



NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

NORTH WEST PROVINCE

SECOND SESSION, 7TH LEGISLATURE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SITTING 10 OF 2025

TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 2025



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

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HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we will now observe a moment of silent prayer and meditation.

HON. ROSHO: The Speaker is not audible, unless it's on my side.

HON. MOLAPISI: Speaker, we can't hear you.

HON. ROSHO: We can't hear Speaker.

SUPPORT PERSON: Good morning Honourable Members, I'm trying to
...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Order Members! Order! Order Members! We've just finished meditation and prayer ...[INAUDIBLE]... You may be seated.

HON. SONAKILE: Le a re telela lona kwa #[You are disrespecting us, you in]# virtual.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay. There's an echo. Secretary, can we deal with that echo. I want us to continue but the echo is disrupting us. I can't. If I remove them, this House does not quorate. People on the system! What is causing that? Members, today's sitting is the first sitting at which we will be operating with the new edition of ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. ROSHO: Speaker, we can't hear you, unless it's on my side Honourable Members.

HON. WILLIAMS: No, it's not audible this side.

HON. MANGOPE: Neither can I hear, Chief Whip.

HON. SPEAKER: Can you hear me Members? But it makes an echo ...[INAUDIBLE]... Hello? Who's responsible for that? Members on the platform just be patient for few minutes because the ...[INAUDIBLE]... echo. We'll be starting very soon.

Honourable Members, today's sitting is the first sitting at which we will be operating with the new edition of Standing Rules that we adopted on the 27th of May 2025. The Standing Rules were shared with Members electronically and the booklet will be made available in due course. It is important that we acclimatise ourselves with the new version of the Standing Rules.

Honourable Members, today's sitting is hybrid and the rules relating to hybrid sitting as they appear on Annexure A of our Standing Rules are applicable. I implore all Honourable Members of this House to comply with these rules. Secretary, may you read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SITTING

2.1 Minutes of the 27th May 2025

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I put before this House the minutes of the 27th of May 2025 for adoption. Does the House adopt the minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Members. The minutes are now adopted. Secretary, you may read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 3 MOTIONS AS PER RULE 101

3.1 Motions Without Notice as per Rule 106

3.2 Notice of Motions as per Rule 107

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Members, there are changes relating to motions without notice especially the requirement in Rule 106, Subsection (6) which requires that a motion without notice must not contain debatable aspects. As you move your motion without notice, please be aware of this rule and ensure that where there is a need for a debate, you must rather move a notice of motion in line with Rule 107. Honourable Members, I now call for motions without notice in terms of Rule 106.

I have been advised that the multi-party whips forum have agreed that the Chief Whip of the House will table a motion without notice on the extension of the term of the ad-hoc committee on the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner. Honourable Rosho, Chief Whip.

HON. ROSHO: Thanks very much Madam Speaker. I hereby want to table a motion without notice in terms of Rule 106 of the Standing Rules of the Legislature noting that this House has established an ad-hoc committee on the appointment of the North West Public Service Commissioner also known as an ad-hoc committee of the Legislature.

Noting further that the motion requires that the ad-hoc committee must submit its report to the House on or before the 15th of June 2025 as per the resolution of the House. Noting further that the ad-hoc committee is still engaged in the process of recruitment and has recently conducted the interviews as part of the recruitment process and has moved to the next stage of assessment of candidates.

Noting further that the ad-hoc committee will not be able to complete its work before the 15th of June 2025. I now move Madam Speaker that this House amend the time frame within which the ad-hoc committee must submit the report to the House be extended to the 15th of August 2025 for the ad-hoc committee to be able to conclude its business and as well to bring the report before the House for the Legislature sitting to be able to adopt the report. I so move Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Chief Whip. Members, does the House adopt this motion?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MANGOPE: Seconded Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Is there any Member who wish to respond; Honourable Members, are there any other motion without notice? I nearly closed you out. Honourable Morweng.

HON. TSHOLO: I have raised my hand Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: I will know who's raising the hand. I'm noting names Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Tsholo, Honourable Moema, Morweng, I've seen you. Honourable Sambatha, Honourable Dikolomela, Honourable Tlhapi, Honourable Sonakile. From the platform I can only see Honourable Tlhapi and Honourable Tsholo. Any other hand? In the House, I've captured you all. Honourable Morweng.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you Dr Mohono. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to move a motion without notice paying tribute to one of South Africa's most accomplished actors, Presley Oageng Chweneyagae, whose untimely passing at the age of 40 has left an irreplaceable void in our creative and cultural landscape.

Presley Chweneyagae was the crown jewel of brilliance and excellence, a proud son of the North West Province, a shining example of the talents nurtured by the Mmabana Arts, Culture and Sports Foundation. His artistic journey, shaped by mentors such as late Walter Chakela, stood as a beacon of inspiration to aspiring young South Africans across the country.

Chweneyagae rose to international prominence with his lead role in the Oscar-winning film Tsotsi and went on to deliver captivating performances in productions such as More Than Just a Game, State of Violence, Africa United, and the widely acclaimed soap opera, The River, where he became a household name through his portrayal of his role as Cobra.

Beyond the screen, Chweneyagae was a cultural ambassador, embodying the post-apartheid South African identity with grace and commitment. His work in a play on Solomon Mahlangu further demonstrated his ability to channel historic narratives into powerful performances that resonated across audiences.

The ANC extends its heartfelt condolences to the Chweneyagae family, his colleagues, friends, and the countless admirers who found joy, hope and meaning through his work. May his legacy continue to light the path for future generations of storytellers and artists in our nation. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Morweng. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? Honourable Moema, Honourable Dabampe, is your hand up?

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Tsholo.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo, you are out of order! You raise your hand. You don't shout. We are not in a rally here. Honourable Tsholo, Honourable Sonakile, in that order. Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thanks Speaker. As the EFF, we join the community of Mahikeng, the country and the world in sending our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Presley but equally he's a clear example that once upon a time, Mafikeng was a city of galleries, arts, city of students and young intellectuals. So, it is indeed important that we draw inspiration from the life and times of Presley Chweneyagae and equally join others in submitting our sincere condolences. Thanks Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Tsholo.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. As uMkhonto weSizwe, we would like to join the rest of the nation in mourning this particular immense loss. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and the creative industry at large. We are comforted Honourable Speaker by the legacy Presley leaves behind, one of the courage, excellence and inspiration.

We are also, Honourable Speaker, calling on all relevant government departments and authorities to urgently fix and revitalise all Mmabana Arts and Culture facilities across the North West Province. These institutions were once, Honourable Speaker, places of hope and development, places where talents like Presley were nurtured. It is unacceptable that these centres, Honourable Chair, including the iconic Mmabana in Mafikeng remain neglected and non-functional.

In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, the youth of Mafikeng deserve access to quality arts development programmes so that they can, too, follow in the Presley footsteps. Honouring his legacy must go beyond words that we are talking about. It must include action that invests in the dreams of the next generation. Her latest films include more than just a game, state of violence and Africa united ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MOLAPISI: That's another statement Honourable Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo! Honourable Tsholo! Honourable Tsholo!

HON. ROSHO: Order Chairperson!

HON. DANTJIE: Order Speaker! That's a new statement.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Dabampe. Responding to the motion, one minute.

HON. DABAMPE: Covered Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Speaker, let us as the Democratic Alliance also join in to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of Presley Chweneyagae. Indeed, we have lost a trailblazer in the arts fraternity. Speaker, I hope that the government will make true to the promise that was made by Mayor Khumalo Molefe at his memorial service where he dared the government to rename Mmabana or one of the arts councils after Presley Chweneyagae. We hope it was not another popular statement made by the Mayor and will definitely follow up. May his soul rest in peace.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Tsholo, your motion. Honourable Tsholo, your motion.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Sorry for not having the camera on. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party to condemn the reported burning of Lekwa-Teemane municipal offices in Christiana.

HON. SONAKILE: Speaker!

HON. MOLAPISI: Order! The Honourable Member can't address us in bed.

HON. SPEAKER: Hold on! Hold on! Honourable ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MEMBER: In bed?

HON. MOLAPISI: She can't be wearing blankets. She's in bed.

HON. MEMBER: In bed?

HON. SPEAKER: Order! Colleagues, I'm not going to allow Members to be out of order in my sitting. You are going to be orderly. That's an order Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Speaker. Speaker, I wanted to check with you whether is it parliamentary for a Member to log into a sitting while in a taxi?

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MEMBER: O mo bolaong or o mo taxing? O ko kae sentlente? #[Is she in bed or in a taxi? Where is she exactly?]

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I want to observe our rules. I understand these rules are still new. We adopted them last month but let's adhere to the rules. What does the rules say? If any Member have got that rule because I'm not in possession of that rule? What does it say addressing the House?

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Do you have those rules?

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Speaker, I read the rules even when we debated. We said as long as you are not in motion.

HON. SPEAKER: I want us to read the rules that we have adopted. Rule 107, what does it say? Anybody? Secretary, I'll come back to that. Let's allow him to finish the motion. I understand that the rules are still new. All of us we need to make sure that we understand and know them. Let's allow her to continue. Make sure that your car is stand still Member, but we'll go back to the rules.

HON. TSHOLO: I'm with Honourable Bogatsu. We have parked; stand still Honourable Chair whilst they were looking for the office in the parliament where we are.

HON. SPEAKER: Three minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: We are the only two in the vehicle here.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo, continue with your motion.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party to condemn the reported burning of Lekwa-Teemane municipal offices in Christiana. The timing of this particular incident of arson and its timing comes in about just some few days after the Lekwa-Teemane local municipality Honourable Speaker, appeared before the SCOPA to account.

And that particular issue, Honourable Chair, the Standing Committee on SCOPA sharply raised dissatisfaction about the council deteriorated audit findings with regard to the AG findings and amongst others there were several issues that were raised Honourable Speaker. I therefore on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party call upon COGHSTA and law enforcement agencies to act swiftly in investigating the acts of arson, get to the bottom of the causes and to bring those who are found responsible to book. As I pause Honourable Speaker. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Any Member wish to respond? Honourable Babuile, Honourable Sonakile.

HON. MOLAPISI: Molapisi.

HON. BABUILE: Thank you very much Honourable speaker. I would like to call upon the Speaker to convert this motion because it has debatable aspects, turn it into a debate so that the Legislature can debate it. It's not a motion without notice. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: I'm covered Speaker by Honourable Babuile.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo, are you ready to convert; before that Honourable Molapisi.

HON. MOLAPISI: In agreement Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: You are fine Honourable Molapisi?

HON. MOLAPISI: Yes, I'm covered. I'm in agreement with the proposal.

HON. SPEAKER: The motion will be deferred to whips forum to take a decision on the motion. Thank you very much. Honourable Moema, your motion.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you Honourable Speaker, I hereby rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters in the North West Province to table a motion without notice and praise his outstanding win, the 37-year-old athlete from our town here in Mahikeng, Tete Dijana, for winning the Nedbank Comrades Marathon not for the first time nor the second time, for the third time since 2022.

Honourable Speaker, this season we do not only recognise Tete's victory but resilience and determination. It was unfortunate that in 2024, the 'Devil attacked him' as he put it when he finished 14th place during the race. He sustained an ailment which dragged his strength to sustain his title as the Nedbank Comrades Marathon Champion.

Honourable Speaker, psychology teaches us that when you are beaten, you remain down and discouraged. Tete was in a position whereby this loss took a toll on his health both physically and emotionally. However, this talented man remained strong after defeat and re-imagined himself the winner that he now is.

We take pride, Honourable Speaker, in this notable come back. His resilience should teach young people in our province, especially in the sporting fraternity to always fight for what they love and believe in. The EFF advocates for the undying spirit of individuals in so much that their impact multiplies to inspire those coming after them.

Honourable Speaker, we are extremely honoured by the inspiration that Tete continues to exert in the lives of young athletes who aspire to make it big in sports. Let both his win and previous loss continue to stimulate all young people whose vision for success looked blurry, whose dreams seemed far from reach and whose hope almost became distinct. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Moema. Any Member wish to respond? Honourable Sambatha, Honourable Tlhapi, Honourable Tsholo.

HON. SAMBATHA: Honourable Speaker Dr Mohono, I rise to request that the Member accepts to convert the motion into a debate because this component ya #[of]# devilish is highly debatable.

And the Legislature can't be converted to a prayer session. Without going deeper to this, it will also allow that session to invite the five members because in the Top 10, North West has produced five, to invite them to be part of the debate when we are debating provided the Member accedes to the fact that devilish component is highly debatable. Thank you.

HON. TLHAPI: Madam Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tlhapi.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Let me join Honourable Sambatha and maybe ke infome #[to inform]# Honourable Member that I am also inviting all Honourable Members to welcome all the five of them on Friday ko #[at]# Mahikeng. We will be starting at Kgosi #[Traditional Leader]# then we will be travelling with them around Mahikeng. So I'm inviting them and as I agree with Honourable Sambatha that we are doing our best to make sure that we support our athletes. Thank you very much Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo. Members I'll also do like I did with the last one that the whippery forum will check if there's a need for it to be brought into the House for debate or what but the invite will come properly. You don't hijack the sitting and send an invite Honourable MEC. I think we go to the next motion. Honourable Sambatha.

HON. SAMBATHA: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Ema pele #[Wait first]# Honourable Sambatha! Honourable Nathan, I'm not sure why are you on the screen because I don't see your hand up unless you didn't write your name on the platform.

HON. OLIPHANT: Apologies Speaker. It was an error.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay. Honourable Sambatha, you can continue.

HON. SAMBATHA: Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to move a motion without notice congratulating the first batch of the South African National Service Institute (SANSI) youth cadets, who graduated from the programme on the 7th of June 2025 at the Dunnottar Military Base in Sharondale.

This landmark event marks the successful completion of the programme by the first group of youth cadets who have undergone intensive training focused on discipline, public service, and practical skills. The programme is designed to build a skills-to-industry pipeline, preparing young people to contribute meaningfully to South Africa's economic growth and social development.

Through SANSI, the Department of Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities aims to rally all government and all civil society behind a de-siloed and nationally coordinated effort to reinforce our nation's ongoing war on youth unemployment through massification of a value-chain-driven and sector-specific skills development, new venture and enterprise development, production and service delivery brigades, and infant industries to power up South Africa's re-industrialisation targets.

As the ANC we welcome the initiative as it equips our young people with the lifelong skills. Skills development is crucial for young people because it empowers them to take control of their futures, enhances their employability and contribution to overall social development. We are aware that the North West Premier, Honourable L.K. Mokgosi, is currently in discussion with the Minister in the Presidency responsible for Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities to ensure the ultimate implementation of the same programme in our province, as a strategic intervention to mitigate the high levels of unemployment in the province.

We will give the Premier and the Minister space to determine the official implementation date of the programme; however, we call on them to address the matter with the urgency it deserves, given

the depth of frustration caused by unemployment and poverty experienced by our people. This programme further provides opportunities for economic independence, personal growth, ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MEMBER: Is this a motion? Is this a motion?

HON. SAMBATHA: I so move Chair. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sambatha. Any Member wish to respond? Honourable Moema, Honourable Tlhapi.

HON. TLHAPI: Madam Speaker, I'm sorry ke #[it is a]# legacy hand for responding to the motion wa motho o #[of that person]#; sorry.

HON. SPEAKER: Motho o dirang? #[What about the person.]#

HON. BOTSWE: Who is motho ona? Motho oo ke mang? #[this person? Who is that person?]

HON. SPEAKER: I don't know.

HON. BOTSWE: I just heard the MEC now, now.

HON. TLHAPI: Ga ke a bua ka motho #[I did not talk about a person]# Honourable Botswe. Ga ke a bua ka motho #[I did not talk about a person]# Honourable Botswe.

HON. SPEAKER: Order! MEC order! Honourable Moema, your one minute.

HON. MOEMA: Thanks, Honourable Speaker. I also wish to propose that we convert that motion for a debate because you know the aspect of engaging in waging a war to fight this poverty and unemployment particularly of young people. Currently as things stand with the current government is questionable because when they are arguing to be doing that, they are doing that for their families and they apply a lot of nepotism in doing it. So, there's no credibility in so far as the current government is concerned. And I think even arrest-arrest can tell you currently it's ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Your one minute is gone.

HON. MOEMA: It's currently on spot because of the same thing; so we want to debate that so that we can scrutinize this war that they are claiming to have waged to alleviate poverty and unemployment ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Your one minute is gone.

HON. MOEMA: Thanks.

HON. SPEAKER: I think we'll be debating unemployment in the House. It will be debated today. The next one would be Honourable Dikolomela.

HON. DIKOLOMELA: Thank you Honourable Dr Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I hereby rise on behalf of the EFF in North West to table a motion without notice, to extend our heartfelt support and best wishes to Orbit College FC as they prepare for the crucial PSL Promotion Playoff match against Casric Stars FC on the 11th of June 2025 at Olympia Park Stadium at three o' clock.

This historic moment is a testament to the hard work, and exceptional talent that this team has demonstrated throughout their journey from the ABC Motsepe League to the brink of Betway Premiership promotion. Orbit College FC, Honourable Speaker, based in the North West Province, has shown remarkable progress and resilience. Having competed in the ABC Motsepe League, they earned promotion to the Motsepe Foundation Championship, where they defied expectations in the 2024/2025 season by finishing second, a phenomenal achievement for a team still establishing itself in the professional ranks.

Their consistent performances, tactical discipline, and fighting spirit have made them a source of pride for the people of the North West and football fans across the country. Honourable Speaker, the upcoming PSL Promotion Playoffs are not just matches but a golden opportunity for Orbit College FC to make history by securing a place in South Africa's top-flight football league. Their success would inspire countless young athletes in our Province, proving that with determination, proper structures, and community support; even smaller clubs can compete at the highest level.

Honourable Speaker, as the EFF in the North West Provincial Legislature, we call upon this House and the people of our Province to rally behind Orbit College FC as they represent us on this grand stage. We urge the provincial government, local businesses, and football supporters to fill Olympia Park Stadium and create an electrifying atmosphere that will drive the team to victory. Let us unite in support of our boys as they chase their dream of PSL promotion. I so move, Honourable Speaker. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Dikolomela. Any Member wish to respond?
Honourable Tlhapi.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker and let me also join Honourable Dikolomela in supporting the Orbit Football Club. As department, Madam Speaker, we will continue to make sure that North West becomes better province and we are indeed in support of the Orbit Football Club. And we will be supporting them throughout all their matches. We are working towards having our own club in the North West Province and I think ka #[with]# Orbit Football Club, we can have that.

So, we are continuing to support them and we are going to make sure that we give them the necessary support that they want. We will be giving them as we have always been doing that. Thank you very much Madam Speaker as I join her to also all Members to go and support them during their time.

HON. SPEAKER: Bring the invite properly. Thank you Honourable Tlhapi.

HON. TLHAPI: E ga se invite. Re a reka akere? #[This one is not an invite. We are buying, isn't it?]?# Thanks.

HON. SPEAKER: Don't hijack my sittings. You'll bring the invite properly for approval by the Speaker. Honourable Tlhapi, your motion.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to move a motion without notice condemning the ongoing taxi-related violence in Brits and Letlhabile, which has led to injuries, road closures, and disruption of schooling activities.

On the 3rd of June 2025, violence broke out between rival associations and disputed routes, resulting in several vehicles torched, and learners from three secondary schools in the area sent home due to the safety concerns. This incident follows weeks of unresolved tensions, despite interventions by the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management. Though we

welcome the recent deployment of Public Order Policing Units to stabilise the area, long-term resolution is needed.

As the African National Congress, we call for the urgent convening of a conflict mediation summit involving all affected associations, community leaders and the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management to formalize routes and ensure compliance with licensing regulations. Public transport must serve, not endanger the lives of our commuters and safety of our communities. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable MEC. Any Member wish to respond?
MEC.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you very much ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. STEYL: Speaker, point of order!

HON. SPEAKER: Point of order, Honourable Nathan.

HON. STEYL: No, no. Ke nna #[It's me]#, Steyl.

HON. SPEAKER: Ooh, lo bua ka go tshwana. #[You speak the same way.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Okay, Honourable Steyl.

HON. OLIPHANT: Hee-e, #[No]# Speaker. Hee-e #[No]#.

HON. STEYL: Sorry Mmusakgotla. Ke tšheka fela gore #[Speaker. I am just checking if]# is it parliamentary for the MEC for Arts and Culture to deliver a member statement and then have it on the Portfolio of Community Safety and Transport and then for the MEC of Community Safety and Transport to respond to the MEC of Arts and Culture. Ke moferefere ntho e. Danki #[It's chaos this thing. Thank you.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Morweng. You can respond.

