

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2026

[EDITED]

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

HOUSE: Observing a moment of silence.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. We may be seated. Honourable Members, I'm pleased to announce and introduce to this House the newly appointed Public Service Commissioner of the North West, a position which has been vacant for over four financial years. Her appointment was finalised after rigorous processes of the ad-hoc committee chaired by the Chief Whip of the House, Honourable Rosho.

It's worth mentioning that the new North West Public Service Commissioner was introduced to the Rules Committee and to the Members of the ad-hoc committee last week. Advocate Neo Sephuti we have invited her so that those who don't know her could see her. May you rise so that the House can see you Advocate. Thank you very much.

Congratulations Advocate Sephuti we hope that you will serve the province and the country at large with honour and dignity as you promote good governance, accountability and high standard of professional ethics across the public service. Thank you very much. Thank you so much.

Honourable Members, let me also take this opportunity to sincerely appreciate the sterling work done by the ad-hoc committee under the leadership of the Chief Whip of the House, Honourable Rosho in ensuring that the whole process was fair and transparent. I know the challenges that you went through but finally the product is what we have all agreed upon.

I acknowledge all parties presented in this Legislature that participated in the process for cooperation, working together and ultimately reaching a collective decision. Thank you very much Honourable Members. Secretary, may you read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 02 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SITTINGS

2.1 Minutes of the 03rd March 2026

2.2 Minutes of the 10th March 2026

2.3 Minutes of the 12th March 2026

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Secretariat. Honourable Members, I put before this House the minutes of the 03rd March 2026 for adoption. Does the House adopt the minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Members I put before this House the minutes of the 10th of March 2026 for adoption by the House. Does the House adopt these minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Did all Members got the minutes on time?

HOUSE: Yes.

H

ON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Members, I also put before this House the minutes for the 12th March 2026 for adoption. Does the House adopt the minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Members, all sets of minutes are duly adopted. Secretary, may you 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 Motion as per Rule 107

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, before I take hands I have been informed by the whippy that the Chairperson of ad-hoc committee on allegations by Mayor of Naledi Councillor Groep has requested to make a motion on the extension of the time frame of the ad-hoc committee. The Chief Whip of the House will table this motion on behalf of the Chairperson. Honourable Rosho.

HON. ROSHO: Tlaya ke go leboge Mmusakgotla. #[Let me thank you Speaker.]# Honourable Members, I move, through you Madam Speaker, I move without notice in terms of Rule 106 of the Standing Rules of the Legislature that this House noting that the House has resolved to establish an ad-hoc committee to investigate the allegations made by Councillor Groep against the Premier of the province.

Noting further that the House has resolved to extend the due date of submission of the ad-hoc committee report with findings and recommendations to the House to be on or before the 31st of March 2026. Noting further that the ad-hoc committee is at the stage of considering its report and should await comments from the implicated parties and observe the prescribed time frames which is five days and therefore will not be able to conclude its report and submit it by the 31st of March 2026.

I therefore on behalf of the Chairperson of the ad-hoc committee move that this House must resolve as follows to resolve that the life of the ad-hoc committee and the time frames within which the ad-hoc committee must submit a report be extended to the 31st of May 2026. I so move Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Chief Whip. Does the House adopt this motion?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Now I will go to taking hands in making sure that you table your motion without notice. I will take hands now. In case I have, okay. In case I have forgotten or I didn't see you, I will duly give you an opportunity once we are done. Honourable Mokuu.

HON. MOKUA: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a motion without notice welcoming the official launch of the #Matlakala ke Zaka

Campaign by the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism.

The initiative aimed at mobilising communities, municipalities, environmental partners and academic institutions to work together in improving waste management and promoting environmental sustainability was launched under the theme: Clean Today, Green Tomorrow. Our Road to COP30.

The campaign highlights how community-led clean up initiatives, recycling programmes and responsible waste management can contribute meaningfully to the goals of the Paris Agreement. The #Matlakala ke Zaka campaign also aims at promoting community led climate actions by encouraging waste separations at source, reducing illegal dumping, restoring the dignity of towns and villages and unlocking the economic value of recycled material.

Municipalities will be allocated spots whereby sorted refuse will be collected and allocated for recycling purposes. The ANC firmly believes that recycling of waste offers crucial environmental, economic and social benefits by conserving natural resources, reducing pollution and saving energy.

We commend the department's efforts together with municipalities to minimise landfill waste, lower greenhouse gas emissions and create job opportunities while supporting sustainable secular economy. I so move. Thank you very much Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC. Honourable Van Huyssteen.

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Madam Speaker. Apologies I was just busy signing the attendance register real quick. Honourable Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge an incredible achievement thanks to the Miss Naledi Organisation.

Now we've seen the crowning of Miss Naledi 2025 namely Kgalaletso Molomonyane, our Miss Naledi for 2025. And we also saw the crowning of our Miss Popularity Mbali Nkumane but following that crowning they have done a lot of fantastic ground work. They have also had a retreat at the Wildcoast Sun for development and enrichment.

