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members does the House adopt the motion? We proceed to the fourth motion.

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Honourable Moiloa.

**HON. MOILOA:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker the ANC rises to place a motion without notice to inform your House about the opening of a new police station at Mooifontein.

On Friday 16th May 2008 Minister of safety and Security Charles Nqakula officially opened the police station and urged the people of Mooifontein and surrounding villages to do their best in reducing crime rate at their villages.

The ANC congratulates the respective government departemtns and also called for the formation of village committees, and working together with religious and traditional leaders in the war against crime. Thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members does the House adopt the motion? We proceed to the next motion, Honourable Kekesi.

**HON. KEKESI:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy

Speaker. Honourable Speaker the ANC moves to place a motion without notice to notify your House and send its heartfelt comndolence to the family of Comrade Thlomelang David Maape.

Comrade David Thlomelang Maape was born on the 26th June 1959 in Vryburg as a son of Morolong and Gasedidimale Maape. He passed on the 03rd of May this year this year. Comrade Thlomelang was involved in community struggles during the apartheid era and left South Africa in 1986 to join Umkhonto we Sizwe. He trained in a military intelligence in Moscow.

On his return to the country he was arrested in 1987 at Pudumong where he was severely tortured in detention, he was charged and sentenced for 6 years in prison. Comrade Thlomelang was incarcerated at Robben Island and released during the negotiations between the ANC and apartheid regime.

At the time of his death he worked as a private teacher at Bopaganang Secondary School teaching Mathematic and

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Science. Comrade Thlomelang is survived by his brothers and sisters. Honourable Deputy Speaker the ANC bids farewell to a committed comrade, may his soul rest in peace. Robala ka kagiso Tlhouks. I thank you.

**HON DEP. SPEAKER.**

Does the House adopt the motion? Honourable Members there are two notices of motions. I will know call the Honorable Hattingh to hit the debate on the motions that were tabled as motions without notice and they are converted to notices of motion. Honourabel Hattingh.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The first one I would like to read it again that the DA moves that this House registers its extreme concern with the state of Xenophobic attacks which are currently taking place and which seems to be accelerating and expanding in certain areas. It is a matter of further concern is that the perpetrators of the Xenophobic, racist attacks have been singing and chanting political songs such as "Umshini Wami" also giving it a political colour. Xenophobia, racisms

and tribalism are all related and should be deplored and rejected by all.

Now that Honourable Deputy Speaker, I have spoken before this House one week ago and I think I saw that I have got support from some of the Members also rejecting the xenophobic attacks, thank you for that. Now in the past week and what happened in our provinces has escalated and enfolded into our province. Three people were stabbed in the North West on Thursday night as the angry mob looted, shout and set vehicles alight, and that also happened at happened at Schweizereneke. In Kokozi Township near Fochville two Pakistanis were stabbed and their bakkies were set alight, one of the injured men is still in hospital and the other one has been discharged.

In the same township four shops belonging to Pakistanis were broken into, also a spaza shop owned by a Mozambican man was burned down. At Motlotleng village near Brits there a two hundred strong mob looted spaza shops belonging to Mozambicans and the police

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had to escort two Somalis to safety. 15 people were arrested for public violence according to the SAPS. Ipelegeng again near Schweizer a man was stabbed with a sharp instrument and a South African woman was stabbed astray because she works for Bangladeshi. Shops belonging to Pakistanis and Mozambicans were looted at Lethlabile and where South Africans and Zimbabweans also clashed during the night.

At that stage xenophobic violence which started in Alexandra on the 12th May has already left more than 40 people dead and displaced some 16 000 people. In another episode affecting the North West Province the xenophobic attacks have now been extrapolated to former Angolan citizens been relocated from Pomfret to Mafikeng, where they are being regarded by the local community as foreigners although they carry South African identification documents and in full white south African Citizens have been threatened. Honourable Deputy Speaker I think everybody in this House should support the DA motion that we should condemn xenophobic, racist and tribalistic

attacks. This has put our country in a very bad light nationally, in fact it has dominated CNN and BBC headlines because of the viciousness of these attacks and the more people ends up in hospitals even overshadowing the similar attacks that are happening in our neighboring country Zimbabwe this is extremely bad for South Africa's image specifically in the run up to the 2010. I call on this house to support this motion. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members before I call anybody to participate in this debate. I would want to draw your attention to something very unusual in the House. Today we have four departments to present budget speeches. We are certainly going to have to manage the time in accordance to the plan. Now I have brought with me a special instrument. This instrument gives me time and minutes and seconds, it does that. When you are given eight minutes to speak and two minutes to respond it will certainly be two minutes. That time will not be determined by that watch or any Member's watch except for this one, and this one

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only. I am not timing myself, I am not participating in the debates, I am a referee not a player. I am going to do that, now as Members are speaking when your time is off, you will hear the sound (watch sound).

Now Honourable Members I have know a pleasure to invite Honourable Members who may wish to participate in this debate. I see Honourable Mangqo's hand is up followed by Honourable Matladi, Honourable Mokomele- Mothibi and Honourable Vilakazi will close. Thank you.

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, I think that, let us welcome the condemnation that is made by the Democratic Alliance which is part of our government of the day. I would wish to indicate to the Honourable Hattingh that it would be very important for all Members of this august House including political organizations where we come from, that we should not only indicate the extend and sing a very praise song as to the extend to which we are able to condemn the acts of violence by those crimi-

nals whom support and who continue to disguised under the songs that our people have used in the freedoms that they were fighting for during those days and leading towards the attainment by the people of South Africa.

But it is so worrying while we are going to condemn and not acknowledge the swift movement particularly in our province which was demonstrated by the Members of this House, at least that they care about the people of the North West and the people of South Africa and Africa in general. It is cadres of the African National Congress in all areas that Honourable Hattingh is talking about responded swiftly to these issues, in fact they even moved a step to say we need to take charge of our communities and ensure that we defend with our lives those people against the barbaric acts of those criminals that are disguising.

The Office of the Premier, the Office of Safety and Liaison in the province together with all the police service that we have in our province, Social Development Department and

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all progressive structures not only condemned these acts but they were on side day by day together with the people they offered all the amenities that the people needed, including providing physiological support to those people and I would wish that once we acknowledge and all of us condemning, some of us including the Members we will have to take charge of the situation by being there not only calling to indicate and want to see to know to what extent are people beaten. We all know by now that there are people who are acting as members of the ANC or members of the society disguising under the banners of our people but who are criminals, and they were not born for purposes of xenophobic attacks. They are there because they understand in their mind.

We should also need to liberate that in the absence of anything else we resort to criminal activities and that we know and all of us we must not necessarily claim victory and come and demonstrate the extent which we can condemn, but act an out want in the next visit of the people in Khutsong, of the people in Madibeng, of the people in Yizo

Yizo. Honourable Hattingh must make himself available so that we can go and provide support to those people. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**  
Honourable Matladi.

**HON. MATLADI:**  
Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker the United Democratic Party support the motion as tabled by Honourable Hattingh against xenophobic attacks that are happening in South Africa in general including the North West Province.

In 2002 this Legislature sends Members to Uganda, a student who started a poem and in that poem there was a line that said there is no "Africa without South Africa". It was the line that re-emphasizes the fact that Africans in general are proud of this country and they see it as a country that can really help them in their lives by supporting them financially and otherwise. So today we feel ashamed when we see what is happening and we really say this should come to an end.

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As we support the fact that these people should not be killed we would like as well today as law makers, what is it that we are saying or doing. Can we have some legislation that can be saying how the people have to come into the country. The monitoring of our border gates, to see to it this is regulated as well as knowing where these people have stay when they come into our country so that nobody should come and blame them for taking their houses, for taking their jobs.

As I end this debate I would like to quote the Honourable Speaker of this august House Honourable Thandi Modise in one of the morning programs when she was interviewed and she was asked how she looks into the issue of xenophobia and she explained two things, one, the fact that during the time of the struggle in South Africa when South Africans were in these other countries, they were there, but they had some areas they were kept. So they did not necessarily mix with the whole community wherever of the country they had ran to.

And the second issue she stat-

ed is the fact that even regarding employment or jobs, there were some jobs that were identified for them not every job that could be given to a person that have come to seek maybe refuge or asylum. So we would like to say it is very important not for us just to talk but to take an action as I have already said by seeing the Bills or legislations that would be tabled in this House and other houses of the government to say what is the way forward in the matter. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Mokomele-Mothibi is indicating to me that she is no longer taking part in this debate. I am now inviting Honourable Vilakazi on the matter.

**HON. MEC. VILAKAZI:**

Honourable Speaker thank you very much for the opportunity, my two colleagues has covered largely the points I was going to make. Honourable Member Hattingh says the xenophobic attacks in the province is increasing, that is very far from the truth. Yesterday the cluster for Justice and the Security Agencies in the country briefed

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the president of the country in terms of xenophobic attacks that has taken place through out the country, a process which did not start yesterday.

In respect of the North West Province the two attacks that started last week remained in this area and never escalated anywhere else in the province and those two affected areas are Madibeng and Merafong only. Out of those there has never been a further attack on foreign nationals in the province for two reasons. The one reason is that Members of the Legislature, the leadership of the province engaged with those communities to the absence of the opposition party itself. I in particular went to Madibeng on the day after they eruption of xenophobic attack and in Madibeng in particular the people who undertook that attack in that evening were mainly children and the main purpose of that xenophobic attack was looting of businesses of foreign nationals.

No one in Madibeng was basically pushed out. I addressed the meeting that evening of not less than three thousand mem-

bers of that community, parents who condemned that attack. All the people who were arrested that evening leading to the morning the oldest person that we arrested in Madibeng in Brits was 16yrs old. Honourable Hattingh was not in that area, he does not have that information, he relies on people who want to mislead the public that their ongoing campaign that South Africa is not a good place to stay in is pursuit and abused in every little opportunity that they realize and I think we should begin to take a more responsible approach towards the problems of the country. So there has never been an escalation.

In Merafong, I went to Merafong the day after Madibeng. I was able to meet with the Mayor; I was able to receive a factual report from the station and from the intelligence agencies who have diploid in the area and quite frankly Merafong was a different kettle of fish. There has been an attack on two taverns that led to foreign national fearing that they were going to be attacked and therefore moved and we accommodated them similarly in the Brits area we did the same thing.

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A meeting was arranged from 5H00; MEC Mangqo went to that meeting and spoke to the community. The majority of the community in Merafong took a position that they would not send foreign nationals outside their area because they have been living with them for many years. The third point I want to make, Honourable Hattingh abuses the platform in this house by referring to Pomfret as a xenophobic attack. Pomfret started when the Honourable Member was not even a Member of this House where government has part of taking over in 1994 went and reviewed all structures of government in terms of the South African National Defence Force, a review process showed that you no longer need military bases in certain areas because the agenda of the military of the country was no longer to attack foreign state.

The position of those bases were irrelevant to South Africa because they did not comply to the new agenda of the country and Honourable Hattingh is a product of previous regime doesn't like that agenda of government. That is why every

opportunity he takes, he fight this government on decisions they have made. We consulted for over 8 years with the Pomfret community. The last meetings we took were last year. All senior members of government have been taking consultative processes with that community. That community wrote to us saying we would like to be relocated to Mabopane, we would like to be relocated to Mafikeng, we would like to be relocated anywhere.

The reason that we are relocating Pomfret is to two things. The first one is that that area is inhabitable because of asbestos thread; the second one is that military base has been closed and that matter has become a civilian compound which is not habitable. These reviews were advanced. Now Honourable Hattingh suggests that a government is pursuing a xenophobic attack on the Pomfret community and that is far from the truth because that community has been consultant.

Honourable Hattingh is hurt because he was part of joining these teams that were located there to attack our comrades

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across the border moving this very nationals to kill MK members and that is why he will not rest until he has said to the community in the country we must leave everything as it was after taking over in 1994, change will be there, you must accept it, you must live with it, otherwise if you cannot stand the heat in the kitchen get out I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, Honourable Members I would want to draw your attention to Rule 80 on the Standing Rules of the House a Rule that says no Member shall converse allowed during the debate. I have also gone through a Rule book I was looking for one rule that I could use from the chair to control the conduct of Members, because conduct of certain Members is not Honourable, is not in accordance to the Rule.

Now I am reminding you that when a Member is in the platform you don't disrupt that Member by speaking allowed. I am now inviting Honourable Hattingh to respond top the debate and Ntate Mahlakeng I have just read Rule 80(d) and I

would expect Members to comply in particular Honourable Yawa, le Moruti Tsealpedi.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I want to commend Honourable Mangqo and Honourable Matladi on their responsible contributions to this debate, and I think that is about where responsible responses were complete.

I have noted that Honourable Vilakazi is having a very nice and very colourful new suit and I want to congratulate him on the choice. He appears to be a very bright shining star today. Honourable Deputy Speaker, I think he must reconsider the choice of that colour not only reflect its reflectors, its not only reflect light but it also reflects a through forming , he does not hear what has been said here in this House. He must open his ears and if that suit is impairment he must take it off, outside please not here.

What I have said is that the people if Pomfret has been exposed to xenophobic attacks at the relocated positions in Mafikeng and he jumped on to Cuito

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Cuanovale in 1988, please, please I mean I am talking now and everybody here is in fear in supporting this, I am talking about xenophobic threats on the people of Pomfret relocated to Mafikeng and I want to repeat it to you that you don't get the previous mug again reflected from you.

There are threats and listen to the Deputy Speaker does not allow hacking in this House. We are not allowed in a dictatorial style to heckle anymore. You are not allowed to heckle so please. Our information is what we get from the communities and that is supported by the media. So Honourable Vilakazi is saying that the media and there they stand, is misleading the public.

I don't want to say that the xenophobic attacks has escalated in the North West I said since when I stood here last week it was escalated into the North West Province and that is a proof that cannot be removed by even the selective hearing of Honourable Vilakazi. There was nothing last week on Tuesday that was mentioned. Since last week Tuesday when I stood

here it has hit the headlines, so please do not spill it that is the truth and I want to commend the efforts of the provincial leadership in going out to that community as we said Honourable Mangqo and the Premier and their efforts to quivel these barbaric attacks. I really want to do that.

So please don't distort what is supposed to be a good motion that is worthy and needed to be supported by your political inclination that has got stucked in 1988. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Order, Honourable Vilakazi and Honourable Hattingh I indicated earlier on that I was going through the Rule book, I was looking for a Rule that I will use to manage Honourable Members conduct in the House and be rest assured I have picked up three, I will use them in that order one, two, three. The third one is the most harsh one. You will be ordered out of the House it is one of the option I have as a preceding officer. Honourable Members does the House adopt the motion. Honourable Premier.

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**HON. PREMIER:**

Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. Before we hear that might sound loud even is done by one person.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Premier let us listen to a point of order

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, in terms of the Rules that you have studied this morning I believe that when the presenter of the motion speaks for the second time, that's conclude the debate on the motion unless you have got a new ruling on that I would like to know what is happening know.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Hattingh's point of order is overruled. It is overruled because Honourabel Hattingh has not even listened to the speaker whether he is speaking on or against the motion. Now you see there is only one person in this House who has the right to overrule or to sustain order is the preceding, it is me and me only. So Honourable Premier proceeds.

**HON. PREMIER:**

I would like to amend the [DISTURBED BY HON. HATTINGH]

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker point of order

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Premier let me listen to the point of order.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy speaker it is now clear that the Premier is speaking to the same motion, it has been concluded the only issue outstanding is whether it is accepted or rejected. No debate in terms of our Rules which you have studied maybe allowed again on this motions today thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members the point of order is overruled. It is overruled because the Premier respond on whether or not we must adopt or not adopt the motion. She is speaking on that matter. Honourable Hattingh you are going to have to behave now. Now before we say the motion must be adopted or not adopted, we have what we call a preamble that will lead to the conclusion, now I am allowing

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Premier to proceed and conclude by answering the question I have posed.

**HON. PREMIER:**

Deputy Speaker, in assisting the House I would like to suggest that we rather propose the amendment of this motion in certain areas which I will highlight now. For purposes of all of us having to agree with it because as a team now some of will say no to its adoption, and there areas I want to refer to Honourable Deputy Speaker is the first one on line 3 accelerating and expanding xenophobia in certain areas. If we agree that it should be said so we should say in certain areas where and maybe out of this province but we should rather in my view amend that is not expanding as it has been explained and that is factual.

So that the motion in this House is adopted as factual issues that has happened. Secondly, this whole line that start with It is, should also be expunged then the House should adopt that motion with that kind of a proposal. Otherwise the alternative Honourable Deputy Speaker is that we should say as this

august House, we should reinstate a motion that condemns xenophobia in all its forms wherever it has happened and that motion would then have to be resubmitted without these things which Honourable Member Hattingh is not comfortable with the exclusion of those issues that were proposed thanks.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members Premier moves that we adopt the motion with some amendments, which amendments she has raised. Now the House is got two motions with options, either to agree with the amendment to the motion or reinstate the motion, Honourable Hattingh.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, surely I have the right to conclude regardless of your, in terms of our Rules and regardless of your old ruling of my previous point of order which I request that it be recorded and referred to the Rules Committee for reading please you can arrange for that, I have the right to conclude a motion put for myself, that I say it cannot be even overruled by you.

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Honourable Deputy Speaker in the interest of the seriousness for the xenophobia attack I agree with the proposals put by the Premier, I still maintain it should have been put during the debate but we have deviated seriously from the rules as we will be pointed out by the Rules Committee, I agree with those and if it is hurtful that I refer to political songs I think its is a fact that I have said does not take it away it was sang , it is in the media but if it is hurtful let us take out, let us adopt this motion with the amendments proposed by the Premier in unifying this Legislature against the viciousness and the carelessness by the realistic of xenophobic attacks. I support the amendments proposed by the Premier and I call myself to support the motion.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members do we now adopt the motion with those amendments? Yes. Now before I proceed, let me remind you what I have said in the last Sitting, I indicated that nobody in this House must behave as if is holding a Ph degree on Rules of the House. Nobody, and I am now

moving to a point where I am going to be specific because I thought Honourable Members were listening and Honourable Members will behave honourably. Now that Honourable Members are unable to behave honourably they will have to be treated as such. When a motion is presented I allowed everybody who want us to take part in the debate of the motion as required by the Rules. At the end of the debate I revered back to the initiator of the debate Honourable Hattingh as required by the Rules.

The Premier when I rise the question whether we adopt or not adopt the motion, the Premier propose amendments to the motion, whether or not Honourable Hattingh hands was up or down, in terms of the Rule I was going to revert back to him because he is a mover of the motion. Now I want to be on record, Honourable Hattingh you are going to behave whether you want it or not, you are certainly going to behave. We are not going to allow the conduct that disrupts the proceeding of the Legislature. All the rules applies to all Members here, we are proceeding to the next

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motion and the next motion I now invite Honourabel Hattingh again to lead the debate on the second motion tabled in the last sitting as motion without notice which was later converted to into a notices of motion. Honourabel Hattingh.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Deputy Speaker before I move to the motion I want to [INTER- RUPTED BY HON. DEP. SPEAKER]

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Hattingh we are now on the second motion, you are only going to speak on the second motion.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, and I think this is related to the motion I want to put, the Democratic Alliance strongly objection to the Deputy Speaker referring to Members in this House as this Honourable and I want that on record.

In the similar fashion I put a motion without notice on the table of this House during the previous sitting. Reminding that in the former Sitting the Democratic Alliance wished the

ANC well with its Provincial Conference at Sun City, now I want to read it is as it here what I said at that stage, I forgot to say that we also wish that the conference should be peaceful, so the Democratic Alliance proposes that this House register its concern with the violence as reported by the media at Sun city at the Provincial Conference of the ANC and see it as the detracting even from developing democracy after 14 years.

Violence in developing Democratic Party under democratic system should not be part of our democracy I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourabel Members, are there any Members who wishes to debate this motion. Honourable Mahlakeng.

**HON. MAHLKENG:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker, like he did indicate last week when this motion was converted to the motion with notice, that perhaps the African National Congress as an organization that allows everybody for its memberships, the Honourable Member is at liberty to join that organization, mine

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said who happen to be a delegate in that conference, the said violence that he is talking about is the violence that were are not aware of, what we became aware of is that at one point some persons who were not invited in the conference right outside the gates of Sun City did hijack a truck of some sorts and the police were running around. However I must confess that we were not aware those of us who were delegates to conference because we were busy in the conference taking important resolutions for the organization the African National Congress, we only learned from the media that were these type of things, so the Honourable Member has got no clue and I have made the following point Honourable Deputy Speaker.

Sun City has a complex, it is a tourist destination which is some kind of an international area, and there is no way if you are familiar with that area that you can have the teargas streaming into that area. So the Honourable Member its economic is not true and I was a member of that meeting who attended that conference and I am not even aware of the

things he is talking about, so he has got no clue what he is talking about. So if he would want further information and the important resolution that we took in that important conference obviously my office is open, he is free to come to me after this Sitting. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker sir.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**  
Honourable Mokaila.

**HON. MOKAILA:**  
Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker, I think we should make a point clear to Honourable Hattingsh that there are no prospective members of the DA in the gallery, so he should deceased from playing to the gallery this morning with the hope that he should cause some points from the ANC. We are very clear that he has got the deliberate intention to waste this House time contradicting the affitrmation has made this morning of how judicial we should be with our time this morning.

I also happen to have been part of the conference as Honourable Mahlakensh has said, a conference that said

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deliberated and conclude its business within the stipulated days and time that it was arranged to take, and no session of conference experience the matters that Honourable Hattingh alludes to.

Surely there is some media he is reading that non of us is reading that he seeing that his normal eyes are seeing, but where we are as the ANC, we are unambiguous in our formation that our conference has concluded its business, elected leadership, dealt with the business and content matters of conference and I think this campaign that he purpots with some of his friends in the media which I think all of us are aware of by now would not achieve any goal in painting the conference of the ANC in bad light because the membership of the ANC and the members of the public know by now that the conference of the ANC concluded its business.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Thank, in the absence of any other Member who wants to participate in the evade, I invite Honourable Hattingh to conclude the debate as required by Rules.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Thank you, Honourable Deputy Speaker I will not add anything else because none of the Members have to dispute the fact that was conveyed on SABC and on e-TV of the violence that occurred at Sun City, you know with this ostrich with its head in the sand when he cannot see anything nobody else sees anything, I think that is the approach I think most of us who have access to television, know what was going on and I call on the House to support the motion. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER...**

Is to ask whether the House adopts the motion? Now in terms of the Rules again if the House is not anonymous on the adoption of the motion, the motion falls off. We are proceeding to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO 4 INTERPELLATIONS AND QUESTIONS.****HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

I said I draw your attention to the question paper before you. Question 1 is a question of Honourable Hattingh referred to the Member of the Executive

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Council responsible for Transport, Roads and Community Safety and the question is for the oral reply.

**HON. MEC. VILAKAZI:**

Question that was the posed as a follow up question. How many police stations are there in the province? Question number 1. There are 85 police stations in the North West Province. Question 2, are there also other potential station commissioners who are also then undergoing training as part of future planning, our response is yes. Kort en bondig

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Short and precise. Question 2 it's a question by Honourable Matladi to a Member of the Executive Council responsible for Social Development.

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. [Interrupted by Deputy Speaker]

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Mangqo just hold on. Honourable Premier.

**HON. PREMIER:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy

Speaker, I think we must just ensure that this House records things that are written in the documents. In the question paper that some of us have there is no question 2 that Honourable Vilakazi answered. I don't know whether we can be clarified.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Premier you are correct. Infact from the Chair we are expecting a response to only one question which is a follow up question of how many police stations are there in the province. The second question is Honourable Vilakazi would recall was answered in the previous Sitting. So it was just the reputation, so we proceed. Ma'am Mangqo.

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Thank you Honourabel Deputy Speaker, the question that was posed for oral reply by Honourable Member Matladi says by the end of the last quarter in this financial year, Social Development was under spending by R25million in March it is said to have spend R325 million, outline how the department manage to spend so much money under a limited period of

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two months.

The answer is the analysis of the spending trend from April 2007 to September 2007 reveals that our average percentage expenditure has been 6% per month up to the second quarter. Most of the expenditure has been on transferred payments which are allocated to the funding or subsidizing, existing a new qualifying community base organizations. Non profit organizations it is important to highlight that the trend was note during the first quarters due to the delay in processing subsidy payments at the provincial level.

The department decentralizes the payments for subsidies to the district in October 2008 and the trend increase in from an average of 6% to 85 in the third quarter. We have also attached a copy of the annexures so that we are able to indicate how that has picked up. The average for the period January to March 2008 last quarter is 125 which is higher than the three previously quarter trend. The 12% trend is made up of normal monthly subsidies of around 6+ the 65 for expansion of services to previously under service areas as

well as once off payments to new MPOs and CDOs to assist these centers to meet the norms and standard to qualify for subsidies. We have also attached the copy of those institutions we are referring to. Most of the new organization arbitrations for subsidies we are refute from the district office, during the second quarter of the financial year and on evaluation by the provincial evaluation committee, some queries regarding compliance with the amounts and standards were raised for the district to resolve.

The district submitted the revised applications during the last quarter and upon the confirmation of compliance to the norms and the standards the organizations it was then process in terms of the required funding , these resulted in the much spike these organizations include NGOs CBOs Poverty Relieve and Home community Based Projects that we are referring to.

The second question says what programmes and projects gained from this strategy to spend funds? The bulk of the money spend during the past

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two months went to transfers, to non profit organizations and community based organizations, here is a copy attached in terms of the allocation on the funding which went to those organizations.

The third question says how much money was spent for each of the programme? The copy that we have attached aludes clearly the amounts that were spent during that time. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Vilakazi says he is kort and bondig, short and precise, but you see Honourabel Mangqo as we are proceeding also I must draw the attention of the House that the responsibility to maintain order in this House according to Rule 79 of the Standing Rules it's a responsibility of the precidign officer, I will do that because it is necessary. We are proceeding to question 3 on the order paper and it is a question of Honourable Matladi to a Member of Executive Council responsible for social Development. Honourable Mangqo it is an oral reply.

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Honourable Deputy speaker it is a written responsible that is need. I so wish to table, thank you very much.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

So the response is tabled. We proceeding to question 4 the question posed by Honourable Groenewald to the Member of the Executive Council responsible for Local Government and Housing.

**HON. MEC. YAWA:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker sir, the question would be responded to in the next sitting.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members we proceeding to question 5. It is a question posed by Honourable Hattingh to a Member of the Executive Council responsible for Local Government and Housing.

**HON. MEC. YAWA:**

Ke e baya motafoleng Motlotsa Mmusa Kgotla.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

The response is tabled. We proceed to question 6, a question posed by Honourable Groenewald to the Member of

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the Executive Council responsible for Agriculture, Conservation and Environment.

**HON. MEC. SERFONTEIN:**

Deputy Chair the question is tabled and if he want I an also read it for him.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members that concludes our interpellations and questions. We now move to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM NO 5: STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS.****HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Hattingh. Is there any other Member who would wish to make a statement. Yes in that order.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The Democratic Alliance noted the effect that the struggle between feuding the ANC had on service delivery at local government level. This has also become visible in different Provincial Departments

The current development of a second centre of power, where only a single member of the

provincial cabinet was elected to the ANC's PEC will certainly impact further negatively on service delivery in general in the North West Province. I see I have a lot of support Honourable Deputy Speaker.

Another, may I say welcomed effect of these divisions within the ANC is the reluctance of former loyal ANC supporters to turn out to vote for the ANC this resulted last week in the ANC not only dramatically reducing its support in the Ditsobotla Ward 5 by election from 39% in 2004 when it had the most support in the ward, to 9% that is a drop of 30% in May 2008 in fact last week Wednesday, it is not only reduce its majority from 39% to 9% but it also and this is a fact and very welcome chair for the ANC for the ANC in the province it must be its deposit in this by-election joining two other parties also loosing their deposits. A fourth party narrowly escaped loosing its deposit with a mere 9 votes.

The Democratic Alliance won the Ditsobotla ward 5 by-election enjoying 78% of the electorate's support indicating that the DA remains the only alterna-

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tive for the failing and struggling ANC. Principled disgruntled former supporters of the ANC have been welcomed into folds of the DA and will contribute in building a real democracy. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Matladi let us get the dispose of the statement. We will proceed , we will come back to you. I see Honourable Mangqo's hand is up, she would want to ...

**HON. MEC. MANGQO:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Firstly I would like to indicate to Honourable Hattingh that in my entire life, it remains a dream for me to atleast see massively branches of the Democratic Alliance across the province, so that the margins and the democratic process and dispensation in our country must not enjoy three members of the DA in the House or two, atleast the process to which they are also elected to sit in this House it must be visible, known and very clearly defined to Members so that we don't have the DA coming her portraying to be thy kind of a holy organization.

I have never had of branches of the DA, I have never had of a process to which they elect leadership except their national conferences and provincial conferences. They don't exist in branch level. I have never heard them in the regional level, but you what I have heard Honourabel Deputy Speaker that this organizations are so famous, they are welcoming rejects and people who would not want to be governed in their own organizations. That is what they are popular about, and we would wish that they welcome those members and at least start to baptize them in the name of the Democratic Alliance so that they don't harbour around, we don't become happy when we receive members and say that we are now killing the affections.

The sections that exist in the DA, I would not want to talk about it because they are not interesting. They see the father, the mother, and the child being in government in the Legislature and everybody else is quite about it. So I would clearly wish that this statement really must not be acknowledged and welcomed in the House but we

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record that atleast we are following more job as a DA and as an opposition is valued to follow what we do but you know that the success remains with those that are faltering in the process because you clearly see that they are doing something positive about their lives. The ANC remains a mass character and it is a very big organizations. Its democratic process of electing its leadership is very clearly is so interesting that is why we are following it; it does not exist anywhere in the else in the DA. Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

**HON. MEC. YAWA:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker of the House sir, I am also arising to respond to this statement by the Honorable Mr. Hattingh who I think he must really appreciate that the ANC is living and leading. The democracy that we have given him was never in the past and as such he is exercising it even in the wrong way that he should one day he can know what is happening in the ANC without hearing from the media. Therefore the Legislature is not for that. The Legislature is the place where we must legislate laws that govern the country.