HON. MORWENG: No, no, Speaker, key to indicate to the Legislature that the North West intervention task team is in the area to make sure they amicably resolve the problem. And then to this end, all the associations ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. BABUILE: Order Honourable Speaker. Here.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable.

HON. BABUILE: Honourable Speaker, I'm calling on order on Members who are on a virtual platform. They are now walking with us in the corridors there. And this is part of the reason we once said Members must not join virtually. It's exactly this. Now they are walking with us in the corridors.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members on the platform. I'm being lenient today because our rules are new. If you can take some time and read Annexure A, it will advise you so that in the next sitting when we have a hybrid sitting, you don't blame us when we cut you off in the sitting. For now, I'm accepting that the rules are new. You are making mistakes but read Annexure A

because next sitting, we'll be very firm on our rules. The next one to present a motion; oh, you want to respond to the motion? Okay, Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thanks Speaker. I think the motion is debatable because the MEC is even making some recommendations that we might propose otherwise as opposed to what she has already tabled in so far as the motion is concerned. So we move that you convert it into a motion for a debate. Thanks Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: ...[INAUDIBLE]... I thought you were eaten by the wolves in China because I never heard from you, but you are welcome. Honourable Botswe, do you want to respond? You have your hand up. They wanted me to recognise that you are back. You are welcome. And Honourable Steenhuis, you are welcome. The last motion comes from Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Steenhuis; Honourable Speaker, thank you very much. I hereby move on behalf of the DA that this House notes and welcomes the arrest and recent first court appearance on 4 June 2025 of Mr Tshiamo Justice Makwati, Mr Mosimanepula Jonas Molefe and Ms Chanice Ditlhare Morubane in the Mmabatho Magistrates Court on charges of fraud amounting to more than 455 000 in connection with the irregular and fraudulent disposal of state-owned properties belonging to the North West Housing Corporation.

We commend the National Prosecuting Authority in the North West under the leadership of DPP Dr Rachel Machari for their decisive role in ensuring that charges were brought against the accused following thorough investigation. We congratulate the directorate for priority investigation, the Hawks, in particular the Mahikeng-based serious commercial crimes investigation unit for their work in uncovering this alleged fraud and collaborating with the NPA to bring the suspects before court.

We recognise the importance of this case in restoring public confidence in the justice system's ability to hold accountable those who abuse public resources especially in entities such as Housing Corp which are meant to serve the housing needs of the vulnerable citizens. We encourage the

NPA and law enforcement agencies to pursue this matter to its full conclusion including the recovery of lost public funds and the imposition of appropriate sanctions should the accused be found guilty. I so move.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sonakile. Anyone who wish to respond to the motion? Thank you. Anybody that I might have left out on motions? On the platform, none. In the House, none. Honourable Members, does the House adopt these motions?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Is there any notice of motions Honourable Members? None. Oh, sorry. Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a notice of motion to expropriate all land that currently is occupied by farm schools in the North West Province. I so move.

HON. SPEAKER: Presley o dila ka nna kajeko. Ke lebala go tobetsa. #[is dealing with me today. I forget to press.]# I'm sorry for that Honourable Members. The notice of motion will be put on the order paper for a debate as per the Legislature programme. Secretary, or is there another notice? Okay Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you Honourable Speaker. We rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a notice of motion for a debate to address the rampant corruption, maladministration and nepotism within the North West Provincial Government. Thanks Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: The same apply to that one. The motion will be put on the order paper for a debate as per the Legislature programme. Any other notice of motion? On the platform Honourable Tsholo.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe to put a motion of notice with regard to the non-payment of service providers by the Department of COSATMA and the effect to that particular effect on the beneficiaries. Thanks, Honourable Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: The same will go for this motion. It will be through the Legislature programme. Any other motion of notice? None. Thank you very much. Secretary you may read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 4 STATEMENTS

4.1 Statements by Members as per Rule 130

4.2 Executive Statements as per Rule 130 (a)

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I wish to draw your attention to Rule 130 and 130 (a) in terms of the Rule 130. The Premier and the Members of the Executive Council may not make a statement. However, they may respond and please note that statements in terms of Rule 130 are a means of oversight and only the Premier and Members of Executive Council may respond. This is a universal practice which we have qualified in our Standing Rules. Honourable Members, we have however inserted a new provision in our Standing Rules that caters for Members of the Executive Council to make Executive Statements.

Does any Member wish to make a statement in terms of Rule 130? Honourable Steyl, Honourable Steenkamp, Honourable Tsholo, Honourable Sonti, Honourable Sonakile, oh Honourable Rosho,

I saw it right. Honourable Matshe, okay. Honourable, second thought, Honourable Sebegoe. Did I capture all the hands? On the platform I only have got two. Honourable Steyl.

HON. STEYL: Thank you Speaker. Two weeks ago, the Portfolio Committee on COGHSTA conducted an oversight visit to assess the unblocked blocked-housing projects in Motlhabe, in the Moses Kotane Local Municipality. I am glad to report that the completion of these unblocked blocked-housing projects are showing some results.

However, as is custom when conducting an oversight inspection in a traditional area, the committee will first meet with the local Kgosi #[Traditional Leader]# and members of the traditional council. It was a great privilege to meet Kgosi Abel Mooketsi and the Secretary of the Motlhabe Tradition Council, Mme #[Madam]# Pauline Thipe. Kgosi Mooketsi expressed gratitude for the completion of the housing units in Motlhabe, even though that it took a very long time.

Unfortunately, Honourable Speaker, the Motlhabe Traditional Council offices are in an incomplete state. A contractor as part of its social responsibility outreach programme began construction of the new buildings but abandoned the site. Through you Speaker, we request that MEC Oageng Molapisi, to consider supporting the Motlhabe Traditional Council so that the remaining work can be completed.

The outstanding works relate to roofing, the ceiling and finishing. In addition, the Traditional Council has no office equipment, and a request has been made to secure Wi-Fi connection, a computer, copier, printer and a few other essentials. Honourable Speaker, Kgosi Mooketsi also shared with us the challenges he faces in supporting the 41 villages under the Council's jurisdiction. He makes use of taxis and does not have adequate transport.

Last year the provincial government gave traditional leaders 4x4 bakkies to support their work, but the Motlhabe Traditional Council enjoyed no such benefit. Why would some traditional leaders receive support while others do not? What are the criteria that would qualify for this support?

In this House, we acknowledge the role of traditional leaders, and we regularly engage Traditional Councils. Traditional Council offices remain a focal point in extending some services to communities, even to the extent that these facilities can be expanded to also partner to secure the

delivery of some government services. In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, we would like MEC Molapisi to consider capacitating the Motlhabe Traditional Council as the department has done with other Traditional Councils in service of the Motlhabe Community. Ke lebogile. #[Thank you.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Steyl. Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to respond? None. Honourable Steenkamp.

HON. STEENKAMP: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I rise today to express a very deep concern and frustration on behalf of the residents of Ward 14 in Tswaing who have been without water for 12 consecutive days. This is not just an inconvenience; it is now a humanitarian crisis. Businesses are shutting down. Households are suffering. Children go to school unwashed. Clinics cannot operate hygienically. And all of this is happening in the year 2025, under an ANC provincial government.

Despite daily complaints, the dysfunctional Tswaing Local Municipality and the equally dysfunctional Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality continue to engage in blame games—arguing over who is responsible—while the people of Tswaing are left to suffer in silence. A high court order in 2021 instructing both municipalities to fix their water management was ignored.

A petition submitted in 2024 has been forgotten. And when the Geysdorp pump station control box burnt on the 27th of May, nothing was done to fix it for more than a week. In fact, more than 50% of the boreholes across Tswaing are currently non-functional. There is no communication, there is no tankering, no emergency plans, and absolutely no accountability.

Residents' calls go unanswered. Officials are unreachable. This isn't just failure—it is neglect. This is the collapse of basic service delivery in the North West. We demand urgent disciplinary action against the named officials in both municipalities who have blatantly violated the Water Services Act and Section 27 of the Constitution, which guarantees every South African the right to water.

The ANC has failed the people of Tswaing. This government is not only incapable—it is indifferent to the suffering of our communities. The DA will not stop until those responsible are held accountable and the taps of Tswaing are flowing again. Madam Speaker, I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Steenkamp. Any; either the Premier or a Member of the Executive who wish to respond? None. Honourable Tsholo, your statement.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I would like to rise on behalf of the uMkhonto weSizwe Party to make a statement on the rife expulsion and release of employees un-procedurally by mining industries in North West Province. Honourable Speaker, having noted the rate at which mineworkers around our province are being discharged from work without following disciplinary processes is very much concerning when we look at the rate of unemployment within our province.

These particular industries, they disregard the laws of our country and it is very much disturbing and we want to say it categorically clear Honourable Speaker that the disregard of the laws of our country is skyrocketing in this particular industry. Capitalists nor imperialists masquerading as business people or as investors are taking advantage of our people in North West.

I would therefore, Honourable Speaker, would like to call upon our Honourable Premier of North West to engage with mining industries as they are playing with our own people and they are taking advantage of them whilst they are maximising profit at the expense of their labour and discharging them un-procedurally so.

With that Honourable Speaker, I hope and trust that the Honourable Speaker will have engagements with these particular mining industries in order to curb the situation moving forward and to ensure that our people are employed in order to reduce the level of unemployment. Thank you very much Honourable Speaker as I pause.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tsholo. Does the Premier or any other MEC wish to respond? None. Honourable Sonti.

HON. SONTI: Thank you Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I hereby rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters in the province to table a member statement and condemn in the strongest form possible the ongoing lack of service provision by the Bophelong Provincial Hospital staff.

Honourable Speaker, the state of health care services at this hospital is sad, poor, to an extent that infringes the constitutional rights of patients to be treated with the urgency deserved. Patients are being admitted for very long periods of time which inevitably subjects them to continued health threats as a result of being unattended.

Honourable Speaker, these are patients with critical fractures amongst other pressing illnesses and need imperative surgical procedures to be performed on which the Hospital dismally failed to deliver. Horrifically, the lack of service by the nurses at Bophelong Hospital subjects them to poor health to an extent that other patients have been discharged without being operated on and told they will only be called back once the theatre becomes available. This on its own is absurd to say the least.

Honourable Speaker, clearly our people's lives are being taken for granted by the MEC of Health. Honourable Lehari must be made aware that this is an alarming practice that poses a serious health risk to the health and recovery of admitted patients at Bophelong Provincial Hospital. Our people are suffering unnecessarily since the government of the day doesn't care and discourse the broader crisis in our provincial healthcare system.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF say this again and again that our communities deserve better and will not stand to watch the health and dignity of our people to be compromised further. We call for urgent intervention by the Health MEC of Health. It is factual that this status quo is medically dangerous and Honourable Lehari must remedy the severe staff shortages, poor planning and breakdown of internal systems as of yesterday. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Sonti. Does the Premier or any MEC wish to respond? None. Thank you. Honourable Chief Whip, Honourable Rosho.

HON. ROSHO: Thank you very much Madam Speaker, Dr Mohono. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement mourning the passing of ANC stalwart Isithwalandwe Mme #[Madam]# Gertrude Shope, a principled and pioneering woman, a fearless voice for justice, and a towering figure whose life embodied the spirit of South Africa's long and painful struggle for freedom. Following the historic democratic breakthrough and South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994, Ma-Shope became part of the first generation of Members of Parliament in a free and democratic South Africa.

In this historic role, she was instrumental in transforming the Parliament from a symbol of oppression into a people's institution rooted in transparency, inclusivity, and constitutional values. She helped lay the foundation of a democratic legislature that would reflect the will of South Africans, contributing to the building of laws and institutions anchored in human dignity, equality, and justice.

Affectionately known as Ma-Shope, she was among the first women to mobilise against the injustices of the brutal, racist apartheid regime. From the early days of resistance, she stood on the frontlines, participating in protests and marches and galvanising communities against the atrocities committed by the oppressive minority government.

As a founding member of the Federation of South African Women and a leading figure in the African National Congress Women's League, she emerged as a torchbearer for women's resistance, defying systemic injustices with unmatched grace and determination. Her life was a beacon of courage and resilience, traversing some of the darkest chapters in our country's history. She remained unwavering in her conviction that all South Africans deserved to live with dignity in a society free from racism, oppression, and inequality.

Ma-Shope's contribution extended far beyond our borders: While in exile, she rallied behind international solidarity for the anti-apartheid cause; becoming one of the most compelling global voices in the fight against apartheid. Her voice echoed across continents, exposing the cruelty of the system and calling the world to action.

Upon returning to South Africa during the democratic transition and the unbanning of political parties, she was elected the first President of the established ANC Women's League in South

Africa. She continued to serve with humility, dedication, mentoring others and uplifting the communities she worked with. She always reminded us that the struggle was not over until dignity, justice and equality become a lived reality for all.

Her passing marks the end of an extraordinary chapter in our national story. Yet, her legacy remains deeply woven into our Constitution, our democratic institutions, and the lives of countless South Africans who were touched by her leadership, courage, and compassion. As the ANC Caucus, we extend our deepest condolences to the Shope family, to the ANC women's league leadership in South Africa, to women across Africa, to all female activists, all her comrades, and women that she mentored in the military war veterans league and all people that she walked with her on the long struggles for justice and also on the noble road to freedom. We bow our heads in mourning, even as we raise our voices in honour of a life lived in service of justice, peace, and human dignity. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Chief Whip. Any Member wish to respond? Member of the Executive or the Premier? None. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Speaker. Speaker, I rise today to express deep concern and outrage over the tragic consequences of this government's failure to maintain provincial roads, a failure that has now cost the taxpayers 26.6 million and, more importantly, cost a woman her independence, dignity, and future.

The North West High Court recently held the Department of Public Works and Roads 100% liable for a horrific accident that occurred in 2014, when a professional nurse known to the court only as Beauty, struck a pothole on an unmaintained road, overturned, and became permanently disabled. Beauty, who had served as a nurse for over 25 years, is now 77% physically impaired. Her promising career and her ability to live independently have been destroyed; all because a pothole was ignored until it ruined a life.

The court awarded 26.6 million in damages, but what is more shocking, Honourable Speaker, is that the department failed to honour the payment until the plaintiff's lawyers were forced to obtain

a writ of execution to attach departmental assets. That's right; the department was days away from having its property sold at public auction to pay for the consequences of its own negligence.

This is a new low. Honourable Speaker, this is not just a legal failure. It is a collapse of governance, accountability, and basic service delivery. It is a case study in what happens when potholes are left to grow, when roads fall apart, and when lives are reduced to legal claims.

I therefore call on MEC Mokuu to appear before this House and confirm whether the full amount has been paid; explain how her department will fund this payout without derailing its already overstretched budget; table a list of all pending and settled claims related to road negligence; (4) present a clear, time-bound road maintenance plan to prevent future tragedies.

This matter should never have reached the courts. It should have been prevented by competent, proactive public service. This is a price paid in blood and public funds for a pothole. This is disgraceful and it must never happen again. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sonakile. Any Executive Member who wish to respond? None. Honourable Matshe.

HON. MATSHE: Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement applauding the National Assembly for passing the Older Persons Amendment Bill on the 9th of May 2025. The Bill aims to protect and promote the fundamental rights of older persons and amongst others ensure that the elderly can retire safely and are shielded from abuse in care facilities or at home.

The legislation addressed the widespread neglect and mistreatment that many older people continue to face. It was introduced in May 2022, and it aims to strengthen the original version by addressing gaps identified through years of implementation. It responds to growing concerns over elder abuse, poor care services and financial exploitation.

Key provisions in the Bill includes improved and more stringent oversight over old age homes, protection of older persons' assets from potential exploitation by relatives, as well as mandatory

reporting of abuse and the provision of safe temporary care for those victims that will have been removed from harmful or abusive environment.

We are pleased that the government led by the African National Congress has driven this long overdue intervention to protect the safety and dignity of older persons and affirm their constitutional rights. This major achievement is a product of a working partnership between Government and structures of Older Persons.

As we welcome the adoption of the Older Persons Amendment as a necessary step towards protecting the rights and dignity of older persons, we pay special tribute to the late Mme #[Madam]# Mmanko Legoale, Ntate #[Mr]# Maruping, Rev Rabaji, and Professor Wilfred Legotlo and many other leaders of the sector for their leadership and guidance that accounts for the ultimate adoption of this progressive Amendment Bill. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Smuts. Does the Premier or any other Member of the Executive wish to respond? None. Honourable Sebegoe.

HON. SEBEGOE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement commending the law enforcement agencies for apprehending seven suspects in the case involving fraud, corruption and contravention of the Public Finance Management Act involving over 86 million that appeared recently in the Molopo Magistrate in Mahikeng.

The accused persons, Lydia Keneilwe Sebego, former Head of Department of North West Health; Dr Andrew Lekalakala, also a former Head of Department; Vuyo Wesley Mbulawa, 56 years old, former Chief Director; Kabelo Elliot Andrew Motene, 50 year old, Director; Ntabeleng Florence Matlapeng, Deputy Director; Joseph Mojoji Leshaba, Director of Raliform Investment Holdings; and Ralph Lotwane Mabe, Director of MR Property who are out on bail are expected to appear again in court on the 25th of August 2025.

The charges, Honourable Speaker, stem from a project by the North West Department of Health to construct hospitals in Vryburg and Ledig. It is alleged that in 2007, Ms Sebego, in her capacity

as Head of Department, signed a service level agreement with two companies directed by Mabe and Leshaba. These contracts were for the supply and maintenance of medical equipment for the new hospitals. However, investigations revealed that the service providers only partially fulfilled their contractual obligations.

Although some equipment was reportedly purchased and some maintenance carried out, the companies allegedly submitted fraudulent invoices for undelivered equipment and services that were never rendered but paid by the department. The state further alleges that senior officials from the department acted in common purpose to approve these payments, despite the services not being fully delivered, resulting in a financial loss of over 86 million. It is also alleged that the department's supply chain policies and bidding processes were disregarded during the appointment of the service providers.

As the ANC, we commend the collaborative efforts by the National Prosecuting Authority and the Hawks, which led to the arrest and court appearance of the accused. We welcome the arrest of the suspects in this case as fraud and corruption have significant negative impacts on individuals, businesses, and the overall economy. It erodes trust, distorts markets, and hinders sustainable development of the country. Corruption further limits access to essential services like healthcare and education for vulnerable populations. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sebegoe. Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to respond? None. Thank you very much Honourable Members. Honourable Members, I now proceed to Executive Statements in terms of Rule 130 (a). Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive Council wish to make a statement? The rules are still new. They are not used to Executive Members reading statement but going forward Members of the Executive Council and the Premier will be tabling statements according to our new rules, Rule 130 (a). If there's no Member of the Executive who has got a statement, we will now move. Secretary, may you read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 5 ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Members, reports have been tabled through the ATC and referred to the relevant committee for scrutiny and processing. Committee reports with recommendations were also tabled through the ATC. Does the House adopt the committee recommendations as House resolutions? Does the House adopt?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Ke #[I]# understand gore go maruru #[that it is cold]# but let's try and be lively. The committee recommendations are now adopted as House resolutions. Secretary, you may read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 6 DEBATES ON NOTICE OF MOTION

6.1 Unemployment Crisis in the North West Province as per Rule 132

6.2 The persistent water supply crisis facing communities throughout the North West Province as per Rule 107

HON. SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. Honourable Members, I received a request in terms of Rule 132 from Honourable Sonakile for an urgent debate on the topic: Unemployment crisis in the North West Province. I have processed the request through the multi-party whips forum and they have agreed to include the debate on today's sitting. I will now call Honourable Sonakile to lead the debate. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you very much Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Members of this House, I rise today with a heavy heart but also with fire in my bones because this is not just a political motion. This is a cry for help, a cry from thousands of people across the North West who wake up

every morning to a province that has forgotten them, a government that has abandoned them and a system that is broken.

Let us be absolutely clear. We are not debating numbers; we are debating lives. Behind every percentage point in the labour force survey, is a real person, a graduate staring at the ceiling wondering why their degree can't buy bread, a parent skipping meals so their child can eat, a young person whose hope is dying slowly. One rejection and one broken promise at a time.

Honourable Speaker, the North West has the highest unemployment in the country. Let that sink in. The expanded unemployment rate stands at 56% with the official unemployment rate at 40.4%. And just this past quarter, 57 000 more jobs vanished. Speaker, the life blood of this province is draining and the Premier stands before us every time with no plan, no urgency and no shame.

We were promised a new dawn after the 2024 elections instead we got the same darkness wearing a new suite. We hear of investment summits but the only summiting is the unemployment rate. The executive hosts gala dinners while the people eat dust. Honourable Speaker, we delayed this motion after the elections in the hope, not trust, that Premier Mokgosi would rise above rhetoric and lead, but he has not. And so today, we say enough is enough.