While this experience celebrates their success, it also created the space for reflection, growth and purpose. It is encouraging Madam Speaker to see platforms like Miss Naledi placing strong emphasis on youth and female empowerment, developing confident, capable young women who are ready to lead and uplift their communities.

This initiative Madam Speaker highlights the importance of investing in young women, not only as ambassadors of beauty but as voices of change and drivers of progress. By equipping them with vision and purpose, we are building a generation that will champion opportunity, resilience and community development.

Madam Speaker, I am a firm believer of equal opportunity but these young women have shown us that when given that opportunity, they make good choices to build on their futures to come. These young women embody the strength and potential of our nation's youth, reminding us that when women rise, communities rise with them.

Madam Speaker, let us congratulate these young women for their continuous efforts to build their own futures but let us also find inspiration to also continue building our own futures as a province. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Van Huyssteen. Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Sorry Honourable Dabampe. Honourable Chief Whip.

HON. ROSHO: Speaker, I thought you will invite for any responses.

HON. SPEAKER: My apology. You are correct. It's okay. Colleagues, my apologies. I was supposed to have started when Honourable Mokuia raised a motion if there's any Member who

wish to respond. Can I start from that point that I allow any Member who had wished to respond to Honourable Mokua and then we come to the motion of Honourable Van Huyssteen. My humble apology. Any Member who wish to respond to the motion by Honourable MEC Mokua? Honourable Matuane and Honourable Moema.

HON. MATUANE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. ... [INTERJECTION] ... Mare #[But]# last time I checked ha ke #[I don't]# account kwa go wena, ha ke report-e kwa go wena. #[to you, I do not report to you.]# Last time I checked ha ke report-e kwa go wena. #[I do not report to you]# Speaker, can you protect me?

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, not today!

HON. MATUANE: No, no, Speaker, can you protect me.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members! Honourable MEC! Honourable MEC, please not today. Please not today. With due respect not today. I'm humbly requesting. Honourable MEC please! Don't do that. Honourable Matuane, can you continue with your response.

HON. MATUANE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, my submission is that the name #Matlakala ke Zaka is not a proper name. You must give it Andries Tatane Cleaning Campaign. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. (1) As the EFF, we feel strongly that it is a good initiative because (1) it seeks to create a conducive living environment. (2) Our

people will be able to then generate something for a living. But lastly, we want to make it known that this should not be the last programme because firstly our people are unemployed and we know the ANC government it is incompetent. They will then turn this into a job creation.

Last time they could not present their clear and concrete strategy in terms of how are they going to create millions of sustainable jobs. So we still need sustainable jobs while we still support that it is a good initiative. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. We now come to the motion of Honourable Van Huyssteen. Any Member wish to respond? Chief Whip.

HON. ROSHO: Ke a go leboga Mmusakgotla # [Thank you Speaker.]# I think, Madam Speaker, as the African National Congress, let's welcome the motion brought by Honourable Van Huyssteen in terms of the young women who are starting to reposition themselves in the space of development, in the space of participating on issues of social cohesion. And as the African National Congress, we would therefore want to congratulate them and wish them well and continue to be supported by all of us in the communities. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Chief Whip. Honourable Dabampe, you were already standing. Can you come with your motion.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a motion without notice congratulating Thebeetsile Ikalafeng for being conferred as the second Chancellor of the Sol Plaatje University last week at his investiture which was attended by various dignitaries including Chancellors, Vice-Chancellors, convocation presidents, traditional leaders, Members of Parliament, business leaders showing how mass in character Thebe is.

Chancellor Ikalafeng is often referred to as Mr Brand or the African Brand Authority due to his immense contributions in the fields of marketing and branding wherein he is known as the leading advocate for a brand-led African renaissance. He is also recognised as the founder and chairman of Brand Africa, founder and chairman of Brand Leadership Group and founder of the African Brand Leadership Academy amongst other accomplishments including the publishing of award-winning books such as *The Traveler* and the latest one *Rooted and Rising: Reclaiming our Culture and Redefining our Global Influence*.

Hailing from Kimberely himself, his appointment serves as a full circle moment in his career wherein he can sow in his community the same way he has sown in the continent. Thebe has been recognised for his stellar work with the biggest institution in Africa and the fastest growing institution the university of the land, UNISA having conferred to him an honorary doctorate in recognition of his contribution.

He is an illustrious alumni of learning in service to humanity. Ammaaruri, ammaaruri, #[Truly, truly]# Thebeetsile, the shield has returned. And as the Economic Freedom Fighters, we wish to join communities of Kimberely, of Northern Cape, of South Africa and Africa in celebrating the appointment of this trailblazer whose accomplishments speak volumes about his leadership, his capability and his character as Chancellor of the institution that lives to honour the legacy of Solomon Thekiso Plaatje.