Since 1994, the Honorable Member has been hoping party to party. He was in the National Party, then he joined the DA when he could see that the interest that he stood for are no more accommodated in the National Party he turned away, therefore he is pursuing his agenda which he pursued for many many years from his mistakes till today of wishing that one day there must be no ANC that ANC is going to be there and continuing to give maximum liberty that is having today.

What he says as the factions in the ANC I think is democracy that he never exercised because in his own party I wonder whether they have enjoyed what the people in the ANC are enjoying which we have given him in anyway. Which makes him to be able to stand here and begin to debate the African National Congress. This organization which have liberated not only those he stood against ready to take the arms and fight is here and it leads. Thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members I am reverting back to Honourable Hattingh to close the debate on

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this statement.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Deputy Speaker, it is a very strange understanding of your Rules I would need a copy of them. I know that when the statement is actually debated there are responses but there are no debates on the statement but since you have given me the opportunity I noted that the essence of my statement is intact was not attacked and rather personalize the text from Honourable Yawa and Mangqo is noted thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members we are proceeding. I am going to read one of the Rules that I referred to earlier on which regulates conduct of Members and how they behave in disrupting the proceedings. I will do that as and when is appropriate. We are moving to the next item.

**HON. MATLADI:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy when confusion crime and xenophobic attacks on foreigners were engulfing the entire country, putting dent to democracy that was so hard fought for and

reducing us to a shameful sick society in the eyes of the international community, we woke up again to yet another tragic news of the huge loss to yet another world renowned artist in the field of gospel music. The Mokoena as he was affectionately known did us proud as a nation by being exemplary to the young and old on how fame does not derail a determined human being to lead a clean exemplary life in this low moral society.

His music could be heard reverberating the rivers, mountains and valleys of our beautiful continent Africa and the rest of the world bringing joy, jubilation, love, moral and glee in the arena of the music industry. Those masculine outbursts on the stage during live shows will be no more. The message of love, peace and happiness which he conveyed in his songs will be lost to us as a nation. We cherish every single moment he spent with us and we will always adore him. He will always be remembered as an epitome of completeness, an epitome of success.

Let us all join the United Democratic Party and the whole

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of South Africa in celebrating the live of a giant the roaring tunes like the roaring forties of South Western Cape, Vuyo Mokoena. We the UCDP salute you. You were a real patriot, a Christian and a moral person. May your soul rest in peace our dear brother. Good night.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Thanks Honourable Matladi. Is there any Member who wants to speak on the statement? None. Thank you very much. Honourable Members may I draw your attention that this morning I raised a concern as time management. We were expected to deal with two budget speeches before 13h00, that is before lunch. The time is almost 11H22, we have not started with the first budget speech but we will try and manage time. Can we proceed to the next item?

**SECRETARY: ITEM NUMBER 6: TABLING OF REPORTS AND PAPERS****HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members I now have a pleasure of inviting Honourable Moilola to table the Report of the Portfolio

Committee on Transport Roads and Community Safety and scrutinize the 2008/09 Strategic Plan for the Department. Honourabel Moilola.

**HON. MOILOA:**

Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. I so table the report for the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Thanks Honourable Moilola. Honourable Members may I also invite Honourable Baloyi to table the Report of the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture Conservation and Environment and the Scrutiny of 2008.09 Strategic Plan for the Department. Honourable Baloyi indicated to me that Honourable Hantise will do this task on his behalf.

**HON. HANTISE:**

Thank you Chair. Chair allows me to table the report on behalf of the Portfolio Committee, Agriculture, Conservation and Environment. Chair the report is for tabling and a debate at the same time. Now I am not going to take you through the whole report I am going to read only the recommendations of the

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Portfolio Committee which is item 6, page 6. Conclusion and recommendations. [Interrupted by Deputy Speaker]

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Hantise, earlier on when I call you I expected that you do the same thing that Honourable Moiloa did. We are at the point where we expect you to table a report. You table and the issue of taking part in that will come later.

**HON. HANTISE.**

Ok. Now then the report is tabled Chair.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members I now call Honourable Mahlakeng to table a report on the Portfolio Committee on Provincial Affairs, Local Government and Housing for scrutiny of 2008/09 Strategic Plan from department.

**HON. MAHLAKENG:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. I, on behalf of myself and the Portfolio Committee table the report for a debate at a later stage.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

May I draw the attention of

Honourable Members that the debates on the reports tabled, will take place concurrently with the respective budget votes debate of various department. As and when we deal with the budget votes of Roads, Transport and Public Safety, the budget together with the strategic plan will be integrated in that debate. We proceed to the next item.

**SECRETARY: ITEM  
NUMBER 7 PROCEEDINGS  
ON BILLS SECOND READING  
NORTH WESR APPROPRIA-  
TION BILL 2008**

- i. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
CONSERVATION AND  
ENVIRONMENT BUDGET  
VOTE 13**
- ii. DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORT, ROADS AND  
COMMUNITY SAFETY,  
VOTE 10**
- iii. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
WORKS VOTE 11**
- iv. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AND  
HOUSING VOTE 9**

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members before we start with the budget votes, let me urge Members to stick to the

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allocated time. And I think Honourable Members will refer to their Rule Book. I will start by inviting MEC Serfontein to present the budget Vote 13 for Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment. May I indicate the time is 11h27. you can proceed Honourable ISerfontein.

**HON. MEC. SERFONTEIN:**

Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker you will check my time for me. Honourable Deputy of the North West Province Legislature, Honourable Premier of the North West, Members of the Legislature and National Council of Provinces present here today, Dikgosi tsa rona, Mayors and Leaders in our system of local government, Honourable Leaders of Political Parties, Distinguish Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The past was marked by significant challenges in our agriculture, conservation and environment sectors. Twelve months ago we faced the dire reality of an unrelenting drought. We emerged from that drought and faced good rains, however our relief was short-lived as the reality of escalating fuel costs soon

hit us. The dramatic rise in the international oil price filtered through to critical farming inputs such as the price of diesel and fertilizer making the cost of production versus the price the farmer receives for the produce highly variant. Despite these challenges we are still committed to weather this period and continue our efforts to build a strong and resilient sector.

**Sector Economic Review:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker it seems this area are of high and rising food prices has come to stay with us. This area replaced the one that was characterized by low agricultural food prices and high volumes of surpluses from development countries. Factors that influence food and agricultural prices point declining local production and high global demand.

This worldwide process of soaring prices on basic food instability beginning to lead to political and social instability that many governments being forced to step in to reduce the cost of bread, maize, rice and dairy products.

In our case the Minister of

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Agriculture and Land Affairs has proposed intervention measures which includes targeted safety measures to alleviate the impact of high food prices on vulnerable groups as well as medium to long term measures to ensure household and national food security. The report of the National Agriculture Marketing Council states that food prices inflation between December 2005 and December 2006 averaged 7.88%. Wheat has doubled in price; maize is nearly 50% higher than a year ago and rice 20% more expensive. Unfortunately these prices are likely to remain high for years to come.

Our country with its high rate of urbanization, racially inequality agricultural land distribution and the existence of two agricultural economics is going to have winners and losers resulting from the impact of climate change and high food prices. These two factors will certainly constitute one of the most binding constraints for exonerated and shared growth in Agriculture in a coming years.

From and Agriculture production perspective, this situation pres-

ents economic benefits to farmers provided their production costs rise slower than the income growth rate. Critical to this will be the inclusion of especially subsistence, especially small and medium scale farmers as beneficiaries to ensure the widest possible equitable distribution of income.

On the other hand high food and agricultural prices will adversely affect buyers, the majority of whom are poor people in rural and urban areas. Subsistence and small-scale farmers who tend to buy staple food products, will feel the pinch. Factors such as weather conditions, the introduction of the anticipated bio-fuel production from certain field crops power shortage, local regional and world demand as well as exchange rates will continue as never before to influence agriculture production in the country.

Changing consumer preference in terms of substituting grain products for meat and increasing real disposable income levels are projected to support the increase in demand for all types of meat products. However, high feed cost will put pressure

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on livestock production and the profitability of especially dairy farmers and pig producers. On a positive note, the horticultural sector remains attractive and competitive and well positioned to achieve a reasonable growth rate over the next 3 years.

In view of the current relatively high domestic inflation, high food prices at retail level, high oil prices exchange rate uncertainty and power shortages together with the global economic slowdown, it is expected that consumer spending will slow down slightly in 2008, but the growth in income in the emerging middle class and possible higher grants to the low income groups will direct the local demand for agricultural products.

The per capita consumption of meal is expected to decrease, while the per capita consumption of bread is expected to increase over the short term. This rise in bread consumption can mainly be contributed to organization and the increase in the disposal income for a larger section of the population.

The per capita consumption of this is expected to rise marginally over the short term; however, the consumption of both chicken and milk will increase rapidly because of the economic development of organization. The consumption of dairy products has grown by 26% since 2003, outpacing the growth in consumption of all meat products.

Deputy Speaker, the scenario I have just outlined emphasize the need for government to consider increase investment into this sector, which is a cornerstone of our economic wellbeing. Before I proceed to deal; with our priorities for the 2008/09 financial year, allow me with this House our progress in accomplishing the goals that we had set for 2007/08. The following are some of our achievements in the previous financial year

Human Resource Management and Development: Building a momentum on last year's progress on women recruitment into SMS positions, the department has managed to maintain its statistics of eight women in SMS positions from twenty three posts, and is looking at increas-

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ing these statistics further this financial year. Other aspects of the Employment Equity Act are being monitored to ensure that the department stays on course to reflect the demographics of the province.

A strict system of performance management and the other development of staff has been instituted, and all staff and senior managers have performance contracts and work plans in place. Training of staff in the Performance Management and Development System is ongoing, ensuring that its implementation is carried out at the same time.

We have also been able to ensure this job descriptions are compiled for all approved positions in the structure. This process will be followed for the first time by a comprehensive job evaluation process for all posts in the department to ensure that skill is evenly matched to remuneration and level of responsibility.

To contribute to skills development in general 50 students have placed in learner ships in the following areas;

- " Human Resource Management-Level 4
- " Project management - Level 4
- " Plant Production- Level 4 and
- " Animal Production - Level 4.

The department is further pleased to announce that the focus of the plan this year is mainly the development of 470 general workers through the ABET programme. We also plan to accommodate 24 disabled persons at a cost of R3.6million to address the challenge in the recruitment of disabled persons. For this we have targeted 17 different positions across the core of our enterprise. These positions range from technicians to managers. Ongoing professional development from middle and senior management on the other hand will be phased -in through carefully selected, sector -specific programmes.

As with everything else in our country, agriculture cannot thrive without quality education and training. The work of our two colleagues in Potchefstroom and Taung remains at the centre of our agenda. We have made progress by ensuring that inter-

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pretation of lectures (classes) in Potchefstroom is well implemented to such a standard that is being studied by other institutions as best practice in introducing dual language instruction throughout the country.

The college has in the preceding year produced 17 students who passed their NQf level 6 Higher certificates and are currently busy with experiential training, and a further 23 students received their NQF level 6 diplomas. As at December 2007, over 105 emerging farmers from Matlosana, Ventersdorp, Phokeng and Maquassi Hills have received accredited NQF levels 1 & 2 training on Beef Cattle, Pig, Poultry and Vegetable Production.

Deputy Speaker, we need these colleges in order to make measurable qualitative and quantitative impact. In this regard we plan to improve agricultural production infrastructure such as the construction of new piggery and poultry production facilities. Bursaries for deserving higher education students at an estimated cost of R2.8 million per academic year will be instituted

from 2008/09. furthermore, to assist organizational efficiency, the organizational structure at adequately to train enrolled students as well as emerging and commercial farmers.

forty eight young people were taken on learnerships in agriculture , veterinary services, crop production, animal husbandary, environmental management, information technology and human resources management in order to support and contribute towards the PGDS and the five Presidential Priorities.

In the area of Agricultural Extension Services progress has been made in that the national Department of Agriculture has allocated R6 million for 2008/09 towards the roll out of the Extension Recovery Programme in order to address challenges such as the training and skills development of our extension officers, as well as the provision of relevant work tools and equipment and the hiring of more skilled staff where needed. This support will continue over the medium -term framework (MTEF) period as a nationally coordinated process.

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Under our environmental services programme more than 25 000 learners and 830 educators were educated and workshopped this past year through the learners education programme in areas such as environmental management, environmental law, conservation principles and practices, environmental monitoring and other critical areas. For the youth we developed a further 90 and supported a 130 environmental youth clubs. We also carried out a total of 32 environmental awareness campaigns in order to continue to build a new generation of environmental conscious and active generation in our province.

Deputy Speaker our submission on drought relief and the motivation to national in terms of disaster relief yielded results and we are pleased to announce that an allocation of R55 million was received late last year. R8 million of this is for the 2003 cold spell damage redress, R45 million for drought relief and R2 million for the Taung Flood damage assistance. These funds are being distributed as we speak according the criteria defined specified by national.

The relief package strikes a balance between, infrastructure repairs and revival of farming activities. While we welcome these funds, we recognize the need to train our farmers to prepare for the difficult times by practicing fodder bailing during the summer season and engaging in proper veld and pasture management practices to mitigate and minimize risks. This is necessary as our fiscal policy does not give us the scope to budget as a line item.

**Food Security:** In response to food security challenges, a total of 228 productive homestead gardens were supported benefiting 879 participants. Forty six (46) community gardens were supported. Benefiting 503 participants. Looking forward the focus on this project will now shift to non-governmental organizations and self help groups and not individual households. This is to ensure sustainability at the right scales and volumes. The department has accordingly set aside an amount of R6 million purpose in the new financial year to continue this vital project.

Flagship Projects and Priority

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Initiatives: In the line with our strategic and annual performance plan, the following are some of our main focal areas and flagship projects and we are pleased to report progress as follows:

#### Western Frontier Beef Beneficiary

This project will commence with an initial R4 million start up allocation from the department. The draft business plan is complete and is being utilized in discussions with potential investors. We are proud to announce that the Industrial Development Cooperation has in principle agreed to support this project, particularly the fact that each livestock cooperative shall have an equity ownership together with the investors.

The Department of land Affairs has been requested to acquire 20 000 or more hectares to kick start the project this year. The concept to be employed for this project is that farms will be managed by private investors in partnership with livestock cooperatives. Additional land will be allocated separately to lives cooperate to support the project will ensure that all the's main objective is to make sure that all

our merging farmers are involved throughout the total value chain of red meat production. It is estimated that R96 million will be required for fencing, planted pastures, fire belts, fire equipments and livestock handling facilities. Quality bulls from the livestock improvement programme will be contributed, as well as veterinary support from the existing Departmental capacity.

Furthermore as from April 2009, all departmental fencing, water infrastructure and fire breaks projects will be diverted and concentrated to strengthen cooperatives. The support will be given to cooperatives that practice sound natural resource management and good livestock management practices. Accordingly, plans to roll out the National Skills Fund's Skills Development Programme for R500farmers during the 2008/09 financial year have been completed.

Tosca: The primary aim of the visibly study being conducted for Tosca is to determine socio-economic opportunities to increase and accelerate the level of economic activities and growth in

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Tosca and surrounding areas. The aim is to ensure sustainable development and job creation. Service Level Agreements and the appointments of the service Provider have been concluded and consultations with all then key stakeholders are underway. Both the feasibility study and the business plan milestones will be concluded and delivered this year.

Taung Irrigation Scheme: The main activity in this project is the replacement of old irrigation equipments (pivots) to reduce high maintenance costs and raise net farm income and factor productivity. An amount of R6.2 million has been spent to date during the 2007/08 on the irrigation scheme to complete the drainage system repairs, commence the replacement of both the irrigation centre Pivots and Sprinkler

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIR:**

Sorry Honourable Serfontein can you rep up, the bell has rang. You are left with 15 minutes. Honourable Members when we started her Honorable Tshwene did indicate that once this IT bell rings the Honourable Member must know that his time

or her time is finished, so that was I was saying to Honourable Member that I am giving him last 15 minutes. I am just complying to whatever I was told by Honourabel Tshwene. Thank you.

**HON. MEC. SERFONTEIN:**

Thank you but 15 minutes will be too little, because we are doing a lot of work in the department and I think it is just fare that we can report it but if I don't have the 15 minutes Deputy Speaker,

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIR:**

Honourable Member you are wasting a lot of time by talking.

**HON. MEC. SERFONTEIN:**

15 minutes, ok. Ok then I will go a little bit faster.

The Fencing Programme it will carry on and for that we budgeted R6 million in the past financial year, 723 kilometers of fencing was constructed and 31 groups comprising 683 people were trained.

Mechanization, well for this financial year we have budgeted R5.4 million for this programme. The mechanization programme I

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mean it is a very big value for all the communities and people who have received it. An amount of R14 million has been spent on this project since November 2006 and twenty cooperatives, trusts and CPA have benefited through this project. It is hoped that these beneficiaries will take advantage for this rare opportunity to ensure that the land is used optimally and improve the livelihood of our rural poor. The programme will continue in 2008/09.

The Nguni Cattle Project; An annual amount of R2.5 million has been budgeted for by both industrial Development Cooperation and the department for five years there is amount of 12.5 million at the moment, 360 animals has been distributed 23 heifers and a bull and 15 people have benefited from this project and I really want to tell you the transparency and accountability we have arranged the criteria for the selection of the beneficiaries to be handled in the payment from the department, there are board of trustees made up by the University of the North West, the IDC, Farmers' unions representatives and a departmental rep-

resentative.

Anti Stock Theft Programme was conceptualized after rising levels of livestock theft were recorded in the province. Since its inception stock theft levels have gradually decreased. Linked to this programme is the Animal Pounds Bill, which we expect will become law shortly. The Animal Pounds Bill provides in the handling of stray animals and will ensure that not only public safety improves, but that the care and management of animals is seen as a serious responsibility by those who own livestock. The Bill will provide for the creation of the municipal and state pounds, as well as the safe confiscation and subsequent disposal of impounded animals throughout the province.

The multipurpose livestock handling facilities is one of the sub-programmes of the Anti Stock Theft program. Thus far, four sites have been selected in each district. Procurement process for the construction of these facilities is in motion. Given the time in selection resides as well as the finalization of the Pounds Bill; the proj-

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ect was deferred for implementation during 2008/09. An amount of R4 million has budgeted for this project this financial year. The facilities will assist to bring markets closer to the farmers and increase the returns.

Agricultural Master Plan, Deputy Speaker, we wish to express our words of gratitude to our partners in the Agricultural Sector Master Plan Development initiative, being the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Agri North West, Agricultural farmers Union., the Agricultural Research Council, Free State University, District Municipalities and other key Stake-holders who are making invaluable contributions towards the success of the initiative.

The department would also like to extend its special appreciation to the leadership of the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) for their R1.5 million contribution towards success of this project as well as their commitment to fund infrastructure requirements for the project that will emanate from this Agriculture Master Plan. The draft of the first milestone of

the project, the natural Resource Audit, has been completed and delivered and has been upgraded to a consult of workshop conducted at various municipalities in the province. The whole project will be concluded in a period of fourteen (14) months and thus the delivery of the finale product. Is expected by March 2009.

The Agricultural Master plan will put in a better position to integrate Agricultural Development Plans into Municipalities IDPs. To this end a Project steering Committee comprising of District Municipality representatives has been established and is operation.

Partnership with Agricultural Unions: Our partnership with NEPRO on the training and empowerment of unemployed agricultural graduates continues. Ten (10) young people are currently being trained on livestock production and we hope they will be able to take their rightful positions as independents farmers. We will also utilize the Kgora centre in partnership with NWAUFU and NEPRO to train more post matriculates on poultry and vegetable production.

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Female Farmers and Women Empowerment: Our recognition of women in food production for internal consumption and export markets continues with the Female Farmer of the year Awards, and I wish to take this opportunity to salute all our Female Farmers in the past, but most importantly our Female Farmer of the Year 2007, Mme Maria Seleka. It is my hope that the province will fare much better in this year's national leg of the competition; however we are satisfied that we are making progress in this province in the development of female farmers through our equitable share and conditional grants projects and programmes.

Cooperative Government within the Sector. The department has continued to support the municipalities in the province both technical input and financial resources. Our key contribution has been in the development of the integrated waste management plans for all districts. The department has now adopted the District Land and Agrarian Coordinating committees in our endeavor to deliver seamless services. On the 27th June 2007 we launched the first

Agricultural District for an in Madibeng, Bojanala. This model will assist all other districts to follow.

The department has further established the District Land and Agrarian reform Coordinating Committees to ensure that municipalities are meaningfully engaged and consulted on land development or settlement projects. All departmental projects are therefore included in the Municipal Intergrated Development Plans. Issues for regular discussion include land invasions or evictions, land conflicts, land needs, as well as audits of state land.

Land Reform: Redressing the inequity in land ownership is critical to, our socio-political stability and thus our efforts in land reform are no small measure. We are pleased to report that the Department of Land Affairs as our partners in this process managed to reach 70% of their target by transferring over 75 000 hectares of land into the hands of previously disadvantaged persons in this province in the past financial year. Of this total figure, 24,000 hectares were acquired under the

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Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy (PLAS), while the rest was achieved through the redistribution and other land reformed products. The total spent in acquiring this land amounted to R89 million.

**Environmental Regulation, Monitoring and Compliance:**  
With the current global concern over the Environment I am happy to report that we in the North West Province are playing our role to ensure that our environmental issues receive the due attention necessary through our comprehensive Environmental Service Programme.

In the past financial year we completed the draft form a key piece of enabling legislation the North West Biodiversity Conservation Bill-which is now with the Chief State law Advisor. We are therefore well on our way towards seeing this piece of legislation promulgated within this year after the necessary milestones in the lawmaking processes have all been complied with.

Other achievements include the gazetting of hunting regulations

and the completion of an Environmental Management Framework for the Magaliesberg Protected Environment. Furthermore a Provincial Biodiversity Conservation strategy is now operational; as is the implementation plan for the threatened and protected species Regulations. We now have access to quality data for environmental monitoring through the installation of the biodiversity Informal Management System. One of our key roles as the department under the environmental service portfolio is to ensure that development keeps pace with the target set for the province but not at the expense of the environment. To this we carefully process more than 355 environmental impact assessment applications through a process of review and investigation. Under this processe more than 40 business rights and sub division applications were handled as well as the review of 300mining applications. Resulting from these administrative actions, R950 000 of revenue was collected in respect of non-compliance fines.

Because of the industrial nature

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of economic activity in some parts of our province, the monitoring of air quality is a critical responsibility. To this end, we established the Provincial/Municipal Air Quality Forum in the year under review. This enable us to review and analyze air quality reports are full major companies are based in the province. The air quality monitoring whole has been dreaming alongside the new completed provincial Hazardous waste management Plan; which is implemented in turn via a province-wide Waste management reporting Tool.

Support to environment and Sustainable Development in the North West (SESDNW) Deputy Speaker the support to Environment and Sustainable Development Programme we have implemented with the Finns in the last five years came to an end officially on the 31st of March 2008, as we announced last year. There is however a short extension which will see the last of our Nordic friends take their leave at the end of October of this year.

This has been a highly successful project, as both the North

West and Finland experts on environmental matters have attested. Through this programme we are in a much better position. to apply the latest technology implementation and environmental protection monitoring and planning. The projects which formed part of this programme will be now fully integrated into our environmental service programme. We are holding discussions with our Finnish partners to identify other programmes in which we shall continue our partnership.

Capacity has also been built at local government to enable this sphere to play its role in environmental compliance, monitoring and enforcement. The support was given through training workshops on Environmental impact Assessments as well as the MULTA Environmental Training for all Municipalities in the Province. To further increase the capacity at this sphere of government, we placed twenty interns; nine at municipalities and eleven within the department.

Heritage Sites: You will be pleased to hear Deputy Speaker

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that significant progress has been made regarding the two World Heritage Sites under our stewardship. As forecasted in the previous budget speech. The three requirements for inscription of the two heritage sites by the United Nations Convention for Heritage Sites were met. The requirements pertained to the appointment of management Authorities, the adoption of Integrated Management Plans and the legal definition of boundaries.

Regarding the appointment of management authorities, the National Minister has since appointed the Director-General of the Department of Environmental and Tourism to as management authority to Vredefort. We expect that this role will accordingly be delegated to the Deputy Director - General in the province; regarding Taung. This arrangement is a transitional measure while an appropriate model for the management of all heritage sites in this country is being finalized. Our focus this year will in the main be the development of facilities in the Taung World Heritage Site.

**Tariffs for EIA Applications:** Deputy Speaker, one of the key functions of the environmental programme is to properly control and monitor physical development through the environmental Impact Assessment application process, as we have already mentioned. In the previous financial year, we made a commitment to introduce new tariffs for Environmental Impact Assessment Applications for the North West Province. This process has however been held in abeyance, as we await the finalization at national level., of a consistent tariffs structure which apply across the country. The North West new tariffs structure which will apply across the country. The North West new tariff structure will therefore be implemented once the national guideline is in place.

**Transforming Game Farming and Hunting:** Our ambition to transform ownership and participation patters in the Game Industry has not warned. We are happy to report that the BEE Strategy for this subsector is now in implantation mode. In this regard, a pilot project for game farming has been completed, with encouraging results.

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The features of the project include the incorporation of consumptive tourism (photographic safaris, etc) and wildlife management. 800 hectares of land has been secured for the project from community trust land.

A corridor of state and community land towards Madikwe Game Reserve has been identified as the best option to kick-start this initiative. Progress to date is that confirmation of transfer of land to the community by the Department of Land Affairs has been achieved. A Private Public Partnership model has been established for the support of this project and it includes Government, a private game farmer, the community and a non governmental organization.

The department has also lobbied a lot of support from private entities both at the national and international level to ensure that the project becomes a success. Through this lobbying process, we now have the endorsement and support of key partners such as PHASA, the African Wildlife Foundation, the World Conservation Union (UCN), and the European Internal for

Wildlife Conservation.

The Way Forward for 2008/09: In accordance with undertaking we made in the previous year, we have been able to also support five projects and six women projects; all to the tune of R9 million in the province. We shall continue to increase this number in the future.

In line with our strategic plan, I will now outline some of our priorities for the current financial year. Deputy Speaker we intend to:

Finalize

- " The Pounds Bill
- " Biodiversity Conservation Bill
- " Integrated Waste Management Plan
- " Provincial Air Quality Management Plan
- " The Agricultural Master Plan
- " The Risk and Disaster Master Plan
- " Tosca Feasibility Study

We will Launch the

- " Mentorship Pilot Programme and
- " Farmer training for all our grant recipients

Anchor Projects

We will also continue with the

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following anchor project this financial year;

- " World heritage sites, Vredefort and Taung
- " Nguni cattle development
- " Western Frontier beef beneficiation
- " Taung Irrigation Scheme
- " Mechanization Programme
- " Food Security
- " Fencing Programme
- " Firebreaks Programme
- " Multi-Purpose Livestock Handling Facilities
- " Milk Production (Feasibility Study)

Transfer payments: Deputy Speaker, there were managerial shortcoming identified in the Directorate for Entrepreneurial Development in the past. We therefore had to embark on a process of repositioning this entity with the view to make sure that it is compliant with all laws and all the services that it is designed to render. This repositioning entailed a number of set measures which were reported on and these includes the

- " Appointment of an audit firm to assist in compliance with the DED Act and the PFMA
- " Establishment of internal system of control and

policies

- " Appointment of new Advisory Council
- " Approval of a new structure for DED
- " Appointment of new management and staff
- " Development of an accurate asset register
- " Clearance of all outstanding audit queries
- " Development of a new strategic plan.

The repositioning process has been now completed and the new public entity is ready to commence with business in compliance with the DED Act. Deputy Speaker there is a need to retain DED as a public entity to perform the following functions;

- " Offer financial assistance to projects for emerging farmers at lower rates than other financial institution.
- " Promote transformation of the agricultural sector through AgriBERE
- " Ensure access to markets for emerging farmers
- " Provide financial support to secondary conservation and environmental projects
- " Conduct capacity building in business management

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It is needless to mention that the province has already lost an opportunity to access MAFISA due to the unavailability of a suitable entity. We now have the opportunity to correct this situation. We hope that this House will accordingly support this budget, to enable the transfer of funds to this entity; which is so important for the development in our sector.

Deputy Speaker, notwithstanding the delivery goals we have just outlined, we have to take cognizance of the fact that we operate in a context of significant challenges in the sector. The following are some of the challenges that will continue to affect our performance;

- " Scarce skills such as economist, environmentalist, air quality specialists and engineers
- " Specialists business planners for projects
- " Changing weather patterns
- " Equitable funding for the sector
- " Infrastructure backlogs
- " Constrained competitiveness in the sector, and low productivity
- " Inequitable access and participation in the sectors

- " Land degrading; particularly in communal areas
- " Implementation of the supply chain management frame work
- " Soaring food and agricultural prices

Deputy Speaker, we are not flinching from the challenge before us, however, we requests in these difficult times, that we be given more support than we have ever had before from all quarters concerned more so this House. I therefore would like to take this opportunity to table Vote 13 for the 2008/09 Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment Portfolio for approval before this august House as follows:

- Programme 1, the allocation is R118,337,000
- Programme 2, Agriculture R372,305,000
- Programme 3, Environmental Services R54, 778, 000. The total of R545, 420, 000

We commit to work together with you to make this year one of the visible delivery in all areas of our critical portfolio.  
Ke a leboga

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Baaie dankie  
Thank you very much

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much  
Honourable Serfontein. I now  
call upon Honourable Hantise.  
You have 6 minutes Honourable  
Hantise.