The urban blue gas to power project in Matlosana, for example, was meant to signal a new era of jobs and investment. Instead, it is a fog of secrecy and suspected irregularities. No published investment breakdown, no job figures, no transparency and not a single oversight report presented to this House.

We demand answers. Where is the Premier's provincial jobs plan? Where is the economic road map? What investments have actually produced real, trackable jobs? And what is the impact of these promised investments when the roads that should connect our people to opportunity are falling apart?

Our collapsing road network is an economic handbrake. Investors will not come to a province where delivery trucks can't move, where ambulances get stuck and residents are suing the department for injuries and deaths caused by potholes as we saw this week in a 26.6 million payout forced by court judgement.

It is a cruel paradox that one of South Africa's most mineral rich province, the North West, leads with the highest levels of unemployment. Here in the North West, platinum, gold and chrome mining dominate our landscape. We are the heart of South Africa's mining economy. In fact, we produce nearly 40% of South Africa's platinum output contributing massively to the national GDP.

The Rustenburg Platinum Belt alone is responsible for over 70% of the world's platinum supply. And yet despite all this mineral wealth, the North West also bears the shame of the country's highest expanded unemployment rates. How can this be Honourable Speaker? How can a province sitting atop such immense natural wealth produce such poverty, despair and joblessness?

It is no wonder that our people have given us a new name, the nothing works province on social media. A province where nothing works, not the roads, not the municipalities, not the economy and tragically not even the hopes and aspirations of its residents. This cannot be allowed to continue. The debate today cannot be a tick box exercise, a matter of platitudes and promises that are never fulfilled. We need bold, deliberate, targeted reforms, real practical action and not talk.

Other provinces are moving forward. The Northern Cape once solely dependent on mining is fast becoming South Africa's renewable energy hub creating thousands of new jobs in solar and wind energy. The Western Cape with no mineral wealth to boast of, has built a thriving economy on agriculture, tourism and technology. Its expanded unemployment rate is the lowest in the country.

Even Mpumalanga with fewer operations than North West has diversified into agriculture, forestry and energy to buffer against mining sector decline but here in the North West mining continues to enrich a few while communities remain locked in poverty and unemployment. Beneficiation is a pipe dream; local economic development is weak or non-existent. Skills development is failing, and municipalities are collapsing under mismanagement and maladministration pushing investors away.

That is why this motion today is so important. The status quo is unacceptable. It is unjust and it is unsustainable. The North West cannot be a province that produces the world's platinum but cannot produce employment for its own people. This debate Honourable Speaker is not about words, it's about survival. It's about dignity and about whether this province has a future or not.

Honourable Speaker, we are no longer in a normal situation. This province is in a jobs disaster. That is why the DA is calling for the following urgent interventions: The DA's five point rescue

plan for jobs and economic recovery: (1) Premier, declare unemployment in the North West as a provincial disaster. This crisis must be formally recognised so that resources, partnerships and political attention can be urgently focused.

(2) Establish a Premier-led youth employment war room based in the Office of the Premier. This unit must track progress on youth job creation, fast track enterprise support and eliminate duplication across departments. (3) Adopt a provincial jobs turnaround plan with measurable targets, specific time frames, cross-departmental buy-in, and budget alignment reviewed quarterly by this Legislature.

(4) Launch a provincial infrastructure first recovery strategy focused on fixing roads, ensuring stable electricity, upgrading water systems and extending broadband to rural communities, all to attract and retain investment. (5) Table quarterly reports on all investment projects. This must include job creation numbers, project status, budget allocations, and obstacles and transparency will become non-negotiable.

Honourable Speaker, this is the DA's offer. We are ready with real solutions. All we ask is that people of this province be treated not as burdens but as builders of their own future. To Premier Mkgosi and acting Premier Mosenogi, your honeymoon is over. The time for poetic speeches and symbolic ribbon cutting is done.

This House must demand a clear jobs plan, an honest account of investment impact, a road infrastructure rescue package and a commitment for transparency and urgency. And if you cannot deliver, then step aside for those of us who will because North West is not poor. It is poorly governed, and we will not stop fighting until that changes.

Let this House be remembered not as a place where unemployment crisis was ignored but where the fight against it began. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sonakile. Honourable Lenkopane, your 10 minutes. Honourable Lenkopane. Okay. I will skip Honourable Lenkopane because it's like she's not on the platform also but I never receive any person who will be debating on her behalf. As a result, I will go to Honourable Botswe. Your eight minutes.

HON. BOTSWE: Honourable Speaker of the august House, leaders of the Economic Freedom Fighters in the North West Province, fellow Members of the North West Provincial Legislature, baagi ba Bokonebophirima, ke le hlomphile. #[the people of the North West, I respect you.]# Honourable Speaker, the sky-high unemployment rate in the North West is a testament of economic failure on a provincial level ...[INTERRUPTION]... and a government who is not prepared to correct it.

HON. SPEAKER: Just hold on! Just hold on Honourable.

HON. BOTSWE: Speaker?

HON. LENKOPANE: Hello?

HON. SPEAKER: Who's that?

HON. LENKOPANE: Is it fine now? Am I audible this side Speaker?

HON. MOEMA: Order Speaker! Order Speaker!

HON. SPEAKER: Oh, Honourable Lenkopane ...[INTERRUPTION]... Who's talking?

HON. LENKOPANE: Honourable Speaker? Honourable Lenkopane, Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Lenkopane, I'm not sure because already Honourable Botswe is on the platform. I've called you and called you until I gave up on you.

HON. LENKOPANE: No, I've been on this side also trying to get through Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Just hold on Honourable Lenkopane. Just hold on.

HON. MOEMA: Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes.

HON. MOEMA: Yes, we understand that rules are amended but we must not be abused. I think it's Rule 53 in terms of the previous rules. I don't think it has changed that one; that when a Member is debating they can't be interrupted during a debate that's (1). And Honourable Lenkopane is doing that but (2) ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. SPEAKER: Sit down Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: But (2) we need clarity in terms of whether people who are not physically present in the sitting they are allowed to debate. So can you tell us ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Moema!

HON. MOEMA: In so far as those rules are concerned.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Moema, sit down! Sit down. Honourable Botswe, just hold on. Honourable Lenkopane, I was explaining that I called you until I gave up on you because all of you I said let's acquaint ourselves with the new rules. So Honourable Botswe is on the platform. Can we switch off the video. I will consult and see how we accommodate you. Honourable Botswe, you can continue.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much Dr Honourable Speaker. The sky-high unemployment rate in the North West is a testament of economic failure on a provincial level and a government who is not prepared to correct itself. Subsequent to the appointment of the current administration, the Premier and the MECs have been declaring "rigorous efforts" at increasing unemployment opportunities in the province through the partnerships and funding, yet the reported statistics are playing a tug-of-war with these declarations as they tell a different story. But as the Ernie Lindsey said: "Numbers don't lie, people do".

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey report compiled by Statistics South Africa over the past few years indicates that the North West has consistently topped the entire country with the highest unemployment rate for more than 5 years, and that it now does so by unprecedented margins. Honourable Speaker, it is important to note the difference between the official unemployment rate and the expanded unemployment rate. The official unemployment rate speaks only to the percentage of the labour force that is actively looking for work, while the expanded unemployment rate includes those who have grown despondent and have been discouraged from looking for jobs.

As the EFF, we believe that the expanded unemployment rate is a more accurate reflection of the reality on the ground as the people don't stop being unemployed simply because of they grew tired of applying for jobs unsuccessfully in an environment that thrives on connections and bribery. Therefore, we will be focusing on the expanded unemployment rate throughout this debate.

Between 2017 and 2018, the expanded unemployment rate averaged around 40 and 41% which was the second highest in the country after Eastern Cape. The province maintained second position with a difference of approximately 3% until quarter 3 of 2022 when we suddenly plummeted into the first position with the expanded unemployment rate of 53.3%. Since then, we have maintained

the title of being the province with the highest unemployment rate, with the statistics reporting the expanded unemployment rate headed towards 60%.

Honourable Speaker, if there has ever been a crisis in the province, this would be it. These numbers, when translated into reality, speak to the increased job losses in the mining sector which is the largest industry in the province and therefore also the largest employer. It speaks to the discontinuing of the EPWP programme which employed thousands across municipalities, but turned out to be electioneering tactics as the programme was terminated three months after elections and all those people left without employment once again.

This almost 60% unemployment rate speaks to the thousands of young people in the province who leave institutions of higher learning with a qualification that is reduced to a piece of paper because finding a job in the province has become impossible. It speaks to the poor economic management and deficient economic policies.

That is why the latest detailed strategic document produced for the growth and development of the province was adopted in 2004 under the Premier Edna Molewa. Since then, Premier Job Mokgoro adopted a 33 pages document in 2022 detailing the problems; the province and that the solutions will come through those Section 100 Intervention by national government and called it a “strat plan.”

Honourable Speaker, if we continue in this trajectory, it can be estimated that within the next 10 years, the unemployment rate of the North West Province would have reached 70%, meaning that only the Executive of the province and their hand-picked staff will be working, which is what the ANC government wants to see before they will admit that there is a problem in this province.

Honourable Speaker, nepotism continue to prevail. It is evident with the recruitment of family members, friends, girlfriends, partners of the ANC leaders in the traffic department.

HON. SPEAKER: As you wrap up.

HON. BOTSWE: As the EFF, we condemn the ANC government and this 7th administration for continuously telling the province of thousands of jobs being created and giving hope of a near-

future that is better than the current situation when this is not true. We stress, once again, that one of the best solutions to this crisis is industrialisation, establishment of factories and manufacturing, the likes of textiles. Capitalise on our agricultural capacity and manufacturing of food products that include the processing of maize, sunflower ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

HON. BOTSWE: Oil, wheat and ground nuts found in the province for local consumption. We submit that the same could be done for dairy products with the milk and eggs from livestock.

HON. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

HON. BOTSWE: Is my time up Honourable Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, I gave you extra minutes. Your time is up.

HON. BOTSWE: E jelwe ke #[It is used up by]# Honourable MEC.

HON. SPEAKER: No, no! I gave you extra minutes.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I know you're loaded with what you've learned in China but you'll educate all of us. Thank you very much Honourable Botswe. Honourable

Members, I said I'm generous today and I'm nice to all of you. This is not going to be accepted going forward. Honourable Lenkopane, you may come in, your 10 minutes.

HON. LENKOPANE: Thank you Honourable Speaker, Premier, Members of the Legislature, Honourable Executive Members, baagi ba rona #[our community]#. Let me take this opportunity Mmusakgotla #[Speaker]# to ask you to allow me to stand in here in your House to put a reminder ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Show your face. Honourable MEC, show your face.

HON. MOEMA: Order Speaker!

HON. SPEAKER: Show your face Honourable MEC.

HON. MOEMA: Order Speaker!

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, what is the order?

HON. MOEMA: You have not got back to us in terms of whether the rules allow a Member to debate from a virtual platform. So let us not abuse this hybrid arrangement and the new rules. So at least if you can tell us whether the rules allow or not so that we can proceed. We don't have a problem with her debating so long as the rules provides for that. Thanks Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, a Member can debate from a virtual platform because it's a hybrid sitting. And that's why they have been putting in their motions and statements from the ntho #[thing]#.

Yes, we'll get back to the rule. Akere #[isn't it]#, I said all of us we are learning what we have adopted and then we will correct each other going forward. Honourable MEC, I was saying you must show your face. Continue.

HON. LENKOPANE: Mmusakgotla, ke setse ke dumeditse #[I have already greeted, Speaker]# Honourable Members, baagi ba gaetsho #[our community]#. Honourable Mmusakgotla #[Speaker]#, allow me to stand here in your House to put a reminder to those who are having short memories as they might a serious confusion ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. SPEAKER: MEC, we are going to cut you because you show your face and left. You must debate with your face on. Yes.

HON. LENKOPANE: Oh, sorry about that Speaker. I thought I must close.

HON. BABUILE: Ke yone #[That is the]# short memory eo #[that one.]#

HON. LENKOPANE: Allow me Honourable Speaker to put a reminder to those who are having short memories as they might cause confusion to our people and might want to create a situation where the recent government commitment by Honourable Premier Mokgosi is rendered non-existent.

In his SOPA in this year, the Premier sounded like he prophesied this moment Speaker when he said, and I quote: "Our skewed past centred on exploitation, exclusion and oppression but we remain hopeful about the future prospects of our province. And we are unflinching on our commitment to create better life for all irrespective of race, gender or creed."

Standing on this same platform, Honourable Speaker, the Premier Mokgosi further said, and I quote him again: "We intend using our mineral wealth most notably gold and platinum to attract

investment to empower local communities to produce their own food, revitalize its popular tourist sites to attract local and international visitors to the North West.”

Honourable Speaker, the Premier of this province on the same date, he said: “Aside from this, the North West Province will tackle a range of pressing matters that include dealing with unemployment crisis, upskilling of the youth, upgrading of the infrastructure, land distribution and healthcare priorities.”

Honourable Speaker, the Premier noted and highlighted in his state of the provincial address that it is a culmination of a broader consultative process with various stakeholders to find consensus on matters of socio-economic concern confronting this province. The Premier made it very clear, Honourable Speaker that his SOPA sets the tone for implementation of the medium-term development plan of 25-2030 which was recently approved by cabinet.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to put a reminder also on the three strategic priorities of the medium term development plan which is driving inclusive growth and creation of jobs, reduction of poverty and tackling high cost of living as well as building a capable, ethical and developmental state. Honourable Speaker, once more let me quote the Premier as he said: “As a province we are concerned about high levels of unemployment and poverty confronting our communities. It can't be today that this is appearing to be news and people are saying it's crisis which has long been identified by this government and plans being put in place.”

Honourable Speaker, the Premier expressed a concern of the North West Province unemployment rate and he further called on everyone in this province to fight this. Honourable Speaker, ka lone letsatsi leo, morwa #[On that day, the son of]# Mokgosi o goeditse thata a re re busa mo dinakong tse di thata #[proclaimed that we are ruling in hard times.]#

Just to mention a few that the Premier alluded in that address: The agriculture for food security which is aiming at development of empowering of farmers, the farming and land restitution where 4.5 billion spent on land acquisition and over 430 million paid as development grants culminated into 500 seasonal jobs and 34 permanent jobs, the road infrastructure development through public partnership where the infrastructure development will enhance economic efficiency and lower the cost of doing business.

Honourable Speaker, it was in this same House that the words were said in this province within the North West communities that more was done just on investment to create and collectively create jobs. Nine billion investment from Harmony Gold and China/Africa Precious Metals collectively created and preserved 10 000 jobs. Bagaetsho setopo re supa sa nakedi kwa #[we believe the evidence in]# Matlosana. Three hundred million investment by Anglo American Amanda Belt Complex on road infrastructure development is a movement to the right direction.

The province position to develop the development fund as well as establishment of the road agency, all this is to stimulate economic growth and alternative system responding broadly to the road infrastructure challenges. Mmusakgotla, le fa re tshosediswa ke modumo jaana ga re na, e bile ga re a tlhakana tlhogo. Re itse sentle gore re na le maikarabelo a a boitshegang. Baagi ba porofense e, ba tshotse matsapa go re direla puso e ya bone ka bone. #[Speaker, even though we are threatened by the noise we will not be, and we are not confused. We know very well that we have a lot of responsibility. The people of this province made efforts to make us this government of them by them.]#

The Premier throughout he reiterated that Members of the Executive will further give details on how his high level highlights which are actually a policy position will then get actualised through planning and budgeting. When you started your House sitting, Honourable Speaker, Portfolio Committee reports were tabled where the contract of both budget and the APPs were outlined and adopted through your committees.

HON. BOTSWE: Speaker.

HON. LENKOPANE: And therefore, we are on the right track, we're not lost Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable MEC! Honourable MEC, just hold on. There is an order. Honourable Botswe.

HON. BOTSWE: Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Mmusakgotla. A Motlotlegi a ka tsaya potso? #[Thank you Honourable Speaker. Can the Honourable take a question?]

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable MEC, are you able to take a question?

HON. LENKOPANE: Ke tlhatlhegile mašwi mong wa ka. Ke beke e e tlang fela. #[I am in a hurry sir. It is only next week.]

HON. SPEAKER: Alright. You may continue MEC.

HON. LENKOPANE: Honourable Speaker, rotlhe re leboga re tlhatlhegile mašwi. Baagi ba rona ba emetse go utlwa le dipegelo tsa rona mme re tsamaya ka molao, tolamo. Ga re a tshwanela go itsentsha mo tseleng e. #[it seems all of us are in a hurry. Our people are waiting to hear our reports and we go according to the law, order. We are not supposed to put ourselves in this road]# We appreciate long time ago as the government and has always communicated to our people. Honourable Speaker, in her recent budget speech, MEC for Finance Honourable Mosenogi when she was tabling the 2025 budget she said, and I quote: “The fiscal constraints and the weak economic outlook have indeed created an exceptionally challenging environment for compiling the 2025 budget.”

She further said, and I quote, MEC Keneetswe Mosenogi: “This budget preparations required difficult choices and strategic prioritisation to balance the competing needs within the limited resources.” Honourable Speaker, MEC Mosenogi of the North West Department of Finance, further said: “Despite these economic challenges, the 2025 budget reaffirms our commitment to prioritise the 7th administration priorities which are to drive exclusive growth and job creation, to reduce poverty and tackle high cost of living.”

Honourable Speaker, Honourable MEC Mosenogi have already communicated with our communities and our people in the province. Standing in this House as outlined in the provincial

budget MTEF and was very clear that at the back of her mind on behalf of the North West Government, the efforts to address the socio-economic challenges faced by our people to mention amongst others is an 81.4 million allocated for continuation of the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative.

Speaker, Honourable Mosenogi, in this House communicated to our people that the budget she was presenting supports the SOPA pronouncements by Honourable Premier. She further said, and I quote: “Members of the EXCO will outline in detail as they table their budget speeches.”

HON. SPEAKER: As you wrap up MEC.

HON. LENKOPANE: Honourable Speaker, this is a reminder that people must not be in a hurry. All those who rejected the SOPA pronouncements, all those who rejected the budget presented by the MEC cannot come here and dictate a different agenda ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. BOTSWE: We are in a hurry MEC. Baagi ba batla ditirelo. #[The community wants services.]#

HON. LENKOPANE: Speaker, we are coming to your House in the next two weeks to present to our people how government of the 7th administration is going to serve them. Key to all the departments will be service delivery, job creation and poverty alleviation plans. Five people in this House who have friends which add not up to 14 cannot always oppose everything including the budget and all its processes and be allowed to use this House to abuse it, to be a platform of grandstanding and defocus those tasks by majority of our people to serve them in this House. Our people must know that those who reject budgets, those who wake up every day and sponsor pieces of ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. SPEAKER: E tšhaile #[It is time up]# mama.

HON. LENKOPANE: Sentences called motions ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: MEC!

HON. LENKOPANE: Will not defocus or make us forget the task we were given by millions of communities of this province.

HON. SPEAKER: MEC, your time is up!

HON. LENKOPANE: Speaker, the sponsored motion I'm responding to here ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. STEYL: Nako ya hao e fedile. #[Your time is up.]#

HON. LENKOPANE: Is at the centre of the plans of government. The release cannot be ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: MEC, your time is up!

HON. LENKOPANE: Today's prices. As I thank you Speaker and thank you Members.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Sebegoe, eight minutes.

HON. SEBEGOE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members of the Executive, Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Honourable Speaker, the former Secretary General of the African National Congress anti-apartheid activist, trade union leader, the president of the oldest and biggest liberation movement in the continent, the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Honourable President Cyril Ramaphosa correctly outlined his assertion to the economic reconstruction and recovery plan when he said: “All of us South Africans should work together to build a new economy, to create jobs, primarily through aggressive infrastructure investment and mass employment programmes.”

This era Honourable Speaker of socio-radical economic transformation demands that we must all consciously wrestle the economic ownership and controls from the monopolies and the cartels that were created by the Democratic Alliance. The ANC remains committed to pursue for the black industrialists’ programme to take the centre stage, to bring more black people and Africans into the ownership and control of the economy.

There shall indeed be work and security. The ANC remains committed to reducing the high rate of unemployment through the NWDC and Vuku’phile contractor development programme. We have rolled out extensive programme to support the growth of small businesses for faster economic growth. These programmes will certainly benefit various SMME’s across the province whilst creating new sustainable job opportunities.

This is as a result of effort to diffuse the time ticking bomb of especially youth unemployment. The ANC-led government has through its critical economic intervention, the provincial growth and development strategy increased support for small enterprises, entrepreneurs and cooperatives especially in townships and villages.