**HON. HANTISE:**

Ntelle ke buyise report ye keye  
ka tshamalalo kwa di recomen-  
dationds tsa komiti go boloka  
nako ya gago. Di recommenda-  
tions di mo page 5 item 6 con-  
clusion and recommendations.

The first bullet e ba lega jaana ,

- " The committee urged the department to intensify, monitoring of food prices to keep the high process that people are made to pay inline with the National Regulations.
- " Reprioritize land reform programmes and ensure that money is not wasted.
- " Success projects should be supported to the fullest. Department must structurally provide education and training for farmers and beneficiaries. Modimola reports must be presented to the committee in the near future.

- " The China report visit must be made available to the Portfolio Committee.
- " The Department must intensify programmes of women empowerment including the employment of disabled people in the department.
- " The department must provide a plan highlighting the training of farmers and beneficiaries.
- " The committee has decided that some should not be transferred to DED as an entity, until such time where a plan for revamping the entity exist.

E wo o kare nka e bueletsa modula setulo. Kentse ke utlwa mo report ya ga Rre Serfontein a buwa gore bonthla bongwe bago pasiswa gwa budget ke gore ba potlakise gore ba transfer madi, but ke a itse kgore retshwaragane le bothatha gore rethlalose nthla e molefapheng gor eba e tshaloganye. Ke batla go e buweletsa gore ke e buwe ka setswana.

Ga gona madi ape a gotswang mo lefapheng la Agriculture a yisiwa kwa DED. Mabaka a tla tshlosiwa ke maloko a mangwe a

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komiti a tlelong go debate, but se sisalang ke gore DED bo a maruri garesekseka ge e se e tsamaye enne teng e ne e lesengwe sekwadilweng mo pampering, se run ke motho a le e si, gosena staff member, gosena nothing. Everybody was done by this very same department, so ga gona madi a go transfer a ya kwa DED go fitlhela ena well established ba tlisa everything, plan and everything ke gone re tla e fang tshetele.

- " Department must revisit the specifications wild and game reserves to avoid the instances of lions killing people.
- " Department has to critically look into the issue of prioritizing natural resources.

Modula setulo tla ke ye kwa page yabofelo. Matlho a gana jaanong, ketswalele report ye. Ke bala ya bohelo ke skip tse dingwe mo dula setulo but ke tla tsitsinya gore report e a mogelwe. Yabofelo e balega jaana Modula setulo, ga ke etse legore e start kaye jaanong. Modula setulo report e ke ya Portfolio Committee ke ne ke tsetsenya gore ntlo e a amogela

jaka e ntse jana le mo go sabalwang teng. Rebe tsetsenye gore le fapha le nelwe budget ya bone bagodira mmereko o montsintsi o ba buwabng ka one. Re a leboga.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Re a leboga Motlotlegi ntate Hantise. Golatela Motlotlegi mme Matladi.

**HON. HATTINGH:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I see that while language has been spoken I did not understand and the translation service is not functional, can you perhaps see to that. Thank you.

**HON. MATLADI:**

Should I proceed Honourable Chair of Chairs?

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Yes Honourable Matladi

**HON. MATLADI:**

Thank you very much. Ke a dumedisa Motlotlegi modula setulo a di komiti. Honourable Chair of Chairs, Agriculture, Conservation and Environment Department has read its own share of problems regarding budget implementation. There were times when this depart-

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ment was regarded null and void, when hopes were raised that it will be resuscitated by the redeployment of the Honourable then MEC Mayisela he was dismissed.

Positively so, presently the MEC in this department is an Agriculturist whom we hope with his experience will lead this department some where. As we talking the department is still facing some major challenges that I would include in my debate.

The first one is the Directorate of Entrepreneur Development. According to the department, DED was closed down on the 31st March 2005 and its project employees were transferred to the department.

Cases of misuse of the entities vehicles, loss of some of the agricultural implement were reported to the committee. Charges that were made against some of the officials in the DED were withdrawn, to our surprise and the forensic investigations were stopped. It is surprising that the department requested that the Portfolio Committee to make an input on the proposed means of the DED Board mem-

bers to be appointed although the resolution of the Legislature was to disband the DED.

Tractors were bought in the DED which was set to be new but the inspection proofed otherwise. When tractor in an invoice indicated the cost of R2 million, the report of the DED projects that is not run well was also reported to the committee and we are saying last year towards the end of the year the Honourable MEC reported to this House of the auctions of the DED equipments and other resources but now we hear that it has to go on.

I would like to second the words of the acting Chairperson Rre Hantise to say that as the committee we do not allow funds in this to be transferred to the DED until the department has come out clear to the commits on its future. People in Tshidilamolomo have reported agricultural problems to the department, including their obstacles to plough due to the baboons which destroy their crops and the young goats, dija di potsane.

This makes the poverty in the

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rural village worse. The department once promised to help them with farming assistance in forms of loans as other farmers in different areas of the province, but were later turned down and told that their area is not for farming, I also reported the matter to the Honourable MEC of Agriculture, Honourable Serfontein but presently have not received any response on what the department has done about the matter.

Morafe o santse o e kuwela to the department to address this problem because they are dying of famine. Tendering in Agriculture Department leaves much to be desired. Service providers are given tenders for a period of three years instead of one year at the time. Even if work is of no quality it has to continue because the tender is binding. We are appealing that there be control especially in the cast project like fencing, fire control, water reticulation, electrification, poultry, buildings etc.

That is why this department cannot register progress because of this mess and it has to be reviewed. Why not if these projects cannot be met or

monitored well by the Department of Agriculture not transfer them to the municipalities that owned the land that might be evil to run them properly.

The department advertises annually for projects that entice the rural communities whose applications are always turned down but projects are allocated to people who have muscles to buy farms. More conditions are attached to the advertisement but the selection criteria specify some people. Would like to know who are these people special who should be getting a privilege over other people of the North West. On page 14 of the Department Budget Speech for 2007/08 the MEC pointed out that the official inscription of the heritage side Taunfng and Vredefort had to be completed. We are still looking forward to getting a report on how they have really been runed, and if the completion has been done as according to the report by the MEC, and also to check about other heritage side.

We have got a heritage side in Ratlou called Setlhwatlhwe and would like it to be upgraded as

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well. Also in Ramotshere Moiloa heritage side called Kaditshwene that Bahurutshe would like as well benefit from.

Kgora at Ramatlabama is in shambles. In the shadow of what it used to be, the department does not capacitate the beneficiaries who need assistance. The allocation of budget of Kgora has to be specified today by the Honorable MEC in his response to say how much is set aside in order to aid these beneficiaries.

Is this project transferred to the municipality because most of the time they appear to the municipality to help them regarding finances and other assistance that is supposed to be done by the Department of Agriculture and Conservation.

Motlotlegi e keke yare ga Rre Rselapedi e le Mokhuduthamaga wa le fapha La Temo Thuwo a tthalosa gore ene ga se farther Christmas ga a fane ka di tshelete o ne abuwana montlheng e ya gothusa ba lemi ruwi kamadi. Rele UCDP re a e kuela gore a baleme ruwi bathusiwe kgonne lefapha latemo thuiwo ke mok-

watla wa economy, it is a backbone of the economy. Ba lime ruwi badi naga tse dingwe banewa dithuso tsa di tshelete sekayi ke Botswana naga e mabapi le rona gore bakgone batlhagise dikuno le dijo tsa goreba leuba.

Rele fag a rekgonme go ga esana le Botswana ka leruwo kantlha ya gore ba thusiwa ke puso.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Can you rep up Honorable Matladi

**HON. MATLADI:**

Monakong e fetileng ekana beke e fitileng gone go kopane ba e teledi pele ba di anga tse di farologaneng kwa Mozambique, Motlotlegi President Thabo Mbeki e ne e le mongwe wa bone mme yare bakopane ba buwa ka tlhwatlhwa e kwa go dimo ya dijo. Mme se sitlhagileng ekanna molemo gotsa kalafi yamadi a tlhatlhogang a go reka dijo yana gore baleme ruwi bathusiwe ka madi gore baleme dijo e nne ntletsentletse rene mo letlepong lekgor jaaka rekene rana le lona mo nakong e fetileng.

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e re ga ke tswala Motlotleg mot-samaisa tiro ye o e leng modula setulo wa di komiti, ke gakolole lefapha la ga etsho to go and look at resolution number 3 of the first report 2008 of the Public Accounts Committee as well as resolution number 5 of the seventh report 2007 of Public Accounts Committee and do implement this recommendations and resolutions of the committee.

Ke fetse kagore re eletsa Motlotlegi Serfontein le lefapha lagago masego, rebona gonale le sedinyana le le tlhagelang kwa lefapheng mme retsaya kgore ka mosele o wa lesedi bakafitlha go gongwe rere a kabo tlotlo e efite battle baye go e a tlenegisa. Ke a leboga.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable Matladi. Honorable Groenewald.

**HON. GROENEWALD:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy, Honourable Premier, Honourable Members, Officials of the department and Guest. With the changes in the department the DA believes that the finance will be handled in the

way it is expected from the PFMA. With good management on hand and hands on approaching the department I am quite sure many positive issues will get in place in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment.

The way the department handles its clients and partners who are direct receivers of the department, products and services will show if there are new fresh breeze in the department.

It is important that communities and farmers all should be informed by the department whether the department expect from his clients and partners. Honourable Speaker, the department had his management team committed them to ensure the creation of the environment where everyone can live in. the challenges in the department are huge and must be addressed in the a proper way so that the outcome can be to the benefit of all stakeholders in agriculture.

Scares skills, no department or organization can function without people who had the no how to make a success of the pro-

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gramme. The department must do their utter best to get and enroll people with integrity, people who are client focus and can work in the team. The business plan any project in the province subsidized the department must have a business plan. Without the business plan the project is contains. It is of no use to put people or farmers on land and expect from them to be good farmers without any training in then specific direction.

With oversight visit by the portfolio committee in the province there was nothing to be proud of, not a single project practices a sustainable living for a beneficiaries of the project. The idea the committee gets from the projects are the people are still waiting for the people from the department to support them with more money to survive. The DA believes that there are projects that have been successful in the province but these projects are far in the minority. There are many trained and skilled farmers in the province who are willing to help the new out coming farmers in the province. The department must go andbring this old farmers on board and give them the opportunity to

help train other new farmers in the province. With these inter-action good relationship were also be build between the farmers to the benefit of the whole community.

There are also a lot of environment problems in the North West Province that needs urgent attention from the department. The Waterfront source many people makes their living out of the waterfront resource. At this very moment the water has polluted with by high levels of ready activity and heavy meters and this can be resolved in council keeping failure, deformed babies and birth defects.

The planning of how many mine to establish a super training disposable facility on mine dump in the Foschville region this is a big environmental risk and elevated levels of ready activity, radio active, contamination of water, plants, soil, animals and humans. Water pollution swallows and deep ground water also damns liken streams. Atmospheric pollution in relation of airborne toxic and radian activity pollutions.

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Waste and pollution can turn water into acid. Most of agriculture resources erosion of soil and combination of soil having metal contamination. High levels of uranium, and arsenic, zinc and cadmium. Acidic mine drainage.

Agbare Adjunk Speaker die DA rig 'n ernstige versoek dat die Premier en LUR vir Landbou om te help en toe te sien dat hierdie myn, mega myn hoop, van mynafval nie sal gebeur in die Fochville gebied nie. Ons moet dink aan die plus minus 60 000 mense wat in die gebied woon en ook die vernietiging van vrugbare landbou grond, daar is ondergrondse waterbronne wat besoedel raak.

The Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry Lindiwe Hendricks state in the meeting at Sun City that farmers in South Africa are the biggest users of water. She further mentioned that the first priority of farmers in South Africa is to produce food for the people of the country. One of the problems that faces South Africa as well as in the province is the position of our water resources. The Hartbeespoortdam is so pollut-

ed that no normal water sport and activities can take place. The Wonderfonteinspruit is full of high level of radio activity and heavy metals.

Honorable Speaker the department must help and see that everything is done to resolve the water resources in the North West Province. The way water is used in our residential areas must get attention by Local Government and must also be assisting by the Agriculture Department. The Minister warns municipal managers that they must look at the water law and they must obey the law otherwise they gamble with the lives of other people. Therefore that is of the most important that every citizen in the province must take part in the National Environmental Management Waste Bill where they can make inputs to save our communities from total pollution.

The department must get skilled people o board to assist our farmer's on how to manage the influence of the changing of the way the pattern that may require exploring other crops which will be drought resistant and can also use more profit. The pace

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of land delivering in the land reformed program over the past 12 years has been very slow and the department must help and see that his programme is speeded up to avoid frustrated people and the possible Zimbabwe situation in South Africa.

Every citizen in the province had a task to fulfill, make the North West Province a better place to live in and also to see that agriculture activities is to the benefit for all of us. The DA supports the Agriculture, Conservation and Environment budget. I thank you.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Baaie dankie Agbare  
Groenewald ek wil nou roep  
Agbare Jan Serfontein om te  
aantwoord. Dankie.

**HON. MEC. SERFONTEIN:**

Honourable Speaker,  
Honourable Hantise is always  
honoured to talk to you about  
agriculture. All those questions  
that the committee wants  
answers on you have it in writ-  
ing and the committee very  
soon. There will be question  
and I think will deal for the poor  
people how we can contain food

prices but also I must ask you  
last season second type of fertil-  
izer cost R1 700 and a ton its  
now over R13,000 a ton. So we  
much think out of the box with  
other ways and I think govern-  
ment is leading the right direc-  
tion where they will do some-  
thing for the real poor people to  
let them have food, we cannot  
let them go hungry in this coun-  
try, but all your other questions  
of the committee will be  
answered.

Honourable Matladi, yes all  
those things you have said is  
true but I just want to answer  
some of them. The appointment  
of the Advisory Council is a statu-  
ary obligation. DED never  
bought tractors, it was in the  
department who bought tractors,  
what you have mentioned her  
tractor of R2 million, there was  
no tractor bought for R2 million  
it was a combined with the  
planters and all the equipment  
that in that one instance came  
to that amount.

With the question of the assets  
of the DED, you know most of  
these assets of the DED was  
things that they inherited from  
old Bophuthatwana, those  
equipment are old. Are old

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motor cars cost you some days keep up than a new vehicle, so we are to sell them and on the DED I hear that you say you don't want to let money be transferred to the DED. We will come to you to explain and I think the committee when we have the time and sit down with you and you will understand what we want to do with the DED, you will agree on the transfer of the money.

Honourable Groenewald in ons Departement gaan ons nie geld mors nie en ons wil ook nie geld mors nie. Jy praat van sekere projekte wat nie werk nie, ek stem met u saam. Daar is sekere projekte wat nie werk nie maar 'n mens, toe jy klein was het jy ook geval voor jy geloop het en dit is so met sekere van ons projekte wat ons probeer het dan werk hulle nie. Maar daai mense baat ook in 'n sekere mate by die projekte. Ek gaan nie met u argumenteer nie, ek sien u skud u kop, ons kan buite argumenteer. Wat ek wel wil sê ons is besig om na elke projek te kyk. Die wat nie werk nie gaan ons stop wat nie werk nie gaan ons nie meer doen nie.

Ons gaan projekte doen wat mense gaan 'n kans gee in die lewe om hulle kinders universiteit toe te stuur en my span wat ek het is nie baie bekend by julle nie maar ek moet vir julle sê daars net een wat ek nie in die middle van die nag kry nie maar ek leer hom nog hy sal ook in die nag antwoord. Regtig ons probeer dit is nie so maklik in die Departement nie maar ons gaan regtig probeer dat as ons volgende jaar hier staan laat julle vir ons sê, die wat hier gaan staan baie dankie julle het gewerk. Ek wil vir almal sê baie dankie dat julle die begroting goedkeur maar die R6 miljoen sal ons in die volgende paar dae met u uitsorteer. Baie dankie Speaker

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable MEC Serfontein, will now go through programme by program. From the black book on page 376

- Programme 1, Administration R118, 336, 000 does the House agree? Agreed
- Programme 2 Agriculture R372, 305,000 does the House agree? Agreed
- Programme 3 Environmental Services R54, 779, 000

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does the House agree?  
Agreed.

This brings us to the total of R545, 420, 000 does the House agree? agreed.

Thank you very much Honourable Members, will now move to the second department. Sorry does the House adopt the budget? Agreed. I will now call upon Honorable Vilakazi.

**HON. MEC. VILAKAZI:**

Deputy Speaker 'It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer could have done better'. Premier Edna Molewa, my Colleagues in the Executive Council, Members of the Legislature, a special and true friend to the North West Province and I now want to recognize Mr. Yusuf Al Hammadi, the President of the Emirates Aviation Association who expect us into buy and now is amongst us here today visiting the North West Province.

Allan Roobok of the African Union Aviation Academy and academy that is going to help us bring pilot training in the

province, the two Child Ambassadors as we all aware Deputy Speaker that tomorrow starts takes a child to work and today I am joined by two children coming to work and present the budget for the department.

All transport stakeholders, The HOD, SMS members and our general staff. The Community of the North West, Ladies and Gentlemen, Comrades and Friends

I am proud to wear this morning the newly establishe rapit port-hole repair team battalions uniform because I believe Letsema lethata ka mongwa lona

It is perhaps befitting Deputy Speaker, to start by examining why it is necessary for us to collectively think about a problem we never created! In our quest to find a solution, we should not only concern ourselves about who caused it but rather what we should do about it!

But to get to the right answers, we must ask the right questions. We must possess the ability to distinguish the truth from the deliberate creation of an artificial fabrication of true facts. These

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fabrications are orchestrated by power-hungry people whose supreme motive is personal wealth, the unwitting extension of the past disguised in countless forms of purported good at the expense of our historic mandate of a truly non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa.

The truth in the sense I have accepted since my first breath 43 years ago, is in actual fact at the heart of selfless patriots and revolutionaries of our motherland in whose spilt blood we serve for the common good.

The truth calls on men and women of courage to establish a consensus of action against the ills of our society. It is the truth that drives our consciousness of mind and a way of life. Its essence is not to remain unaffected by poor, slow and wasteful application as we go about delivering services. We must present an open admiration of intolerance to lack, poor and/or wasteful service delivery standing true to our calling of service to our people.

Deputy Speaker, we undertake this troubled journey mindful that 'It is not the critic who counts,

not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer could have done better.

The credit belongs to the man in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly, who knows the great enthusiasm; the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievements, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring gently, so that this place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who have never known neither victory nor defeat!' I have deemed it appropriate to borrow these piercing words of Teddy Roosevelt to illustrate the road ahead. The past two weeks has seen the emerging of xenophobic attacks in some parts of the country and in particular in two areas of our province. Our province is has also experienced such attacks as I say in this two areas.

There have 37 incidents of violence on foreign nationals and 143 arrests have been made across the province. The instruction to the South African

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Police Service is that they must protect the property and lives of those who are affected by these attacks. The crime intelligence unit has been diploid in all areas gathering information in these attacks and threads of attacks. We have reactivated the crime combating units to ensure that such incidents do, not occur and we take them to ...[Inaudible]...against them. We will again continue to engage communities in an attempt to deal with such kind of behaviour and condemn those participating in these barbaric actions.

There are three desires Deputy Speaker I find written so deeply in the hearts of many citizens living and visiting the North West Province which we cannot disregard without losing our soul. They are core to what we are and what we yearn to be:

- " A crime free North West Province
- " A multi-modal public transport system in the province integrating (bus, rail and air services) geared towards economic and social integration of our communities
- " An improved road network

system - free of potholes, a bit wider, linking rural communities with economic hubs and last but not least, creating jobs in the process of our road construction and maintenance programme

What is our agenda in fighting crime: Fighting crime in the province will be under the following theme "Taking the fight against crime to the door steps of criminals"

Deputy Speaker, I challenge your august House to take the fight against crime to the doorsteps of criminals themselves? I challenge them to move away from their chairs especially in the opposition and get them involved in the machinery to fight crime. We need to go straight to the hearts of the fearful because life lived in fear is no life at all! We are outraged by crime, we need to stop the tiptoe around crime - avoiding rocking the comfort of our troubled boat, and we need to stop dropping the subject about the aftermath of crime - to preserve the so called 'image of a beautiful country!' Our country suffers violent crimes even when crime is generally on a downward

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trend and violent criminals take away our safety by force, we have a battle to fight, we must stand up to the criminal tyrants.

The crime we meet in our street corners, in places of entertainment, in shopping malls, in cash transit heists, in the ATMs that are bombed, in the quite of our rural homestead and, of course, in the comfort of our homes, does not only exist on an individual basis; it is planned, resourced and executed with precision by both amateur and professional criminals alike to make it look like a South African way of life. I want to go a little deeper in illustrating how criminals by skillful craft, are out to undermine the effort to fight crime and bring us to our knees.

I remember as most of our Honorable Members would, arriving in the quiet of a rural village of Pella in the Madikwe area, about 45 km from Swaartruggens on Monday morning on the 6th of August 2007 and taken through a crime scene of a 13 year old boy Bahumi Mogorosi whose hand was savagely amputated; genitals ripped off; lips and tongue cut off whilst with his eyes wide

open, the young boy watched in disbelief at the barbaric hands of two adult men in the name of ritual practice were killing this boy.

In a matter of a month after the first gruesome discovery of the little Bahumi, two more bodies of Titus Lesejane and David Letsedi were picked up mutilated with the last one leading us to the successful investigation, apprehension and now underway trial of Patrick Lesejane and Ephraim Selane, with the former being the brother to one of the victims. Life has produced one of the most heartless beasts of our time.

As these ritual murders reared their ugly face, Pella was awakened to an old scar of unsolved ritual murders that cut the community in the middle leaving deep seated suspicion covered by many years passed. The suspects directly and indirectly by wily craft, led the community into an emotionally charged buildup conflict with the police to divert us from the real truth. Thanks to God, we became indestructible and steadfastly remained focused amidst great provocation. Thanks to the

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Police Task Team led by Director Jan Mabula who unraveled the web of deceit. Thanks to the Community leaders and the Pella residents for putting their trust and lives in our hands under difficult circumstances.

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer could have done better, It is that one who joins in the fight against crime"

Let me also take you to the hurting truth of a three year old baby girl, Boitumelo Happiness Maripane, of Majakaneng village in the Madibeng Local Municipality who on the 8th February this year (2008) went missing! All of our questions of her where-about over 10 days were answered in a devastating way! It was a Sunday morning of the 17th February 2008 that the police team led me to the gruesome find of a decomposing tiny body of Boitumelo. Her mother, like all loving mothers of our motherland would do, raised her tearful eyes slowly in disbelief as we reluctantly informed her of the remains of her daughter buried in a disused house deep in the bush 10 km away from her home. Our find-

ing was not only gruesome but rather disappointing. A terrible creature known to the slain little girl as grandfather had been roaming the savanna of Majakaneng, ruling the household with disguised pride and pretending to be striking fear into the hearts of every threatening criminal baying for the family's blood!

Yet, the criminal in him tried in vain to let us on a marry-go-round to cover his trails and evil deeds. Still disguised, he led the Police Investigating Unit that had descended on Majakaneng to a new search for the grandmother. And again, our police came out tops and cracked the case leading to a chase of this beast up to Mpumalanga village where the beast was tamed and arrested and brought to book.

Deputy Speaker, apart from the fear of our criminal brothers, sisters, fathers and least mothers, our deepest fear is the racism we met at Skierlik Informal Settlement in Swaartruggens meted out by an 18 year old Johan Nel, a white boy with all the requisite danger and wildness against an unarmed and unsuspecting poor black people

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labouring his father's farm. He forgot the God's command of love thy neighbour. He cowardly attacked leaving five black people dead and scores injured derives its nourishment from the existence of anti-black attitude largely denied by the opposition. It is not surprising therefore that after generations of racism in our country; some elements within us in the white community would like to preserve racial practice of white supremacy. We must condemn it.

How can we forget the horrifying murder early this year of sixty year old lady Zaiboon Jeena of Ottoshoop? Her gruesome murder sent shocking waves across the province. She was burned with a hot iron, raped, stabbed and had her fingers broken, ostensibly for the sake of R20,00. Suspects were arrested within days and unfortunately, one of our police stations surely work led to an escape of this murder which resulted in the murder of Zaiboon Jeena's neighborhood. Mr. Thia Deysel and his loving wife Katrina, were slaughtered by the beast of Ottoshoop.

Deputy Speaker, I list these few

but striking crimes which demonstrates the violent and barbaric nature of crimes in our province. Crime erodes the very fabric of our society. Its sole purpose is to instill fear in the hearts and minds of peace loving South Africans diminishing the confidence of the world against our country and Africa in general.

Our motherland has drawn the enemy out the scourge of crime in all its forms; has been exposed for what it is and shamed it in front of all of us. We have a battle to fight, the battle requires all of us. With all of us involved, criminals will know that our crime fighting machinery is powerful, dangerous and to be reckoned with. Those who choose to stand by the wayside must only be those in the service of crime itself, bloodthirsty criminals fiercely devoted to undermine peace of our communities. Unbelievable indeed, even when we know we are at war against criminals, we still find people who refuse to act against crime. They live in dangerous denial, a denial that not only endangers our lives but countless defenseless others such as our women folks; our

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children, the elderly and people with disability!

We have reached the cutting edge to charge forward against a crime sprawling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Our strength against the roaring lion is revealed by one of us standing up and the rest joining against it even increased by our communities swelling the ranks of our policing forums. We must shift the battle against crime to new and higher levels of our own slot.

In her State of the Province Address, the Premier indicated that crime remained a challenge we all face and must collectively solve. We cannot be criticizing from above trees when we are not on the ground working with the police to make sure we register the necessary successes. The Premier also referred in 2007/8 in terms of the National Crime Report that revealed that the North West Province improved its fight against crime, albeit minimal. The National Target for the reduction of crime as part of 'The Fight Against Crime Campaign' registered in the North West 6.9% last year against the target of 7%. We

are trying our best but disappointedly people continue to say we doing nothing about it.

The Premier pointed out, though, that whilst our performance shows improvement, the incidents such as the ones I have referred to earlier tell us that we must still strive to increase our fight against crime

This year, innovated measures are being introduced to yield greater community participation. We will also recruit additional SAPS and Traffic members, improve resource allocation and prudent use thereof and enhance coordination within the Justice Cluster in the Province. We will continue to monitor the performance of the police in the Province with the aim of ensuring that they render the service as expected but strive to improve.

In one such assessment, that we commissioned in the past year, we sought the public perception of police performance at our Police Stations, and generally, the survey revealed that service delivery at our police stations fluctuated between negative and positive. The survey

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showed that there were still deeply rooted negative perceptions towards the SAPS. However, people showed satisfaction at the services they received at these police stations, an indication the police are doing their best to improve the service.

Deputy Speaker, I have also taken liberty to undertake unannounced visits to at least thirty (30) police stations in the peeing hours of the morning when members on the other side are sleeping peacefully in their beds, I have been walking in the province as early 1H00 am to check whether the police are doing their work. I have noted the good, the bad and the ugly parts of our safety keeping capability at police stations. I found the best practice in some and the worst practice in others. In the main, poor management accounts for our weaknesses and good accounts for our strength. I want to recognize a lady Captain lady Captain in Hartebeespoort dam police station for prudent management and condemn the Inspector at Zeerust police station for poor management.

I was also impressed with an extremely confident student police officer whose enthusiasm permeates six police reservists on duty in the exceptional piece of work they do as we sleep at night guaranteeing safety of the Tlhabane people. We need men and women in blue who can carry this stature. Crime will shake in its pants with these young men mean heart at work doing their work in our police station.

I must hasten to say, though, that we still need to deal with public perceptions in certain areas such as coordination of crime and the mobilization of the police. In this regard, we have already spent R250 000 to successfully develop and implement a local crime prevention strategy in the Matlosana Township where gangs were formed and I can report now Deputy Speaker, that we have arrested (96) members of (24) gangs and they have brought stability into Matlosana..

This has also yielded a good success in beginning to refusing our youth away from crime. We have also presented this strategy to four other municipali-

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ties, and these municipalities are considering our proposal. Deputy Speaker, Our annual 16 Days of Activism Campaign against Abuse of Women and Children has given us an incredible result. We stand on the threshold to challenge our male folks to change! I've noticed that so often our words to boys and men are misguided least misleading and at times inappropriate.

We boldly must pronounce and bestow the right qualities of a new man! I listened to a group of ladies enjoying a drink at a pub yes I do go to the pub, and captured these worrying words: "... you wouldn't know from what walks in a pair of trousers is in the image of the Lion of Judah or the beast of Pheela!"

My deepest fear was out. I watched as some men fitted the Lion of Judah - no lonely women, no fatherless child, no hunger, no homelessness, these men like the Lion of Judah strike fear into the hearts of the enemy, bringing down the tyrants and ruling democratically with an abundance of love to their families and nations Equally, I felt some men fitted

the Pella thing which we exposed, they are found wanting, discovered as an impostor and not really a man. These are men who rape our children, who when looking at their hearts don't find the good in them but instead anger, lust and fear. These are men who feel less like the real man in the presence of others. They without provocation are driven to the darker regions of their souls and unleash violence unparalleled to our women folks and our children. We must condemn them, we must rule them out of our communities and a man bears the image of God in his strength, not so much physically but soulfully. If we bring up our boys to be this man, abuse of our women folks and children will be defeated. In 2008/9 we will take forward our agenda to change this scourge of our men folks.

Deputy Speaker when I return to Road Safety Promotion and Traffic Management, The House will remember that we undertook to hold the Road Safety Lekgotla during 2007/8 financial year. Our plan is to host it on the 26th June 2008 and develop a Provincial Road

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Safety Strategy we could not have that conference due to unforeseen and unavailable circumstances. During the October Month, we decided to launch an operation called Jaws for Life. As a result thereof 45 high speed vehicles were procured to maximize visibility and inculcate a new culture of law abidance.

Now let me stop for a moment and make something clear, as I was walking in the House some of my colleagues were pleading with me to announce a moratorium or they pleaded that I must announce some amnesty against the payment of tickets and the scourge of Jaws. I unfortunately I am unable to do that, in actual fact I have brought them with me so that when everybody leaves the Legislature they can check if they owe some tickets. Deputy Speaker 'Gabolas Jaws' is wild at hear. It is a unit that embodies stability and safety on our roads. It catches and breaks the scourge of law breaking motorists. It fights the grizzly non-payment of outstanding traffic fines with vigor and wins the battle of high road discipline. I've yet to meet a motorist who

wants to mess with our great sea hunters - Jaws!

Jaws have tamed our roads recording a high positive driver behavior and high revenue collection through execution of outstanding warrants. Many drivers voluntarily paid their outstanding traffic fines and those who were stubborn felt the might of the Jaws grip.

We have to date since October last year, arrested 4 645 drivers for unpaid fines, discontinued 164 taxis from operating due to manipulated extended seating capacity, impounded 388 taxis and confiscated approximately 1200 wrongly printed number plates. A total amount of R3 099 350 was collected from 2916 warrants executed by Jaws Operation. Some Members in this House felt victim to that initiative. For wrong doers, submit or fight but be guaranteed if you choose to fight Jaws will hold you down with its grip and will emerge the victor.

During 2007/08 Deputy Speaker, several driver's license were cancelled although in the public perception these are cancelled

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due to dishonesty or even corruption. It should be noted that actually the majority was cancelled due to administrative malpractices such as testing stations not meeting certain of requirements and test not complying to standard set in terms of legislative frame work. The department has allowed to an appeal system whereby each case is judged on its merit and justifiable the department will allow a retest. We are also investigating a possibility of implementing a computerized system for issuing driver's license in the province which will make the process more transparent, simple, faster and cheaper, but will give priority to citizens of the North West Province, because many people travel from across the country to, take driver's license in the North West and the North West people are served thereafter.

Once again we discovered tendencies leading to violent confrontation in the Rustenburg area. Preemptively, we launched another Special Public Transport Enforcement Taxi Operation Unit to deal with these taxi violence threat. The area was declared with

Emergency Regulations and associated areas/district followed. These measures impose strict guidelines and enabling our law enforcement agencies to intervene with firm and heavy measures. A Joint Police and Traffic Task Team led by Captain Mampuru recorded huge successes leading to the discovery of fraudulent taxi operating police and also dealing with the scams that are arising in Rustenburg and Gauteng. Individual taxi operators, very powerful men an advocate and a civil servant were arrested or were on trial for producing fraudulent permits in the North West Province.

About 800 taxis were impounded for operating without a valid operating license and some paid a fine of R3000, some paid R5000. Thirty eight taxis were taken off the road and 900 summonses to the value of R3 050 000 issued for permits and operating contrary to the provisions of the law.

Let me come to the road infrastructure, Deputy Speaker, my predecessor MEC Jerry Dimotana Thibedi characterized the challenge to build and main-

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tain our road network so aptly in the previous speech that that a repetition would only seek to underscore the point.

A prime cause of our current schism has been to over decades under fund the roads budget not out of neglect but rather difficult choices we made against competing needs. What is perhaps the hardest part of this challenge, has been to apply the little resources allocated to us against a fast deteriorating network coupled with new needs arising from old and new settlements patters.

Needless to say, the roads story doesn't go well, we are challenged to turnaround this bad story into a good one. In this regard, we undertook an audit of all provincial roads in order to create a Road Infrastructure Asset Register. A High Speed and if you look up there you will realize that we have put up the screen. A highest speed Digital Audit recording all roadside assets such as signs, lanes, markings as well as the conditional state of these assets was done through a leading edge technology data capturing pioneered locally over seventeen

(17) years. We now have a road asset register. We are the only province which has that kind of an asset, but daily our capability now is that we will be able to walk our road, sitting in Mafikeng. Each manager will be able to walk or drive his road visually as you see there sitting in his office. We will be able to identify a new developed pot-hole and will be able to deploy our team that is wearing its uniform today to go and repair that road. This is an innovation unparallel through out the country and we are proud of it

The audit takes us a step further from the thorough going assessment of both our internal capacity to deliver and the external environment in which we operate. The assessment shows that after the abolishment of cross-boundary municipalities, the provincial road network comprises 20 689 km in total, of which 14 191 km is gravel road and 6 398 km comprised surfaced road.

Without properly funded routine maintenance, emergency repairs and capitalization programme we stand to face a much greater and difficult future.

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The future has begun catching up with us evident with the prolific pothole challenge and major road surface failures!

In monetary terms, the Department has a backlog maintenance of R6 billion and requiring an average investment of R1.2 billion annually for an unbroken period of five years to clear the backlog maintenance. This figure does not include routine maintenance of about R300 million per annum to manage routine maintenance. In addition, our strategy to improve the condition of our rural communities and mobility thereof, requires an additional amount of R700 million per annum for an unbroken five years to bring this surfaces to the better kind of network. We therefore require if you look at this an investment of R11.0 billion over the next five years to bring our road network to good condition. This is a far cry from the R578 million allocated for road maintenance and constructing new roads for 2008/9 financial year, and I make this statement alive that we have to make choices on a very slow budget. My colleague in Finance has been cracking her head to try and make sure

that we can have something in order to apply these funds on our roads.

Our internal capacity assessment also revealed a shocking poor capability due to various factors now placed under serious intervention. These range from proper management, simplified business processing system and appropriate plant to get the job of road maintenance and construction done. Allow me to use two examples to paraphrase our findings. We have been hugely criticized for lack of timeous pothole repair and our findings in this regard are revealing. At a meeting I attended with all cluster heads which are municipal based at municipalities not head office staff our road management teams across the province, followed by an intense assessment of our capacity, we discovered that we were seriously lacking in road repair unit personnel, appropriate equipment for rapid response and material supply.

This is compounded by poor communication, general discipline and supervision. Our personnel recruitment on these teams was last done in 1998

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through a conversion of temporary grass cutters and road reserve landscapers to maintenance teams.

We started with fifteen members per team and now we stand at less than seven active team members. On the other hand, contracted external companies have a free hand due to lack of adequate monitoring and administration of penalties when they stray from agreed terms. This picture should not suggest a collapse of our responsibility but rather a critical self appraisal and intention to correct these wrongs, because people must not end up and say we look so bad. We are the ones that are saying we look bad, we need to change, and that is why we are conscience of the journey we are today. We have managed to upgrade 90km of gravel road into surface conditions.

We also rehabilitated 33km of badly affected surfaced roads and resealed 31km of our road network. These figures are far less than the achievements of the previous year due to rising costs of construction and the fewer projects implemented in line with the budget available resulting from fast growing infla-

tion. Unavoidably the cost to construct 1 km of surface road has tripled compared to figures applicable to 2005 and this year we even expect a much higher tariffs due to the increase in fuel, but Deputy Speaker, the call to duty is upon us, we cannot burry our heads in the sand and think the problem will disappear.

We must all enjoy in a new breath of innovating our systems of delivery and create efficiencies. In respect of a new effective pothole repair innovation, we have decided to form twenty one (21) Rapid Deployment Pothole Repair Teams based in every municipality responsible for provincial roads, and they are sitting in the gallery there taking new orders. I am wearing their uniform today and I started in the morning repairing potholes leading them in the Legislature.

These teams are capacitated with new easy to use equipment with a shorter turnaround time for pothole repair. We have handpicked and selected able members within the department and constituted the new units. labour is not happy with us

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but we have got the job to do and I must do that job.

We are currently exposing them to onsite training and are to begin with active deployment with effect from the 1st June 2008. We are spending a total budget of equipping these teams of approximately R30 million which we have earmarked within our budgets. We have taken first delivery of the Rapid Deployment Pothole Repair Truck it is a white one you will see outside, fully equipped to work on display, 9 more trucks maybe received within the next 6 weeks and all additional equipment required will be procured within that 6 weeks. I have a pleasure of working on the road and cutting it down and repairing a pothole. I felt good.

As the Premier pointed out enjoining us to create jobs the department created 3718 job opportunities through road construction and maintenance programmes last year, 88 % of which were created through the Expanded Public Works Programme. Deputy Speaker we are also persuing the national grant on a special case bases to come to the rescue of the

North West Province and MEC Africa and MEC Modiselle have crafted what is called the capital budget that we are using with expects to try and find more money to increase our purse. We are confident that this problem will be dealt with

I am please to report that we have undertaken various roads in the province in the Bosplaaas area, we have taken road development in Tosca in Bophirima, we have also taken a safe lift bwefiting the status of the city in Mafikeng through the Nelson Mandela road that we have we have constructed between the Ramatlabama border and Mafikeng. That road is almost complete. Minor touch ups are being dealt with.

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complete minor touch ups are now being dealt with.

I am pleased that the road will be officially opened within the next fourteen days from today, and most of our road projects are going well. On a higher but instructive experience Deputy Speaker a farmer in his 60s a real Koster gentlement with a pink stripe suit and ...[Inaudible]...fo speech pulled me aside during a church service. Yes MEC Thibedi I do go to church in Rustenburg. Quietly almost apologetical he spoke of his love for North West Province for the open fears and peace loving citezens, how eventuuall he and the buddy of his retiring from the platinum mines build farms around Koster/Rustenburg road many years back. He spoke to me in the purest form of Setswana which he claims to have suck from his mother's breast. Then came the stare in his eyes which I will never forget. He quipped: "Why is our government wasteful? Why are we letting a contractor on the Koster/Rustenburg road play games with our money?"

I in response acknowledged the challenge we face in this partic-

ular project. I know. I almost wanted to apologize but rather chose to explain our dilemma. Fresh from meeting the Consultants, Contractor, Senior Departmental management and our Capex managers under one roof barely a week earlier, I was armed with the necessary factual response of a project gone wrong! This project suffered an assortment of problems from conception, right through implementation and failed completion. Everybody associated with the project in my view carries a fair amount of blame except the consultant who now carries a much bigger chunk of our problems.

To cut a long story short, which I related to my friend from Koster, the department has had to employ new consultants meaning that we fired the consultant to take the project forward and beefed-up the emerging contractor's managerial capacity. Because simplistically you can walk into that project and throw away an emerging contractor. Most of them who are black, have never been exposed to the kind of the work they are doing, we are trying to emancipate. You can walk in there throw

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them out. Come 10 years would not be able to have change the phase of the economy where black people play a role as well in the build environment and we took that decision consciously that part of our responsibility is to make sure that we bring out, previously disadvantaged individuals into the constructions of roads and therefore we mancipate black people.

There is a premium and a price to it and you must be prepared to pay that price. So this contractor managerial capacity was increased and since this interventions late last year which my farmer friend acknowledged anmd said in actual fact while back when they constructed canals more Afrikaner entrance did show these jobs but they were never thrown away, they were tought ion side patience of exercice and today we have them occupying the centre stage of the economy. Why should will be accused of trying to nature black people into the economy as we should.

But with the conmsultant I cannot agree more with my farmer friend and I must confess that we are hot on the heels of the

consultant insurance without ruling out other responsible agency. We will recoup our money and will make sure that we spend it else where. The road as I say will now be completed within the next three months.

Our priority roads for the coming year - 2008/9 is the second phase of the Phokeng/Sun City road earmarked to contribute positively to the 2010 Fifa World Cup Soccer Tournament and the general promotion of access to our tourism destination. Much has allocated Rusternburg choose some to help construct roads for 2010 and we are jointly working on those. The first phase from Phokeng/Boshoek is complete and open to traffic use. Minor defects are being dealt with. The last two phases will be completed in 2009/10. Whilst on the subject of 2010 Fifa World Cup Soccer Tournament, we have identified and osted both legacy and dire road network needs for a smooth facilitation of the accident free tournament. To achieve these noble intend, a budget of R600 million is required to construct and improve these road network.

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We have established a 2010 Joint Transportation Technical Task Team for the facilitation of this project comprising of the department, Rustenburg Local Municipality, the Bafokeng Tribal Council, the Mining Houses and other the transport business based companies in and around Rustenburg.

Let me return to deal with Transportation. Deputy Speaker, our responsibility to ensure Integrated Transport Planning and Land Use System as prescribed by the National Land Transport Transitional Act requires of us to change the face of public transportation in the North West. In this regard, the department started a process of developing Provincial Land Transport Framework (PLTF). A consultative workshop was held in Buffelspoort Resort during the past financial year that developed strategies aiming at public transport strategy, infrastructure strategy and funding strategy.

New strategies we will finally be adopted at the end of this financial year and it will emerge with a transport strategy for the North West. The workshop

went further to launch the North West Freight Data Bank. A Data Bank that can now be accessed on the departmental website which will tell you all the cargo that goes through the province, their origin and destination and what sort of business opportunities across around them.

I am please to announce that by the end of business today we will official inaugurate the Transport Coordinating Structures (TCS) in order to coordinate work at provincial level, also at municipal level.

Deputy Speaker, Winston Churchill once said "there is no better investment than putting milk in the babies" so as our mothers breastfeed us they are making a lifelong investment and we must take from there. In the State of the Province address, the Premier mentioned that "Our Province has opted to invest in transporting 11 751 farm learners to school on daily basis. This project started with a pilot in the Lichtenburg of about 5397 learners and today we sitting at 11 000. We want to extend this programme to other areas in the province". In this regard the department is devel-

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oping a comprehensive Scholar Transport Plan, which will be completed before the end of this financial year, to ensure the expansion of this service.

Overall, the province spends about R350 million to subsidize that means paying half of the ticket of an additional 57 000 workers going to work daily and 18 000 scholars going to school. We pay about 60% of the economic tarrif and they carry about 40% spending R350million.

On the taxi transformation agenda, Taxi Recapitalization remains a thrust in the transformation of the Taxi Industry. Our Province has made great strides in implementing this programme. To date, we can confirm that we have received 13572 applications for conversion to operating licenses and we have already approved 10211 of them and issued about 8112. We have made tremendous strides. We have already scrapped 2392 old taxis as part of the scrapping process valued at the R119, 9 million and 25 are outstanding still awaiting scrapping.

We have recently appointed the North West Operating Licensing Board. It is my conviction that this appointment will assist in speeding up the Taxi Recap Process and other related processes of public transport. May we also confirm the continuous commitment of support from my department to Commercial Centers, Training and Administrative support to the Taxi Industry? We are proud that Cabinet recently approved the transfer of the License of the International Status from Pilanesburg to Mafikeng Airport as per the request of the province. Many people have criticized us but patiently we waited, and patiently we now have that status and I am sure my colleagues in the opposition will join me in celebrating this long wait which was a necessary process.

We are involving strategies to actualize this approval and these strategies amongst other things involve:

- " The future management of the Airport
- " The infrastructure development of the Airport in order to comply with

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- International Status.
- " Compliance with the Civil Aviation Authority
  - " This will also give impetus fast tracking of the Mafikeng Industrial Development Zone project which now colleague MEC Africa abling it.

I will skip the cooperate section I see I am left with 5 minutes and go to finances.

The financial management in the Department is showing an improvement year by year. Over the past two years our financial status has been spending between 98 - 100% of its allocated funds and has not requested for roll over. As I conclude Deputy Speaker our budget, and before I conclude this I must say, because we collect a lot of money, we have collected 12% above the expected target we set for ourselves last year and this serves as direct result of building our capacity in the department.

As I conclude, we offer this policy speech not as the ultimate steps to achieving our set goal but rather an account of our performance for the year passed and a plan for the ahead. We

do so as a Safari of the transport heart to recover its course to better served. It must ignite our passion to better service and adventure us to find better solutions for the challenge we all face.

My deep thanks goes to those who have helped me climb a mountain so high and challenging as life itselve! The Premier mme Edna Molewa for her stewardness, my colleaques in EXCO for sharpening my wits, because they do not spare me there in EXCO and I do not spare them either. For the Portfolio Committee and the Legislature Members for not sparing my rot, the HOD Nic Van Staden for your professional advice and last but not least my private office and entire staff of the department, I am proud to serve with you in a rare opportunity to our province. Today marks my fourteenth (14) year policy speech which is an honour many wish to have and I feel privileged at the deployment of the ANC and the hospitality of the North West Community for which I'm thankful.

To my family, Shirley my wife, our flowers Keabetswe who suc-

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cumbed to meningitis in 2006), Botlile who succumbed to lupus this year in 2008, Leago, Ipeleng our adopted son Mzwakhe and Bokamoso I thank you for your patience, your grace and your love for me without which I would not have lived as I do. Thank you for keeping me battle ready, as I go home you renew me, you make my worth and I thank you.

I want to pay special thanks to all of you who keep my family in their prayers every time. I faced a difficult two years and I think without your prayers I would not have made it. This I lost my daughter and all of you stood on my side, supported me and supported my family. Thanks for your support as we buried our second daughter Botlile Pearl Vilakazi and thank you Deputy Speaker for listening to me.

I thank you!

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable MEC Vilakazi, I will invite the Chairperson Honourable Moiloa to present the report of the committee. Thank you.

**HON. MOILOA:**

Honourable Chair of Chairs, Members of the Executive Council, Colleagues in the House. The Head of Department and the Senior Management, the Provincial Deputy Commissioner, Makgosi a rona a teng kwano.

The preceding officer, it gives me a pleasure to participate and present the Committee Report. The Portfolio Committee met with the department on the 26th March 2008 as part of its budget it also unbuild its financial plan, for 2008/09 which amount to R1.6 billion. The department was given an account to the Portfolio Committee as to how it intends to use the budget to achieve its intended service delivery objectives.

It might well be said that we have began the last full financial year of the current and the third democratic parliament and government. This occasion then gives an opportunity not only to outline how they are going to spend the money but equally review the distance we have travelled in terms of implementing the mandate given by the people in 2004, thus I submit, it

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is an opportunity time to reflect on the work of the department with particular reference on Road Infrastructure, Public Transport, Traffic Management, Monitoring Oversight and Community Safety.

The Committee commends the department on sterling work it does, indeed they were able to spent ± 98% of their budget in the previous financial year. Indeed they have improved visible while enforcement urgencies on our roads in the form of Jaws. Improved crime bursting Units and policing in the North West Province, indeed we do commend the department for that work. We re-look at the challenges at the moment and outlined the tough the department must undertake to improve the lives of our people in pursuit of creating a caring society.

The committee had scores acknowledged the inadequate funding for infrastructure as it has been alluded to, you definitely need R1.2 billion as compared to the current budget which shift a programme R7 million. There is a dire need to increase a capacity for monitoring, the South African Police

Service; I will come back to this point. Provision for a sufficient commuters subsidy and learner transport. As we acknowledge some of the challenges that are affecting in the department, it must also be mentioned though many experiences and lessons have been gained and are finding expressions within life.

Honourable Chair of Chairs I will not be doing justice to this debate without touching on some of the issues with regard to the work that have raised by the committee. Firstly it acknowledges that the department receive insufficient budget and indeed appreciate the creativity that they have but we are saying this was long overdue. These needs an urgent, we appreciate the attention and speed which the department has moved and we hope it will produce positive results.

We must as well address the issues of paying small contractors timorously for their own growth and rendering quality service, because the more we delay, indeed it affects their growth. Honourable Chair of Chairs the women participation in the industry is another area of

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concern. It be taxi, bus, scholar transport indeed it is not well developed or established and we seem to be moving at the lower pace to address this matter. We cannot talk to of agenda equality in policy context and not on the economic front; this issue also presents an opportunity to look at whether are we chasing a service leader who is without transformation.

It is our commitment as a ruling party to ensure that the issue of broad based (BEE) should also benefit the communities including youth, women and people with disabilities. As the Portfolio Committee, we appreciate indeed when confronted by the challenges of xenophobic attacks, the speedily reactions within which SAPS responded to this challenges. We further recommend that the service of judicial managers on the NDUTI need to be reviewed.

We continue to suggest that the department should ensure that quality and monitoring process are implemented for the motor vehicle licensing. The issues that has been disturbing together with the permits, we acknowledged indeed the point made by

the Honorable MEC but we are saying the permits which were illegal got from the departments they have to be fully accountability and those who were responsible for that should be brought to book.

The committee further is concerned about the inability to access the impact of the work of a company contracted to collect traffic fines. We are saying that contract should be terminated, now that we have Jaws that is proving to be more effective because we have continuous audit queries, unable to substantiate evidence on what basis do we pay the money to that particular contract. Whilst in the issues of revenue collection it is our own assessment that the huge number of people who resides in the North West Province have registered their motor vehicles in other provinces, we urge the department to encourage such who registered that to re register their cars in the North West as this impact negatively on the departments revenue collection.

Equally we are saying while we acknowledge the efforts on the issue of learner transport, the

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department should further note that there is a general ...[Inaudible]... of learners who travel a long distance to school on food, this matter needs to be attended as soon as possible. We acknowledge the more you provide for transport the more young people, learners become interest in going back to school and we are saying that it is very positive because that is the place sure you want them to be.

Related to this is a matter of condition of transport which serves these learners to, school. It needs to be checked. Department must as well give qualifying transport service provider, medium to long term contracts to enable them to buy proper passenger transport as the current mode of transport they are using some of them are a risk to those learners. While we appreciate the current pace of taxi recapitalization we are equally concerned about the impact of escalating costs, if we agreed two years ago that the minimum compensation is R50 000 surely the budget should find a way how does address these escalating costs because that situation might have changed in terms of them

acquiring new taxes.

In conclusion, we do want to support as the Committee this votes so that departments can go and work.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you Honourable Moeti. I now call upon Honourable Matladi. Thanks.

**HON. MATLADI:**

Motlotlegi ModulaSetulo wa dikomiti, ntetla go tseya karolo mo kabotlotlong e ya ditsela, dipalamo lelhokomelo ya baagi. According to the Annual Report 2006/09 the road network management system report in the case that conditions of the North West Provincial Roads have deteriorated over the past 4 years due to the lack of sufficient funds for maintenance and rehabilitation.

In his concluding statement the Honourable MEC in the previous year budget Honourable Jerry Thibedi warned the Honourable House that the continued per-simmons allocation of resources to this department will cost us very dearly in the coming years. The maintenance on our roads can never be done systematical-

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ly and on time given the shoe struing buudgt with which we operate.

Ke sa ntse ke tswelera ka ntlha e ke neng ka e tlhagisa Mo Ntlong Kokoano PeoMolao e ga kene kere ditsela tse di siamentg di rotloetsa kgolo ya economy le bojanala. Fa ditsela di sa siama bojanala le economy diwela tlase. Relekeng tswetswe gore di tsela tse dilebang kwa Madikwe Game Reserve, Molatedi Dam, Botsalano Game Reserve ditshelwe sekontiri gore re kgone gongokela batho kwa mafelong a. Ke neetse sekae sa ditsela tsa serapa sa dipologolo sa Pilanesbug se se bonang bojanala ka bo ntsi kantlha ya di tsela tse di popota tse di a gegileng tse dikwa teng.

Mme ke rotloetsa Mokhuduthamaga gore a tswelere go ditlhokomela le tsona ka go re fa a sa di maintain ditlatla di wela mo mae mong a tse re di bonang a wetse kwa tlase. We therefore support that the budget for the Roads Infrastructure be increased that the department employ or allocate tenders to the service providers who are

qualified to do the work and refrain from employing unqualified workers who exacerbate conditions of the road instant of improving them.

Some of our roads are called multiple choice, because you do not know if it is a tared or if it is gravel with patches of tar here and there. People should stop talking about a shoe string budget when they cannot collect revenue in their own department because of the management style they employ to run their departments.

Ke boditse Motlotlegi moPremier fa rene re sekaseka puo ya gagwe ya maemo a province gore o dira eng ka ba diredi puso ba ba senang le rato la province e ebanang mo go yone ba dijanaga tsa bone ditshot-seng di number plates tsa Gauteng. Gauteng e dira thata letseno, revenue collection motlheng e ya di tsela ka ntlha ya batho ba barenang le bone, ba amogela mo province ya rona mme ba tsaya madi ba esa kwa Gauteng.

Ditsela tsa Gauteng di dintle thata di tokafetse go gaisa tsa province ya Bokone Bophirima

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ka lebaka le, re palelwa ke go gaisana le bone mo ntlheng ya tourism attraction. Ke a etse motlotlegi gompiano ke totobatsa ntlha e ke lebagane le Mokhuduthamaga wa di palangwa le di tsela mme ke moraya kere o dira eng ene ka batho ba, a tlhalose gompiano. Ke a itse ntlha e ga e bonolo go tlhalosega gone teng mo go yone ntlo e e releng mo goyone ya Kokowano Pewo Molawo bateng batho ba dikoloi tsa bone di registrarilweng GP. Mme ke ne ke rata gore Motlotlegi Mokhuduthamaga letsa sebepi o seke wa lebela gore a re badiri ka wena, o tsamaisa molao le tolamo mo ntlheng e ya registration of vehicles.

Fa ntlha e e ka se tsebogelwe retla tswelela go bua ka di tsela tse di maswe tsa mesima, le budget e kwa tlase. Re lebogela the international licence ya Mafikeng Airport e Mokhuduthamaga a sa tswang go e bega mme retsibogela gore lefapha le tabogele go thlokomela di ntlha tse di solofeditseng baagi go ba direla ditiro kwa Airport e le di palopalo tse badi lereng mo Ntlong e tsa bothapi tse di tla diriwang gare bone licence ya bo di tšha-

batšhaba.

Ke rata kere ga re rotloetseng gore Airport ya rona e nne le dirori, le difufi tse di dirisiwang le mo mafelong a beke mo letsatsing la Lamatthatso mo mosong le thapama, mo letsatsing Latshipi mo mosong le thapama go dira sone se re reng ke revenue collections le kgone go ngoka ba e leng investors go bona gore e na le mosola. Re be kope gore a ke gone le difufi tse di tswang mo Mmabatho di tlhamalala kwa mafelong a tshwanang le bo Cape Town le bo Durban re sa dikologe kwa Gauteng pele re goroga koo.

We thank the department for the effort in providing scholar transportation although there are still some learners traveling more than 20 km to school. We support that scholar transportation be expended to advantage learners in rural areas of the province. In addition to this would like to table in this House the reports we received about fraudulent activities of people that are service providers in scholar transportation where they invent a list of learners even if they do not exist and they clam money from the

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department, also registered vehicles that are supposed to be ferrying the learners from point A to B are always found under-truth being the vehicles that do not move, scrapped, dikoko di tsalela mogotsone but you get the invoices that are paying such vehicles on monthly basis.

So we urge the department to follow up these reports that we have provided to the department that this be kept or stopped before tax payers money is not being used fruitfully.

Re bona katlego mo tirong ya sepodisi, re phuphuta Mokhuduthamaga legetla mo go tshwareng ga ba bolai le di nokwane mo province jaaka a setse a ba tlhalositse mo dintlheng tse di fetileng tse a di a kareditseng fa a e me fa a re nela kaba tlotlo ya lefapha la gagwe, mme go bo ntsha go nale thotloetso e kgolo mo sepodising mo tirong ya bone e ba e dirang, fela re sa ntse re tshwengwa ke mapodisa a dirang bosinyi ka diaparo le di tlhobolo tsa sepodisi, ke kafa sekai ka le podisi le le kgothotsang di koloi ka sethunya mo Mafikeng rre Mahlakeng o phaketse a bua ka bosinyi jo ga ke mo quote sentle.

Re nale sekai sa mapodisa a amegang kwa tshotlakong ya basadi le bana, bangwe badirise le di thunya tsa sepodisi go balaya ba le lapa, bafeleletse le bone ba ipolaile jalo. Le podisi la kwa Lompark le begilwe le lone le kgothosa di shebeen ledi tuck-shop mme le a para mo a paro wa sepodisi le lona le tshotse se thunya sa sepodisi. Mapodisa ka bontsi re sa tlhaloganye gore a ke bothata ba tiro e ba iphitlhelang ba e dira re ba fitlhela ba amega mo nnotaging, bale bantsi basenya di koloi tsa puso e le ka ntlha ya fa ba di kgwetsa ba le mo ma e mong o ne a Motlotlegi Vilakazi a kgalemeleleng ba e leng ba agi ba profensi ya Bokone Bophirima. Re ne re kopa tshegetso mo sepodising sa rona gore ba banang le mathata a ba e melang physiological problems and others banne le mokgwa o bathusiwang ka one gore mokgwa o wa di pulao o fokotsege. Mme re sa ntse rere ga re rate mokgwa o wa tsotso e etsewang kwadi tseleng fa mapodisa a e misa baagi, mme ga o thlola o i potsa gore a ba bona tuelo e elekaneng e kaba phidising le ba malapa a bone gore batle ba tswa mo mokgweng o wa go tsaya tsotso bane

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bare cold drink fao, ke di ntlha tse rereng re di tlhagise.

Honourable Chair of Chairs we have read a report from the MTEF report of the department that they are interested or have bought an old complex in Rustenburg in Tlhabane. This issue I have presented to the committee in the department in the committee meeting at R4.8 million and that it will be refurbished in partnership with a strategic partner when enquiring about the matter we did not get the points clear as to check whether the department has already done what it promised to do and to say the process of buying the old complex as well as buying the fuel station in Klerksdorp as they promised have been doen. We would like the Honourabel MEC as would be responding to the issues that are presented here today to come up with issue on the two items of the Klerksdorp fuel station as well as the old complex that would be refurbished at R4.8 million.

Among the challenges tha the department that has written I its strategic plan it's a point of the officials in the department mis-

using the vehicles in the department. We would like to refer it to the department and say with them the strategies that they might have put in place to address the matter because it is a problem that is putting the huge number of vehicles in the store if you can go to a place wherer these vehicles are kept ke matlhege fela, ke makgasa a ma ntsintsi a bontshang botlhaswa ba tiriso ya dikoloi tsa puso.