The ANC commits and is at work to create a better life for its people and in doing so, we have created a conducive environment for small businesses to thrive including through the provision of reliable electricity supply, roads and other economic infrastructure including digital infrastructure. Honourable Speaker, through the provincial growth and development strategy, the ANC-led

government will continue accelerating our offensive against economic exclusion and work towards economy that benefits all.

Creation of new sustainable jobs remains the ANC overriding priority for an effective programme of economic transformation aimed at uplifting the lives of majority of our people in the province. We will wipe out the basic needs backlog in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and continue preparing the previously disadvantaged for future growth and development.

The ANC-led government is on course to expedite the finalisation of the licensing of Bojanala special economic zone which upon full implementation will create more than 5 000 new job opportunities for our people. We will continue to revitalise our industrial capacity ...[INTERRUPTION]... Honourable Speaker through the ANC ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Dial! Honourable Dial! In my sitting there will be order. You won't switch on your mic while the sitting is on. You are out of order. Switch off your mic. Honourable Sebegoe, you may continue.

HON. SEBEGOE: Can I proceed Honourable Speaker? Thank you very much. Honourable Speaker, through the ANC critical economic reforms we will reconceptualise the Expanded Public Works Programme and extend it so that it also offers training opportunities for many participants and create more than 15 000 sustainable job opportunities.

Honourable Speaker, as resolved at the 55th national conference the reconceptualising of the expanded public works programme will boost skills based on the principle of lifelong learning, keep pace with technological advances and respond adequately to ongoing changes in work, production and industrial organisation.

In our strive to ensure that we shrink the unemployment, we'll continue filling all funded vacant posts to deal with among others the challenge of unemployment and graduates. Our partners with stakeholders to curb unemployment has so far yielded positive results and we commend the North West Provincial Government and the Department of Employment and Labour through labour

activation programme for handing over contracts worth over 779 million to stimulate job creation for 27 000 beneficiaries across the province.

Honourable Speaker, the ANC also through job massification plan and expanded public works programme committing health workers, community works and labour activation programme create more than 150 000 jobs opportunities. This serves as a testament to our ongoing efforts to address economic challenges and create opportunities for sustainable employment as promised in the ANC's 24th manifesto.

The ANC further commends and welcomes the North West Provincial Government's plans to recruit 3 000 young people to be trained in various artisanal skills to prepare them for sustainable employment. We acknowledge that more work needs to be done to create more jobs and build a more thriving economy. We will not rest until we have reshaped and rebuilt North West into a further more inclusive and more prosperous society.

As I move towards conclusion Honourable Speaker, I wish to echo in the words of His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa when he said: "We shall not rest until we have built a new economy based on fairness, justice and equality. This is the task of our generation to renew, to repair, to rebuild. We dare not take a moment to pause. Together we will build a new economy. The time is now. We must redouble our efforts to create jobs, more and more jobs as well as restore the hope of our youth to ensure that they are not left behind but brought into the mainstream of our economy for meaningful participation.

As I respond to Honourable Sonakile, Honourable Speaker, I wish to emphasise the following: When Honourable Sonakile said the ANC has abandoned its people, we want to remind Honourable Sonakile that the ANC is attached to its motion of together we can do more and that remains the commitment of the African National Congress. It is doing all these things along with the people and not for the people without the people.

I also wish to emphasise, to acknowledge, there must be an acknowledgement there. The nature of current projects that are being undertaken are complex and new and in the process there's a learning curve. So, it cannot suddenly be that we over exaggerate issues with this new initiatives that they are bound to fail even though they have not yet started.

Lastly, we must not confuse arguing for access to state power and want to use the plight of the ordinary people to reemphasise that as if they are being neglected. We know the DA is so desperate to access power and they know that it's just a pipedream that will never happen. We rather continuously engage in this House to deal with facts, content and issues than every now and then you are saying you are ready to govern when you still are dreaming. It is now more than 30 years and you still want to say you want to govern.

So, on that note once more Honourable Speaker, the train is moving. It cannot stop to ensure that job unemployment is halved instead. Thank you very much Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Sebegoe. Honourable Groenewald.

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. The North West is not just struggling, it is in a crisis. According to the latest STATS SA figures, unemployment in our province stands at an official 32.9% and over 54% under the expanded definition. Youth unemployment is nearly 59%. That is not just statistics, it's a death sentence for the dreams of young people.

And let us not beat around the bush, this devastation is a direct result of decades of ANC failure. What we are facing is not an accident, it's an outcome of deliberate mis-governance, corruption, cadre deployment, and sheer incompetence at every level of this government. Critical infrastructure has collapsed, roads are impassable, basic municipal services are broken, corruption is rampant and unchecked, businesses are leaving, investors have no confidence.

Once flourishing industrial areas now stand as abandoned ruins. Tens of thousands of jobs have been lost and not because of global forces but because of the ANC. Our agricultural sector once a pillar of the economy is also on its knees. Farmers cannot get the produce to markets, roads are wrecked, vehicles are damaged, food security is at risk. And the ANC government by refusing to act is directly responsible.

With industries in the agriculture collapsing, we're now clinging to mining, an unstoppable, unsustainable sector. Tens of thousands of mining jobs were lost in the first quarter of the 2025 alone. This is not an economic model, it's economic roulette. And what's the social result? Crime

is up, infrastructure is being looted, power stations and cables are stripped, communities are left in darkness and despair. The ANC has turned governing into sabotage ...[INAUDIBLE]...

The ANC has no plan, no urgency, no shame. The ANC says a lot but their words are empty and meaningless. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Groenewald. Honourable Members, I'm repeating myself. Honourable Members on the platform, you are allowed to debate on the platform. When you are in the car, the car shouldn't be moving. Honourable Tsholo, your three minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, the North West Province is the only province in the country where the unemployment is the highest, where half of the population is unemployed. There are unemployed people than there are employed ones. Unemployment in our Province, Honourable Speaker, has been rising steadily and has now reached unmanageable levels.

The unemployment crisis is a direct result of the failures of both the Provincial Government as well as the Local Government in this particular province. Three decades of the African National Congress failed governance, corruption, fraud, policy uncertainty, cadre deployment, load shedding factionalism, purging, inadequate recognition of the institutions of traditional leadership on issues of development, are the main root causes of the unemployment that we are talking about today.

Honourable Speaker, the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality and Ditsobotla Local Municipality failed to maintain basic infrastructure, including roads, water supply, and electricity, making it nearly impossible for Clover company to operate and it has left our province. As a result, approximately 330 employees lost their jobs and that is an unfortunate situation but preventable outcome of poor service delivery.

The departure of large companies like Clover, Honourable Speaker, and employees who boost the local economy by directly employing residents and fostering partnerships with local entrepreneurs out of our municipalities is a tremendous loss for the province. Frequent community protests over

inadequate water supply and blocked roads further deter potential investors and companies from remaining in this particular province.

HON. SPEAKER: As you wrap up.

HON. TSHOLO: As I wrap up Honourable Speaker, ownership of mines is still in the hands of the few and majority Africans are still dispossessed. Raw mining materials and profits are still exported offshore. The National Department of Minerals and Energy which is the custodian of the mining laws and Charter does not actively monitor compliance of this particular mines and especially with respect to Social Responsibility to host communities in North West and it does not have a visible regional office in North West. Many communities, Honourable Speaker, that need mining licences are not actively supported.

HON. SPEAKER: Your time is up.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Mangope, your three minutes.

HON. MANGOPE: Ke a dumedisa Mme Dr Mmusakgotla. #[I greet you Madam Dr Speaker.]# Premier, MECs, ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Mangope, go lefifi. Ha o ka tshuba lebone. #[It is dark if you can switch on the light.]#

HON. MANGOPE: Ke le tshubile Mma. Ke le tshubile #[I have switched it on. I have switched it on]# Doctor. Ke le tshubile. #[I have switched it on.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Alright. Ke a go bonanyana, ke a go bonanyana. O ka tswelela mong wa me.#[I can see you a little bit. I can see you a little bit. You can continue sir.]#

HON. MANGOPE: Ke a leboga. Ke a leboga. Bagaetsho, nna ke tsaya fela gore se se tlhokegang gore se direge bagaetsho #[Thank you. Thank you. I take it that what needs to happen my people]# is to go back to basics. Let's do the simple things first. Let's provide basic requirements to our people e.g. water, quality life, quality education, ...[INAUDIBLE]...

HON. MODISE: Honourable Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Ema go le gonnye Rre #[Wait a bit Mr]# Mangope. Motlotlegi #[Honourable]# CoC.

HON. MODISE: Thank you very much and good morning Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, according to the rules, we have to see someone who's debating but unfortunately I cannot see Honourable Mangope. We cannot, not only myself.

HON. SPEAKER: I can see him in the dark.

HON. MODISE: In the dark?

HON. SPEAKER: Yeah, I can see him in the dark. I don't know. I don't know there's something ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MODISE: Unfortunately, I cannot see him.

HON. SPEAKER: There is something in the front. Rre Mangope, go na le sengwe ga o shifita tlhogo, re a go bona sentle. Go sengwe se, leru le lentsho hao. Ha o ka tlosa hela leru leo. #[there is something when you shift your head, we can see you clearly. There is something, a black cloud there. If you can just remove that cloud.]#

HON. MANGOPE: Mme ke mo ntlong Mma, ke leka go ya kwa le kwa gore ke bonale. #[But I am in the House ma'am, I am trying to go different places so I can be visible.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Tlaa khao. Wa bona kwa o ntseng o fetela teng. O sute mo lerung leo. Yeah. Go siame rraetsho, tswelela. #[Come that way. Where you have been moving to and get away from that cloud. It is fine sir, continue.]#

HON. MANGOPE: Ke a leboga Mme Mmusakgotla #[Thank you Madam Speaker]#. Doctor, ne ke re re simolole ka #[I was saying let us start with]# the basics. Let's provide basic requirements to our people e.g. water, quality education, reliable health services, law and order, attending to socio-economic security of the North West citizens. Now the most important issue that the House is debating now is about unemployment.

Action SA proposes a multi-faceted solution to this crisis focusing on fostering entrepreneurship, inclusive hiring and sustained work experience programmes. By creating a supportive ecosystem for youth-led enterprises and removing barriers to entry level posts. Action SA aims to transform young people from job seekers into job creators.

This approach includes mentorship, skills development and leveraging partnerships with small businesses and cooperates to provide meaningful work opportunities.

HON. SPEAKER: As you wrap up.

HON. MANGOPE: Thank you Doctor. Such comprehensive interventions could significantly reduce youth unemployment especially in hard-hit areas like the North West by equipping youth with tools and opportunities to participate actively in the economy and break the cycle of economic exclusion. Ke a leboga #[Thank you]# Doctor. Nelwang ke pula batho betsho.#[Be blessed my people.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Mangope. O a bona #[You see]# Deputy Speaker, go lehihi kwa go Rre #[it is dark at Mr]# Mangope. Re tla tshwanelwa ke gore re e lebelele kgang e, ya lehihi le. #[We will have to look at this issue of darkness]# Thank you very much. Honourable Chief Whip, your 10 minutes.

HON. ROSHO: Thanks very much Madam Speaker, Dr Mohono. Madam Speaker, the late Pope Francis maintained that, I quote: "There is no worse material poverty than one that does not allow for earning one's bread and deprives one of the dignity of work. Youth unemployment, informality, and the lack of labour rights are not inevitable; they are the result of a previous social option, of an economic system that puts profit above man; if the profit is economic, to put it above humanity or above man, is the effect of a disposable culture that considers the human being in himself as a consumer good, which can be used and then discarded."

The legacy of depravation of education, skills and inequality that was characterised by job reservation has robbed generations of historically marginalised and countless young people of their dignity as well as self-worth. While the ANC government has mitigated against the inherited systemic unemployment since the dawn of freedom and democracy, we are convinced that a skills

revolution will assist us extricate our young people from the crutches of grinding poverty, unemployment and inequality.

Defusing the time bomb of youth unemployment should be at the centre of all government departments, state owned entities, municipalities across the province and what the private sector also should do. Populism, theatrics and political opportunism will not in any way lift the burden from the shoulder of our young people.

The notion that the North West Provincial Government lacks concrete economic plans to create jobs, is unscrupulous and demonstrates the undesirable desperation of the DA to claim relevance. Historic factors that have contributed to the current crisis stemming from the apartheid spatial planning including deliberate exclusion of the historically marginalised and job reservation policies that sought to confine our unskilled people to economically depressed areas to be hewers of wood and drawers of water must be taken into account if we are to deal objectively with this debate.

Though it will ring hollow because its sponsor, the DA, is opposed to redress of past imbalances and transformation agenda including black economic empowerment that include youth empowerment, it will expose the party of being disingenuous and a wedge driver determined at a cost and by whatever means possible destroy the unity of the people of North West.

Of course, we do accede and acknowledge the unemployment statistics as being reported Madam Speaker. However, as the African National Congress, we were taught by the former ANC President OR Tambo to be aware of such wedge drivers like the DA who are committed to finding any solutions to challenge encounters that are facing our people including our young people in particular.

I wish to remind this august House that the State of the Province Address by Honourable Premier Rre #[Mr]# Lazy Mokgosi, committed, that the ANC led government has invoked critical measures to intervene and reduce unemployment, poverty and inequalities. The appointment of the Economic Investment Advisory Council, to amongst others, develop sector-based plans to drive inclusive growth, reducing unemployment and inequalities in line with the objectives of the National Development Plan and has proven to be effective, with the current labour force survey also attesting to its effect.

Through our jobs plan and other critical interventions, the provincial government has committed to create new sustainable jobs, by engaging the private sector on job creation, to contribute to the provincial efforts to reduce and create employment to get our North West communities working.

We are encouraged by the Economic Investment Advisory Council's engagement with several investors and other economic stakeholders to invest in the province and the yielded positive results with many of the stakeholders committing to partner with government in order to defuse the time ticking bomb of youth unemployment.

Harmony Gold and China Africa Precious Metals in the City of Matlosana Local Municipality has already created and preserved 10 000 jobs. While the Mekgareng Smart City project will also create 20 000 jobs for the people of Madibeng Local Municipality. We are confident that the R24 million set aside by MEC for Finance Mme Mosenogi to establish a Development Fund to accelerate development initiatives across the province which will stimulate economic growth and create sustainable job opportunities. We do have confidence on this approach.

The exposure of more than 300 young people to various employment opportunities as ambassadors of One Stop Centres, SMME development through the Empowerment Fund and as tourism monitors must be extended to reach many of young people across the province especially in rural areas. The empowerment of 7000 more young people with skills to enter the job market and take up placements in various job opportunities attest to believe that working youth remain critical to the stability and the prosperity of the province.

Our SOE's must equally deliver on the priority to create jobs and boost economic growth and this will be part of their developmental mandate. Expanded infrastructure investment plays a critical role in providing basic services to our urban and rural communities and improving our province overall economic performance and job creation hence it's one of our key priorities.

The construction of amongst others at Mokala Primary, Tlakgameng Primary, Chaneng Primary, Gasetsewe Secondary, have created more than 4 000 jobs and we continue constructing 20 new schools which will create more than 15 000 job opportunities. While we acknowledge these milestones and plans, no effort must be spared to stimulate the stagnant economy that should translate into economic recovery, growth and accelerated development in order to support job

creation efforts if the dignity of our young people and hopelessness affecting most urban and rural youth are to be addressed.

A massive crisis intervention programme must be urgently put in place and closely monitored to respond appropriately to the plight of our youth. It can no longer be business as usual, we agree. Performance Management and accountability are part of good governance and must be upheld without compromise to deliver on the targeted jobs.

We must deal with the crisis at hand with the same enthusiasm we dealt with during the COVID-19 coronavirus command council activities and establish Provincial, District and local jobs war-rooms that will ensure that there is traction and the jobs are delivered by all sectors and spheres of government including our municipalities. Zero tolerance must be adopted to curb capital flight from the province including disruption of projects while local economic development must be geared towards youth participation and empowerment of women.

Strengthening collaboration with the private sector is welcome Honourable Premier because it will attract investments and will accelerate infrastructure development to boost job creation as well contribute towards reducing crime. The African National Congress will remain a leading transformative party in deepening the processes of social compacting around economic policy interventions for long term and sustainable growth and job creation. The ANC's broad social economic compact framework is anchored on more elaborative and detailed sectoral social compacts that outlines timeframes and investment quantities which will create economic growth and new sustainable jobs.

Madam Speaker, Dr Mohono, the ANC led government's Economic Recovery plan is built on common ground created by our social partners, government, labour, business, and community organisations. So, this motion was just opportunistic but we appreciate that it has come to the fore so that we should all unmask as and when we claim that we are in a government of national unity. The ANC will continue to respond to the challenges of its communities as a leader of society. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Chief Whip. Honourable Sonakile as you come and close the debate.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Speaker. Speaker, Mosotho o kile a re kgoho e e kakatletsang, lehe ke la yona #[the egg belongs to the squawking hen.]# The defense to what is indefensible is shocking. I think whoever set the scheme of speakers for the ANC today is the best coach ever and must be given their flowers. Scheme sa [of] MEC Lenkopane, two former MEC's of Local Government and Treasury, Honourable Rosho and Honourable Sebegoe was the best decision. More like those who presided over some of the disastrous decisions to come and defend their mess.

We are debating a matter that residents have an interest on and everyone is watching then Members come and want to defend the statistics or to argue with what the statistics are saying. We have dared the Premier to table his EXCO's jobs plan, but they chose to miss that. If there was a time when serious disdain is showed to the residents, it is now.

MEC Lenkopane talks about us having short memories. I want to remind her what short memory is. Short memory is fighting with NEHAWU at every chance that you get. Short memory is failing to appear before a Portfolio Committee when you are called to come and account. Short memory is an MEC who comes to the Portfolio Committee and accuses other Members of her party including Honourable Rosho, Tebogo Modise and Nathan Oliphant as former MEC's and former CEOs of Gambling Board that they are responsible for the mess that the province is in. That is short memory.

It was actually embarrassing that Honourable Lenkopane says there is a plan, but she failed to outline that plan. Agriculture for food security, farming and land restitution and 430 million that has been paid as development grants. What has been an impact of all those when the unemployment statistics continue to balloon. The Honourable Member is living in a bubble and that bubble must be busted. O bua ka ditopo tse re supang sa nakedi #[you are talking about seeing the evidence]# instead of coming up with solutions when people are unemployed.

Honourable Sebegoe, race bating will not address unemployment. It is actually a weak defence of someone who has nothing further to say. ANC has increased support for small enterprises, but you are failing to mention which ones. Just last week, we were informed in the Portfolio Committee that the Provincial Government of North West failed to meet its own targets in supporting

businesses that are owned by women, youth and people with disabilities. The Honourable Member must be ashamed of himself.

The ANC is on course on addressing unemployment and is finalising the Bojanala SEZ. Honourable Member ha ne ke le wena, nka swaba #if I were you I would be ashamed# because the SEZ of Bojanala has been in the pipeline since forever. There seems to be no movement. And the fact that you are glamourizing EPWP in its current format is a cause for concern and it explains why we remain the province with the highest unemployment. Honourable Rosho says that there are political theatricals and desperation by the DA. It is actually the desperation of the ANC for failure to address and mitigate against the unemployment crisis.

We stand by our views on BEE and we'll never be ashamed. Just last week, WITS Professor William Gumede released a report after he was tasked by government to conduct an assessment of BEE in South Africa. Part of the conclusion says that BEE has led to increased unemployment and inequality in South Africa. In the report it says over one trillion has moved between less than 100 politically connected people since 1994. The same people who have been empowered and re-empowered over and over again for decades. So, it shows that our view as the DA is actually correct that BEE in its current format is not assisting anyone. If it was, we would not be sitting with a problem where only few people who are close to power are beneficiaries.

Let me get back to what I had said and in closing say that we stand by our 5-point plan. It is up to government whether it will implement or not but it is tangible solutions that have been tested. We still say to the Provincial Government: Declare unemployment in the province as a provincial disaster. This will compel each department to direct resources into fighting unemployment. It will mean that resources will be directed towards fighting unemployment which currently the provincial statistics by the way is higher than the national average, something that is a very serious concern.

Establish a Premier-led unemployment youth war room based in the Office of the Premier. Adopt a provincial jobs turnaround plan. Launch a provincial infrastructure first recovery strategy and table quarterly reports on all investment projects. This was a missed opportunity for government. Instead of being in defence, this was an opportunity for government to table a plan that government has to address this crisis. Instead, it chose those who are good at defending to come and defend

what is indefensible. Baagi ba Bokonebophirima #[the people of the North West]#, the Democratic Alliance has given it to you. It has proposed solutions ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Member. Your time is up.

HON. SONAKILE: The ANC has chosen to come and defend. They have chosen to say that there is no crisis. I hope you are watching, and I hope you will remind them when you get a chance.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile, your time is up!

HON. SONAKILE: I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Honourable Steyl tabled a notice of motion in terms of Rule 107 of the House to hold a debate under the topic: The persistent water supply crisis facing communities throughout the North West Province. I will now call on Honourable Steyl to lead the debate, ten minutes.

HON. STEYL: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Dumelang baagi ba Bokonebophirima. #[Greetings people of the North West.]# The Democratic Alliance tabled this motion for debate because communities throughout this province face a crisis in enjoying access to clean, safe and reliable piped water supply. In every North West municipality, in every city, town, dorpie and village, residents struggle to access clean water and often people must pay privately for water because water tankers are unable to meet the demand where the municipal water supply infrastructure has failed.

The fact is that North West's 3.7 million residents face a water crisis. Water is not only needed to cook and clean and sustain life but this water supply crisis is also a major barrier to economic

development, growth and job creation. Water is life, reliable water supply is also a prerequisite for creating prosperity. Not only do residents not have water in their taps, the lack of reliable water supply is a major contributing factor of why more than a million residents who are unemployed can't fight a job. Honourable Sonakile you've raised their plight, because without water businesses cannot grow and investors will not invest.

What is the extent of this crisis Honourable Deputy Speaker? The current daily demand for clean water throughout the North West Province is 958 mega litres. Here is the shocker, the current water supply capacity is only 731 mega litres. That means that there is a deficit in water supply of about 226 mega litres a day. And what makes matters worse is that actual water losses throughout the North West hovers at 40%. This translates to an actual current daily supply capacity of clean water of about 439 mega litres that would eventually reach a lucky North West resident's tap. In short, the bulk water system effectively only delivers about half the current daily demand.

And according to government's own statistics, it says 75% of residents in North West enjoy access to water but the official government statistics for reliable water supply is measured at 57%. Shockingly, according to STATS SA, the 2024 census data shows that only 34.8% of households that is 396 720 households out of North West's 1.4 million households reported reliable water supply, that is a third of all households Deputy Speaker. It's a shame. It's a tragedy and quite plainly a gross human rights violation perpetuated by the failures of government.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this water crisis by design, negatively affects the quality of life of residents and crucially it locks millions of North West residents into a cycle of poverty and desperation. The total financial investment in bulk water infrastructure this year is a mere 1.2 billion Rand, a drop in an ocean of misery while some investment is taking place across 44 projects, many of them are delayed and underfunded and will not supply the current daily demand of almost a 1 000 mega litres a day.

Municipal water reticulation systems are aged beyond repair and while ANC-led governments in North West are embroiled in factionalism and servicing their patronage networks, pipes burst, and residents are left with dry taps. The Madibeng Local Municipality is ground zero for repeated water supply issues since 2013. Since then, government has invested 630 million Rand to upgrade the Brits Water Treatment Plant from 60 to 80 mega litres a day but despite this investment into a

three-year phase project to upgrade the plant, government failed to plan to invest into Phase 4 which is the pipeline needed to supply these additional 20 mega litres to the residents of Madibeng.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, what was the point? The ANC government raised expectations through this almost 15 year, 630 million Rand project and when completed, there still will not be water in people's taps. What will the outcome be when this community realises the ANC's deception?

Honourable Deputy Speaker, residents in Ward 13 and 14 in the Tswaing Local Municipality in Delareyville have been without water for the last two weeks. Last week, I requested MEC Oageng Molapisi to intervene after Councillor Seret Viljoen exhausted all efforts to get a response from the Executive Mayor of the district Mayor Khumalo Molefe and the municipal manager Allan Losaba. Neither has there been any communication from the district municipality to keep residents abreast of the problem or progress in the work that is needed. Instead, people just see the ANC's arrogance.

Honourable Speaker, this Provincial Government does not have a funded scientific and integrated water management plan. If this government had such a plan, there would not be a water crisis in North West. Not a single North West municipality has a funded water management plan. If the current daily demand of a 1 000 mega litres per day, what would be the projection for demand in 10 years? In 10 years, demand could exceed 1 200 mega litres a day considering the current negative economic growth rate that we have. It could be more.

Every municipality in North West failed to adhere to the provisions of the Water Services Act. How many complaints has been lodged with the Human Rights Commission? How many have been investigated? How many reports have been issued demanding that government deliver clean water? None of them materialised. How many cases have we opened under the Water Services Act against municipal managers who are in contempt of critical legislation meant to ensure the delivery of clean and reliable water supply?

How many have been arrested or prosecuted? None. What is the blue drop status of every municipality? We don't know. What we do know is that we need water and when we want it, we can't have it like electricity. It's a disregard for the very basics that government is supposed to

deliver. Simple things: water, electricity, refuse removal, roads maintenance. They can't do any of those.

To address this crisis, Honourable Deputy Speaker, will cost millions of Rands but more importantly what is required is decisive political will. Sadly, we do not see the eager determination required from this provincial government to fix this problem. And so, in 2026 just like the residents have dry taps, so too will the ANC suffer a drought at the ballot box and then the DA-led government will come in to rebuild and expand the critical bulk water infrastructure needed which the ANC have neglected for 30 years. It is a real shame. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Steyl. Honourable Molapisi.

HON. MOLAPISI: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. The Speaker, the Chief Whip, Honourable Members, Members of the Executive. Thanks for the opportunity. Honourable Steyl, I thought you would follow suit what Honourable Sonakile said that you are presenting an alternative. You come here and complain and raise a whole lot of things. So you are talking the no but you are not providing any alternative because if you were providing an alternative maybe we could consider what you are presenting against what we have.

Now what are the facts? We recently as a country, the department, hosted the National Water and Sanitation Indaba in March 2025 in Gauteng. And speaking about significance of water at the event, His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa stated that, I want to quote: "Beyond being a strategic national asset and a key national enabler of economic growth, the provision of water is about restoring and affirming the dignity of all. Water and sanitation are key to development."

The President also confirmed that water stewardship namely its management and equitable distribution is a national priority. According to census 2022, North West has a sizeable percentage of household piped water inside the dwelling and in the yard, 74.5% and that is an increase in proportion from 69.3% in 2011, if you didn't know.

Sadly, the report also acknowledged that Bojanala, Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District reported to have more water interruptions in the last 12 months, 68,5%, 68.7%

and 68.6% respectively. Only Dr Kenneth Kaunda District is experiencing less water interruption in the past 12 months of 55.6%. This information is pivotal for our debate by way of acknowledging that great progress has been registered and more work needs to be done.

What has been the intervention of government, in particular the provincial government, Honourable Steyl? I must indicate and take the opportunity to highlight some of the interventions that were made by the then Minister and the then acting Premier through the operation *Bulela Metsi* which aims to enhance access to consistent and reliable water supply in the province. Launched by then, the programme continues to address water supply crisis albeit challenges which are not insurmountable.

There are many success stories in the improvement of water supply in the province such as the completion of Moretele Bulk Water Supply pipeline, the Greater Taung Bulk Water Supply Scheme, the Bulk Water Augmentation in Lichtenburg where additional boreholes were drilled. A number of phases of RBIG and WSIG projects have been completed providing water to communities in phased approach.

Now this is what we have done Honourable Steyl if maybe you didn't know as part of the intervention. Now since the start of the Seventh Administration, we have observed a greater commitment, and you must go and ask him by the Ministry of Water and Sanitation. In recent months, Deputy Minister Sello Seitholo conducted an oversight visit to the province in Ngaka Modiri Molema. You were there you would agree with me; I was with you. And Matlosana Local Municipality.

The latest project visit was conducted and led by Deputy Minister David Mahlobo at Brits Water Treatment Works last week in Madibeng. I was with the Minister. The Brits Water Treatment Works upgrade project is worth 80 million funded by the regional bulk infrastructure grant or RBIG implemented by the Magalies Water Board which is expected to be completed by end of August 2025. I will invite you to join us when we hand over the project to the municipality and it's to the benefit of over 75 373 households in Brits and surrounding areas.

The Honourable Minister of Water and Sanitation Honourable Majodina has also conducted oversight visit to Bloemhof Dam. I must also say that through the intervention of Premier Mokgosi

we have had several discussion with the Minister to address issues of debt owed by municipalities to water board.

I take this opportunity to send my gratitude to the Minister and the Honourable Premier in this regard. And I'm raising all these issues to show that addressing the challenges of water need no political affiliation. It is work that demands a collective approach towards lasting solution. We cannot afford any cheap political point scoring and populist posturing when dealing with the issues of access to water.

Honourable Members, to spearhead the resolution of the water and sanitation indaba, the department is looking into developing an action plan to ensure that all resolutions are implemented. We are also utilising available DDM structures including the MUNIMEC platform to monitor all service delivery issues. All resolutions taken during the visit by the Deputy Minister are also being monitored regularly. And we do that through your accelerated service delivery programme or *Thuntsha Lerole* whereby every fortnightly we go to a project and play our oversight.

And allow me Honourable Deputy Speaker to indicate that the demand for water by our communities is justified especially because the Water Services Act of 1998 provides that everyone has a right to access to basic water supply and sanitation services. Every water services institution must take steps to realise these strides. Every municipality must plan in its water service development plan to realise these strides. Thus, when our communities protest over the matter, we as government understand and are doing all in our power to do right by and for our communities.

There are factors of course that contribute to persistent water supply crisis in the province which are well-known to us and some of these are matters that need to be attended to include effects, aging and poorly maintained infrastructure with 80% of the water service pipe work aged. Vandalism of water infrastructure most of waste water treatment works and pump stations are either malfunctioning or completely decommissioned. Illegal connections and organised crime in water sector. Equally these are operational and maintenance challenges due to lack of capacity, lack of funds, lack of proper equipment and sometimes the general lack of will from officials. Of great concern is the lack of sustainable ground water and surface water sources.

We have observed that water service scheme in the four districts are insufficient to cover the demands. The water service authority on the one hand are inundated with the water supply

provisions requests whilst they are struggling with operation and maintenance of critical infrastructure. Unlike those who sit in the idle and oppose to everything we do as the ANC-led government in the province; we are steadfast to resolve the challenges confronting our communities.

The Department of COGTA is empowered by Section 154 of the Constitution to assist municipalities with various aspects of service provision. Thus, the North West bulk infrastructure technical committee was established to ensure that municipalities are empowered to provide bulk infrastructure services and have sufficient bulk to stimulate development. As part of institutionalising the district development model, COGTA has intervened on the matter between Sakeliga and the Ditsobotla Local Municipality, Tswaing Local Municipality and Kgetleng Rivier Local Municipality respectively.

We are convinced that a platform we created to discuss and resolve issues established an understanding and result on addressing these matters of common interest which is service delivery. This is despite the fact that all affected parties alongside the department are required therefore to report to the court periodically on progress regarding implementation of these directives by court. Service delivery will be realised .

In relation to the findings of the Human Rights Commission between Palamakuwa residents and Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, we'll continue engaging all affected parties. It is our considered view that all these issues can be resolved through one action plan.

As I conclude Honourable Deputy Speaker, the department will during the occasion of our budget speech account for the work we have done and present projects that we will be implementing towards addressing challenges of persistent water supply crisis. In the meantime, our plan is clear, we will be directing all municipalities to improve response time where water supply challenges have been reported.

As you normally do, Honourable Steyl, you send messages to me. I respond and direct municipalities to intervene. Municipalities must budget sufficiently for operation and maintenance. Municipalities must utilise their 10% of the MIG for operation and maintenance. Department of Water and Sanitation will need to finalise provincial plans for accessing external water supply resources especially the Pilanesberg, Midvaal and Taung Water Supply Scheme.

Magalies Water to be further capacitated to run available scheme as we'll be meeting them this afternoon. All water services authority to strengthen water provision capacity. All provincial government departments, government agencies, water boards, water service authority and water service providers affected by the resolution of the Water and Sanitation Indaba must develop their own action plan and report progress on a quarterly basis and we will definitely be monitoring that. Thanks for the opportunity, Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Molapisi. Honourable Moema, you've got eight minutes.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. EFF leadership collective led by Commissar Shakes Botswe, Members of the Executive Council, Members of the North West Provincial Legislature, residents of the North West Province, good morning.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to quote from a Marxist revolutionary intellectual and former President of Burkina Faso, the land of the upright man, he once said and I quote: "We must choose either a champagne for a few or safe drinking water for all."

Honourable Speaker, the persistent water crisis in the province is used as a business ticket by the ruling party and their close political allies through water tankering. Ordinarily, water tankering was supposed to be employed for urgent interventions. However, today, many residents are permanently depending on water tankering as opposed to sustainable water infrastructure.

Water is a basic need and fundamental right and essential commodity for a better life for all. Not only for the ANC leaders, their families and friends but for all residents of the North West Province. Unfortunately, the North West Provincial Government together with its municipalities have not registered this importance hence they have not cared to meet this crucial demand in all ways deemed possible. The supply of water an uncorrected need remains far inaccessible by our people throughout the province.

Honourable Speaker, Madibeng which ironically means a place of water is experiencing high rate of this crisis. The people of Jericho are navigating for water to date. This village has not seen a

drop of water in the past 30 years in the so-called democracy. Despite numerous water protests by residents and Madibeng Municipality having been ordered by the Human Rights Commission to ensure the provision of water for its people, water has run dry. Equally hope for the marginalised residents of Madibeng has run dry.

As we speak, Honourable Speaker, the residents of Kolong Village in Taung continue to endure persistent water shortages that has plagued the area for more than 10 years and this is despite having called for urgent intervention from both national and provincial government without any success. Honourable Speaker, residents in Biesiesvlei near Lichtenburg, Ditsobotla Local Municipality, sadly live short of water even after reporting a prolonged water shortage.

Boreholes in Mmakaunyane Village in Moretele Local Municipality lack capacity to meet the water demand. Residents in Modimola Village in Ngaka Modiri Molema Local Municipality are experiencing water scarcity due to leaks and empty water tanks that the municipality has ignored, neglected and distanced itself from the responsibility.

Makwassie Hills in its entirety, Honourable Speaker, by the same token as Naledi Local Municipality have been affected by the withdrawal of services. Makwassie Hills Local Municipality in particular has been unable to pay its water supply Magalies Water which regrettably led to a water supply disruption. The EFF calls this ANC-led municipality to address the historical debt to Magalies Water to ensure water supply restoration to residents as urgently as it stands.

Honourable Speaker, it is concerning and troubling to say the least that earlier this year the Mayor of Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality Molefe Khumalo redirected funds intended to implement 12 water projects in the region and instead, the man absurdly prioritised a fire station as an alternative. It is unthinkable for a whole Mayor to maintain such a mentality when the whole region is experiencing water crisis.

The EFF will never condone such corrupt activities Honourable Speaker. The volume of water stored in reservoirs across the province Honourable Speaker has taken a plunge of at least 10%. The Vaalkop Dam has also noted of a fall of Hartbeespoort Dam, Lindleyspoort Dam and the Elands River. The Olifantsnek Dam has suffered. Molatedi Dam has also declined. This proves

that the government is only blaming poor water infrastructure for the province's water crisis while ignorance dictates other underlying issues.

Honourable Speaker, it is clear for all to see that our government is lazy to do research and seek functional intervention from structures that have capacity to resolve these distinguished problems. Water access is still a pipedream in our province. The recent Bulela Metsi Campaign launched in 2023 by the then acting Premier Nono Maloyi has demonstrated to be nothing short of a dead promise and we are not surprised.

Intended to be culmination of the series of interventions by the North West Provincial Government, the people of Dinokana are crying uninterruptedly and the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality is mum and not doing anything to relief our people.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF remains a reliable ally to the people and advises the North West Provincial Government to implement a thoughtful plan or a concrete plan for the refurbishment of boreholes across the province. The Provincial Government must ensure the upgrading of the Springwater pump stations and pipelines across the province.

The refurbishment of the distribution system up to the bulk water reservoirs. And lastly, to safeguard the already existing infrastructure for preservation of future use. At least this will assist to remedy the persisting water crisis in the North West Province. The EFF calls on the North West Provincial Government to ensure that all bulk water projects are completed before the end of the year and repair all water treatment centres by 2026.

The North West Provincial Government must ensure that they build two new water treatment facilities in the province. We call for the repair of all leaks in the infrastructure with the aim of reducing the amount of water lost by leaks of 10% of the current rate. This must be done by artisans who will be hired and that will also decrease the horrific unemployment rate that we are faced with as a province.

Honourable Speaker, we further make a demands to the provincial government that we demand that there should be a storm water drains in every street of our province. We want to see water sustainability for daily and industrial usage by the conversion of wastewater directly into irrigation water, processed water or cooling water for use in both domestic and industrial market thereby increasing current drinking water capacity by 20% before the end of this financial year.

Honourable Speaker, the MEC appeared before this House and in his defence of the crisis that is there, he's arguing that they have identified illegal connections one of the causes that creates this water crisis but the MEC doesn't give any account of the cases they are opening against these particular individuals who are engaged in criminality. Maybe it's their own comrades who are trying to frustrate the system so that as a result they are able to then benefit from the water tankering system.

Generally, water tankering is supposed to be on urgent basis as and when there is a crisis but with this ruling party, with the current government, water tankering is used permanently as a business ticket for those who are friends and political allies of the ANC. So, this shows clearly that the leadership we have here is seriously paralysed. They have no clear concrete plan in terms of how to turn things around in the province and ensure that our people they live a better life that is dignified.

They think this better life is just merely reserved for them and their families. So Honourable Speaker, as the EFF we are making a call on these issues that the provincial government must actually look into implementing otherwise we have seen that they have no concrete plan or idea in terms of how they can improve the lives of our people. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Moema. Honourable Magagane you've got eight minutes.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker Mokone Maine, Honourable Speaker Dr Desbo Mohono, Honourable Premier Rre #[Mr]# Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi, Members of the Executive Council, Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature, Magosi a rona #[Our Traditional Leaders]# ...[INAUDIBLE]...

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the UN says water is critical for sustainable development including environmental integrity and the alleviation of poverty and hunger and it's indispensable for human health and wellbeing. That being said, I do agree with the quote that Honourable Molapisi said where he quoted President Cyril Ramaphosa when he said: "Beyond being a strategic national

asset and a key enabler of economic growth, the provision of water is about restoring and affirming dignity of all.”

As a country, we have done well to expand access to water to more than 89% of South Africans and also ensure that 84% have access to sanitation services. But despite this, Deputy Speaker, we must say that the ANC-led government must be the first to admit that more still needs to be done for water provision.

The ANC as a caring and compassionate liberator of our people, is conscious of the fact that water insecurity causes hunger, poverty and educational deprivation, sanitation issues and diseases, conflicts and biodiversity loss. Climate change can also have a significant impact; flooding though limited to some localities as we have seen in Ngaka Modiri Molema in the recent floods, while drought and drought-related disasters regularly affect communities as well as the provincial economy.

To offset some of the challenges highlighted, we must support the government to build additional surface storage capacity in good time to harvest the remaining 25% of our available surface water resources. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs must accelerate the implementation of a range of major projects to augment bulk water resources infrastructure in the province working jointly with local municipalities.

We must also push for future required investments in water resource infrastructure as well as invest more in the rehabilitation and maintenance of our existing water resource infrastructure assets. Collaboration between Water Boards and the private sector is required to raise money in the market for the development of bulk distribution infrastructure for which they are responsible.

It is important that we do support these PPP initiatives and be at the forefront of ensuring that we do have solutions for our people. These partnerships with the private sector have already worked out with the mining sector and sister departments, such as of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment as well as the Budget Facility for Infrastructure.

The provincial government must replicate the efforts of the national government such as the establishment of a Water Partnerships Office in partnership with the DBSA and SALGA, to assist municipalities in the province to package bankable projects to take to the market, focusing on projects such as the reduction of non-revenue water and water re-use.

Far too many times, we do not use grey water when we need to use grey water which we should be investing in to ensure that we can have irrigation schemes ... [INAUDIBLE] ... and at the same time conserving water. Municipalities are on a downward spiral of poor and declining water services, reduced payment rates, increased debt, and low investment. We all need to be concerned about this. We therefore need to ensure that water services are provided by professionally managed, capable, efficient, and financially viable institutions in order to address this downward spiral. We can't afford this downward spiral to go any further.

The key cause of decline in poor governance and ineffective management in municipalities. Weak billing systems and revenue collection at municipality level is a result in escalating debts across the water value chain. We are cognisant of the fact that municipalities owe Water Boards billions of rands, and Water Boards in turn, owe the national department of water usage billions in rands.