Mme kene kere motlheng e ga e ame le fapaha le la transport fela e ba a ma ka e lebone ba o kametseng di palangwa mme e a ma le ba Khuduthamaga ba mafapha a a farologaneng bawo bone ba dirisang the pool cars of the government gore banne le tirisano mmogo e e se a meng le tlhokomelo ya di koloi tse tsa puso.

When we met in the committee we had a problem regarding the financial management process in the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**  
Honourable Matladi can you rep off.

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**HON. MATLADI:**

And we had resolutions that had to be referred to the committee nor to the department and among them is a resolution number 5 that still signify the fact that the department still have challenges regarding financial management. I will just quote as I am reping off the one that has been highlighted by the Honourable Chairperson where consulted are employed in order to collect revenue but when finances are presented there is no division between the revenue that has been payed by the resident directly to the department and the revenue that has been collected by the consultant so that we can have a division between the two. So we would like to refer to these issues and others that the department look into them and implement the resolutions of the House.

As I close Chairperson, the the United Christian Democratic Party e kopa gore kabo tlotlo e yalefapha la di palamo e fite re babalesege kwa di tseleng tse re solofelang gore batla di bakanya gonne bale bantsi ba di tokolo tsa Kokowano PeoMolawo ya Bokone Bophirima bafita boraro ba setse

ba bone di kotse kwa di tseleng. Rona re le ba UCDP relath-legetswe kedi tokollo dile pedi ka loso moditseleng tsa North West mme mo bogaufing ba labararo badiri karona bone ba e siwa kwa di petele kantlha ya bothata bo. Re kopa gore re phele. Re a leboga.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Honourable Groenewald.

**HON. GERBER:**

Yes there is something wrong with the sound system, we do not have any translation service here, could it be arranged that it be repaired before we go on for the next round. Thank you.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIR:**

Honourable Groenewald I want to remind you about your 6 minutes. I am saying you are given 6 minutes, please do comply.

**HON. GROENEWALD:**

Thank you Honourable Chair of Chairs I will use less than that. Honourable Premier, Honourable Members, Officials of the Department, and Guests. I will concentrate on Community safety Honourable Matladi was concentrating basically on Transport and Roads.

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In report of 27th April 2008 a graphic shows that the North West Province had a nearly rate of 27.3 people per 100 000. There are places in the province in the third place of the list made in this South Africa. The DA wants to congratulate the Premier and the MEC of Transport, Roads, Community and Safety for their remarks in the Sitting of 19th of May 2008 regarding murders in the North West Province and this is my only words that is not the Premier and the MEC's words. When we fight evil murders, rape, violence, xenophobia we must forget about politician affiliations then we are there to protect our community and our people in the province.

The reaction of SAPS after the days of murder in Ottoshoop is something to be proud of it and the DA wants to congratulate SAPS. Once again the escaping of a very dangerous person out of jail in Ottoshoop after previous killing is also something to worry about. The DA wants to see that immediate attention is given to all the security of jails in the province to minimize the escaping of prisoners who escape from police custody.

Overcrowding itself it's a big problem at police stations; the most police stations do not have sufficient cells to detain prisoners, however, in some instances prisoners are still taken to police stations which are already overcrowded. With an oversight visit to the Mafikeng Police Station that has seven (7) cells with the capacity to hold ninety (90) prisoners, the committee found with their visit hundred and thirty six (136) prisoners in the cells. Overcrowding in cells led to a lot of other crimes happening in the cells and destroy people's lives for ever.

The seven hundred and thirty six (736) case dockets at the Mmabatho Police Station which were closed as untraced was raised by POPCRU and it is unacceptable. The department must investigate the situation to see why so many case dockets are being closed without any solutions.

Xenophobic incidents are repeated all over South Africa, as well as in the North West Province. If the situation continues and escalates, South Africa will be the underdog in the eyes of all the countries in Africa, as

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well as the world. SAPS and the army, if necessary, must take control over the unhappiness and killings taking place of innocent people who just try to make a living in South Africa for their families. A series of investigations must take place to see what the reasons for these attacks are against foreigners in South Africa.

A lot of crime activities are taking place at Sonop Village in the Madibeng Region. A list of addresses was given to SAPS from the DA in 2008 February the 5th to do some investigation into Sonop Village. It is more than three (3) months to go and no report of any progress on this matter has been received up to today. The DA wants to know what is going on and what are the reasons for the delay in investigation in this area.

To help the Department of Education avoiding drugs in schools, SAPS started with the implementation of the naughty boy drug campaign. The DA support the abovementioned campaign. That will have a lot of success in schools as well as in our communities.

With the 11.1% employing of women in the senior management position, SAPS successfully completed the requirements of the Employment Equity Act. However, it will always be a challenge faced by SAPS to keep up with the gender issues to have enough women in the senior management positions.

SAPS must operate in rural areas in the province, without proper roads. Therefore there is a need for relevant vehicles in accordance with the geographic areas. To operate more effectively in these rural areas, SAPS must put more effort and to recruit members from the phased-out commandos. These are the people who are trained in a specific area and know how to operate in that area.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the department must put money aside to make a positive input by the recruiting of commando members. Sector policing was supposed to take the place of the commandos. However, it does not work because of the commandos who were functioning in rural areas in the past. Therefore sector policing is insufficient because of a lot of

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equipment, weapons, bulletproof vests, money and activists.

The adopt a cop programme in schools need to be more visible in all the schools in the province and we expect from their programme to crack the problem of drug trafficking as well as ongoing violence in schools. One of the aims in this programme is to establish and develop a relationship and trust between the youth and the police.

The success of the Community Policing Forum is to get all communities involved and interest in the activities of CPF. The communities must be well informed of the use of CPF funds and the management of the funds in the community. When such a forum is established in the community, there must not be any hidden agendas by members of CPF, for example, politicians of political parties that try to politicize the forum. It is also important that everyone is committed to a community policing, to make a success of it.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the DA believes that the long waiting Khuma Police Station is completed and I say we believe,

and is functional to the public in that area. If not, why is there still a delay in completion? The poor workmanship by previous contractors is not acceptable and the department must take the blame for the approving of contracts to unskilled contractors.

Firearms are a very important part of the successful functioning of SAPS in any operation where SAPS is protecting the community, and to see and the law and order are obtainable. However they are all the SAPS members who are not taking care of their weapons. Better training in handling any weapon must be the first priority when new members are recruited for SAPS. To handle a weapon in the public will always be a big responsibility to a member when they are forced to make a decision between life and death.

If the department and SAPS were together and look into the recommendations given by the portfolio committee, the DA will support the budget for the Department of Transport, Roads and Safety. I thank you.

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Thank you Honourable Member. Next time you must fulfill your promise. Our last speaker is Honourable George Madoda on this debate.

**HON. MADODA:**

Honourable Chair, the report on evaluation of Community Safety regarding SAPS that the MEC has alluded to was presented in 2007 by PriceWaterHouseCoopers. That report indicates that perceptions of communities fluctuate in relation to how they see SAPS, between negative and positive. On the whole however Chair, there is very good improvement in how SAPS is seen between 2003 and 2007.

I wish to say in dealing with the issues of SAPS Chair, the department has shown enough focus on crime issues. Honourable MEC has just indicated that the Pheela ritual murders and recently xenophobic attacks are some of the issues that have occupied SAPS and they have done very well there.

I just want to point to two issues to the MEC. The first one relates to the logic that they can tackle crime only by apprehend-

ing criminals and giving the police that responsibility alone. I wish to say Chair that SAPS has had, and especially the office of Liaison in the department, has had diversion programmes that they have been dealing with, together with other departments.

I wish to request that so far what we have seen is campaigns that they have undertaken to deal with alcohol, to deal with drugs, to deal with crime among young people, that these programmes have been coordinated with other departments, with NGOs and with municipalities, but that they have not performed up to the optimum, and therefore that Honourable MEC should give more attention to multi-sectoral work and coordination in order to focus more on diversion programmes for young people.

The second point I wish to make sure relates to the re-demarcation of policing areas, magisterial districts and political boundaries. This issue has been handled since I think before 2004. I must say the last time we dealt with this issue was in Setlagole, just to indicate the anomaly that

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exist here.

The Police Station in Setlagole has not been serving the community of Setlagole. Rather the community of Setlagole is served by the Police Station in Madibogo, and that Police Station in Setlagole is only serving white communities that are farm owners in that area. If you go deeper into that problem you also find that, with regard to the courts in the area, people in Setlagole this side of the road go to court in Vryburg but people this side of the road again go to court in Atamelang.

Although the Provincial Commissioner has ably dealt with this matter very quickly and I think it has been sorted out, there is still a problem in many other areas where you do not have coordination between magisterial districts and policing areas. We are all well aware that our local High Court here, it is still called the High Court of Bophuthatswana, precisely because the criminal justice system is not moving swiftly in dealing with these demarcations. Honourable Speaker, jumping over to NTI, committee was briefed that NTI is still under

judicial management. We are not sure whether that is true or not, but if that is true Chairperson, it would indicate that it is more than four (4) years that NTI has been under judicial management.

We are therefore asking questions whether it is prudent, whether there is progress there, whether we are seeing value for money in these judicial managers because we know they charge quite exorbitantly for their services.

Lastly Chair, I think MEC predicted very well that Members are going to raise the issue of potholes. It is going to be one of the main issues. It is a problem that was there before MEC Vilakazi left the department to go and serve in another department. He has come back to find it there still and this morning he has promised us to become innovative and creative in dealing with it. There is no reason to doubt him, but yes, as the Chair was saying and Honourable Matladi was saying, maybe we will need to look at Honourable Modiselle, to see if she can improve budgeting in so far as roads are concerned.

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The experience we have had over the last ten (10) years is that our province appears to be the worst in terms of potholes, and I do not think it is very good. Thank you Honourable Chair.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you Honourable Madoda. Honourable MEC, you are given an opportunity to respond. Please go direct to the respond. Do not add anything.

**HON. MEC VILAKAZI:**

Chair of Chairs, thank you very much. Firstly let me thank Honourable Moeti Moiloa for his encouraging words from the committee. We bask in the support of the Portfolio Committee and we are indeed indebted to them.

I want to just summarize my responses. I think even when we are raising the issue of the Road's budget not been funded to the required level, I do not think we are saying that the Executive is not applying itself properly on the matter. The cake is just that size and we have got to share it amongst ten (10) departments with needs that are higher and so on and

so on. So it is not an easy exercise for my colleague in Finance, and before we deal with the budget we get out of our pigeon holes and sit there and look at the province. So the challenge is a provincial challenge. It is not a budget planning challenge. So we share in that as colleagues in EXCO.

So it is not for any wrongdoing on the part of the Executive. It is simply that the North West receives a very small budget and the challenge the MEC has indicated here, which we all share. So we are in that boat together and together we will solve that problem as I indicated how we were pursuing it.

The issue of payment of bills, over the past six (6) months, it is only two (2) emerging contractors who were not paid on time and I could not find the best reason why they were not paid in December. The rest, the thirty (30) days notice is met. The bulk of the people who are complaining are people who submit claims that are not complete. So, most of the time is eroded by claims being sent back to these contractors for proper filling of these claims and

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so on. So I am satisfied that the department is doing well. There is room for improvement of course, but I think we are doing well.

The issue of women empowerment, we take the advice of the committee and in the upcoming contracts we will try and include that in our terms.

The issue of the judiciary management in NTI, all of us must remember that NTI became technically insolvent. The only way the Executive could save NTI from liquidation was through the appointment of judicial managers. Over the period the judicial managers have served the NTI they have turned it around. It is now trading positively. They have been able to pursue processes of sellouente so that government does not become referee and player at the same time, to the exclusion of the far east components.

Those components now fall under Gauteng and we are busy engaging with Gauteng and the National department to finalize that. Once we have done that the judicial managers would

then be ended. If you are asking me to end judicial management now or EXCO to do that, what it means, we must appoint a Board, we must appoint the management company to run a company of the North West in Gauteng, and quiet frankly between us here, we do not take responsibility anymore for that community in the eastern part. Gauteng takes that responsibility. Our focus must be more on the citizenry of the North West.

That is why our target is that we must get rid of those outlets and then end judicial management, but this matter is continuously being discussed between Gauteng and the National department.

Corruption in the Permit Board Office: We have been able to deal with that. The process is unfolding. We have suspended officials that were found on the wrong side of the processes. Those that found their hands in the till, we have been able to deal with them, suspended pending full investigation and we are not ready with the outcome of the investigation.

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The issue of the outsourced collection of traffic fines, I must indicate that the capacity, because there are differences, the capacity to deal with that matter in the department at the moment is non-existent, and that is why we rely on the service provider to do that, but of course traffic officers have got the right to enforce law, to issue summonses.

Our collection rate, and which is a collection rate across the country, has been at about 20% of unpaid summonses, and that is why we have had to get help so that somebody helps us to increase on our collection. We have registered a fair amount of increase. We are now at about 36%, and we can say the innovations we have brought have also increased on that collection, but we still need that capacity and once we have build it in the department we would end that relationship, but we are appealing that we should not end a relationship abruptly because we still need that capacity to collect what's name. I know that we are approaching colleague Modiselle, to say of the money we have collected, more than that the target we

have set, she must give us some of that so that we can increase the capacity. I know that we twisted previously MEC Kuscus's hand and got away with an allocation. We twisted MEC Modiselle then and got away with that allocation at some point. So we are still going back there to negotiate. So Jaws will be increased and the general traffic law enforcement will be increased as well.

Extending scholar transport for rural children, I did say in the speech that we are going to do that. Restructuring of contract system, yes, the joint team between Education and Transport is looking at that because a one year contract does not provide the service provider with adequate repayment of a proper vehicle, and that is why they go and buy old dilapidated cars, buses, and use them, because they are sitting with one year contract. No bank will finance a bus operator when he has got a one year contract.

So we have got to migrate those contracts into five (5) year, to seven (7) year contracts. That is the turnaround repayment that is scientific, and all of us sitting

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in this House are repaying our cars over five (5) years, at least to seven (7) years if you use this new innovated lease systems.

The issue of improving the roads to our tourist destination: MEC Africa and myself have discussed that matter and we are looking at innovative ways to deal with that.

The issue of allocated to qualified contractors: I must say that if you use that crudely, what it basically means, we will lock black contractors out because they do not have the experience. They never gained it anywhere. They were not exposed to this for many years. The policy of government is that there must be preferential procurement, but the responsibility that we must take is to make sure that these people perform, is to make sure that when we appoint them they have got the necessary skills that they would have in their own companies. So that is the step we need to take now, to make sure that the product is delivered, and that is what we are doing, and that is what we have done in Koster. We have not thrown the bath water with

the child.

The issue of civil servants registering their vehicles in Gauteng and some of my colleagues here: Well, to my colleagues I will talk to them when I leave the House today, and I know I will persuade them and I know that it is not many, it is probably one or two, and the car is still being transferred or something like that. So they are not really malicious in their conduct. Do not criticize them that much, but the issue of getting people in the North West to register their vehicles in the North West is a challenge. We have tried to find out why they do that.

The only conclusion we can bring is that you appear to be a little bit clever if your registration is GP than when it is North West. It is a cultural issue. It is an attitude issue. You know everybody thinks because you have a GP registration you are a clever from Mofolo, e Soweto, but there is Kliptown here in the North West. Be proud of where you come from. I come from the North West, I am proud. All my cars are registered here and no tsotsi in Gauteng will take a chance on me.

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So people say we register in Gauteng because when you go to Gauteng to buy, our cars gets identified and they get hijacked. I have never been hijacked in Gauteng and I drive on my own at times, most of the time, but I am saying that there is nothing like when you go to Gauteng and your car is North West you get hijacked. It is a false excuse, and we must continue to persuade people to do that, but what happens is that people register their vehicles in Gauteng. They get involved in an accident here, close to the boarder in Ramatlabama. We must spend time and effort finding somebody in Mofolo when that person stays in Unit 13.

When we issue a summon to this person, we must first go to Mofolo and come back to Magogoe where he stays. So that is where we waste government resource because some people are irresponsible, but this notion that clevers only come from Gauteng, ek is ? clever van hierso af ook. So register your car in the North West. We can only persuade them colleague. There is no law that we can apply to force them to do it here. They can only be persuaded.

The issue of police officers involved in crime, we are dealing very harshly with them. This case that has been reported about this police officer in Mafikeng, the lady went to the police station to register a case. When she got there she saw that but this person looks familiar to the one that robbed me, and did not report the case to him, stood back and asked for the Station Commissioner and went to the Station Commissioner and said "Sorry, I have come to report a criminal, but he is there in your uniform."

The Police Commissioner did not waste time, did not go there and say sorry, were you in Magogwe or in Lonely Park, simply directed officers working with that one to say here is the bad potato in our bag. Take him now and put him together with the criminals, and they did that. We applaud them for that. That is the kind of police officers I want to be associated with, police officers that are mean, that make sure that nobody abuses the privilege of wearing that blue uniform, and they acted upon them, and we act upon them wherever we find them, and that is why we must

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be weary when somebody is wearing police uniform and they are not police officers because these people have been able to rob pension pay points with police uniform.

They have been able to knock in homes in Rustenburg, present fictitious warrants of search and got in and robbed families there. So we must make sure, anybody that has that uniform has been allocated that uniform. Nobody else must have it, and charity begins at home. If your brother has got the police suit, tell us about him, that this one has got the police suit and he is not a police officer, neither is he a reservist, and then we will be able to deal with it.

The last three I want to deal with relates to police family violence. It is a problem but we have got the chaplains in the police who are counseling the police from time to time and we refer them to specialized counseling as well, because we must know that it is a problem but we have solutions to it.

This thing about we have bought a building for R4.8 million, we have not finalized that

transaction. The Taxi industry was allocated R30 million some years back, to undertake the taxi retail installation programme. They have gone around, identified areas where they want to do this taxi retail installation. The specific one in Rustenburg, I have said to the industry now, that complex is wrongly located. You cannot do a taxi retail installation there. They are discussing it, but I am also aware that because the transaction has not been finalized, we can still use the substantive clauses to get out of that arrangement, and then we are exploring all those, but in the main if the industry identifying these projects and buy, because this money has been pushed into them and there are three parties to it.

The last two relate to abuse of State vehicle. Yes, I accept, it is a challenge. We are dealing with it. We will elaborate strategies at the later stage, but we are dealing with it, and the issue of commandos and sector policing, we take your advice, but we must screen the commandos. We cannot just take all of them because there are those that are bad in the commando units and there are those that, like my

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pinstriped friend suit in Koster, he is a good member of the policing unit.

The transformation of the Justice Department, it has been discussed at National. All these Bophuthatswana Courts and the magisterial district not sitting in the police station and so on, those are dealt with by National.

The last point that I must deal with Honourable Chair of Chairs, is the issue that is raised by the handling of firearms by police officers. We have gone and record from National to Province, that we must stop making the police meek and ineffective. The reason that we issue a police officer with a firearm, we are satisfied that that police officer can apply it and if that officer's life or the life of citizens is under threat, that officer must use his or her discretion to discharge that firearm.

We cannot promote criminals more than the police. So the police are obligated. If any member of the public produces a firearm, the police cannot say there are many people here and you know, I cannot handle the firearm well. We allocated that

person that firearm precisely because once the life is threatened they must stand up, aim and shoot at anybody that has a gun pointing at them, because we cannot have police officers being killed everyday, our communities being killed everyday, and you think we should not allow the police to use the firearms given to them, otherwise we would have given them batons or we would have caned them in fist fighting so that when a criminal comes and say, "Hey mfowethu, a re tseyaneng moo". We are not doing that. We are giving them firearms so that they protect us and police officers are therefore obligated once their life is threatened, and the life of the citizen is threatened. They must pull out their firearms, aim, shoot, to protect. Whether they shoot the head or the heart, the intention is to protect. It is not about the shooting. Thank you very much Chair of Chairs, for allowing me this time, and thanks for adopting the budget. We will spend the money.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable MEC. Honourable Members, according to Rule 32

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B, we need two thirds of Members, that is twenty two (22) Members in this Chamber. So we do not form a quorum. We will break for lunch and be back at 15h30. Chief Whip?

**HON. CHIEF WHIP:**

Chair of Chairs, I am not sure. In terms of numbers, when we talk quorum how many Members are we talking about. My own interpretation, when we talk quorum we talk twenty two (22) Members, and in terms of my own counting, I suppose that we have that number in the House, because we should not confuse A and C, because A talks about something else and C talks about something else in terms of the Rules. Therefore I move that we must adopt this thing because I am of the view that we form a quorum, because two third is twenty two (22) of thirty three (33) Members and we are twenty two (22) in this House.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Chief Whip. By the time when I was counting Members they were twenty one (21). Now if they are now twenty two (22), I am fine. We will now go pro-

gramme by programme. Order Honourable Yawa. We will now adopt this budget programme by programme.

- Programme 1 which is Administration. It is allocated 114,447. Does the House agree?
- Programme 2, Roads and Infrastructure. It is allocated 714,602. Does the House agree?
- Programme 3, Public Transport: 533,496. Does the House agree?
- Programme 4, Expanded Public Works Programme. It is allocated 43,000. Does the House agree?
- Traffic Management is allocated 211,570. Does the House agree?
- Last programme, Community Safety, allocated 44,262. Does the House agree?

That brings us to the total of 1,661,377. Does the House agree? Does the House adopt this budget?

Thank you Honourable Members. The House is adjourned for an hour. We will be back at 15H30.

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**THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED**

- Ladies and Gentlemen

**THE HOUSE RESUMES****HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, you may get seated. We are proceeding with the next budget vote. I now have a pleasure of inviting the Member of Executive Council responsible for Public Works, Honourable Thibedi, to present his budget speech.

**HON. MEC THIBEDI:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

- The Speaker of the House in absentia, Mme Thandi Modise,
- The Honourable Premier,
- Fellow colleagues in EXCO,
- Honourable Members of this Provincial House,
- The Chair of the Committee on the Transport, Roads & Community Safety and Public Works, Ntate Moeti Moiloa,
- My Head of Department, Ntate Obakeng Mongale,
- Senior Officials of the Department,
- Stakeholders present
- Distinguished guests
- Comrades and Friends

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I rise to address your august House to actually do an annual ritual, to report on the progress made by the Department in the last year, to outline our plans for the year ahead and to ask this House to vote us the funds for our plans of the financial year 2008/2009.

For the edification of this House and our stakeholders, let me start by giving a thumbnail sketch of our mandate and therefore our task as a department.

A White Paper entitled: "Public Works: Towards a 21st Century" outlined the mandate of the Department of Public Works as, "To provide and manage accounts for line-function departments; Property Development and management; To lead transformation in the property and management industry and policy development, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of job creation through the Community Public Works Programme."

Those familiar with the inner

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workings of government will know that the Department of Public Works handles tasks and projects on behalf of or in conjunction with two main client departments, namely Education and Health.

It is common course that we have just begun the last financial year of the third term of our democratic Government. Soon hereafter we will hold our fourth general elections to take us to, inter alia, 2010 and beyond. We now take this opportunity to take stock and reflect earnestly on whether indeed we have fulfilled our mandate as entrusted upon us by millions of our people.

That mandate was to implement with speed, efficiency and effectiveness, policies and programmes of the African National Congress-led government, so that the lives of our people should change for the better, and sooner, rather than later, and to launch an onslaught against poverty and joblessness.

Deputy Speaker, the second chapter in the South African Constitution stipulate unequivocally that the Bill of Rights is a

cornerstone of our democracy. Enshrined therein are the rights of all people in our country, and it further affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom.

Among many rights referred to in this very important document widely regarded as one of the most progressive in the world, are rights to health-care services and basic education.

As the custodian of, among other things, the provision of quality public building infrastructure, which includes but is not limited to school buildings, clinics and hospitals, the Department of Public Works has a highly critical role to play in upholding the basic human rights I have just referred to.

We come from an era where the previous regime ensured that millions of our people were secondary citizens with regards to provisions of such facilities. If such facilities existed then, they were in a derelict state and often located kilometers away from our people. We have, since the dawn of democracy in 1994, ensured that the human dignity is restored. The number

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of clinics, hospitals and schools built and those that we will continue to build in the vicinity of our communities bears witness to this.

As I present to this august House, a blow-by-blow account of what my department has engaged in during the 2007-2008 financial year, I am satisfied that we never lost focus of our mandate.

Today through this budget Deputy Speaker, we are acknowledging our achievements as well as challenges as the infrastructure delivery arm of the South African Government in the North West Province.

Not only are we responsible for the delivery and maintenance of State infrastructure, but we are also expected to lead, regulate, develop and transform the infrastructure sector, which is central to the goal of ASGI-SA, to grow the economy by halving poverty and unemployment by 2014. Time has indeed moved very fast since we were tasked to deliver what we have promised to our people, but time cannot be blamed for stalled promises because in the words of a

United States artist, Andy Warhol:

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."

What do we say in terms of Corporate Support? With regard to human resource matters, the Department has successfully transferred to Gauteng and Northern Cape Provincial Governments, one hundred and ninety nine (199) employees affected by the cross-boundary disestablishment of municipalities.

Regarding other strategic interventions, the department in partnership with the National Department of Public Works have appointed six (6) Cuban technical advisors for a fixed-term contract of three years to render technical services in the electrical, architectural and civil engineering fields. This has been necessitated by the dire shortage of citizens who are qualified in the scarce and critical skills in the built environment, and I am happy to announce that these Cuban internationalists are in our midst within this Chamber, and I would

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request them to rise so that Members can have a glance of them. Thank you.

During their employment they will also transfer the technical skills and serve as mentors to both employed staff and those under the internship and learnership programmes. The department is continuously assessing performance of employees, providing intervention, correction where necessary and also rewarding best performance.

Following the introduction of the revised provincial Performance Management Development System (PMDS), workshops for staff members on salary level 1-12 were conducted to ensure full understanding of the policy. The revised policy was implemented on the 1st of April 2008.

The Workplace Skills Plan is implemented in a broader and holistic manner to serve as an investment in human capital in order to make the department strategic agenda. In the last financial year, the department has implemented internship programme comprising sixty seven (67) unemployed graduates.

The graduates are placed in all the Regions and Head Office.

Two line function learnerships, i.e. Construction Painter and Construction Mason that are both at NQF level 3 have been implemented with a total number of twenty (20) unemployed youth and twenty (20) permanently employed staff members.

In addressing both critical and scarce skills, the department has offered bursaries to thirty four (34) employees to study on a part-time basis in the different technical and administrative fields with various institutions. The department also participated in the Provincial bursary scheme for matriculants to be trained in the scarce skills occupations namely: mechanical, architectural, electrical and civil engineering, as well as quantity survey and project management fields. This intervention is critical, to bridging the skills gaps which are currently experienced in the construction sector.

In relation to special programmes, voluntary counseling and testing was successfully implemented by the department in all Regions and Head Office.

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Three hundred and forty (340) employees were counseled and tested for HIV/AIDS. Care and support was provided to those who disclosed their HIV/AIDS status. The department is continuously embarking on an HIV/AIDS awareness campaign, distributing condoms and encouraging staff members to get tested in order to know their status.

With regard to empowerment of people with disabilities, a Disability Disclosure Campaign was conducted in terms of the technical assistance guidelines on disability and disability disclosure forms from the Department of Labour to encourage employees to disclose their disability status. To date, thirty seven (37) employees with disabilities have already disclosed. This campaign Deputy Speaker, and the result thereof, can assist us to embark on appropriate and relevant empowerment programmes pertinent to the empowerment of people living with disabilities.

On the women empowerment initiative, the department successfully held an Indaba with Women and another one with

Women in Construction and Business. This was to respond partly to the commitment we made during the last budget speech to the effect that the department would convene a Construction Summit. The purpose of the summit was to provide a platform to motivate women who participate in the construction sector and those who may still develop an interest in the industry.

Regarding information management, the department keeps certain records that are important for the work we do. At certain threshold times, some of the old files have to be either sent to the archives or disposed of following certain procedures. The systematic record disposal programme was implemented in the entire department. About thirty (30) linear meters of inactive records were processed, of which sixteen (16) linear meter equivalent to two hundred and thirty four (234) boxes were appraised and ready for transfer to Provincial Archives Repository. A further fourteen (14) linear meter records has been arranged, listed and captured in the preparation for disposal.

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Regarding our Resource Centre, the Departmental Resource Centre, with a library of reference materials is fully operational. We have acquired the library management system to manage the lending and classification of resource centre materials. We have subscribed to online databases SABINET, to enable interlibrary loans at national level and to date hundred and seventy (170) titles, including new acquisitions have been entered into the system. The titles are selected to suit the environment of the core functions of the department.

In line with technological enhancements, the sub-directorate: Information and Communication Technology ensures that cabling, by way of an optic-fibre cable to the new building that is currently occupied by the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety was done prior to occupation.

We have also deployed the voice-over internet protocol technology and the building links directly to Central IT at the Department of Finance through an optic-fibre cable. To ensure

smooth interaction and optimal usage of resources at our various district offices, we have installed cabling at the Brits District office as part of our last project to cable all offices. The process to install a data line by Telkom through Central IT is underway.

The Rental Administration System is fully functional and the Directorate Property Management is utilizing this system in the management of our rented property portfolio. The directorate, in association with property management directorate actively took part in the IE-Works initiatives by the National Department of Public Works to implement an all inclusive asset management system.

In terms of Labour Relations, a sound and stable labour environment is a prerequisite for a productive and dedicated workforce. To this end, the department has focused its energy on capacitating all managers on aspects of dispute resolution management.

This we hope will enable them to effectively deal with incidents of disputes at a point of origin

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and thereby actively taking part in progressive dispute resolution. The findings by the Public Service Commission of the North West Province, that managers in the department are either familiar with or fully understand the management of discipline is confirming to the issues we are raising. It is therefore befitting to report that all reported cases of misconduct were dealt with in the past financial year and we have seen a steady decline in cases of serious misconduct including financial misconduct.