What is most worrying is that these debts are escalating rapidly, and that poses a grave risk to the financial sustainability of the water sector. And we know that some of the municipalities owe water boards for monies that were pre the new dispensation in 1994. If the current trend of escalating debts continues, more Water Boards will be dysfunctional in future and this could result in a situation where no bulk water treatment and bulk treatment distribution are provided to some municipalities, which means there will be no water supply in those municipalities.

And we have already started experiencing that in and around Ngaka Modiri Molema. In other words, if municipalities do not bill properly and collect revenue effectively, if citizens and businesses do not pay for the water they consume, they are likely to end up with no water at all in future.

The provincial government through the department has a constitutional obligation to support municipalities, as well as to regulate them. It must support municipalities to develop their water infrastructure as well as address backlogs of infrastructure. We implore the provincial government to continue to support and monitor district municipalities on the spending of the national grants on the water and sanitation to implement water projects in their respective jurisdictions.

We also note the construction of the Ikageng 25 mega litres ground reservoir in the JB Marks Local Municipality. The pipeline will after its completion supply water to communities in Ikageng Ext.

1, 4, 5, 9, 12, Potchindustria, Mohadin as well as the Northern portion of Ikageng Ext. 7, with more than 100 job opportunities for locals in respective areas.

In Ngaka Modiri Molema we note the Dinokana Village Project that has to be implemented in four phases. As a child who was from Dinokana, I've seen the progress that has been done and most of all is that I live in a high lying area in Dinokana. And we've seen that what the project seeks to do is include bulk line distribution construction including reservoir refurbishment of boreholes, reticulation, stand pipe and upgrading of pump stations to connect the surrounding areas.

After the floods, the district moved fast to ensure that ...[INAUDIBLE]... and ensuring that there is no further disruptions and further damage to the reticulation and stand pipes that have already been installed. And as a child that has seen so many people fighting for water in Dinokana and the protests that have been there, it would have noticed that there is lesser and lesser protests and there is lesser cries because currently the project is working.

In Bojanala District Project, there was a launched project in Moretele, in Mathibestadt and Tlhabane in Rustenburg Local Municipality as part of the identified short, medium, and long-term interventions aimed at guaranteeing the sustainable provision of water and sanitation in the province.

As the ANC, we welcome the roll-out of the project that has showcased our commitment to deliver quality water to our communities in the North West and delivered in the 27 projects across the province. While we commend the interventions, we want to see progress being made, we want to see agreement being reached on the improvement plans together with municipalities are actioned, including projects to improve infrastructure. As John Fosson said, water links us to our neighbour in a way more profound and complex than any other. So we need to know that as we mobilise Water Boards to assist municipalities to implement the improvement plans.

We also implore the department to come up with implementation plan to address water challenges in areas where there are protests linked to water provision, including putting in place remedial measures to address the recommendations and findings of the South African Human Rights Commission investigative report like in Palamakuwa, Ward 18, Ramotshere Moiloa and also in Agisanang, Jachtkraal Farm, Delareyville and Letsopa.

As we seek to address and redress inherited and current water challenges, we must learn from the best practices around the world and preserving the usage of water. We must employ alternatives such as building a smaller and more cost-effective reservoir closer to where people live and work.

In conclusion Deputy Speaker, this will also ensure that communities do not wait for over ten years to access water. It also secure affordability for municipalities, water authorities and residents. The truth is that despite the accelerated water access programme, we have lost about 42% of potable water due to leaks, wastage, illegal connections. So Honourable Molapisi was correct to point this out this matter.

In fact, in some municipalities this loss is above 50%. This has resulted in South Africans using over 61% more water ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

HON. MAGAGANE: Than the world average of 173 litres per day. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Time is up. Honourable Groenewald, you've got three minutes.

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus stands here today with a clear and urgent message. The water crisis in the North West Province is not only real, it is escalating. Communities across the province, Mahikeng, Kgetlengrivier, Rustenburg, Ditsobotla, are being failed by the government that has lost control of the most basic service, a clean and reliable water supply.

Let us be blunt when taps run dry it's not a temporary inconvenience it violates constitutional human rights. Section 27 of the constitution guarantees access to sufficient water. This government has broken that promise. Worse still, where there is water, it is often polluted, unsafe or unaffordable. Like Vaalkop and Setumo, our dams are choked by sewage and invasive weeds. The

Vaalkop Dam supplying large parts of the North West is now smothering by water hyacinth and salvinia fed by untreated municipal waste water ...[INAUDIBLE]...

Let us not pretend this is unforeseen. The green drop report in 2011 and 2022 warned of municipal collapse. Yet the same failing municipalities remain unaccountable. The Department of Water and Sanitation has opened criminal cases but where are the arrests. Where are the political will?

Chairperson, these failures violate not only our constitution but also our international obligations. According to Principle 1 of the Stockholm declaration, every person has the right to an environment conducive to health and dignity. The United Nations General Assembly declared clean water and sanitation a human right in 2010.

Under the convention of biological diversity, we must use fresh water resources sustainably and protect ecosystems. South Africa is a signatory but is not complying. The Freedom Front Plus therefore demands that the engineers and scientists not deployed cadres are appointed to manage infrastructure recovery. That independent water quality audits are conducted with results made public and that polluters especially municipalities are prosecuted without fear or favour. This is no longer about service delivery, it is about governance, environmental justice and survival.

And Honourable Deputy Speaker, as I listen to the ANC, it sounds like that wife that's being hit by her husband where the community is the wife, community doesn't believe that it will keep on doing so. The community believes that the ANC will do better because they are telling them that they are but Honourable Deputy Speaker, I can tell you, the ANC will not do better. They cannot do better because they couldn't thus far. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Groenewald. Honourable Tsholo, you've got three minutes and three minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. In 2023, Honourable Deputy Speaker, the North West Provincial Steering Committee that was led by the then former Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr Senzo Mchunu, has received the assessment report on the state of water and sanitation service provision in the North West Province.

That particular report Honourable Deputy Speaker was tabled to the Steering Committee that was attended by the then co-chair Premier Bushy Maape, the Deputy Minister David Mahlobo, the executive mayors from both the four districts in our province and local municipalities, the Magalies Water Board, traditional leaders and community leaders from various municipalities in this particular province.

By then Honourable Deputy Speaker, Minister Mchunu affirmed that the assessment report has painted a very clear picture that the North-West province has enough sources of water, both on the surface and groundwater to support domestic and other users, and for that, however huge infrastructural challenges in various parts of the province impeded the resource to be transferred to the users.

Most of the North-West challenges, Honourable Deputy Speaker, regarding persistent water crisis specifically identified by Water and Sanitation Assessment Report stemmed from lack of capacity, skills and budget to carry out operations and maintenance, illegal connections, incomplete projects and infrastructure vandalism in Water Service Authorities as well as municipalities' reticulation systems.

I'm not going to bother much with regard to the summit that was held Honourable Deputy Speaker. What I would like to indicate Honourable Deputy Speaker is that in many instances when the water mafias strike, they steal very expensive equipment from water plants or electricity stations, which they know will take four or five months to procure from overseas, because our strategic water plants are not secured. Our security cluster must find a way of dealing with this criminality that has crept in the supply of water.

The North West Government is not showing adequate commitment to tackling South Africa's water security challenges and ensuring reliable, sustainable water supply. Honourable Deputy Speaker, failing municipalities in our North-West Province are a cause for the persistent water crisis. They fail to allocate and properly manage budgets for infrastructure maintenance and funds are used for non-essential purposes ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Member, your time is up. Your time is up Honourable Member.

HON. TSHOLO: Sure?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your three minutes is up, yes. Thank you. Honourable Mangope.

HON. MANGOPE: Thank you, thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Premier, MEC's and fellow Honourable Members. Today we debate a crisis that has long been ignored but now ravages the North West Province, the persistent water supply shortage. This is no accident. It is the direct result of 31 years of ANC misrule and neglect of critical water infrastructure.

Communities across our province face daily hardships due to failing water systems, leaking pipes and insufficient bulk supply. The water infrastructure is crumbling because the ANC has consistently failed to maintain or upgrade it despite knowing the growing demand. The consequences are devastating.

Residents endure serious sanitation problems with sewage flooding homes and streets even cemeteries violating their constitutional rights to clean water and sanitation. This crisis is not only about inconvenience, it threatens health and livelihoods. Outbreaks of cholera and other waterborne diseases have become common while agricultural and livestock production, the backbone of many rural communities is collapsing due to the lack of water.

The people of North West are paying the price for decades of corruption, mismanagement and the misuse of funds by municipal authorities. Despite recent promises and master plans by Magalies Water and government interventions, the response remains inadequate. Water tankering is a short-term fix not a sustainable solution.

Meanwhile the so-called water mafia and poor governance continue to block real progress. The chickens have come home to roost. The ANC's 31 years of failed governance have led the North West in dire straits. It is an indictment on the leadership that communities still do not have reliable access to clean water in 2025.

Action SA therefore calls for urgent, decisive action: Immediate prioritisation of critical water infrastructure repairs and upgrades to transparent management of water resources and funds with zero tolerance for corruption. (3) Strengthen partnerships with municipalities to improve operations and maintenance. (4) Long-term planning that ensures sustainable water supply and sanitation for all communities.

The people of the North West deserve better. They deserve water, a basic human right that the ANC has failed to deliver. It is time for change. It is time for accountable leadership that puts the people first. I hope the North West Government will take heed of these comments. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Mangope. Honourable Khunou, you've got 10 minutes.

HON. KHUNOU: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. The Honourable Speaker Honourable Desbo Mohono, Honourable Members in the House. I really want to start my input with a number of questions to Honourable Steyl. And I hope today you're going to come clean and respond to these questions in the House.

Why is it that in these debates, whether you talk about water supply challenges, whether you talk about unemployment, you continue to deny the legacy of colonialism and apartheid and how this legacy continues to impact on our ability to provide decent living to our people; how this legacy continues to impact on ability to ensure that our people really realise a better life.

So sometimes when you talk about colonialism and apartheid and this legacy, we speak in very high powered language. So, I want to simplify this for you so that when you come here and talk to the people of North West you can respond to this to set the record straight. I want you to tell the people of North West that between 1910 when the Union of South Africa was established, minority government, between 1910 and 1948, what projects were implemented to ensure that black people in this country, the people of North West have access to water?

I want you to come and explain to the people of North West that between 1948; now the period between 1910 and 1948 is 38 years. So please come and explain to the people of North West what was done by the apartheid state and why you continue to deny this legacy? What projects were implemented in our country, in our province to ensure that people have access to water supply?

I want you to explain that from 1948, it's 46 years, 46 years of Nationalist Party rule, what projects were implemented in this province, in our country to ensure that people have access to water? Please come and explain that. I want you to explain when you come on this platform in 1994 what was the state of water supply in this province? How many people; do the research; how many people in this province in 1994 had access to water?

Please come and explain here because to deny the legacy that the ANC government inherited in 1994 is actually quite disingenuous in this debate. In everything that you have said here, you're very good in analysing and criticising the ANC. There's absolutely no plan you're putting on the table in terms of what you're going to do to ensure that our people have access to water.

Now I want to give you the facts. So the ANC government has been in power for 31 years preceding that you had an apartheid government. If you count collectively from 1910 to 1994, 84 years, how is it humanly possible for the ANC government to solve all these water supply challenges, a legacy of at least 84 years, to solve all of these problems in 31 years? It's impossible, absolutely impossible. So, let's not play politics with our people.

What you're not saying in this debate, in fact all the opposition parties, I don't understand know how you continue to fail to explain to our people why is it that North West has got water supply challenges. It's an established fact, South Africa as a country, there's no province in our country that is not struggling with water supply. It has been categorised as a water scarce country. It ranked South Africa in the 30 driest countries in the world.

Why is it that you do not explain this to our residents that North West in terms of water scarcity relates to availability of water resources. It ranked amongst the worst provinces, not a creation of the government, natural water resources available. It ranks amongst the worst in the country. Why is it that you are not explaining this fact to our people?

Now you're not telling the people of North West what has happened in terms of population growth and how this has put further pressure on the legacy that you're failing to acknowledge, on the

legacy of our people not having access to water and how the ANC government has been hard at work since 1994 to deal with that problem.

Now let's give you the figures. Households: In 1994 we were at 591 000 households. We have 1.14 households in North West. In 1994 this is what we have inherited, and I want you to come and deny that we did not inherit this. Twenty per cent of the population of North West had access to water, 20%. Whether you argue about your 57% or 75%, we inherited a population where only 20% of our people, 20%.

Even if we take your figure of 57%, you cannot come here and deny that since 1994, the ANC government has done miracles to at least improve access of water to our people. Now there has been a whole lot of interventions which the MEC has talked. And I want to remind you of these interventions.

The ANC government established a number of grants. For example, regional bulk and infrastructure grant. The MEC talked about all of these grants. There is not a region of our province that is not implementing a bulk water supply project. Not one. There is not a municipality which in cases where municipalities are water service authority, they have access to MIG. They have access to water and sanitation infrastructure grant that again helps you to tell you with water supply challenges.

You talked about maintenance. You are not telling the people of this province is that the ANC government, there's a fundamental reason why municipalities struggle with maintenance. We accept there are issues, there are issues of corruption, there are issues of mismanagement, but the fundamental reason is a funding question.

There was an assumption made in the 1998 white paper process that municipalities would be able to derive 90% of the revenue that they need to operate from the internal. It's an assumption. It was a very serious assumption that was made that all municipalities in the country will be able to generate their revenue internally.

We are realising overtime, the ANC government, it is for that reason that the President of the country himself has said; we need to review the funding of municipalities. We have given them responsibilities but how we have structured funding to municipalities has to change fundamentally.

So, municipalities are not doing maintenance because they simply don't want to, it is a funding problem.

If you take the municipality of Moretele, as an example, what is the ability of Moretele to raise sufficient revenue to be able to allocate 8% of their expenditure budget because they don't have that capacity. So, the ANC government has made amendments, changes to the conditions of these grants, whether you talk about MIG, whether you talk about WSIG. They have made changes so that you can allocate at least 10% of this funding to deal with maintenance challenges.

So, there isn't a challenge of water supply we are not alive to as the ANC; whether you talk about bulk water supply, whether you talk about internal reticulation. I agree with you, challenges are there, challenges are there, but we are hard at work as the ANC government, provincial government, municipalities, to deal with all of these problems.

We agree, municipalities have to work harder to implement water conservation and demand management plans, to attend challenges of water losses and so forth but the fundamental problem that the country faces is that we are a water scarce country. It is the ANC government, back in 2003 that launched the Lesotho Highlands Project.

This project has produced annually 780 million cubic metres of water; that's Phase 1 of that project. Phase 2 which will come on stream will produce 490 million cubic metres of water; the ANC government as far back as 2003 launching this project. So, we can come here and entice our people about the next elections. You don't have a plan. It is only the ANC government that has a plan to deal with all of these water supply challenges that exist in our province. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Khunou. Honourable Steyl, you've got five minutes.

HON. STEYL: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Thank you to all the Members that participated in this very crucial debate. Baagi ba Bokonebophirima ba tlhoka metsi fela. #[The people of the North

West just need water.]# And the point of this debate was not to come here and talk about alternatives, Indaba's and what the President said.

Honourable Molapisi, through you Deputy Speaker, in my opening debate I said we need a scientific and funded integrated provincial water management plan. And that requires local municipalities to have their local water management plans also funded. Infrastructure is collapsing. Almost 40% of purified water is lost through the system and then Honourable Magagane in her concluding remarks blamed the residents of North West for using too much water as a shortage and a contributing factor to the water crisis.

Deputy Minister Mahlobo was there last week; I was there two weeks before at Brits Water Treatment Plant. And the fact is the fourth phase required to supply that water is not planned, and it is not funded. So that 20 mega litres a day additional, where will it go without a pipe? And it is the same issue in Ikageng in JB Marks. Also upgrade the water reservoirs there but no pipeline to supply the water reservoirs to provide water to the people who are living in Extension 11 in Ikageng.

In Tswaing, there are 145 boreholes, only 65 of them are working and people in Delareyville, Sannieshof, Ottosdal. All these areas are dependent on those pumps that are not working. A simple thing, a pump, a pump to supply water to residents and businesses there.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the province is a water scarce province which again speaks to the required integrated water management plan. And it is government's responsibility to come here and tell us this is the extent of the crisis. This is how many billions it is going to cost. This is how we are going to fund it over the next three, five, 10, 15 years. This is how we are going to ensure we upgrade infrastructure to reduce the water leaks.

We can improve water supply, Honourable Molapisi, by fixing and addressing water leaks. Just RSM, 52% water leaks, Kgetleng 51%, Makwassie Hills 48%, Moretele 57%, Ngaka Modiri Molema 48%. Total 39% of purified water gets lost. And that deficit, the actual supply is 230 odd mega litres a day, when we need to supply more. And we can do that by fixing the leaks.

I'm not going to talk about what happened before and when I was elected to conduct oversight and hold this government accountable. And my work here is to hold this government accountable and

my work in this Seventh Administration is to work together to see that we address the critical water crisis in the North West Province. We need those water plans.

Funding will be an issue Honourable Khunou, through you Deputy Speaker. DA governed municipalities, the 30 that we govern throughout the country also have funding problems, but we are investing more than 8%, up to 10% in critical infrastructure maintenance. In North West, our municipalities here are investing 4% of unfunded budgets to maintain infrastructure and expand on the critical infrastructure that is required.

You know, Honourable Members, even fire departments arrive to fight fires with air, fuelling flames instead of with water because the tankers don't have water, because the pumps don't work. That is a water crisis. The focus and the intention of the Democratic Alliance in this Seventh Administration is to bring debates to this Legislature, to discuss and to bring focus to the current issues that the residents of North West face.

And that is our mandate, and we are delivering on that mandate, and we will continue to hold the government accountable, and we will continue to engage constructively. Bring us a water management plan. Let it be known how much it will cost, and we can take this debate further. Thank you, Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Steyl. Secretary you may read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 7 DEBATE ON YOUTH DAY

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Youth Day is celebrated on the 16th of June every year to commemorate the uprising of 1976 and to honour the role of young people in the struggle against apartheid. I will now call on Honourable Tlhapi to lead the debate.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Chief Whip, Honourable Premier, my colleagues from Executive, Honourable Members of Legislature, baagi ba Bokonebophirima, dumelang le bašwa ba rona. #[the people of the North West, greetings together with our youth.]#

Honourable Deputy Speaker, permit me before I proceed to take this moment to congratulate Tete Dijana, our living legend who just defended his third run down title by a remarkable victory at this year's Comrade's Marathon. Deputy Speaker, five North West athletes who are non-other than Tete Dijana, Edward Mothibi, Joseph Manyedi, David Gadebe and Gordon Lesetedi cemented Bokonebophirima as a home of champions by dominating the 2025 Comrades Marathon, Top 10 finishers.

It is only in Bokonebophirima, Honourable Members, where athletes dominate an international sporting field in such a peculiar manner. This remarkable victory has indeed cemented Bokonebophirima as an undisputed home of champions. On the other hand, let us also remember that this previous weekend, we gathered in Pretoria State Theatre to pay our last respect and bid farewell to a remarkably talented thespian Presley Oageng Chweneyagae who ascended from the dusty streets of Mahikeng to the global stage. Re dumela ha o robetse sentle, #[We believe you are resting in peace]# Tobetsa, Cobrizi *wa-Le-Easy*.

Deputy Speaker, if my calculations serve me well, we are six days on route to 16 June, a date that carries a profound historical significance to the majority of South Africans. This date reminds us on the influence of black consciousness in raising the political consciousness of many students which ultimately provoked the spirit of resisting and entrenched racial inequality which was perpetuated by the policies of the apartheid system against the black African young people in schools.

The bravery demonstrated by the youth of 1976 serves as one of the major events that ignited our journey towards attaining democracy. It is a non-fiction that the legacy of the youth of 1976 continues to inspire upcoming generations. The Fees Must Fall generation epitomises the youth of 1976 by acceding to the notion of the African radical revolutionary philosopher Frans Fanon, who said, and I quote: "Every generation in this stance of students or rather youth must out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfil it or betray it."

Deputy Speaker, it must definitely be at the back of our minds that as we commemorate the pivotal role played by the youth of 1976, which calls for a moment to remember, reflect on our commitment in the spirit of empowering and developing our young people. It is important to bear in our minds that in terms of the African population makeup, our population in the continent as a whole is very young: this is in essence that young people who are aged 25 and below, constitute 60% of the African population.

Deputy Speaker, this compels us to be more than deliberate with the youth empowerment and development through education, skills training, entrepreneurship and meaningful economic inclusion. Honourable Members, the 2025 Youth Month will be commemorated under the theme: Skills for the changing world, empowering youth for meaningful economic participation. This theme reflects a shared national commitment to building a future-ready generation.

As we commemorate the 2025 Youth Month, we find ourselves at a critical economic crossroads. Our nation finds itself in the midst of the shifting global trends that possess direct implication in our domestic socio-economic standing. Our youth are facing numerous challenges and some of the challenges include high levels of unemployment, limited access to quality education, economic inequality, crime rates and social issues such as substance abuse and violence.

These problems confronting young people have the potential to trigger psychological and emotional stressors such as depression and anxiety which may lead to suicide and mental disorders. Deputy Speaker, we also need to appreciate that ramifications of COVID-19 are still felt by the youth and the pandemic has caused widespread job losses, shift on online working and economic downturns.

Deputy Speaker, many private companies have adapted to the online working approach and the utilisation of artificial intelligence which has and is gradually replacing physical manpower. This calls for our government to adopt a complementary approach where artificial intelligence is used to complement and strengthen the intellectual work of human beings other than replacing and taking over the task and producers that are performed by human beings under normal circumstances.

However, Deputy Speaker, the reality is that we should accelerate interventions in resolving some of the challenges facing the educational system. Some of our schools are still functioning under

the consequences of the political and economic decisions made during the apartheid era where people were segregated according to their skin colour with schools having white communities and the rich properly result.

The result of this modern day South Africa is that a child's experience of education is to some extent dependent on where they are born, the family's economic status and the colour of their skin. Honourable Members, there is a serious need for the transformation of our educational system. The quality of education that our schools, universities, and colleges offer must be able to respond to our current socio-economic realities.

One strategic move that our government and institutions of higher learning can must get correct is that youth unemployment amongst graduates is mainly caused by the oversupply of graduates who hold skills that are rarely demanded in the labour market. The former therefore calls for a need for universities and colleges to intensify their relations with schools to offer genuine career guidance and advice to learners who are preparing for high school or rather FET level because that will give them an opportunity to choose subjects that are in line with the skills and careers that are more relevant and required in the industries and government.

Much as our educational sector needs transformation, what we need to appreciate Deputy Speaker is the support that our Department of Education is providing to the young people in the township and rural areas in terms of the National Schools Nutrition Programme. This programme has direct impact in keeping and even attracting young individuals to come to school especially those from seriously disadvantaged backgrounds.

Deputy Speaker, the 2025 youth month serves as an essential reminder of the significance of investing in the future of our young people. By so doing Deputy Speaker, we will be ensuring the inclusion of youth in South Africa's trajectory towards the economic growth and renewal. The 2020 World Youth Reports state that while considerable progress has been made over the past two decades in reducing poverty, alleviating hunger, reducing inequality and improving outcomes for many of the world's poorest and most vulnerable, such progress has been uneven. United Nations of 2017.

The report further states that inequality has not only persisted but in many instances widened with substantial number of people including youth excluded from the full participation in economic and

political and social life. In South Africa including the North West Province, the main challenges confronting youth today include amongst others unemployment as well as exclusion from the mainstream economy.

Deputy Speaker, I will need more than one allocated time to report on the initiatives and progress attained in assisting this sector. Due to the limited time, let me take a moment to reflect on the 2024/2025 financial year progress. Twelve thousand four hundred and seventy young people were employed in various departments with 7 000 being females and 4 000 being males.

The Department of Public Works and Roads is recorded the highest in terms of the employment opportunities provided followed by the Education and Health. The nature of appointments across the departments included permanent and contractual work. Out of the procurable budget of 11 billion, procurement made from these groups, the black women ownership segment accounted for 1.8 billion or 42% followed by the black youth ownership sector at 1.1 billion or 27%.

Deputy Speaker, 5 408 young people in schools across the four districts participated in the crime prevention campaigns which focused on the drug and substance abuse, sexual harassment and gender-based violence and femicide. We continue to provide GBV education and awareness campaigns to young people in the province. Adolescents and youth participated in the information, education and awareness campaign on sexual reproductive health, substance abuse and mental health.

Three thousand, one hundred learners including LGBTQI+ community participated in the youth zone activations across 31 health facilities in the four districts to enable adolescents and youth to access healthcare services. Our provincial government continue to provide boys' manhood dialogue to young people. We also facilitate a girl learner's career exposure sessions across the province. Seven hundred and fifty seven learners from Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati participated in the entrepreneurship and skills career exhibitions and development, Madam Speaker.

Those are some of the things that I have indicated Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, 72 young people were also approved for the Victor Thebe Sifora Bursary as follows: On the field of study on the engineering, we had 28 young people. On the health programmes we had 12, on the agriculture programmes we had 12. On the tourism we had six and then on the law, we had five. On the education we had one. On the administration, we had eight.

The Department of Health provided 57 young people with funding to study medical related fields in Cuba through the Nelson Mandela Fidel Castro Programme as follows: On the medical students, ba ba leng kwa Cuba, we had 31 young people. On the emergency Medicare, we had six. On the clinical psychology we had five. And on the health technicians, we had 15. Total of 57 young people ba e leng gore #[those who]# they were funded during this 2024/25 ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Tlhapi, your time is up.

HON. TLHAPI: As I wrap up Deputy Speaker, our government continue to provide ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

HON. TLHAPI: Is it up?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. We'll now go to Honourable Dabampe. You've got 10 minutes Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. The leadership off the Economic Freedom Fighters led by Commissar Shakes Botswe, Members of the Legislature and most importantly bašwa ba rona ba Bokonebophirima le ba Aforikaborwa ka kakaretso. #[the youth of our province and of South Africa in general.]# We firstly would like to take this moment to wish our forever young Deputy President Commissar Godrich Gardee a happy birthday. He has since

his youth days participated in the struggle to emancipate our people from the shackles of poverty and unemployment.

We begin today by bowing our heads in honour of a legend and a giant tree who has fallen, the late Presley Chweneyagae. Presley was not just an actor, he was a cultural icon, a voice of the people and a beacon of hope for township youth across the country. Through roles like Cobra in *The River* and Tsotsi in the story of Athol Fugard, he inspired young people to believe in their potential despite their environment.

Deputy Speaker, it is very much painful to know that the institution that helped mold Presley, Mmabana Arts Foundation, is now in crisis. What was once a cradle of talent, is now a shadow of its former self. It is poorly managed, underfunded and it is collapsing. How do we expect to create future Presley's when the government allows such a vital institution to fall apart? It's a question which I know government of the day has no answer to it.

Deputy Speaker, the theme for today's youth debate is and I quote, "Creating skills amongst the youth for economic participation." But I must ask this House a question, how do we create skills for economic participation when there is no economy for the youth to participate in? Our youth are not short of skills as the MEC has been alluding here. What they are short of is access opportunity and a government of Bokonebophirima that cares, not these ones who are the modern day collaborators.

The youth of 1976 fought for the right to education, dignity and a future. They faced bullets from the apartheid regime. Today's youth face unemployment, poverty, landlessness and deep betrayal by the very government that claims to be their liberator. Under apartheid, the youth were denied education. Under this ANC/DA-led government, they are denied decent scholar transport, safe schools and consistent funding.

Unemployment among the youth is catastrophic. As raised by the EFF Provincial Chair Commissar Shakes Botswe in this very same House, young people are qualified yet jobless. Why? Because most of our black leaders now choose their friends, families and cronies over the qualified youth. Magodu a fa di #[Thieves gives the]# MEC nice time or nice weekend and they get jobs in return of the nice time they give the MECs.

The youth in this province are shut out not by apartheid but by corruption with a yellow t-shirt of the African National Criminals. The very system that is supposed to support poor students NSFAS is failing spectacularly. Students at Orbit, Taletso, North West University and Vuselela College are suffering. NSFAS delays payments, accredits unfit accommodation where the toilets is in the kitchen and treats students with disdain. If you don't believe me MEC Sambatha, just go to Orbit College. Go and see the pain and humiliation for yourself.

In a country that calls itself free, students sleep hungry while administrators drive luxury cars. On top of that, we have a young person who calls himself 'arrest, arrest,' who is at the helm of collapse of scholar transport in this province. Operators march to the department's office in Mahikeng because they have not been paid for months. The results? Thousands of learners left stranded unable to attend school.

Worse, the young people of Motswedding and Marotaneng in Taung travel over 20 kilometres by foot daily in unsafe environments and when it rains, it's very difficult for them to go to school thus their right to education is denied because there is no transport to take them to school. This is not just a failure of logistics; it is a violation of the constitutional rights to basic education. We cannot in good conscience speak about youth empowerment while children sit at home due to transport failures.

Deputy Speaker, lo ojwa lo sa le metsi #[you train them young.]# This Monday we visited Pelongwe Primary School in Takaneng, Taung. What we saw broke our hearts. Unsafe play areas, classrooms with cracked walls, no lights and leaking roofs. Toilets were unusable. And this is not unique as it reflects the conditions of over 34% of the schools in the North West Province due to less budget allocated to the department by the forever absent Premier Mokgosi.

In Christiana, a town of more than 15 000 people, there is only one high school. How do we create skills when we are able to build high schools for community of Utlwanang, Geluksoord and Marikana. One high school for thousands and thousands of children that is criminal behaviour by the Premier and his government. And while all of this happens, this government runs projects to the exclusion of young people.

Take the Vuk'uphile Programme, a contractor development programme meant to uplift the disadvantaged. Out of the 23 contractors selected, not even a single person. The government of

Lazarus Mokgosi was so proud to say we gave a zero young person an opportunity to be uplifted in this contractor development programme. And that is proof that youth are deliberately excluded from economic participation and yet today the same government has the nerve to celebrate youth day.

The forever absent Premier, we are telling him as a matter of fact as young people for free that we are not begging him. We are demanding that a minimum of 40% of all government expenditure in this province must go directly to youth-owned enterprises and youth development. And it is not a request, it is a directive from the youth of this country, particularly from the youth of this province.

While the youth are excluded, a new crisis is growing, teenage pregnancy. In 22/23 financial year, over 150 000 girls aged 10 to 19 fell pregnant in South Africa. That's one in every four teenage girls, a reflection of poverty, broken families and a lack of meaningful opportunities. These are not isolated issues. They are tied to governments' failure to provide education, healthcare and economic security.

Youth in rural areas such as Delareyville, Ganyesa, Itsoseng, Madikwe are sinking into hopelessness, and this is happening in a province which is rich in minerals, agriculture and infrastructure. We have platinum, we have the diamonds, we have the sunflower farms, we have maize and even the longest airport which is given to some friends and cronies. We have the longest airport runway in Africa here in Mahikeng yet the youth in Mafikeng are homeless and jobless.

Forty nine years later since the Soweto Uprising, we are witnessing an attack on our freedom. AfriForum youth has us NWU to burn the chant "kill the boer, kill the farmer." We want to say to the VC of North West University who is receiving pressure from the children of colonisers, we say to you: "Do not tremble before colonisers in suits." The Constitutional Court has ruled that this chant does not constitute hate speech. It is protected political speech, and it is the cry of the oppressed and not a call of violence.

On this youth day, we remember the spirit of 1976 and we chant loudly and proudly together with Honourable CJ that '*kill the boer, kill the farmer,*' because it was never about white individuals but it was about oppressive system that they upheld and continue to uphold today together with the ANC being their bodyguards.

To the youth of Bokonebophirima, we have waited for far too long and we want to say they are not lazy, they are not saying they are entitled. They have simply been betrayed by the collaborators. It is time to rise to organise, to occupy the spaces that belong to us. The youth are not the future; we are the now because the future in 2063, some of these ones who are promising us the future won't be there unfortunately.

We demand the land, we demand education, we demand economic justice. To the Premier who is forever absent and his government, we say to you: "Your time for speeches is over. Your time for empty broken promises is over. We therefore want to because we can see that you don't have solutions there to give you some of the solutions in terms of what should be done to celebrate youth day in its entirety.

We are saying this province as we've already said we have sunflower and maize, there must be Agro-processing MEC Sambatha. There must be cattle and poultry farming in the province. We are saying the mines must honour their SLP through beneficiation aimed at empowering and benefitting young people. We are saying the practitioners, it must be young people. There must be deliberate project to take 10 000 young people to practice as ECD practitioners.

We must establish multi-purpose community based centre and make available youth advisory centres and give our young people free Wi-Fi and all the necessary tools to enhance their skills. We demand that the province must be industrialised. There must be a deliberate revival of all the industries. When we mine here, there must be an industry that will cater for young people. We demand that there must be a monthly allowance to the young people who are currently seeking jobs.

All the departments procurement, 50%, we are not even, we are doing a favour by leaving that other 50% but we're saying 50% should be given to young people. Let this youth day not be another celebration of betrayal. We are saying nothing about us without us and the spirit of 1976 lives on. The militant youth of the EFF ...**[INTERRUPTION]**...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Dabampe!

HON. DABAMPE: Which has identified a generational ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Dabampe, your time is up.

HON. DABAMPE: Of economic freedom in our lifetime. And I know you agree with me Deputy Speaker that as the EFF ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Van Huyssteen, you've got eight minutes.

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Today I stand in this Legislature to have a talk with my fellow youth in North West. Having a quick scan of the room, I'm one of the few Members who can actually call them my fellows. Today I stand in this Legislature to have a talk with my fellow mothers and fathers, the young mothers and fathers in this province, the ones who endure the challenges of being a new parent facing the harsh realities of a province with the lowest employment rate in the country. Being in the same life cycle, I can confirm this is not for the fainthearted.

Today I stand in this Legislature for a talk with a small business owner, the honest hustlers of North West, the one surviving on Maggy two minute noodles for months on end in an attempt to keep their business doors open. I know, I was there. That chicken, cheese and beef flavour sachet becomes very boring very fast, but we endure.

Today I stand in this Legislature for a talk with the young EPWP and general workers of this province, tirelessly getting up, doing their part, going to work, improving their skills and building a life for their families. I also stand in this Legislature today not with a nice gel overlay in my

hands but with road paint on my fingers where you can see I was painting the roads with my community yesterday. And I will be doing it tomorrow and the day after that and the day after that.

You the youth of North West possess something that very few ever will have. This is something called grit. Grit is the autopilot that keeps you going even when you take the hardest hit. ...[INAUDIBLE]... It's the spirit of ubuntu that keeps residents going.

Hold on to that grit which is fused with your foundation and persevere with me to carve our new joint future, a future where the Mmabana's of North West are not overgrown abandoned buildings but centres where artists and athletes can develop their talents and are guided on a road to victory, a future where the wheels on the bus go up and down, up and down not like in North West where they fall off and off and off and off, where you can rely on scholar transport picking your child up on time to go to school to gain knowledge not another day with a bag in hand, dreams in the dirt.

Honourable MEC Tlhapi, you stated that graduates are obtaining tertiary education for jobs that there are not. Now Honourable Tlhapi, what are you doing about it? What actions are you taking to advise the youth of the sectors that are going to be developed in the province? Nothing. And simply put, it is because you have no vision for this province.

A future where you can dream bigger, this is what I envisage. A future where you are given equal equality and opportunity and you are allowed to determine the outcome based on your efforts and your capabilities not a reality thrust upon you where your hardest efforts make little change. A future where you can dream bigger than any generation that came before because technological development is encouraged, automation is on the forefront and your local business can be taken to an international market because of this increased connectivity.

This is in contrast with the current provincial connectivity crisis where you are lucky to find a signal in a village and hospital patients registration systems remain offline in clinics: something that our Premier who in his absence does seem unbothered with because ICT North West rests squarely on his shoulders. MEC Tlhapi acknowledges the shift to online workforce, but Honourable Tlhapi you are a Member of the Executive and of the ANC. So please get your house in order because you are responsible for the rollout.

A future where if you struggle due to substance abuse, you are treated with care and you are helped to recover to your full self with dignity. This is in contrast with the current reality where centres

such as the Taung in-patient centre completed in 2017 have not seen a single patient pass through their doors either to receive treatment or to exit successfully. I envision a future where politicians and government officials are content with earning their salary and doing their job ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. OLIPHANT: Our house is in order.

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Am I interrupting DS?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Oliphant are you rising on a point of order? What is the point of order?

HON. OLIPHANT: No Chair. The point of order is just to say that the house is in order. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No but you are out of order Honourable Oliphant. I will ask the Secretary to take you out.

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you very much DS. I will not deal with it in this debate but I'm sure this can be referred to the Rules Committee for interrupting me while I'm on the platform but let us continue with the vision for a future. A future where politicians and government officials are content with earning their salaries and doing their work, where politicians do not attempt to gun one another down Honourable Steyl like in Ditsobotla. A future where officials in Mamusa are not investigated for inflating laptop prices up to 920%.

Let us call on our grit fellow youth in North West, deep down in our bellies let us claim this future. This will be your future, and this will be our joint future. Our power lies in our strength in numbers

as the youth of this province. And Honourable Dabampe, I must agree with you and I'm so happy to hear today that as the EFF you are saying you've seen the light when you acknowledged on this podium five minutes ago that apartheid is not to blame for the status quo of this province but it is the comrades in yellow skipas #[T-shirts]#. Positives Honourable Dabampe and we are moving forward.

I challenge you, all the youth of this province. Go and visit that half built brick wall on the halted government site that the ANC comrades in the yellow skipas #[T-shirts]# could not complete in the past 31 years of democracy. Go and see what is happening, take pictures, take videos. Insist on accountable oversight. And if they refuse you, contact me and contact my fellow colleagues in the blue because we are issued with beautiful golden cards which they cannot refuse.

Let us do oversight. Let us make sure that development comes where it is needed. Let us then from that oversight hold the executive accountable as we are doing here today. Let us take back our power and let us have voices and let us have our dismay heard. This is our future my fellow youth. Through our grit, we will reclaim it together as the youth of North West. No longer will our future realities be determined by those who will not live in it. Thank you DS.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Member. Can we now call on Honourable Makgokgowa. You've got eight minutes.

HON. MAKGOKGOWA: Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker Collen Maine, Honourable Premier Lazarus Mokgosi, Honourable Members of the Executive Council, Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature, yoh, Freddy! Order. Acting Premier Keneetswe Mosenogi, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen le lona bašwa ba Bokonebophirima #[and you the youth of the North West.]#

Honourable Deputy Speaker, as I stand before this august House, may I take this opportunity to relay an inspirational message once pronounced by our revolutionary leader, global icon, a gallant freedom warrior and the father of our nation uTata Nelson Mandela as he said: "Everyone can rise

above the circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do.”

I call on the youth to embody this powerful quote and to be reminded that they too are capable of achieving success in their lifetime because where they come from should not determine their destiny. This year we celebrate youth month under the theme: “Skills for the changing world – Empowering youth for meaningful economic participation.”

As we commemorate this youth day, let us take a moment to reflect on the importance of June 16, 1976, a day entrenched in our national conscience. Today we do not simply commemorate a historical event, but we awaken a legacy. We pay homage to the fearless youth of 1976 whom in the face of brutal repression stood against a system that sought to crush their minds, spirit and their dreams. They did not rise merely for themselves, they rose for justice, education, dignity and most importantly our future.

Before 1994, education in South Africa was a weapon of oppression and was not a tool for liberation. Under apartheid, the Bantu education system was deliberately designed to deny black youth the skills, knowledge and opportunities needed to contribute meaningfully to the economy of the society.

Schools were underfunded, the curricula was irrelevant to the economic realities. Teachers were demoralised and infrastructure was non-existent in rural and township communities. The youth of 1976 understood something profound in that without education, there is no freedom and without skills there is no economy.

As the North West Province, we must confront our challenges head-on. We must not shy away from the troubles facing our children in schools, challenges of overcrowded classrooms, shortages of teachers and the limited exposure to technology and innovative learning. The sad reality that many of our children post-matric still do not know how to operate basic computer is truly heart-breaking.

The question still remains: Are we intentional in skilling our young people for a changing world and empowering them for meaningful economic participation? Post-1994, we have embarked on a long and complex journey of reconstruction and transformation. Through our constitution

formulated on the principles of the Freedom Charter, South Africa has declared education as a fundamental human right.

We have also been strategic in placing skills development especially of youth at the heart of the economic planning. Today we stand at a critical juncture to either adapt to the millennium ways of living encapsulated by high-tech knowledge, intensive and artificial intelligence operated world or be left behind as the world rapidly conforms to the norms and standards of the fourth industrial revolution.

Even in the midst of all challenges crippling the youth, the ANC government has been instrumental in creating initiatives aimed at skilling young people and equipping them to participate fairly in the global economy. We must commend the establishment of the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation which has put many innovative and technological advances, global dimension at our disposal.

We have been able to bolster a number of science and technology programmes which exposed our children to stem digital programmes, the provision of mobile science and IT labs through private collaboration with companies like PPC Cement and the launch of cyber lab in Ngaka Modiri Molema District at Setumo High School. Liquid Intelligent Technologies South Africa has also invested in our province providing us with the first state of art digital computer centre at Sempapa Secondary School in line with enhancing our digital innovation infrastructure.