In relation to Legal Advisory Services, the directorate is working tirelessly with all line functions to effectively eliminate litigation cases against the department by ensuring that all legal implications are considered and catered for in implementing contracts. We have also seen a decline from five (5) to two (2) in the number of litigation cases in the department due to the systems that have been put in place.

We have continued to conduct regular internal audits in relation to our financial management to strengthen the internal control

and ensure compliance with regulatory framework.

The relevant financial and non-financial reports were compiled and submitted to the relevant stakeholders on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis in compliance with PFMA, Treasury regulations and other related Acts, prescripts and circulars. The Risk Management was conducted according to the requirements of the PFMA as per requirements for the Treasury Regulations as well as the King Report and the committee on sponsoring organizations.

We are proud to report that this time around the process was conducted internally and not outsourced to external service providers as was the case previously. The Risk Committee meetings were held regularly to check on the current controls on risk management. Based on the Auditor General's findings and report, a Debtors Management Task Team was established to look into the management of debtors across the entire department.

The internal control procedures of the department were

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reviewed and updated by incorporating or taking into consideration the standard exception reports of the Office of the Auditor General and the Provincial Internal Audit. As part of our internal control procedure, we have instituted progress performance analysis through which we do the following:

- Continually reconcile and clear the suspense and control accounts on a regular basis.
- Recover any debts created under the suspense accounts.
- Ensure that the original and adjustment estimates were prepared in accordance with the PFMA

The rest Members can read for themselves.

We will endeavor to continue to address the following weaknesses:

- Improve on revenue management, more especially on the reconciliation of property rental income between the Walker Financial System and the Persal System.
- We will verify the effective

ness of controls to reduce or mitigate the impact of specific risks and weaknesses in entire control. A tool to monitor the risk and weaknesses in internal control will be developed and implemented across all business units of the department in 2008/2009 financial years.

Deputy Speaker, in terms of Supply Chain Management, I am pleased to put before this august House that for the financial year April 2007 to March 2008 we have a total awarded tender bids to the value of R272.2 million. I can confirm that the Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment companies featured prominently as beneficiaries in all the tenders that we adjudicated for our projects as well as those of our client departments.

More than R229 million which constitutes 83.95% of the total spent were awarded to historically disadvantaged individuals. Over R43 million or 15.6% of the total was awarded to women, while R1.2 million which account to 0.45% went to the youth.

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May I also point out that to this end, the department has signed a Memorandum Of Understanding with Standard Bank on September 6, 2007 in Rustenburg. The objective of this pact is to help develop Small, Medium, Micro Enterprises to access capital subject to certain conditions stipulated by the bank.

In relation to buildings and capital projects, I want to speak briefly about our hospital revitalization programme. We are still engaged in the construction of two (2) hospitals which started in 2005. These are Moses Kotane and Vryburg hospitals. These two (2) hospitals were constructed in various phases, these moves allowing emerging contractors to show-case their quality skills in the built environment as well as to empower such emerging contractors.

Deputy Speaker and Honourable Members, progress and the quality of work under way at these projects is encouraging. At Moses Kotane Hospital, which is situated in Ledig Village in the Bojanala District, two (2) phases of the R190 million project were com-

pleted as follows:

- Bulk earthworks during February 2005; and
- Bulk water supply during March 2006.

To this end, the status regarding the two (2) other phases, namely Staff Housing and Main Hospital is as follows:

- The site handover was on May 10, 2005. The project first delivery was taken on September 28, 2007. The houses are currently occupied.

In terms of the Main Hospital, the site was handed over to the contractor on August 23, 2005. To date, the entire project is 70% complete. The hospital is expected to be completed towards the end of 2008.

Now regarding this main hospital, the contract completion date was January 25, 2008. However, due to challenges encountered by the contractor, including torrential rains, constraints on cash flow, the project could not be completed on time. The date of completion was therefore shifted to the end of

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this financial year.

In terms of Vryburg Hospital, which is situated in Naledi Local Municipality in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District, (formerly Bophirima Region),

- The bulk earthworks, water supply and storage reservoirs were completed in October 2005.
- The site for the Staff Housing was handed over to the contractor on June 22, 2005. It was completed on May 14, 2008.
- The site for the main hospital was handed over to the contractor on October 12, 2005.

The approved contract completion date was January 10, 2008. However, due to challenges similar to those experienced in Moses Kotane Hospital, the project is at 61% complete. It will be completed by the end of this financial year.

Deputy Speaker, there is a continual interaction between the department and the contractor, all to ensure that satisfactory progress continues to be registered and the revised comple-

tion date is complied with.

At Brits Hospital project in Bojanala Region, consultations which included Madibeng Local Municipality, the Department of Health resulted in agreement to utilize the existing site of Brits Hospital for the construction of the new hospital. This necessitated that the Commando Building in Brits be upgraded and renovated, then converted to a temporary mini hospital.

After relocation of staff and equipment to the Commando Building, the site was handed to the civil contractor on the 6th of March 2008 to demolish the existing hospital and to prepare the platform for the new hospital. The platform to prepare for the building of the new hospital will be completed before the end of July 2008.

In terms of Health Building Programme Deputy Speaker and Honourable Members, this programme consist of forty seven (47) projects, twenty four (24) of which are from the previous financial year. The reason for the non-completion of the twenty four (24) projects were a combination of poor perform-

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ance by contractors and of course heavy rains which were experienced the beginning of the year.

While factors and challenges posed by 'Mother Nature' are understandable, what we find unacceptable is none or poor performance by contractors. We have terminated contracts at Kanana and Khunwana clinics due to contractors' poor performance and we appointed new contractors to complete the job.

The extensions of Bloemhof and Ganyesa hospitals are running behind schedule. The department has intensified its monitoring and evaluation to achieve the desired results. The alteration to create accommodation at the old Swartruggens hospital has also fallen behind due to the slow performance by the contractor. Some of the projects that were on hold due to financial constraints during the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 financial years will be implemented during this current financial year, and these projects are the Klerksdorp Nursing College, Klipgat Clinic, Madikwe Clinic, Bakubung Clinic. The rest Members can read during their

leisure time.

Decisions on whether to terminate a contractor for poor performance are made on a case by case basis.

What do we say in terms of the school building programme, Deputy Speaker out of the nineteen (19) school projects implemented during the 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 financial years, eighteen (18) have been completed. The remaining project is 89% complete and the contractor is expected to complete the project soon.

Education projects have not been immune to challenges regarding contractors, just as were some of them mentioned in the health project.

In terms of school renovations: Deputy Speaker, with the school renovations programme, our main objective is to rehabilitate dilapidated school buildings across our province. This is to ensure that our learners take their lessons in safe and proper structures that guarantee an environment conducive to safety and progressive learning.

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At the beginning of the period under review we undertook to renovate twenty eight (28) such schools on behalf of the Department of Education. Twenty five (25) have been completed and three (3) are near completion. The delay is as a result of contractual challenges at the two (2) projects in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District, formerly Southern Region. The third project in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District is 97% complete.

School renovation programme of 2006/2007 financial years won the Silver in the Premier's Excellence Award in December last year. We are therefore happy to announce that we have completed most of these projects in time and work is progressing well in all the outstanding ones.

In terms of infrastructure projects for other client departments: Secure Care Centres for the Department of Social Development, two (2) of such Cares in Mafikeng and Klerksdorp were completed according to the original scope report. The Rustenburg Secure Care Centre is still under con-

struction and will be completed this financial year.

And what do we say about Traditional Council Offices for the Office of the Premier. The department was responsible for the building of four (4) traditional council offices. Three (3) of the four (4) projects for 2006-2007 financial year have been completed. The fourth in Batlhaping-Ba-Phuduhucwana BooMankuroane is expected to be completed by the end of the financial year 2008/2009. The contractor at this project has had cash flow challenges but the situation has now improved.

In terms of the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, the construction of the R62.6 million Mmabatho Library Archives and Culture project commenced in July 2006. The original contractor was terminated on July the 9th of 2007 due to poor performance. A new contractor took over the project in September of 2007.

I am pleased Deputy Speaker, to inform this august House that the project is now on schedule and the anticipated completion date is August 20, 2008, which

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incidentally is the original contractual completion date as initially anticipated.

In terms of capital expenditure project of the department, with regard the creation of workspace at Garona building, we want to say that project at Garona Provincial Building is progressing well. Approximately 70% of the work has been completed. To this end, temporary movable offices were brought on site to alleviate the challenge around alternative accommodation for the departments. That has largely been sorted out. The entire project is expected to be completed by October 2008.

With regard to Bophirima Regional Government Offices, commonly referred to as Mini Garona, the R137.5 million project in Vryburg for the construction of the offices slowed down considerably towards the end of last year due to problems experienced between joint venture parties. Our intervention has paid-off in that progress. As a result there is much progress recorded. The anticipated completion date on the project is December 10, 2008.

I am also pleased Deputy Speaker, to announce that this project also incorporates the National Youth Service (NYS). There are in total eighty five (85) beneficiaries, broken down between fifty eight (58) women and twenty seven (27) male beneficiaries.

In relation to the new Public Works Head Office building, the building is now the new home for the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety. The partial first delivery of this R53.3 million project took place during the month of June 2007 and was ready for occupation. While this building was initially built for occupation by the Department of Public Works, a number of factors on our part led to a decision to let the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety to occupy it.

This was also informed by the fact that the Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety had some of its key operations scattered in leased properties around Mafikeng. Our decision therefore has brought the department under one roof.

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With regard to major renovations, we executed in total thirty seven (37) major renovation projects to the value of R42.3 million rand during the year 2007-2008 financial year. Under this programme, thirteen (13) projects were completed, and I am not going to go through those projects. Members will go through those projects during their own time. Just by an example, we are talking about Taung Mechanical Workshop, Potchefstroom Transport, Roads and Community Safety Offices, Gasegonyana Traffic Offices, Ramosa Riekert Office Building, and so on and so on.

The following seven (7) projects are under implementation and will be completed during the year 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 financial years. These are Gabomotho Office Building, Potchefstroom Agricultural College Administration Building, Ramosa Phase II Civil Work, Moretele Government Offices. The rest you can read for yourself.

The following nine (9) projects are at the planning stage and will be implemented during the 2009/2010 financial year. These

are Lowe residences, Lowe main building, Old Parliament Phase II, Matooster Workshop Residences and so on and so forth. The rest you can read at your own leisure.

Selbourne building in Potchefstroom has been declared as a heritage building. Approval by the Heritage Committee is being awaited before full scope of work can be determined. With regard to maintenance of building, the Department of Public Works is responsible for among other, the management and maintenance of building infrastructure. These include but are not limited to government offices and houses as well as education, health facilities and social infrastructure. This programme is running smoothly with all projects budgeted for in the period under review.

In terms of Expanded Public Works Programme, the history as well as the significance of this crucial government programme cannot be overemphasized. It remains a very comprehensive anti-poverty strategy that seeks to address section of our population most affected by

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poverty.

In his 2008 State of the Nation Address, his Excellency President Thabo Mbeki eloquently highlighted this while unveiling the government's twenty four (24) Apex priorities, and he said:

"Intensifying the Expanded Public Works Programme which by surpassing the set targets has shown potential to absorb more entrants ....

"About R1 billion over baseline will be allocated by government to programmes that fall within EPWP".

Since the launch of this noble programme in 2004, the North West Provincial Government has created more than sixty thousand five hundred (60 500) job opportunities to date. For this financial year alone, the provincial government implemented one thousand and ninety seven (1 097) projects and created twenty thousand seven hundred and eight (20 708) job opportunities.

The breakdown of this total is as follows:

- Eight thousand one hundred and six (8 106) opportunities were for women
- Twelve thousand six hundred and two (12 602) for men
- Nine thousand four hundred and sixty seven (9 467) for youth
- Forty nine (49) opportunities for persons with disabilities.

The department's own EPWP projects created five hundred and thirteen (513) job opportunities in twenty (20) projects. Two hundred and fifty one (251) of these job opportunities went to women, two hundred and sixty two (262) to men, while one (1) went to a person with disability. All of these men and women beneficiaries, four hundred and sixty nine (469) were under the age of thirty five (35) and therefore qualify to be classified as young people.

May I at this point Honourable Deputy Speaker refer Honourable Members to our Annual Report for details and the full status report of all the projects we have implemented as a department, for the province as well as for our municipalities. We will continue to provide training to thirty six

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(36) municipal technical officials on labour intensive construction methods as we are of the view that this is also very critical sphere of government that requires support.

Deputy Speaker, scaling up the scope and impact of EPWP by integrating it into the National Youth Service, in building maintenance and Capex projects cannot be overemphasized.

NYS remains one of the many key interventions to eradicate poverty and address the skills changes our country faces among young people.

On Friday April 18th we descended on Huhudi, Vryburg, in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti Region for a very successful launch of NYS in building maintenance. The event was graced by among others, Minister of Public Works, Mme Thoko Didiza, North West MEC Molewa and my colleague Darky Africa. I do not know whether he was home and he happened just to pass by or he actually came, but I appreciate the presence of all those .....

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Thibedi, you see the manner in which Honourable Africa is behaving?

**HON. MEC THIBEDI:**  
Yes.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**  
It is because you are referring to the Premier as the MEC.

**HON. MEC THIBEDI:**  
Oh, okay. Thanks Deputy Speaker. My apologies. I meant to say Premier of the Province, Mme Edna Molewa. Please ignore the earlier remark, and thanks very much Deputy Speaker.

We pronounced in this very House last year Honourable Deputy Speaker, that we would engage five hundred (500) young people to take up NYS. I am proud to report that the department has even surpassed our initial target by sixty five (65), recruiting about five hundred and sixty five (565) young people in twelve (12) projects that were identified for this course.

These beneficiaries (60% women and 40% men) drawn from our regions, have been to

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school for up to Grade 10 and above. They are aged between eighteen (18) and thirty five (35), have an interest in the built environment and reside in the North West Province.

In the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, eighty (80) beneficiaries were recruited in the two (2) projects. In Dr Kenneth Kaunda District, ninety (90) beneficiaries were recruited in four (4) projects. In the Bojanala District, one hundred and ninety (190) beneficiaries were recruited in three (3) projects, while in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District, two hundred and five (205) beneficiaries were recruited in the three (3) projects.

To this end, some beneficiaries are presently going through training of life skills and technical training while some have already started doing work in projects. These young people have received National Qualification Framework, accredited training in a variety of trades which includes painting, carpentry, tiling, welding, landscaping and paving.

We hope to put foot on the pedal this financial year with the

Departmental EPWP and NYS projects. An amount of R3.9 million has been set aside for a range of EPWP projects in our regions. In terms of disposal of redundant state owned properties, the department continues to carry out its mandate to ensure optimal utilization of state-owned properties as well as to ensure that unused properties are disposed of as per the Land Administration Act No. 4 of 2001.

For the financial year 2007/2008, the department sold a total of forty one (41) houses, netting the province revenue amounting to R3.9 million. This brings the total number of houses sold to date to one hundred and seventy one (171) and the total revenue received since the beginning of this exercise to R17 million.

In terms of office administration the department is committed to progressively reducing the high cost of renting private accommodation. To this end:

- The Department of Transport, Roads and Community Safety office has moved to occupy the new

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- office as I have indicated earlier on.
- The Department of Sports, Arts and Culture will soon move to occupy Gabomotho building which was left vacant by the department due to programme of renovations.
  - Our Central Regional Office has also moved into the Old Parliament Building, vacating Ayob Building in Mafikeng. This would enable the department a saving of more than R2.2 million in rental for the current financial year.

What do we say in terms of provincial immovable asset register: We have developed the fixed asset register and established an asset register project team comprising of officials from all provincial departments with a view to address issues raised by the Auditor General.

To this end the total number of fixed assets captured on PREMIS to date is five thousand one hundred and sixty five (5 165). We have also during this past financial year undertaken the exercise of valuing residential properties across the province. This is in compliance

with the requirement of PFMA to ensure that these properties are captured at the current market value. This process has been concluded.

The next phase which is currently underway is the search for title deed as well as a valuation of remaining properties such as offices, farms, vacant sites, colleges and schools.

In terms of the new uniformed asset register termed iE-Works, following the passing of the Government Immovable Asset Management Act, National Public Works as well as Provincial Public Works departments have embarked upon the implementation of the new uniformed asset register called iE-Works. It is envisaged that this system will replace all others including Premis.

Parliament passed Government Immovable Asset Management Act No. 19 of 2007 known as GIAMA on the 27th of November 2007. GIAMA will make it incumbent on national and provincial departments to promote government's service delivery objectives through sound management and immov-

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able assets they use or control. The objectives of the legislation are listed there. I am not going to go through them.

In terms of infrastructure delivery programme, it is through the introduction of this programme by National and Provincial Treasury that the department managed to secure four (4) professionals, Quantity Surveyors, Civil/Structural Engineer as well as Architects. These professionals have been seconded to the department due to challenges in recruiting these rare skills because of the high demand in the built environment.

Since the introduction of IDIP there is a more focused and practical manner in which the budget is spent. There is also a clearer understanding from the client departments of these requirements regarding infrastructure planning and implementation. Clear definitions by both Public Works and the client department on how the project will run continue to eliminate any misunderstandings and help projects to run smoothly.

Our future plan and projections

for 2008/2009, we anticipate to kick-start about four (4) projects at the value of R1.8 million in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District this year. These include the upgrading of facilities of Merafong and Wolmaranstad Hospitals, Merafong Library and the departmental regional office.

We expect all these projects to be completed within six (6) months period from the date of commencement. It is of paramount importance that we mention that we will be targeting mainly women and young people to benefit from the said projects. In Bojanala two (2) school renovation projects are also scheduled to be executed this financial year. In addition, ten (10) normal projects for other departments will also commence.

About ten (10) school renovations projects in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati were identified for implementation this financial year. However, we are continuing with only three (3) as the Department of Education is constrained by insufficient funding. A further ten (10) normal projects which includes day-to-day maintenance have been

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scheduled for this financial year as well. We plan to finalize the planning of the new Health Office Park in Mafikeng during the current financial year.

Honourable Speaker, in conclusion, let me say the following, that not only a department is responsible for the delivery and maintenance of state infrastructure. It is also required to lead, regulate, develop and transform the infrastructure sector, and I want to say to this honourable House Deputy Speaker, that we will work tirelessly to achieve within the limited resources we have at our disposal, and I therefore request your honourable House, before I conclude, to adopt this budget of the department and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts and hard work by the personnel of my department at all levels, from management, supervisory and operation.

I must emphasize that included in this complement are our cleaners who are the early birds for every working day of the week, ensuring that we perform our duties in a clean and healthy environment. To all those staff

members too who ensure that there is warm tea, coffee and water on our tables for their managers and their guests, even at short notice.

A special thanks goes to my Head of Department, Ntate Obakeng Mongale, for all the hard work. I can only draw courage from a Chinese proverb that says:

"Be not afraid of growing slowly, be afraid of only standing still."

I would also want to thank all our stakeholders. It is your support that makes us tick. Our work would be incomplete without the oversight function of the Transport, Roads and Community Safety and Public Works Portfolio Committee, under the chairperson of Honourable Moeti Moiloa.

I must also commend the sterling leadership of the former chairperson of this committee, Honourable Mahlakeng Mahlakeng.

My thanks goes to Honourable Members of this provincial House and to all my colleagues in the Executive Council. Your

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support is greatly appreciated. I also wish to thank the Premier of the province, Mme Mma Molewa for your leadership, commitment, contribution and support. Same also goes to the Minister of Public Works, Mme Thoko Didiza. A special thanks goes to you Deputy Speaker, to the Speaker of the House and the entire office.

Last but not least, my family, my wife, my daughter and my son, but above all my own mother. Honourable Deputy Speaker, about my mother I remember the first day that she took me to school, many years ago. She is still alive today. I love you mom. Thank you very much for listening to me. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, I now have a pleasure of inviting the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works to present a report.

**HON. MOILOA:**

Thank you Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, the Honourable Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Hloho ya Lefapha Rre Obakeng Mongale

le management ya hao, le bohle ba lokelwang ke hlompho.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, today marks one of those important dates in the calendar of a Member of the Legislature. When we vote on the budget for a government department, it is an exercise which will go the long way in the actual improvement of the lives of our people, provided it is keeping with the strategic objectives outlined. Indeed we have conformed as a community that it is in line with the objectives outlined in their plan.

Following the Portfolio Committee meeting with the management of the Department of Public Works on the 7th May 2008, we have dealt with the briefing on the strategic plan. I believe the department is well positioned to lead and direct implementation of its programmes to provide growth, job creation and transformation in the construction and property industry, as well as maintenance of government buildings. Whereas the Department of Public Works has to fulfill its mandate and meet the growing expectations of our communities

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and Members of this Legislature, it is also necessary that we know the constraints this department is facing amongst others.

Amongst others, the challenge of recruiting and retaining technical professionals, it remains a challenge. Funding or inadequate funding for conditional assessment of buildings including schools and clinics, it is one of the challenges. Its inability to fully implement its mandate in ensuring that government departments are taken out of rented offices, properly rented in government constructed buildings, it remains one of their challenges.

However, Honourable Deputy Speaker, in the past year's budget, we see a staggering improvement in the performance of the department as it spent 99% of the budget allocated to them, and they still need more funds. Given that we approach the end of our term, I want to reflect on some of the key areas which need attention by the department. This year the government has taken hands-on approach, referred to as Business Unusual. We there-

fore encourage this department to follow suit when it does its work. With all hands on deck, the following issues need to be considered by the department to enhance its performance.

Their asset register, indeed we appreciate what the Honourable MEC has said that they have given attention to that because it remain a suspect. The very department that is charged with the responsibility of constructing government buildings, if you cannot be able to account for those and properly ensure that our asset register is up to scratch, it poses a serious challenge. Department should ensure that the sale of state houses is done together with the issue of buying certificates and this should be done timeously.

The Department of Public Works should ensure that they carry out their mandate of maintenance and renovation of buildings, and added to that, improve on the communication and coordination between the client department, and equally other departments have a responsibility to ensure the improved coordination.

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We are raising this Honourable Deputy Speaker, to avoid some of the incidents where department came on the podium and outlined its programme and subsequent to that, other departments, notably Education and Health would come back and request the department and say we better put to hold on these particular programmes precisely because we as the client departments did not budget for them or we are having budgetary constraints.

This reflect negatively on the work of the departments because it reflects on the departments as negating on their mandates, whereas it is not their responsibility to put on hold the client departments. We are saying that coordination has to be improved. The department should come up with a retention strategy which will ensure that they have enough capacity to maintain all the state assets.

They should also ensure that the renting of buildings is eliminated by attending first to dilapidated buildings and rehabilitated, so that we are able to use them, improve their response time. Some of the schools

indeed poses serious risk to our kids who are attending to those schools. Every school that you come across that is having that kind of a problem points its finger to the Department of Public Works. Hence we emphasize the issue of proper coordination so that that should provide the department with time to respond timeously.

I hope the Department of Education and Health and Public Works will make the way forward towards excellent and expedient service delivery as role players in the war room for the war against poverty if this coordination is improved.

Added to that, while the Department of Public Works lead the Extended Public Works Programme, indeed other departments have to play and make their own contribution towards job creation by ensuring that in their respective budgets, indeed there is such programmes running, so that when we look holistically into jobs created, we do not only look into the department alone.

The issue of service providers remains one of the challenges.

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We are saying the department should ensure that qualified and capable service providers are appointed indeed to avoid unnecessary extension of completion date. Some of the projects have had to run beyond their timeframes. We acknowledge the explanation given by the Honourable MEC but we however say in some instances, indeed it is a question that the department need to pay much attention.

As I conclude, in principle the additional funding that was requested by the department makes perfect sense after having scrutinized the needs of the institution in its entirety. The Portfolio Committee of this House is also encouraged to heed the call by the Department of Public Works that they should meet on a quarterly basis so that the department can get support, guidance and advice of the committee.

The Portfolio Committee therefore moves that the budget vote of the Department of Public Works be passed by the House.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Members, I now

have a pleasure of inviting Honourable Hantise to take part in this debate, but let me draw your attention to the fact that your time allocation is no longer 10, it is 8.

**HON. HANTISE:**

Ke a leboga Motlatsa Mmusakgotla. Tla ke tsene ka boripana fela mo dintlheng tse ke batlang go di bega Motsamaisa-tiro. Puo ya ka e tla nna e nyenyane ka gore mathata mo lefapheng le ga se a mantsi thata. Ga ke re ga a yo, a teng, mme ga a mantsi thata. Ga a tshwane le fa re ne re goroga mo ka 2004, fa o gopola gore lefapha le le ne le tshwere tiro e tona ka nako ya fa le ne le bidiwa gotwe ke Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure.

Fa o gakologelwa kgotsa Ntlo e ya gago e gakologelwa sentle, ka 2004, bontsi jwa rona fa re ne re goroga mo, re tlile re rwele mathata a re fitlhileng ra a bega. Ke gopola lefapha le le neelwa Mokhuduthamaga yo motšha ka nako eo e ne e le Rre Howard Yawa yo o neng a tsaya maikarabelo a lefapha.

Ke gakologelwa nngwe ya ditl-

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hagiso tse kgotsa dikgakololo tse re neng ra mo neela tsona gore mathata a a neng a le mo lefapheng le ka nako eo, a ne a batla gore a ye go tsaya dithobane, mare dithobane tse e seke ya nna tsa dikgong ka gore di tla robega, e nne tsa ditshipi gore a kgone go baakanya lefapha le, mme fa o utlwa ke re ga go tlhole go na le mathata mo lefapheng le, a mantsi a gone. Ditiro tse dintsi tse di neng di tsamaisiwa ke lefapha jaaka ditsela ga di tlhole di le kwa lefapheng. Di-tender ka nako eo fa o gopola, Lefapha la Public Works le ne le golagane thata le Tender Board ya province. Mokgwa o go neng go abiwa di tender, e ne e le selelo.

Jaanong matsapa ga a tlhole a le mantsi. Kopo ya rona fela ke gore mo lefapheng, ba tlhokomele dilo tse di tlhagisitsweng ke Moruni-kakaretso. Ga se tse dintsi thata, go lolamisa lefapha le, mme nngwe ya dilo tse motho o ka di kopang gore lefapha le di tlhokomele tota ke go bona gore mokgwa o wa go ruta batho ba rona kgotsa go tlhagisa bo radikonteraka, fa o ne o reeditse report ya Mokhuduthamaga, e bua ka

mokgwa o ba appointang boradikonteraka ebile ba terminatang dikonteraka ka teng. Ga se mokgwa mongwe o o ka kwalelang kwa gae ka one, ka gore batho ba dikonteraka tsa bona di terminatiwang, bontsi jwa bona ke batho ba bantsho, mme go le gantsi le lone lefapha or mafapha ka bontsi, ba na le mokgwa wa go sokodisa boradikonteraka ba bannye, bogolo jang ka mokgwa wa go ba duela, etswa re dumalane gore boradikonteraka ba duelwe mo malatsing a le thirty (30), bontsi jwa bone ba duelwa ka mokgwa o mafapha a ratang go ba duela ka teng. Mokgwa oo o tlhoka gore o baakangwe, mo nakong e e tlang re seke ra kreiya di report kgotsa dipegelo tsa gore boradikonteraka ba newa mebereko, fa ba tshwanetse ba khomplite di projecte ba a lelekwa.

Re batla gore report mo nakong e e tlang fa e tlhagisiwa, e re bolelele gore kwa Bophirima jaaka e le karolo ya North West, kwa Bojanala, mo Central le kwa Southern, ke bašha ba le kae ba ba rupisitsweng mo tlase ga maitlhommo magolo a EPWP, a go rupisa bo radikonteraka ka ditiro tse di farologaneng, re itse

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gore ke batho ba le kae, maina a bone ke bo mang. Ga re batle dipalopalo fela, gotwe ke bo two hundred (200), ke bo seven thousand (7 000), ke bo eng, ka gore mokgwa o o tla re thusa go bona gore re fokotsa tlala ka lobelo lo lo kae mo dikgaolong di feng.

Jaanong ke re Modulasetilo, mafoko a me ke a manyenyane ka gore mathata tota ga a mantis mo lefapheng le. Le nna ke joina gore a re neele lefapha madi a ba a kopileng gore ba tswelele ka ditiro tsa bona. Ke a leboga.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Hantise has done very well, 6 minutes of his allocated 8 minutes. Honourable Matladi. Your allocation is 8 as well.

**HON. MATLADI:**

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Public Works Department's mission is to provide and maintain all provincial land and building infrastructure in an integrated sustainable manner. The department has many challenges to realize this mission. The challenges include inadequate funding for maintenance.

Year in year out the challenge has affected service delivery in this department, as well as affecting service delivery in other sister departments like the Department of Education and the Department of Health. As we debate this budget today, we would like to be convinced that the infrastructure challenge will be adequately addressed.

When the Honourable MEC presented the budget he alluded to the fact that since 2005 Public Works had to build new hospitals in the province, in areas Vryburg and Moses Kotane, and he maintains they are still incomplete. Out of the sixteen (16) clinics that Public Works had to build in the province, only six (6) are complete, yet we are now presenting another budget which will come with its own list of projects to be built by the very same department, adding to the backlog.

The department has built a R53.3 million building of offices which it does not use. According to the words of the MEC, the building is allocated to Transport, Roads and Community Safety Department. It boggles my mind that I can

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build a house that would cost me so much, only to transfer it to someone else. What could have been the real reason behind building the offices by the Public Works, now that they have moved into Garona but it is Transport that is occupying their offices. Why not visa versa?