Our ANC manifesto priority (4) continues to instruct our government to improve the educational system through the use of science and innovation for development. All these programmes reflect our commitment to empowering our young people with skills, knowledge and opportunities essential for fostering their socio-economic and inclusivity in high-tech and advanced digital economy.

Our schoolchildren are exposed to practical learning through initiatives such as the Eskom fair which is a regional competition that grants young scientists the opportunity to pursue their interest in science, technology, economics and mathematics. We bear witness to our students raising our South African flag high in international science and technology competitions.

Lethabo Molobi, a matric student at the Zinniaville Secondary School participated in the 2024 Taiwan International Science Fair where she was awarded the Fourth Award and the Viewer's

Choice Award in the behavioural and social science category. Then we have Raees Khan is also one of our students from Vryburg High School who was in Grade 11 when he received the life changing opportunity to go to showcase their project at Mexico Expo.

The significant growth of the North West University as a research and innovation institution has also been pivotal in enhancing the skills and development of the young people in our province. With the variety of extensive development courses as the soon to be opened Desmond Tutu School of Medicine will be on the right track to produce future successful doctors and nurses that will continue to perform high-tech demanding and complex operations like the first-ever heart surgery performed at our Klerksdorp Tshepong Provincial Hospital.

Moreover, we have a handover of the state of art cattle system equipment to Regomoditswe Malao, an awarding winning boran stud breeder in April 2024 forms part of our continued commitment to ensure that we prepare our young people for the future. Such initiatives are crucial to protecting the food security of the province and the country at large. With progress registered, much still needs to be done.

Furthermore, we need to reform our education and skills development programmes to prioritise the digitisation of rural schools and integrated e-learning platforms. We must focus on STEM subjects like coding, robotics and integrated use of AI in schools. We must also empower our youth cooperative in the green economy to encourage waste recycling, digital arts and agro-processing through green economy pathways and introducing youth climate training and learnerships for renewable energy and conservation careers.

In conclusion, Honourable Deputy Speaker, let us arm our generation with the tools of innovation and skills of resilience and the power to participate. As we honour the sacrifices of the resilient students of Soweto, let the young people of the North West be reminded that you are not too young to lead, to add value or to prosper. Your province needs your voice, and your country needs your skill. Rise, organise, innovate and participate. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Makgokgowa. The Honourable Groenewald. ...[INAUDIBLE]...

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Every year, youth day is marked by a promise of opportunity and inclusion. Yet the reality is a generation being failed by the very policies that claim to uplift them. In South Africa today, the biggest threat to our youth is not a lack of potential, it's a government that refuses to treat all young people equally.

Youth unemployment stands almost at 60%. This is not a statistic, it's a national emergency and yet government continues to push outdated, racially based policies like broad-based black economic empowerment, affirmative action that divide our youth and deny thousands access to opportunity purely because of the colour of their skin.

Speaker, these policies are not helping the poor. They are enriching a politically connected elite. They do not build unity, they breed resentment. Young people are being told you are good enough to vote but not good enough to be employed unless you fit a racial profile. The Freedom Front Plus stands for a merit based opportunity-driven future where every young person, black, white, coloured or Indian is judged on their talent, effort and commitment not a racial check boxes of government.

We propose an end to race-based policies rather on merit inclusive policy. A complete overhaul of the education and training system to equip youth for the real economy not political favour. Support for small business and local enterprises where young people can create jobs, not wait for government handouts. And a government that serves all citizens equally not one that picks winners and losers based on outdated ideologies.

Speaker, the youth of South Africa want a future built on freedom, fairness and self-determination. It is time we dismantle the barriers of race-based exclusion and build a nation where every young South African has a fair chance to succeed. This is the Freedom Fight Plus for. This is the future we must deliver.

And Honourable Deputy Speaker, I want to say to the EFF in terms of "*kill the boer and kill the farmer,*" what they like to sing, if that is the argument that is for the oppressor, then we must start singing, "*kill the ANC, kill its politicians.*" Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo, you've got three minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. The uMkhonto weSizwe Party joins millions of South Africans in commemorating Youth Day in our national calendar. We therefore remember and honour the brave students who on June 16, 1976, stood up against the apartheid regime's oppressive policies.

These warriors showed unwavering determination and were willing to risk their lives against the oppressive regime. The uprisings especially in 1976 were a powerful statement of the youth's desire for change and a better future. The ideals for which they lived and died should serve as a great source of inspiration for all of our country's youth as they pursue inclusive economic growth.

The 1976 youth, Honourable Deputy Speaker, generation fulfilled its generational mission. The 1976 generation helped attain the 1994 political freedom. The generational mission of today, Honourable Speaker, is to ensure the attainment of economic freedom in our lifetime. The challenges that the current generation of youth face include poverty, social inequality, poor mental health and high levels of unemployment.

Deputy Honourable Speaker, half of the population of the North-West is unemployed, and the majority of the North West population is the youth. The fundamental or pertinent questions which the youth of today need to ask themselves during the Youth Day are as follows. Only three of those particular pertinent questions: What are the current conditions of the youth in 2025? How much tangible progress have we made since 1994 towards the achievement of all the goals of the Freedom Charter, towards implementing the basic programme of our national democratic revolution?

How far are we towards successfully completing the national democratic revolution by creating jobs, banishing hunger, poverty and inequalities in the North-West minerals rich province and empowering the youth of the province? Honourable Deputy Speaker, the youth are not an exception of the foundational issues of poverty, unemployment and inequalities which stems from the theft of land and mineral resources. North West is rich in mining, agricultural land and tourism.

The mining and agricultural raw materials are being transported from the North-West to outside the province thus weakening the prospects of manufacturing and job creation in our province especially job creation for our youth in this particular instance. The black majority, Honourable Deputy Speaker, which are the youth are still excluded from any meaningful economic participation and benefit, and majority are still poor SMMEs at the periphery of the economy. The generational mission of today's youth must be to turn the situation around.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, uMkhonto weSizwe Party urges that at the top of the government's education list of priorities should be to make sure that our youth get the technical education needed for the economy to make them creators of jobs and owners of the means of production. If China can do it, why can't we as North West? Burkina Faso has started, why can't we do it as North West?

Our education system should be completely overhauled to ensure young people are emerging into a job market with the skills and education that makes them suitable to a growing pool of opportunity. We must invest strongly in raising a generation of entrepreneurs and small business owners who can become employers of others and hubs of economic activities. The foundational issues of poverty, Honourable Deputy Speaker, unemployment and inequalities stem from the ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up Honourable. Your time is up.

HON. TSHOLO: As I conclude ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Your time is up. Thank you. Thank you very much. Can we now call on Honourable Mangope. You've got three minutes.

HON. MANGOPE: Ke a leboga Motlatsamodulasetulo. Ga ke ye go nna moleele. Ke a go nna mokhutshwane. Ke rata fela ge re ka boela kwa morago. Kgantele e rile ke bua fa le, ka re we must

go back to basics. Jaanong ke rata go dira jalo Motlatsammusakgotla ka go re ke re Motswana wa maloba o kile a re ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa, ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa.

Jaanong bana ba bašwa kwa porofenseng ya Bokonebophirima, re tshwanetse gore re ba tlhakanele re le puso, re le di-opposition parties, re le borradikgwebo, re le dikereke, re le Baruti, re tlhakanele bana ba, ba e leng boswa jwa rona jwa kamoso.

Motswana gape wa maloba o ne a bua a re, ga o re di a sisa, o a bo o raya tsa gaeno, ga o re di a sisa, o a bo o raya tsa gaeno. Jaanong gampieno re bua fa ka bašwa bogolo thata jang re lebile bašwa ba Bokonebophirima. Jaanong nna ke a re bagaetsho ba sisitse bana ba, se tota re tshwanetseng gore re se dire re le puso ampo re le Palamente ya Bokonebophirima ke go bona gore tota bana ba, a go sisa ga bone go ba tlisetsa moso o monate o re ba o eleletsang rona re le Action SA.

Le gone re dumela ba ka thusiwa bana ba ke puso fa puso fela e ka fetsa maikutlo a gore Bokonebophirima a e tlhabololwe ka mekgwa yotlhe fela e motho o ka e kgonang. Jaanong rona re le Action SA, re rata go akgola bana ba re tlaa bong re ba keteka mo malatsing a a gaufi a a tlang ka se ba se dirileng; gore gompieno be re le mo maemong a re leng mo go one a kgololesego jaaka lefatshe la South Africa.

Ke rata go dira boikuelo mo pusong ya Bokonebophirima gore ke re ngwana sejo, ke boeletse ke re, ngwana sejo wa tlhakanelwa. Ke a leboga Motlatsammusakgotla.

English translation follows:

#[Thank you Deputy Speaker. I am not going to be long. I will be short. I would want us to go back. Earlier when I spoke here, I said we must go back to basics. I want to do that Deputy Speaker because I am saying a Motswana of the past once said a child belongs to the whole community, a child belongs to the whole community.

Now the youth in the North West province we have to jointly take care of them as government, as opposition parties, as business people, as churches, as Pastors, we must jointly take care of these children who are the inheritance of the future.

A Motswana of the past again once said if you talk too much about something, it means it belongs to you, if you talk much about something, that things belongs to you. Now today we are talking here about the youth especially the youth of the North West. Now I am saying these children are able, what we have to do as government or as the North West Parliament is to see to it that these children, what they have brings them the good tomorrow which we wish for them as the Action SA.

And we believe that these youth can be helped by government if government can decide that North West should be developed in whichever ways possible. Now us as the Action SA, we would like to applaud these children whom we will be celebrating in the next coming days for what they have done; that today we are in the situation we are in, of freedom as a nation of South Africa.

I want to make a plea to the North West government that a child belongs to the whole community and I want to say it again that a child belongs to the whole community. Thank you Deputy Speaker.]#

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Re lebogile #[Thank you]# Honourable Mangope. Honourable Dial.

HON. DIAL: Ke a go leboga Motlatsammusakgotla. E bile ke a go dumedisa e bile ke dumedisa Mmusakgotla Ngaka Mohono, Tonakgolo ya rona Tonakgolo Mokgosi, le Tonakgolo ya nakwana, Mme Mosenogi, Maloko otlhe a Kokoanopeomolao ya rona ya Bokonebophirima le bagaetsho botlhe ke a lo dumedisa. #[Thank you Deputy Speaker. I greet you and greet the Speaker Dr Mohono, our Premier, Premier Mokgosi and the acting Premier Madam Mosenogi, all the Members of our Legislature of the North West and all our people, I greet you.]#

Deputy Speaker, as we commemorate National Youth Day, under the theme: 'Skills for the changing world- Empowering youth for meaningful economic participation,' I want to internalise the words of one of our own of our liberation giants Kofi Annan when he said: "Any society that does not succeed in tapping into the energy and creativity of its youth, will be left behind".

The youth of this country are the future of our nation and the growing reality is that, their skills and development will be their greatest currency to secure them a seat at the table of participation in the global economic arena. If we fail as a nation to ensure that our youth receives quality education and advanced training, they do not adapt and participate in the changing world, we would have failed to build a generation ready to engage in a knowledge—intensive, high-tech and globalised world.

We commemorate the historic uprising of June 16, 1976, a day that changed the social, political and economic trajectory of our country, when 49 years ago, ordinary young people stood with extraordinary courage in the dusty streets of Soweto to say, "No More." The resilience and the determination of the class of 1976 to resist the imposition of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction, struck a powerful blow against the apartheid regime.

Their defiance was more than just a fight against the use of the oppressor's language but about truly achieving freedom, opportunity and dignity. This year's Youth Month theme, calls us to self-introspect as a country and confront the burning question that requires us to know: "Are we doing enough to advance skills and training on our youth to be innovative participants in this ever-changing economically world?" A world that is fast-moving to a paperless, artificial intelligent, digital and technologically advanced economy.

There is a great shift from the way we live as African states to a high-tech way of life in countries such as China and America. The demands of the 1976 youth, echoed a bold promise of the Freedom Charter of 1955, whose powerful opening lines declared that "The people shall govern." Those young but valiant tutees or learners did not only rise against Afrikaans but rose against a system that said they were not worthy of skills, knowledge, development and opportunity.

We must confront a harsh reality our young people face before we can produce a youth capable of surviving in the world new order. We must analyse the painful social ills that continue to deprive and demoralize and kill the energies and the creativity of our young people.

And these challenges are the challenges of extreme high unemployment rates amongst the youth, high drugs and alcohol abuse by underage children, the increasing number of teenage pregnancies, high crime and the feeling of hopelessness and depression that continues to destroy the dreams and futures of our young people.

The other challenge is the challenge of high-illiteracy rates amongst our children, the increasing number of school children drop-outs, the lack of easy access to higher education by the disadvantaged majority and the persistent mismatch between the skills and training in our universities and colleges.

Since 1994, South Africa has embarked on a number of Skills Development Plans to guarantee the rights to education, equality, human rights, dignity, socio-economic justice to advance the youth of this country. The Revitalisation of the National Youth Services and Presidential Youth Employment Intervention have both been instrumental in offering many young citizens with employment opportunities.

Many have been able to get jobs through initiatives such as The Presidential Stimulus Package, SA Youth.mobi zero rated online app, the Youth Employment Services, Social Employment Program and the Employment Tax Initiative that have been critical in encouraging large corporations to employ young people in their workplace.

Since the inception of these interventions about 4.6 million South African youth have been able to register on the National Management Pathway Network which has given them access to more than 1.57 million work opportunities. More than a million young people have been employed while 12 000 young people have received direct support for their enterprises.

The current challenges that faces the youth employment initiatives, is the fact that the majority of the employment offered are low income jobs, temporary in nature and do not offer job-security. We however welcome the recently pronounced pilot project called the Job Boost Outcomes Fund in the Presidential Youth Employment Report which promises to provide our youth with permanent, sustainable, dignified and quality jobs in the near future.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme has been a blueprint for justice and equality. It played a significant role in opening the doors of learning in the Higher Education space to millions of young South Africans, stuck in the shadow of poverty-stricken communities. Despite its challenges, Honourable Deputy Speaker, the NSFAS has been able to provide more than 70% of the students in universities and 90% of students in the TVET space with an opportunity to receive quality education, skills development and training.

But before we conclude Honourable Deputy Speaker, I think we must just clarify a few issues here that the scholar transport initiative which Honourable Members from the opposition benches are talking about is an initiative that was brought about by the ANC government and its failures or its challenges have already been identified by the ANC government and only the ANC government can be able to perfect that system.

The EFF has no capacity to address some of these issues including the ... [INAUDIBLE] ... who was at some point a member of the ANC, he has never been able to come up with any tangible solutions for the problems and challenges facing our people. The next issue which I think we must just deposit for the benefit of Honourable Dabampe who's also a member of the Economic Freedom Fighters is that in the airports there is no runaway, but we have a runway. I think it's just one of the issues we must share with them because they are not too far from us as the ANC given our history of where they come from.

And I also think we must also tap on the words of the Honourable Mangope when he says: "Ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa." #[a child belongs to the whole community]# Indeed, we agree with these sentiments and we believe that as a society of the North West we must work together and stop the elements as displayed by some of the opposition parties of seeking to grandstand with the problems facing of our young people and work together to come up with solutions and tangible means and efforts of trying to improve the lives of our young people.

But lastly Deputy Speaker, before I conclude, I think it is also encouraging to note and to learn that the MKP still has got hope in what they were orientated with in the ANC which is a creation of a democratic, non-sexist and a prosperous South Africa which is the creation of a national democratic society unlike what we have learned in today's sitting where the ones who have always called themselves progressive are now leaning to the right with the Democratic Alliance.

In conclusion, Honourable Deputy Speaker, we want to say that the blood of Hector Peterson and his fellow martyrs must brighten the future of the youth of South Africa and the North West. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...[INAUDIBLE]... Honourable Tlhapi, you've got five minutes.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, our government, and this is a fact, our government is still battling with the legacy that was only built in 1948 but since 1600. Now Honourable Dabampe and Honourable Van Huyssteen, we will always as the African National Congress re le gopotse #[remind you.]#

However, the commitment and the focus of our government in advancing the national democratic revolution especially in opening doors for learning and culture has been realised ke African National Congress. To a great extent, our government has made considerable progress in widening access to education and I think lo dumelana le nna. #[you agree with me.]#

Now Deputy Speaker, Honourable Dabampe a re re dira eng #[is asking what we are doing]# as government? This Seventh Administration has joined hands on a deliberate efforts of the national government by intensifying efforts to equip our young people with the skills and opportunities necessary for meaningful participation in the economy. And that's why every year the North West Province coordinates the development of the programme of action done for the different priority groups.

In respect of the programme of action for the youth, the following, Deputy Speaker, have been the key areas: the procurement opportunities, the employment opportunities, the advocacy and awareness campaigns, the capacity building and training, and educational funding and other support. And we'll always make sure that we give support to our young people.

Deputy Speaker, our government continue to also provide campaigns that equip our young people with the knowledge around financial literacy, the self-branding, the emotional intelligency and the healthy lifestyle. And we'll continue to do that. Ke mmereko wa rona #[it is our duty]# as the African National Congress and government.

And the young people from schools across four districts, they always participate in the youth camp e re e tshwarang ngwaga le ngwaga. #[which we are holding every year]# Now Honourable Van Huyssteen, I think you must give us an evidence ya go penta. Matsogo ao a gago ga o ne o a bontsha batho ba rona ba Bokonebophirima, ga se matsogo a a pentang #[of painting. Your hands you will not show them to our people of the North West, they are not the hands for painting]# and you know.

Ke a itse gore go penta #[I know that those who paint are]# the same people ba batho ba rona ba e leng gore o a ba dirisa #[Our people whom you are using]# for your campaign. So, lo khampeina vroeg wena le #[you campaign early you and]# Honourable Dabampe. You can marry each other but you cannot give our people a service that African National Congress is always giving. So ke tlo kopa gore o tle o re fe bopaki ba gore matsogo ao a gago ke one a ka pentang ka gore nna #[I would ask that you give us proof that your hands are the ones that can paint because myself]# from where I'm sitting ga ke bone gore wena o ka penta tota go bua nnete #[I don't see whether you can paint just to tell the truth]# Honourable Van Huyssteen.

Honourable Mangope, re a leboga #[we thank you]# and we will always, go tsaya mo go lona bogosi jwa rona gore ngwana sejo o a tlhakanelwa jaaka #[to take from you our Traditional Leaders because a child belongs to the whole community as]# Honourable Dial a setse a buile #[has already said.]# Honourable Van Huyssteen ene a se ka a lebala gore o tshabetse mo #[must not forget that she ran to the]# Legislature kana wena #[you]# Honourable, I'm sorry go dirisa wena. O tshabetse mo #[ran to the]# Legislature go itira motho o #[to make yourself]# clean a bo a re #[and say]# African National Congress is corrupt.

O sa ntse a kolota diripoto, ga ke itse gore case ya gagwe e tsamaya kae. #[She is still owing reports. I don't know where her case is]# Maybe Honourable Sonakile must tell us ka case ya gagwe e a paletsweng ke go #[with regards to her case where she was unable to]# submit audit reports ga a ne a sa ntse e le #[the time she was still a]# councillor. So, they must not come here and grandstand mo bathong ba rona ba Bokonebophirima. Mmereko wa rona wa go #[before our people of the North West. Our duty is to]# make sure gore we are reversing poverty; unemployment and inequality will be persistent and intensified.

And we call upon the private sector, international community and all other people, individuals, to join the government in a partnership to deal with the challenges that are faced by our young people. And that's why we will always open doors for even the private sector, the individual that has a capacity to can help our young people because as government alone, we cannot do it.

And that's why we are also engaging Honourable Deputy Speaker, and we are going to make sure, all of us we know that Mmabana was burned in 2018 and we are indeed renovating it to make sure that we have another Presley Chweneyagae mo gae. So, every time people ba emelela e be ba re #[They stand up and say]# Mmabana ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. BOTSWE: Motlakase o tsamaile. #[Electricity is gone.]#

HON. TLHAPI: They must know that as government, we'll deal with that. So, ne ke re fela lenyalo la bone le seka la ba dira gore ba seka ba itse le gore ba tlile go dira eng fa #[I was saying that their marriage should not make them not to know what they have come here for]# as Honourable Members. Thanks.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Tlhapi. Members on the virtual platform must not forget to fill the register on their system. I hope you know how to use it online. Now Honourable Members, we were supposed to have a briefing by SARS. That briefing has been postponed because of the unavailability of SARS. This then concludes the business of today. The sitting is adjourned until further notice.

HOUSE ADJOURNED.