In the same breath, we applaud the department for having left the long rented offices in Mafikeng, the Ayob buildings. As I debate today, I am reminded of the fact that I kept on requesting the total amount of money that has been spent to date in rentals of the very same building, but as I am standing here, I do not recall the department presenting that sum to me. I am still taking the opportunity as I am debating that it be presented, starting even from the year when they rented the Ayob buildings to date as they have vacated the buildings, that we should be able to compare and see if it could have been wise to have our own building as it has been built instead of renting.

For the 2008/2009 financial year the administration budget of the department has increased from R74.6 million to R93.2 million

and this increase resulted from the newly filled vacancies which include the six (6) Cuban officials as they have been presented to us. We are happy that at least some of the professionals that the department has reported being short of have been occupied, and we caution that as the Cuban technicians are here in the North West Province, there must be an understudy or some people should be working with them so that they know or we learn something from the work that they do, or rather even some people be sent to universities or tertiary institutions in order to enroll and do these scarce qualifications that we are running short of.

I looked into the issue of Sonop. My colleague was debating Sonop issue under Transport, Roads and Community Safety. I am debating it under Public Works. It is one of the areas where we are told the revenue or the tax payers funds are being used even for people that work because Public Works is paying for services, including water supply, electricity and others for the houses that are in Sonop.

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This report has also been given to the Department of Public Works to go and look into the matter. It is not only Sonop. Also a building that is in Rustenburg that is being used. It is said to be used for rental but the occupants thereof are always failing to pay for their services and it is Public Works that keeps on pumping funds in paying for these buildings. We would like monitoring to be done before the public finances could be used.

I am not staying at Lowe, but I am jealous of Lowe because it is a home for Parliamentarians, my colleagues. Problems have been presented in this House and to the department about the insecurity of Honourable Members that stay in Lowe. The security agency that is employed at Lowe does not care to check who comes in, who goes out, also the problem being of the items in Lowe that could still be lost.

You just go there, they open the gate, you pass, you come back, you go, and there is no monitoring of even checking if the person coming in is the right person to be in or out or where the per-

son is visiting. So this has been a problem that has been presented by the occupants of Lowe, as well as the other small gates that do not even have a security standing there to monitor the in and out of people. Our worry is because of the reports this morning about people that are even using the uniforms to steal and to hijack. Our Honourable Members are not safe.

The Honourable Chair has talked about the asset register. We have battled with the Department of Public Works in order to keep the asset register up to date. Always it is incomplete. Even if they might have items that they say belong to the government and to the department, sometimes they are not costed. So we would like the asset register to be updated, to be completed and to be costed, that is the coming financial year when we would be debating this budget the asset register would not be part of the challenges.

Tendering in the Public Works Department is also a problem and the problem in this one is the fronting. When we meet the newly emerging farmers, old farmers would use some people

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in order to front. When it is the women farmers that are used, some people would use them to front.

I am nearing my completion Honourable Deputy Speaker, and then I would like to include the issue of the vacant positions in the department, namely the Chief Director Technical Services, the Regional Director Bophirima as well as the Regional Director Southern, that they also be filled up, and with these comments and I believe issues that would build this department to improve in its performance, the UCDP also supports the budget on Public Works Department. I thank you.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Matladi has exceeded her time with 2 minutes but she is also a speaker in the next list. I am going to subtract those minutes from that list. I now invite Honourable Thibedi to give a response.

**HON. MEC THIBEDI:**

Thank you Deputy Speaker. Let me start by thanking those who participated in the discussion. To the Chair of the Committee, the issues you raised as chal-

lenges, which are the issues also raised by Members who spoke after you are issues that we will follow-up with vigor.

Let me just highlight few things because the Deputy Speaker also indicated to me that I have to try and be very brief because I used extra minutes in my speech. I think in terms of the issue raised by the Chair and the issue raised by Honourable Matladi around the asset register, I can only respond by saying the issue of asset register has been a problem for the whole government, and for the reason that I spoke about an Act of Parliament that has been passed, which is a product of long discussions within meetings of MINMECs of all MECs of Public Works and the National Minister, seeks to respond to that question of government being in a position to account to all the buildings, the land and so on that we have as government, but also be able to utilize those infrastructure for purposes of empowering our own people. So it is a matter that has been taken care of, and we hope that by the next time when a report is given, a clear account will be given based on the implementa-

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tion of that particular Act of Parliament I have referred to.

I have referred to the issue of the sale of State houses and I must agree that the issue as raised by Mme Matladi and the Chair about inadequate funding, especially around matters of maintenance, remains a challenge.

In terms of communications as raised by the Chair in relation to communication between the departments and the client department, it is a matter that is receiving attention. We have established some communication system between ourselves, especially with the main clients departments, that is Health and Education, and of course with other client department as I indicated in my speech to say that there is a visible improvement in terms of how we communicate and how we actually deal with issues that the Department of Public Works is dealing with on behalf of the two clients departments.

So I would say that even if the situation might not be 100% to our satisfaction, but there is progress which indicate that

there is light at the end of the tunnel.

In terms of termination of contracts, one point that Honourable Hantise also raised, I am trying to touch issues there and there quickly. The issue of termination of contracts I have indicated here when I speak that these matters are considered on case by case basis, and of course the termination of contract is taken as a very last resort, because much as we are interested in quality, we must be able to run parallel in terms of attaining good quality, but also dealing with the issue of development of skills, especially to those who were previously excluded, especially within the construction industry. So it is a major challenge that we are dealing with. We want to ensure that we use these contracts to empower emerging blacks, but at the time we must not compromise quality because if there are those who are actually fronting for others as Honourable Matladi says, we must be able to deal with those issues adequately.

In as far as the issue of the office is concerned, yes, when

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the idea of an office was conceived, the initial idea was to build an office which can house the Department of Transport, Roads and Public Works at the time as it was constituted. I remember when this department was separate I had a discussion with MEC Vilakazi to say that this thing of reconfiguration, dismantling, these Members remain in the same place, it is better if we find a way of building a structure that can accommodate them so that whatever happens they must remain within the same building, but as you say, when this building was actually built, the idea was, it was going to be a building for Public Works, but you see, you must also take into account the needs and priorities as they emerge.

We then realized that we as Public Works, we are having offices in the old Parliament building. So it was therefore important to us to accommodate the Department of Transport in that office and as they move we must also create space for the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture at Gabomotho after renovations, and in response to the question as to doing away with

rented buildings and build offices for government, it is a good idea but practically it is difficult to implement because we have been talking since this morning about resources for infrastructure development like building of roads and so on and so forth.

So things that we are actually considering now is to look for a situation where we can get the private sector for example, and I am giving this by way of example, to construct a building which can accommodate more than one department for example, and whilst that has happened, the agreement must be such that government will need that building with an intention to buy it at the end of the day, because we do not have money now to pop out and construct building. So we believe that the private sector is also having a role to play.

So Deputy Speaker, I think the rest of the issues raised here, we can respond to as part and parcel of our interactions with the committee and with the House, but lastly let me say that in as far as the Cuban professionals are concerned, I have also indicated that their role to

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be here within that contract of three (3) years is to mentor local people. In other words there are people who are working under them now, who will make sure that they get as much as they possibly can from these Cuban internationals.

Of course the issue of language has been a barrier, but we are overcoming it because we have also been trying to speak to universities to try and offer some quick lessons around Spanish, English and so on. So I believe that that problem should not be an impediment. It is something that we can overcome because where we are coming from, we have been working, struggled in foreign countries and language has never been a problem in assisting us to understand each other. The rest of the questions Deputy Speaker will be incorporated into the day to day discussions that we hold with the committee, as well as Members of this honourable House and proper responses will be given.

So those are the reasons Mme Matladi as to why the office was given to the Department of Transport. Thanks.

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:** I will quickly take the House through the budget for Public Works programme by programme

- Programme 1 is Administration, and that in terms of the budget is R93,274 million. Does the House agree?
- The second programme is Public Works, amounting to R485,190 million. Do you agree?
- Programme 3, Community based programmes, R11,479 million. Do you agree?

Which brings us to a total budget of R589,943 million. Does the House adopt the budget?

I have an honour therefore to invite Honourable Howard Yawa, MEC Local Government to present his budget.

**HON. MEC YAWA:**

The Honourable Deputy Speaker of the House,

- The Speaker of the House in absentia, Mme Thandi Modise,
- The Premier of the North West, Mme Edna Molewa,
- Esteemed colleagues in the Executive Council,
- Honourable Members of this

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- Legislature,
- The SALGA Members who are here today of the Executive Committee,
  - Executive Mayors and Mayors
  - Batlotlegi Dikgosi tsa rona
  - The Heads of Departments
  - Business leaders
  - Distinguished guests
  - Ladies and gentlemen
  - Le baagi botlhe ba Profense ya Bokone Bophirima

Honourable Deputy Speaker, our country and the continent has just celebrated the Africa Day, a very important day for all of us in the African continent as it shows that as Africans we are one people. As the department we would like to join millions of our people who have raised their voices in condemning the acts of xenophobia that have taken place in our country.

Deputy Speaker Sir, Chinua Achebe, the father of African literature, from his novel the Anthills of Savannah makes a very important observation about the nature of struggle through the telling of the story between the leopard and the tortoise where he says:

"We can go back to our people and tell them that we have struggled for them with what remaining strength we have. One upon a time the leopard who had been trying for a long time to catch a tortoise finally chanced upon him on a solitary road. Aha, he said, at long last, prepare to die, and the tortoise said, can I ask one favour before you kill me? The leopard saw no harm in that and agreed. Give me a few moments to prepare my mind, the tortoise said. Again the leopard saw no harm in that and granted it. But instead of standing still as the leopard had expected, the tortoise went into strange action on the road, scratching with hands and feet and throwing sand furiously in all directions. Why are you doing that, asked the puzzled leopard. The tortoise replied, because even after I am dead, I would want anyone passing by this point to say yes, a fellow and his match struggled here."

The moral of this story for me is that it tells us about the importance of struggle and has resonance to have a struggle that we wage on a daily basis as the Department of Developmental

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Local Government and Housing, in our efforts to improve the lives of our people for the better through the provisions of basic services like water, electricity, roads, infrastructure, sanitation and the provision of decent housing.

This budget vote will articulate these efforts even if sometimes it looks like the tasks we are facing are insurmountable. What we are doing there is informed by what Achebe said that " ... we can go back to our people and tell them that we have struggled for them with what remaining strength we have ..."

We are making landmarks and progress which should remain long after we have gone, which say that our government has engaged in titanic struggle with the scourge of poverty and unemployment and made a lasting impact.

This provincial government I have the honour to serve and I dare say the masses who elected us to serve in these roles are inspired by the noble vision of creating a people-centred local government and a people-cen-

tered society. The acid test of the legitimacy of the programmes we elaborate, the government institutions we create, the policies we craft and the legislation we adopt must be whether they serve the objectives of changing the lives of our people, the destitute and marginalized in our society.

The history of our department clearly reflects the carefully planned building blocks which have been put in place to improve local governance, to improve relations between the electorate and their public representatives at local level. Our hopes are stimulated by the success of our democracy and the huge strides we have made over the last fourteen (14) years in transforming the local government sphere to espouse its developmental nature.

Honourable Depty Speaker, the March 2006 local government elections firmly entrenched the democratic principles so essential in protecting our freedom and the nurturing our hard-won democracy. The new cadres of councilors ushered in after the March 2006 elections have the crucial responsibility to play an

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essential role in accelerating service delivery to their respective communities.

Elected councilors are increasingly called upon to provide positive impetus to the process of public participation, to be the political custodians of good governance and accountability to vigorously advocate for the needs of their constituencies.

The critical influence regarding this policy document being tabled here today is that it is coined in a year in which our government has committed itself to the spirit of Business Unusual, as both a concept and an ethos.

The Department of Developmental Local Government and Housing is striving to implement its programmes guided by these very same principles of Business Unusual: All Hands on Deck to speed up service delivery. The local government strategic agenda puts emphasis on hands on support municipalities, which is commensurate with the principles of Business Unusual.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, let

me first deal with the challenges that face our department upfront so that when I deliver this budget vote, you will understand the context under which we operate. The main challenge which cuts across all our business units remains that of inadequate funding.

Inadequate funding impacts negatively on the way we can provide hands on support to municipalities, and how we can intervene when we see challenges at local government level. Most of the interventions that we have to make actually needs extensive funding. The preliminary comparative national analysis indicates that our department is the least funded than its counterparts in other provinces.

The other critical challenge that we face relates to the lack of skills and adequate capacity within the department as well as across municipalities. This is even more critical in rural based municipalities. Skills that are lacking range from those in financial management, project management, town planning and engineering skills.

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Another critical challenge that our department is facing relates to the departmental structure that was approved last year, which has since been overtaken by events as other departments in other provinces are structured in a manner that enhance their capacity at both strategic as well as operational level.

This means that instead of having two Deputy Director Generals, one concentrating on Developmental Local Government issues and the other responsible for Housing, ours only have one. This affects our delivery capacity due to its burdensome nature. The general trend in other similar departments far out-weigh our delivery capacity as you would find that the departments have Superintendent General and a number of Deputy Director Generals and an even greater number of Chief Directors as compared to us.

This flaw in the way we are structured has a negative impact when it comes to the extent with which we can deliver efficient and professional services to our people. As the department we take this issue seriously and we

will continue to lobby and discuss the matter at all relevant forums until an amicable solution is reached.

A serious challenge as well relates to the fact that for the past five years our programme funding has drastically deteriorated. We have to submit to this House that in real terms our programme funding has been shrinking and continue to shrink even further. This has a negative impact on our planning as conditional grant escalation has not been commensurate with the operational funding.

Without be-labouring the point, let me also take this opportunity to alert this House that the National Department of Housing is doing a study on the capacity that is necessary in order for provinces to deliver and roll-out houses in a scale that our government needs to. In their preliminary findings what they have found is that this department is way below its capacity to effectively deliver houses. We will await the outcomes of this study and we believe it will help our case of trying to build capacity within the department.

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We will need to critically look at all these matters that deal with our capacity and funding and deal with them, we will need to review them and come out with a workable mechanism, which will ensure that our structure is properly constituted in line with the best practices from other provinces.

Having said that Deputy Speaker, however the department is determined to ensure that none of our municipalities remain stuck in the position where poor performance, service delivery, protests and service delivery blockages are the order of the day.

I want to make a submission about the state of our municipalities. The general assessment is that majority of our municipalities in the province have made significant progress in establishing and entrenching core municipal systems, processes and strengthening their overall institutional capability.

The 2007/2008 financial year is the first year that there is a 100% adoption rate of IDPs in municipalities. Most of these rated as medium to good prod-

ucts. Hands-on support is being rendered to those still in poor health to ensure that there is overall compliance to the IDP credibility framework.

To this end the department launched a hands-on support programme for municipalities with peculiar challenges. Our work is to ensure that there is a successful implementation of our plan to make local government work well, through the five (5) year local government strategic agenda, as a central pillar.

We conducted a comprehensive assessment of all municipalities to determine the status quo on capacity constraints, challenges to service delivery and municipal administration in general. The findings of the assessment indicated that there are a number of municipalities that require more hands-on support and intensive hands-on support from the provincial government as they are not performing up to the required standards.

In implementing the five (5) year local government strategic agenda which is our plan to make local government work better, the department also

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established a partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), to strengthen the Siyenza Manje programme. Siyenza Manje aims to recruit and deploy highly qualified and experienced experts in the fields of engineering, financial management, project management and planning.

The department has received a total of ten of these experts in the field that have been deployed to the needy municipalities of Mamusa, Naledi, Greater Taung, Tswaing, Kgetleng, Ventersdorp, Moses Kotane, Moretele and Merafong Local Municipality. Two of these experts - an engineer and a planner - have been deployed to the department to give technical support on the sanitation programme as well as municipal planning.

In the same intervening period the department in partnership with the DBSA and the Department of Education finalized the recruitment of fifty (50) FET college and the technikon graduates in plumbing, civil engineering in the building construction, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and

water care and purification fields.

The graduates participating in the learnerships have been deployed on a twelve (12) month renewable contract basis to do operations and maintenance of municipal infrastructure and equipment to the municipalities that I have mentioned above.

The graduates will be enrolled as apprentices in the trade testing programme with an accredited trade testing centre to qualify as artisans at the end of their programme. This programme is in keeping with both the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa (ASGISA) programme as well as meeting the Joint Initiative for Priority Skills Acquisition (JIPSA) objectives of attaining an economic growth through the development of scarce and priority skills.

Once again, our sincere appreciation goes to the leadership of the DBSA for their sterling, valuable, consistent and value adding partnership.

Deputy Speaker, in last year's

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budget speech we have committed ourselves to strengthening and deepening the performance management system practice in municipalities, implementing the turnaround strategies developed from the capacity audit reports and to identifying few municipalities for best practices.

In advancing our objectives the department launched its Performance Management System (PMS) implementation manual during 2007 Vuna Awards ceremony. Internal audit services are now functional in most municipalities. We have consolidated the municipal annual performance report for 2005/2006 and submitted to the Legislature, and the municipal annual performance report received for 2007/2008 stand at 56%, which means only fourteen (14) municipalities submitted, out of twenty five (25).

The department has also successfully established an effective PMS implementation core team with consistent PMS coordinators quarterly engagements. The department was also successful in holding the thriving provincial Vuna Awards during 2007/2008 financial year. It is

worth recognizing that the now renamed Dr Segomotsi Ruth Mompoti, formerly Bophirima, remains the national winner of good governance. This record should be the pride we must all defend.

We are confident that the achievement of Bophirima District Municipality as it was then, will serve as an inspiration to all municipalities to perform well and even better. The department is determined to ensure that the municipalities begin their implementation of the PMS manual to the fullest.

We have also exposed Municipal Managers, Executive Mayors, Mayors and Mayoral Committee members to PMS regulations and core competency framework. We are increasing the staff complement of the component to provide hands-on support to targeted municipalities. We have embarked on the PMS marketing campaign to increase participation by councilors and senior managers which will culminate in optimal participation in the Provincial Vuna Awards. The department will also be finalizing partnership agreements with specialized

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sectors on PMS for support to municipalities.

We also undertook to implement the network that will link all municipalities in the North West to the IMMIS server for better and faster communication with municipalities. In executing that mandate the department has completed the process of development of financial extracts for all available database utilized by municipalities in the North West Province.

We have also ensured that financial data cannot be extracted electronically for the first time from the municipalities for the purpose of monitoring the financial status of municipalities. Training on how to extract and upload the extracts has been conducted for the local and district municipalities using these systems.

All municipalities are now linked to the IMMIS server for electronic collaboration to take place. This means that communication will be speeded up to collect, upload and download documents and any other electronic data that needs to be communicated between the department

and twenty five (25) municipalities.

In the same period, in the name of good governance and accountability, the department has also successfully launched the Local Government Anti-Corruption Strategy. The strategy aims to give guidance to municipalities on mechanisms to prevent and fight corruption and maladministration in municipalities by promoting the culture of transparency in municipal administration.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, we have challenges in the department, which ranges from:

- The challenge that is experienced in the unit of the Mayor.
- The municipalities only send financial reports to Provincial Treasury and do not submit their reports to the department.
- Although working relations have been established, there is nothing written confirming roles that should be managed by each department as per the MFMA.
- The staffing of IMMIS unit is

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also a challenge now, that financial extracts are being collected from municipalities, the department will need trained staff that will maintain the collected data.

- The development workers will also need to be trained on the IMMIS.

The department aims to develop the IMMIS website or portal for municipal data to be viewed by various municipalities. This will help those who have electronic phobia to be able to view their municipal information and expose those that do not report. The department will also seek to get commitment of CFOs to confirm data published on the website to be correct and that it reflects the status of their various municipalities.

Deputy Speaker, the department still faces a challenge with municipalities who are not yet integrating their LED plans due to internal LED capacity in the municipalities and within the department. Fourteen (14) of the municipalities have been able to develop LED strategies in line with the PGDS and DGDS and the department will continue to give assistance to

the eleven (11) municipalities. A continuous effort will be made in facilitation, strengthening and supporting municipal LED plans, strategies and also the LED integration process.

Deputy Speaker, I am sure you will agree with me when I say as Achebe said, "... we can go to our people and tell them that we have struggled for them with what remaining strength we have ...", by highlighting what the final results of the Statistics South Africa's Community Survey in the North West said about access to basic services for our people, the report says.

- 90% of the households have access to piped water.
- 82.3% use electricity as a source of domestic power.
- 57.1% of our people have access to refuse removal.
- 90.1% have access to sanitation above RDP standards.

We understand that while we have scored such victories we will have to do even much more to reverse the imbalances of the past that still exist in our society and create a better life for all people, but it is evident that "a

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fellow and his match struggled here,"

I will not be doing justice in this august House if I do not comment on the matter that concerns us all, the issue of protest marches that a few of our municipalities experienced in the recent past. South Africa is a constitutional democracy that respects the freedom of expression and recognizes the right to protest. However, such protest actions must take place within the confines of the law and our constitution. They must also respect the rights of those who are not protesting.

What we have observed is that these protest marches vary from municipality to municipality, while some people will generally categorize them as service delivery protest marches. The truth is that their reasons vary, others are protest marches that are influenced by opportunistic and at times socio-economic conditions. The department will continue to work closely in collaboration with municipalities and assist them to resolve whatever problems they may be experiencing.

Deputy Speaker, exactly forty five (45) years ago, Kwame Nkrumah when opening the Organization of African Unity said that, "The resources are there. It is up to us to marshal them in the active service of our people. We have been charged with the sacred task by our own people and we cannot betray their trust by failing them."

With the resources available to us, we managed to do the following: The province received 23% increase in the total budget allocated directly to municipalities through Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG). This allocation is channeled to provide and improve infrastructure as well as to eradicate service delivery backlogs. This will lead to an indication of more basic infrastructure provision to communities and more job creation. In 2006/2007 financial year the department managed to spend 85% of the total grant, which was R537 million, only R456 million that was spent and the following year, which is 2007/2008 cycle we have spent less than that.

From twenty two (22) municipalities that received MIG in

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2006/2007, thirteen (13) municipalities managed to spend 100%, compared to twenty two (22) that received MIG funding in 2007/2008 where only eight (8) managed to spend their 100%. This decrease is attributed to a high turnover and project management units that our municipalities are facing, technical staff, poor planning and procurement delays.

This financial year 2008/2009 the department will be striving to capacitate local municipalities to achieve the 100% MIG expenditure, but also ensure that acceptable work is done to the required standards, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

For the department and the municipalities to reach this goal of 100% MIG expenditure, the department has increased capacity in the sub-directorate by recruiting additional staff in the rear skills divisions of engineering, coupled with the deployment of experienced engineers and employment of engineering students (artisans) from FET colleges. Municipalities will also be assisted in the recruiting relevant and appropriate personnel to

strengthen their PMUs which are funded as a top slice of up to 5% of the MIG allocation.

Honourable Members, the department has also established a Free Basic Services (FBS) sub-directorate to assist municipalities in the implementation and the monitoring of the free basic services, especially water, sanitation and the electricity in the serviced areas. Currently free basic services are provided to communities but communication to beneficiaries, the record keeping and documentation and management thereof is very poor. To address this challenge the department commissioned the backlog study for water and sanitation jointly funded by DBSA and the department. Verification process is underway, which will be published, which outcomes will be published by the end of June 2008.

The department has also approached the DBSA for funding in the form of soft loans and bridging finances of R100 million to assist municipalities with water and sanitation backlogs and the improvement of bulk water supply. The municipalities that will benefit from this assis-

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tance are Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati, Ngaka Modiri Molema, Maquassi Hills, Moretele, Madibeng, Moses Kotane and Kgetleng River Municipality.

We are fostering partnerships with Eskom and municipalities in addressing the challenges faced in the electrification programme through energy forums and the joint campaigns on raising awareness for indigents to access free basic energy. Out of the twenty one (21) municipalities twenty (20) have completed indigent policies. Currently eighteen (18) are implementing free basic services according to updated indigent register.

The department has also established the Municipal Services Partnership (MSP) sub-directorate to support and encourage municipalities to enter into beneficial partnerships with private sector. The Madibeng Local Municipality signed agreements with the Lonmin, Barplats Mining and ferrochrome which have benefited the municipalities around issues of water, sanitation, electricity and waste removal.

During the past financial year five (5) Water Service Authorities have conducted Section 78 processes for water provision in order to assess their capacity for providing sufficient and quality water services. Such assessments are extremely necessary in order to provide water for all.

It was also within the spirit of Kwame Nkrumah Honourable Deputy Speaker, that the department with the resources available to its disposal, also managed to score a decisive victory in the fight to restore and give back human dignity to many of our people who were still using the old apartheid bucket system by fully meeting the target of eradicating the pre-1994 bucket toilet system.

Our target was to eradicate the remaining bucket toilets by December. This achievement was made possible by the partnership between DBSA and the North West Sanitation and Water Steering Committee involving the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry and the targeted municipalities.

A total of R100 million was allo-

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cated to the priority municipalities, which the Honourable Members will read. The bucket eradication programme yielded positive results and made a significant socio-economic contribution and impact in the local communities of the targeted municipalities with some positive spin-offs. Amongst them to mention are:

- The estimated five hundred (500) temporary jobs that were created in the local municipalities through the implementation of the bucket replacement projects. This contributed immensely to the Expanded Public Works Programme.
- Fifty (50) community members, mostly youth and women, were enrolled in a twelve (12) month learnership programme in the Mamusa local municipality. The learners were trained in construction within the bucket replacement projects. The learners also received stipends for the duration, thus contributing to job creation and poverty alleviation.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, these achievements indicate that we are indeed on course as a country regarding meeting the Millenium Development Goals when we said that by the end of 2007, all formalized and pre-1994 defined households will be using water-borne sanitation system, that by 2010 all communities will have access to clean potable water, by 2010 all communities will have access to decent sanitation and that by 2012 all people will have access to electricity. We are determined to make this progress visible.

However, as we continue to score such decisive victories, it must be noted that our efforts are somehow affected by the challenge of the growing rate of urbanization and the mushrooming of new informal settlements in the province.

There is continuous movement of people from rural areas to urban centres, looking for better opportunities in the urban centres, which means that as we have eradicated pre-1994 buckets, buckets are still going to be with us for sometime as these new settlements bring with them

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this type of sanitation.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, municipal debt has escalated to R2.6 billion as at the end of June 2007 and the main contributing factors to this is poor payment of communities and the failure of municipalities to fully implement their credit control and debt collection.

Municipalities are faced with high vacancy level in budgeted Treasury department, as well as increasing salary bills in some instances. The low level of in-house financial skills at some municipalities are among some of the critical challenges.

The department in conjunction with the Provincial Treasury continues to monitor the finances and financial performance of municipalities. The focus is to assist municipalities on the implementation of the Municipal Finance Management Act reforms, which includes the conversion from the International Municipal Finance Officers financial standards to the generally recognized accounting principles standards.

Amongst some of the achievements we can count is:

- Twenty (20) of the twenty five (25) municipalities submitted the annual financial statements for 2006/2007 by August 31st 2007 as prescribed by the MFMA, while the remaining five (5) municipalities submitted theirs by 31st January 2008.
- We also held a provincial workshop in conjunction with SALGA for municipalities in December 2007 on the implementation of the Municipal Property Rates Act.
- The department also successfully conducted what we call Working Sessions with the municipalities. We also helped the municipalities with the committee participation in the implementation of the Municipal Property Rates Act.

We have also succeeded in establishing four (4) Valuation Appeals Boards for each District as required by the MPRA legislation.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, let me take this opportunity to announce that the department

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has successfully established the Property Rates Appeals Board in all district municipalities. We congratulate them and hope we will have a fruitful working relationship.

The cut off date for the implementation of the Municipal Property Rates Act is July 2009. We are well within our set targets in the implementation of this Act and we have developed clear plans on how the Act will be rolled out to different municipalities. It is also gratifying to announce that Mafikeng municipality has already implemented the Act, whilst Merafong and Moses Kotane will have implemented it by July this year. The outstanding municipalities will implement the Act by the beginning of July next year.

Property rates are one of the main sources of income sources of the municipalities and will contribute between 16% and 45% to the municipalities.

Despite the budgetary constraints and lack of sufficient financial resources within the department required for local government support and to provide maximum support, the fol-

lowing plans are in place for the current financial year, which I will ask the Members to go through.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Noam Chomsky in the problems of knowledge and freedom says that, "Radical transformation of any society is unthinkable without the active participation of those engaged in creative and productive work." This department firmly believes in the engagement of all people, especially at local government level. It is gratifying to inform this august House that all local municipalities have established their ward committees and that a number of these ward committees are functioning well and effective.

We are confident that the Best Performing Ward Committee Award System launched by Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality to recognize functional, effective and best performing ward committees have encouraged and motivated ward committee members within the jurisdiction of the district. The recent function held by Tlokwe local municipality for its ward committees is an indication that

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the inaugural launch achieved its objective. We wish to urge other district municipalities to consider introducing similar awards to motivate and encourage voluntarism and strengthening participatory democracy.

Deputy Speaker, we will continue to provide assistance to ward committees to ensure that they are effective and functional. In line with that we are appealing to all municipalities to allocate ward committees with office space and all necessary support they require.

From March this year Maquassi Hills, Merafong, Lekwa Teemane and Ditsobotla were the first to benefit from ward councilor training. This was to ensure effective community participation and further implementation to benefit the remaining municipalities.

A number of local municipalities, especially those within the area of Bojanala Platinum and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality have adopted a new Community Based Planning System and have started with the implementation. The CDP system was developed to

improve the quality of IDP plans to be ward based, to improve the quality of services, community's control over development and to increase community action and reduce dependency. The department has also developed Complaints Handling system, which will be used by the municipalities to record the community problems which will be reported to the department, to see those complaints that have been resolved and those that are still outstanding.

The work that the Community Development Workers are doing can perhaps be best expressed through drawing from what the twenty first century Karl Marx said. He said, "We need the strengthening in society of an idea of a possible greatness - the greatness of ordinary men and women and the greatness of humanity."

In the 2007/2008 budget speech my predecessor committed the department to the integration of community development workers in the public participation programmes, a process that is currently underway.

The objectives of the process

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was to develop public participation programmes that will be inclusive of an inter-departmental and inter-sectoral public participation forum, a platform to discuss operational issues around service delivery and information dissemination between the government and its partners for the benefit of the electorate.

On the other hand the community development workers have made a huge difference in the communities. It is gratifying to inform the august House that there are a number of community development workers who are exemplary.

The dedication of community development worker in Merafong, Bonakele Mdlalose, Tefo Pheto, deployed in Moses Kotane and Kabelo Mauco deployed in Mafikeng Local Municipality are typical cases of innovation and passion to serve their communities. They initiated poverty alleviation projects and interventions to ensure access to social and health services to the benefit of their communities. They are indeed serving their people with all their hearts and souls.

The department has developed a paper based monitoring system including monitoring sheets on which CDWs will record issues they deal with on daily basis. These will be submitted to the relevant sector departments for their attention and then forwarded to the department to be recorded on the in-house Integrated Municipal Management Information System for monitoring responses by the sector departments and other government agencies.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I am delighted to report to this august House that all municipalities have begun with their 2008/2009 IDP reviews and the department and the Office of the Premier are assisting municipalities to align their IDPs with the National Spatial Development Plans, Provincial Growth and Development Strategy and District Growth and Development Strategies. A National IDP guide has been finalized to assist municipalities in packaging their IDP documents to eliminate unnecessary information.

Various provincial departments in partnership with the Finnish

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government have begun with the review of the Provincial Spatial Development Framework and the rationalization of provincial planning legislation.

Deputy Speaker Sir, our province is prone to natural disasters, hence we have always been in the state of readiness when it comes to disaster like floods and fires. Our system must always be in place so that when ordinary people are faced with such challenges they may get efficient and prompt services which are predictable.

We managed to appoint the Head of the Provincial Disaster Risk Management Centre, while we have also successfully resuscitated Provincial Disaster Risk Management Advisory Forums. The department in collaboration with the affected municipalities have repaired houses that were affected by the disasters in areas such as Matlosana

In the Greater Taung area the project to rebuild the houses is at its final stages of completion and some people are already staying in their houses whilst

most houses are at roof level. The department transferred over R19 million for the upgrading of fire and disaster management services to municipalities like Ratlou, Kgetleng River, Naledi, Rustenburg, Madibeng local municipalities and Dr Kenneth Kaunda district municipalities benefited from this transfer. A further R1 million was transferred to the municipalities for awareness campaign.

This year we will provide financial assistance to Disaster Risk Management Authorities to pursue the finalization of the second phase of their Disaster Management plans, whilst also planning towards the establishment of the Provincial Disaster Management Centre on housing.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, during her State of the Province Address, the Honourable Premier of the Province said on the delivery of houses: "That in 2004 we built a total number of ten thousand four hundred and eighty four (10 484) houses. By 2007 this number had increased to twenty one thousand six hundred and forty two (21 642) per annum. Since the delivery of

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the 2007 State of the Province, an additional nine thousand seven hundred and seventy nine (9 779) units were completed. This is indicative of the accelerated pace of delivery that we have advanced to as compared to 2004 standards. The impact of housing delivery is felt by the neediest in our communities."

The department for the financial year 2007/2008 was allocated a total Conditional Grant of R875.178 million. This amount was derived from R770.178 million allocation which was inclusive of the rollover of R3.372 million from 2006/2007 budget, plus an additional amount of R105 million received during the year for Merafong Housing Project.

The total amount spent for the same financial year is R785.516 million which is 90% of the allocated funds. The roll over for 2007/2008 is R89.662 million due to unfortunate delays in the Matlosana Housing Pilot Project.

Honourable Members, our success in this area of our responsibility was not without challenges. Noticeably as already indicated is the Matlosana

Housing Pilot Project which remained blocked for the past year and a half. The department has however taken charge and is implementing and managing the contract at a departmental level. We are happy to announce to this august House that the contractor is back on site and the project is progressing very well. The total number of beneficiaries approved for the financial year was R13.762.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, my colleague, colleague Vilakazi, my predecessor announced in the last budget speech that thirty nine thousand (39 000) subsidies will be allocated to the municipalities to be implemented in the MTF period. We are still within the reach of that targeted goal.

We are delighted to announce that the Department has concluded and signed contracts with turnkey developers for twenty four thousand five hundred (24 500) subsidies. We continue to provide housing to the most destitute families in our province. Work has already started in earnest in most of these projects. To reiterate our commitment to build capacity

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and address the imbalances of the past in the province, we have reserved the balance of the subsidies for women contractors.

The role and importance of women in the housing construction was highlighted in our last year's speech. In the past year twenty (20) women contractors were trained on business and financial management. A hundred (100) of their employees were trained in building construction.

Deputy Speaker, the Steering Committees have been established in all the districts to monitor and coordinate the empowerment and sharing of best practices and the work of women contractors provincially. In this financial year each woman contractor trainee will be given at least one house to test, contractor trainee, I do not say women contractor.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, I can see that the Deputy Speaker is that side now, Honourable Chair of Chairs, in the next fourteen (14) days we will announce at the department the first women contractors who

will deliver the balance of six thousand (6 000) housing units in our province. This is to confirm that we do not just give lip service to our commitment, of having reserved 30% for women contractors. Additional measures will be put in place to ensure that this target is met without compromise.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, it is extremely important and necessary to indicate to this august House that the department's approach of taking over housing delivery as its constitutional mandate is also in line with the National Department of Housing policy review and moratorium on accreditation of municipalities. The biggest challenge and the threat to the development of sustainable human settlement is funding for bulk infrastructure. This funding is not catered for in the human settlement conditional grant, but however remains critical for the success of the housing programmes.

In order to correct and deal with the weaknesses of under-expenditure, good governance and capacity constraints at municipal level which negatively affect the processes of housing

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delivery, we will ensure that we adhere to the Breaking New Ground (BNG) policy with no level of compromise.

This year we will ensure that we leverage the objectives of BNG strategy by among others:

- Strengthening the Public Private Partnerships (PPP).
- Intensify efforts to realize social housing as part of diversified housing approach.
- Explore options for rental housing stock with an endeavor to provide alternative accommodation.

We will also address backlog challenges related to NHBC warranty scheme and ensure that municipalities play an even bigger role in housing delivery which they are clearly not presently able to. The department on an ongoing basis is addressing project development problems with municipalities and private developers and unblocking projects and should be able to spend considerably better during this financial year. Funds received from National Department of Housing in the province were not completely utilized during the financial year

2007/2008. There are a number of blocked housing projects most of which are nearing an end of their cycle. This is the reason we see a decline in housing delivery and expenditure as the department only effects payment on delivery of services rendered and the approval of beneficiaries.

New contracts were finalized and signed during 2007/2008, however spending on these projects commenced late from February 2008 due to slow progress and non-compliance experienced with certain municipalities.

Of the R980.973 million approved on these projects, only R194.154 million was realized in the previous financial year and the balance would be spend in 2008/2009 as Housing Delivery is a multi-year programme. The lack of skills, capacity and absence of effective project management both at the department and municipalities also add to the under spending. The department has embarked on a new approach for accelerating housing delivery by visiting all the municipalities.

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Honourable Chair of Chairs, may I take this opportunity to announce that the department will, as part of its intervention and capacity building, appoint a multi-faceted team of programme managers stationed at the department and deployed to regions to augment its capacity on matters such as project and contract management and enforcement, quality assurance issues and necessary technical support required. By August this year this team will be on the ground.

I must say to this august House Honourable Chair of Chairs, there shall be dust. There shall be dust Honourable Chair of Chairs, of contractors delivering quality houses, not inferior quality houses. There will be dust by contractors fired from the site due to inability to deliver. There will be dust caused by contractors entering site to take place for those who cannot deliver; dust caused by programme managers and officials on their planned and uncompromising support and monitoring, dust increased of the number of beneficiaries taken occupation of the long awaited houses. Mmusakgotla and the

Honourable Chair of Chairs, rona Batswana re re, Lerole le beta mokoduwa. Seo se kaya gore go senyegile, go dubegile, a mokoduwa o tswe mo tseleng gonne o tla betwa ke lerole. Go bua rona Batswana.

The eradication of informal settlement by 2014 is still a priority for the province. The provincial Informal Settlement Base Line Study is well underway, whose aim is to establish database. We have achieved a number of major milestones, among them is the fact that compilation of historical data is at an advanced stage and the master base map for 2006. This has been compiled and completed. A computer centre type workstation will store all data and be utilized for monitoring purposes.

Work will be commencing soon on the formulation of the 5-year informal settlement upgrading strategic plan, which will guide the eradication of informal settlement in the province. In the meantime some upgrading projects are already being implemented.

On rental market, which was turbulent during the past year

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resulted in eighty three (83) cases been disposed of. The Housing Tribunal has been doing a sterling work.

Chair of Chairs, non-compliance with rulings is now something of the past. The Rental Housing Amendment Bill of 2006 is with The Presidency for signature, which will give room for all rulings to be legally enforceable.

We are responsible for supporting and ensuring that all municipalities and housing stakeholders in the province are producing credible housing plans, involving women and youth in housing delivery, educating consumers about their rights and obligations and generally making sure that housing stakeholders are up to date with trends and development in the housing delivery.

My predecessor in the last budget speech pronounced during his speech that the operations of the Housing Corporation will be winded down by the end of same financial year. Due to a number of logistical issues the Board resolved to extend the operations by another twelve (12) months.

As part of the winding down process the extension period will be used to expand the placement of Housing Corporation staff in other departments through the already signed practice note with other heads of departments. The key consideration here is to ensure that we avert job losses and seek ways to contribute positively to BNG policy.

On Merafong, I must announce in this House for the benefit of the Chairperson of this as well who is always on my neck, that the R105 million, which was a conditional grant for housing relocation of Khutsong is now going to be used for bulk infrastructure, therefore allowing that the five thousand five hundred (5 500) housing units to be built with the spade that we made.

I must also announce to this House that the National Department of Housing efforts are at an advanced stage to source once-off cash injection to among others deal comprehensively with the Merafong relocation project. Once this has been attained, it is a priority and an appropriate announcement will be made. Bulk infrastructure

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installation remains a challenge due to the lack of funding.

The Pomfret relocation programme is well underway. We will continue lending our support to this initiative through the provision of houses, which we will do in collaboration with our municipalities who have been so cooperative and helpful.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, the work that the department has done over the past year proves what Achebe said when he said "... we can go to our people and tell them that we have struggled for them with what remaining strength we have. It also proves that a fellow and his match struggled here. We are winning in our struggle to deliver basic services like water, electricity, infrastructure, sanitation and affordable human settlement.

Honourable Speaker and the Chairperson, may I take this time to put before your House, for the adoption of the budget of the Department of Developmental Local Government and Housing.

As I conclude Chair of Chairs, let me express my profound

appreciation to the committed staff of my department. I want to thank the Head of the Department, Iqbal Motala as a leader of this great team of hard workers, without their dedication to improving the lives of ordinary people we would not have achieved what we have during this financial year. All of you can even see that Mr Motala is beginning to lose hair everyday. That is the challenges that we are facing actually in this department. Therefore that renders him not even to be able to tint his hairs like me.

I would also like to thank the organization that has also deployed us here, African National Congress, which we must remain indebted to. I would also like to thank the Head of the Government, the Premier of the North West for her dedicated leadership and my fellow colleagues in the Executive for their support and encouragement. Their words of wisdom have been most encouraging. I would like to thank the House as well as the Chairperson of the Committee, Ntate Mahlakeng.

I thank all stakeholders for their

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support. I must also thank the partnership we have with the Cuban government in the department and the Finnish government. Honourable Deputy Speaker and the Chairperson, it confirms our belief that government cannot do it alone. It needs all forms of strategic partnerships in order to deliver its mandate.

Therefore I want to convey my heartfelt thanks to my wife, my dearest wife Nowethu, my children, my daughter Vuyokazi, Lubabalo the boy and Zola, for their outstanding and valuable support because their understanding has never even allowed me to get new names, o ya phi, o vela phi, o tje phi.

With those words I want to say thank you Honourable Chairperson of Chairs, hoping that your august House will adopt my budget so that we keep the gun running.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable MEC Xolile Yawa. Honourable Mahlakeng, Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee, you are invited to the podium to present the

Portfolio Committee report. Honourable Mahlakeng. Mohlomphehi ke tlo ho fa fela metsotswana e le lesome. Ke a leboga.

**HON. MAHLAKENG:**

Ke gahlagahla Chair of Chairs. Thank you very much, and good evening to you and everybody present. May I, on behalf of myself and the Portfolio Committee present the report for the Portfolio Committee which is as a result of our meeting between the department and the management on the 14th of May 2008.

When they briefed the Portfolio Committee Honourable Chair of Chairs, amongst other important things that they raised related to the view of the department which they raised amongst other things, the department's core responsibility which was to facilitate service delivery for our people in the province, and went on to emphasize, based on specific areas highlighted by the priorities of the government during the current financial year. The plan reflects the department's continued focus to accelerate local government transformation on service delivery.

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Development and change to that democracy becomes more meaningful to the communities and the people of the North West.

On the environment they raised an issue relating to the increased provision of service, water, disaster management, fire brigade and many others, and increase in provision of proper sanitation and the successful eradication of the bucket system.

On the administration as their strategic priority, they raised amongst other things the strategic planning, Batho Pele and special programmes and indeed communication as one of those important issues that they would want to deal with. In relation to matters of housing they referred to the strategic priorities as those of monitoring informal settlement and upgrading programmes, and also to provide formal housing for farmsteads and traditional Dikgosi areas.

On the local government Honourable Chair of Chairs, amongst other important things that the department raised were support and to facilitate provi-

sion of municipal infrastructure. On the development and planning they raised among other important things the eradication of the bucket system as I have already indicated and to provide sustainable support to municipalities.

They also did highlight some of the challenges of which I am just going to name but a few:

- Lack of capacity within municipality particularly in the utilization of the meek funds.
- The continuous scoffs of informal settlements were some of the most important things that they highlighted.

On the outlook for the coming financial year they did indicate that they would want to embark on eradication of the sanitation backlog which is estimated at about R1.8 billion which is the money that they do not even have, as you would know that Vote 9 does not have thank kind of money. This included the hands-on support to municipalities to improve governance and accountability. On key commitments they raised the bucket replacement.

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Having said all these important things the committee Honourable Chair of Chairs, raised a number of concerns which amongst others include the following, which was, the committee urged the department to address the backlog of annual reports from various municipalities which do not find their way in your august House.

The progress report on the water supply problem which has been in existence for many years, particularly in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, more specifically Ramotshere Moiloa and the Ditsobotla area, the committee submitted.

The committee raised again an issue relating to the houses, the amount of money which was allocated in the Tshwane area to the tune of R300 million, that they would like to have full details around how that money was utilized and at that meeting the department committed itself to come back to the committee in relation to that matter. Also that the department should address the issue prevailing in the Morokweng area and the Kagisano versus Molopo area as you would know that there

were some issues there around the demarcation.

The department should also address an issue which is at the Ramotshere Moiloa area at Willow Park which was a concern to the committee and indeed amongst other things that were raised was the roll over, which amounted to R89 million.

The committee still awaits report on matters relating to the Housing Corporation and also the committee would want to have a sense in relation to the evictions that are taking place in the flats which have been sold by the Housing Corporation because our understanding has been slightly different from what is happening on the crowd.

Also the Honourable MEC has just told us around matters relating to Merafong which were also the concerns on the committee in terms of what has been happening there in relation to the report that was presented before this House so that we have a sense as to what is happening in relation to the relocation of those people in that area.

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An issue Honourable MEC relating to Extension 39 and Montshiwa Extension, of which the Honourable Premier responded to relating to electricity in that area during the debate on the State of the Province address, that the matter is being addressed. I might have missed it. We would like to have a sense as to what is happening because as you would know that we have always contested the fact that once we have an establishment of a township, it is critical because you bring your whole lot of people who do not know each other and electricity becomes key in this area and this include an area in Setlagole where we realized that you have build a whole lot of other houses there and no provision for electricity. You might want to perhaps highlight that matter in this august House so that we have a sense, and the acceleration of this delivery services whilst it is necessary.

It is important Honourable MEC that the six thousand (6 000) women contractors that you are talking about, that you would have to implement but you must also avoid them taking you to court demanding that you pay

them because in some of the areas people had to take you to court because you have not been paying. Otherwise it would be a futile exercise if you give them those houses and you do not pay them, in that the payment of such persons would be in the interest of what we want to achieve, which is the emancipation of the black people, in particular the people of the North West.

Having said that, the following are the recommendations that come from the said committee of which I am representing:

- That there should be a permanent solution to the arrears in the local municipalities and that the department should address the high vacancy rate which is in the municipalities and that the capacity in the municipalities, particularly the political office bearers must be undertaken by the department.
- The issue of traditional leaders being given incentives depending on the mood of a particular Mayor, we think it is something that you would want to deal with.

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At this point we wish to congratulate the Ngaka Modiri Molema Municipality district which is very hands-on in that regard and we wish that the rest of other municipalities would do the same.

- That the department should also address the poor internal and external communication between the department and the municipalities and that the municipalities that have submitted their annual reports to the department, such reports should be submitted before the august House for scrutiny.
- That, lastly as the recommendation that the department should decentralize services, especially in the rural areas.

Having said that Honourable Chair of Chairs, the Portfolio Committee on Developmental Local Government and Housing would like to commend the Department of Local Government and Housing for the efforts taken to present their strategic plan. The committee therefore moves that the House adopt the report and also that

the House support the budget vote as presented by the Honourable MEC. We thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Ke a ho leboha Mohlomphehi Mahlakeng. O nkile metsotso e lesome mo hlohong. Re tlo kopa sebui se se latelang. Le sone ke tlile go se fa 8 minutes. Ke ka itumela thata ha Mohlomphehi Matladi a ka nka yona 8 minutes. I do not have any option Honourable Matladi. I have to call Honourable Matladi over to the podium. Honourable Deputy Speaker?

**HON. DEP. SPEAKER:**

Chair, I was drawing your attention to the fact in a debate earlier on, Honourable Matladi exceeded time limited to her with 2 minutes, and I had planned that this session, I would then reduce her time by 2 minutes. So it is no longer 8, it is 6. Thanks.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Matladi I give you 6 minutes.

**HON. MATLADI:**

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Honourable Chair of Chairs, the previous financial year was a year of uprisings in many local municipalities of the North West Province, and the state of affairs hampered service delivery and destroyed some resources that were already in existence.

I can quote an example of the roads that have been burned by the people that were in marches. Ramotshere Moiloa, Ditsobotla, Mafikeng, Mamusa, Lekwa Teemane, Maquassi Hills, Merafong and many other municipalities have been part of the uprisings I am talking about. The department has to be proactive to address the issues raised by communities in these municipalities in order to avoid further uprisings.

The Chairperson has talked about the R300 million which was reported to have been transferred to Tshwane for housing. The committee has ever since requested the department to account for that amount, to give details on the number of houses built, list of beneficiaries, actual cost of such houses and check if there could be any balance of the said amount. To date the committee is not convinced that the department had

to transfer money to another province in order for that province to do their work that they were hired in order to do.

Nevertheless, since it has already happened we would like to really make follow-ups oversight as part of our duty on government funds that had been transferred to Gauteng Province. Today as we are debating the budget, we would like maybe to be given a light on the points that we have long been seeking clarification on.

The sale of the flats by the NWHC resulted in tenants writing a memorandum to the Legislature, an ad hoc committee being appointed, investigations being done.

Recommendations were tabled in the House and resolutions were adopted by the House, but ever since September 2007 these resolutions have never been implemented by any of the people that were supposed to implement them. The question is, are they refusing to do so or are they not taking the resolutions of the House seriously or what could be the problem. We would like the Honourable Yawa, since the NWHC is in his

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department, maybe to lead in discussions regarding the outstanding reports on NWHC sales of flats.

2008 is the 8th year since the shortage of water supply was reported in the department.

That is in particular to Ramotshere Moiloa. Projects have been started. At the end of the project were R15 million, R21 million, respectively, have been spent, the project does not bear any fruit. The water is still in shortage.

Today we are on the said project. We would like the department to tell us, how much will we spend in this project and what are the time frames when water would be now available in Ramotshere Moiloa. Le rona re lapile, re baagi ba Bokone Bophirima. Re batla metsi jaaka batho ba bangwe le bone ba nwa metsi.

Morokweng saga:  
Morokweng, bogosi ba Morokweng bo tlile bo lela, bo le kgapha se matlhong, ba re Ward 9, Ward 10, Ward 11, Ward 12, tse di welang mo Morokweng di ye kwa Molopo Municipality, mme yare ba kwaletse Demarcation Board,

karabo ya nna gore a Kagisano Municipality le Molopo di kopanngwe go nna masepala o le mongwe. Kgang ya nna gore Motlotlegi Yawa a tle a ye go utlwelela gore baagi ba Morokweng ba reng ka ntlha e.

Go ya ka bone, ka dipigi tsa bone, Motlotlegi ga a ise a kopane le baagi. O ntse a kopana le di masepala ka bobedi, mme ebile demarcation yona e filwe dikarabo tsa gore batho ba amogetse. Go kile ga ba ga nna le mogwanto mo ntlheng e. Re kopa gore lefapha le tsibogegele ntlha ya baagi ba Morokweng, e seke ya nna gore batho ba pinyelelwa fela ka ntlha ya dikgatlhego tsa ba bangwe. Go nne le se ba tla se jang fa di masepala tse pedi tse di kopantswe.

Kwa Moses Kotane go na le mathata. Mathata a di projeke di le thataro tse tsona di sale di simololwa ka 1999. Di ntsheditswe madi. Fa o fitlha mo lefelong ga di a dirwa, mme bothata ke gore goreng go ntse jalo. Tse dingwe di dirilwe mo lefelong le eseng la tshwanelo.

Re file Motlotlegi  
Mokhuduthamaga dintlha tse

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gore a di sekaseke gonne o ne a re ene pegelo ga a ise a e bone, mme re e tshotse re gompieno. Fa a e batla re ka mo fa yona. Re batla gore re tsenelele mo botenye ba tiriso e e botlhaswa ya madi a ba ba duelang lekgetho gore ba ba dirang ditiro tse di maswe tse ba tle ba tshwarwe le bone ba itse gore molao o letsogo lelele.

The last concern that I would like to table is the late submission of municipalities annual reports to the Legislature, or no submission at all. Some municipalities are outstanding at three (3) years without their annual reports being tabled in the House. It becomes an obstacle to the Public Accounts Standing Committee to make them accountable for the public finances that they are using and the municipalities would now start using finances as they choose, hiring their own chefs and many others that have been reported to the committee.

We would like to find out Honourable Deputy Speaker, or Chair of Chairs, when would the annual reports be tabled in the House so that work can be done and people can be done justice

to for the money that they are paying.

The last as I am leaving is a concern about the roll over of R89 million in the Department of Developmental Local Government and Housing. Ga re batle madi a a roliwang over. Motho o kile a nna a bua ka di left over. I am talking about rollovers. So the R89 million is too much and we would like to find out what made the department not use the funds as they are budgeted for them.

Lefapha le lengwe le ne le re madi a manyenyane, ba bangwe bona ga ba kgone go a dirisa, a ba a tshotseng. Re batla lebaka le le tle le elwe tlhoko Motlotlegi Motsamaisa tiro. Kwa bofelong ke rata gore, ka dintlha tse ke di tlišitseng, ke potlakile ka gore gatwe sedikwa ke ntja pedi ga se thata. Ha o utlwa ere ha o emelela batho botlhe ba emelela ba tla ka mabaka, go raya gore o ikilele ngwana wa batho. Tshwenyana e e bowa bontlha e a ikilela.

So ke na le dintlha tse dintsi tse nka beng ke di buile fa. Ke di busetsa morago. O tla di kereya ka mokgwa o mongwe

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Motlotlegi Yawa. Ke re the United Christian Democratic Party supports this budget. I thank you.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRPS:**

Re a go leboga Motlotlegi Mme Matladi. Ke nnete tshwenyana e e bobowa bontlha e a ikilela. Committee e teng, o tla fetisa dintlha tseo kwa komiting. I will now call upon Honourable Yawa to respond to the debate. Honourable Yawa. Mo ja morago ke kgosi. Take your time to respond, especially to the issue of Morokweng, Kagisano.

**HON. MEC YAWA:**

Thank you Honourable Chair of Chairs. I must also thank the Honourable Member, the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee and the Honourable Member Matladi for the contribution they have made in this budget debate. They have raised various issues which some I will follow what has been recorded in the report because we have agreed with the Portfolio Committee that we need a meeting so that we give the reports on everything that they have raised.

It is true Honourable

Chairperson, I must commit my department on what the Chairperson had said that it does not help sometimes to give the work to the people and those people only suffered because we as the department, we do not pay them timeously. I must also recommit the department that the six thousand (6 000) housing units that are allocated to the first women contractors, the payment will be done timeously.

That is why now we are also going to appoint the project managers who will even assess the work on site, as well as ratifying the claims that they are the proper claims that we must pay because the aim is not to destroy them. Any BEE company is to build them.

On the unrest to municipalities we agree with you Honourable Member, however I must also indicate that like Mme Matladi a buile gore sedikwa ke ntja pedi ga se thata, that the work in the constituencies that are deployed is our work, all of us. We need to work together, helping the municipalities to overcome the problems that sometimes are not really actually the problems

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of their making. It is the problems that just find the opportunistically road to or the direction to the councilors. Therefore we can only help them divert or avoid what is happening by engaging in the public participation in our constituencies.

On the capacity of the political office bearers I must say Honourable Chairperson and the Members of the House, that we are working and I must say that the help and the cooperation of the district municipalities in particular is highly appreciated by the department because this is the programme that we are undertaking with their help, that our political office bearers must be equipped and capacitated. Sometimes not only politically, also to understand the technical issues that they deal with on daily basis.

On this one of the traditional leaders who are sometimes given incentives, depending on the mood of the Mayor or Executive Mayor on that day, I must say that we will have to deal with this but there is only one area where we have seen the problem, Ngaka Modiri Molema, which we are also

working on to address that because those who are attending the district council, they get actually the stipend that is much more than those who are attending in the municipalities like Ratlou. We are working to correct that. I am sure that we have been engaging with the Executive Mayor that such practice must be addressed.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Sorry Honourable Member. Honourable Mahlakeng and Honourable Mokaila, please. Okay Honourable Member.

**HON. MEC YAWA.**

I agree with you Honourable Members because Honourable Member Matladi has raised the submission of the reports, which as well the Chairperson raised. We are working hard and I am sure that we will overcome this problem in the municipalities, for the reports to reach my department in time so that they are submitted to the Legislature.

On the decentralization of services Honourable Member and the Chairperson, there is the re-election of the work that is done by the municipalities to bring services closer to the people.

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However, sometimes we will have to deal with specifics because you read the issue of Goedgevonden from Ventersdorp, which we are following up because when there was the uprising we also dealt with that and there was commitment from the municipalities, which we will just follow up.

The department, I also agree with you Honourable Matladi, that the department must be proactive. We will also all be proactive with the councilors. With the situations that we have at our disposal, the ward committees and CPWs were properly capacitated. I am sure that we can be able to avert the strikes that are sometimes facing our municipalities because what is lacking is the information.

As I was addressing here, I also mentioned that the complaints handbook system that we are developing as a department, which aims at addressing this or trying to be proactive so that we analyze the problems that are facing our people, those that the councilors and municipalities are able to deal with and those that are not solved. We will take

these others to the committee.

I also want to respond to the Morokweng Kagisano demarcation debate. I must say to the august House that the Honourable Member might perhaps have not heard that I was there twice, having met the traditional leaders from both Morokweng and Kagisano. What we have agreed, which was said and sufficed by the Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders, is that ha o se kgosi, tswa mo bogosing. O seke wa kenakenana le tsa bogosi because di tla go qhaka. I agreed with him, that we will allow the House of Traditional Leaders to deal with the problems that face the traditional leadership but on the demarcation we have also been there twice and allowed the communities to raise their problems, both at Morokweng because firstly we were called to Morokweng.

The last meeting was in another village that is also part of Morokweng because the argument is that, take followers of Kagisano to Morokweng. I do not think that is a solution because the reasons which the members of the communities

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are raising do not have the economic sense or whatever.

The Moses Kotane, I agree with you. I will wait for that report because we said we would like that information to be provided to us, Honourable Member.

The Willow Park which you also raised was raised by the Chairperson. It is a land affairs and agricultural matter. It is not really actually in our competency. I am sure that we will advise the Member to contact my colleague.

On the Extension 39 Montshiwa Extension, the contractor is on site on both projects. The reason that the houses are not electrified when they are built, Eskom indicated that vandalism takes place when they electrify the houses that are not occupied. So they allow a certain period when there is occupation of those houses. Then electrification comes on. So the contractor is on site on those two areas.

As I have said Honourable Chair of Chairs, the department will continue as it has committed itself to engage with the committee. Therefore I am sure that that brings to the end my

responses. Thank you very much.

**HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS:**

Thank you very much Honourable MEC. Honourable members we will now adopt the budget programme by programme.

- Programme No.1 which is Administration. It is allocated 47.717. Does the House agree?
- Programme No. 2, Housing. It is allocated 924.088. Does the House agree?
- Programme No. 3, Local Government. It is allocated 172.940. Does the House agree?

This brings us to the total of 1.144.745. Does the House adopt the budget? The budget has been adopted. This brings us to the budget vote of Vote 9. It has been adopted.

Honourable Members, this brings us to the end of today's business. This House is adjourned up until the 29th of this month, 2008.

**THE HOUSE IS ADJOURNED**