We wish him great success in his steering of this significant institution. And Speaker, we encourage all people to be like Thebe and register to vote and particularly register to vote for the Economic Freedom Fighters. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Any Member who wish to respond? Honourable Magagane. You can use the Chief Whip one.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. As the African National Congress, we wish to also congratulate Dr Thebe Ikalafeng for actually being afforded this beautiful chance. But also Speaker, we also want to highlight that the gown that he was actually

wearing was actually designed by a designer from Kimberly also Thebeetsile Magugu who's also a renowned international designer.

And we also need to highlight as I always talk and ask in this House that we have to continue wearing South African designs making sure that we put them on a world stage. Magugu himself has relived 11 solo collections under his name and actually has collaborated with international brands like Dior, Adidas ... [INAUDIBLE] ... factory. So we also congratulate Dr Thebe Ikalafeng. Thank you.

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

HON. MOLAPISI: Thank you very much Speaker and good morning to yourself. I rise on behalf of the ANC to move a motion without notice mourning the passing of a veteran anti-apartheid activist, journalist and educator Terry Bell who passed away at the age of 84.

We in the ANC we extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and comrades across South Africa and in the international progressive movement. His passing marks the loss of a principled voice whose life was dedicated to the pursuit of justice, equality and human dignity. Terry Bell, Honourable Speaker, belonged to a generation of activists who understood that the struggle against apartheid required courage, sacrifices and international solidarity.

His years in exile, including his work in Zambia, the United Kingdom and Zealand as well as his contribution to the development of education SOMAFCO in Tanzania. SOMAFCO, Honourable Dabampe, is a Solomon Mahlangu Freedom of College which has produced many of our leaders in the province.

This development, Honourable Speaker, reflect a life committed not only to opposing injustice but to building the foundation of a democratic future. His work as a journalist and commentator continue to challenge inequality, amplify the voices of working people and promote progressive internationalism.

The ANC recognises and honours Terry Bell's role in the global anti-apartheid movement and his lifelong dedication to justice. His legacy reminds us that the struggle for a more equal and humane society did not end in 1994 but continues in new forms. May his life inspire future generations to remain steadfast in the pursuit of freedom, solidarity and social justice. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC. Does any Member wish to respond? Thank you. Honourable Kodisang.

HON. KODISANG: Ke a leboga Mmusakgotla. #[Thank you Speaker.]# Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of Action SA in the North West Province to table a motion without notice that this House notes with serious concern the recent incident at Mogogelo Primary School in the North West where a Grade 1 learner reportedly fell into an open pit toilet during ongoing infrastructure renovations.

Further note that the hazardous open inlets and that the construction area was not properly secured. Acknowledges that this incident forms part of a broader ongoing crisis of unsafe sanitation infrastructure in public schools which continues to place the lives and dignity of learners at risk. Recognises that despite commitments to eradicate pit toilets, progress has been slow with poor contractor management, weak oversight and lack of accountability contributing to delays and dangerous conditions.

We call upon the Department of Education and relevant authorities to urgently fast track the complete eradication of pit toilets in all schools across the province, to ensure that all infrastructure projects are properly secured, monitored and completed within stipulated time lines, take immediate disciplinary action against contractors and officials responsible for negligence in this matter.

Furtherly, calls for a comprehensive audit of all school sanitation projects in North West to prevent similar incidents and safeguard learners. I so move.

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

HON. MOTSUMI: Indeed, Honourable Speaker it is unfortunate incident that happened in that particular school but I'm little bit confused because the statement suggests that there are renovations there. We are dealing with issues of pit toilets and sanitation but at the same time the Honourable Member is not happy. I thought maybe one a tsenya #[she was making a]# statement to say that we must make sure gore when we continue to renovate and make sure that we eradicate these pit toilets we make sure that we prioritize safety of our learners which remains our priority.

But I'm little bit confused now I don't know what to respond to because we acknowledge gore renovations are there, are being done at the same time there's no progress. If we can be clarified but as the Department of Education we remain committed. Safety of our learners together with our educators remains our priority.

We are definitely going to do our investigations because protocol dictates that when it comes to any project or any renovation, safety must be prioritized for our learners especially those who are in primary school. But I'm happy that he is acknowledging gore we are continuing to better the lives of our people of making sure gore renovations are being done in our schools. Thank you very much Chair.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Moema your motion.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to congratulate Fighter Elihle Mjikwa, a researcher of the Economic Freedom Fighters in the North West Provincial Legislature who graduated last week Tuesday on the 24th of March 2026 obtaining postgraduate diploma in management with distinction at the North West University Potchefstroom Campus. This achievement is not only a personal victory but a demonstration of the revolutionary principle that education remains a powerful weapon in the struggle for economic freedom.

Honourable Speaker, Fighter Mjikwa has distinguished himself as a committed activist who previously served as a leader of the EFF student command at the North West University Potchefstroom Campus where he championed the interest of students particularly poor and black working class majority students who continue to face financial exclusion and institutional barriers in higher education.

His leadership was not for comfort or recognition but for the advancement of free, decolonised and quality education for all. It is also important to recognise that his journey was not without obstacles. At some point, he faced disciplinary processes which were intended to silence his activism and discourage his militant defence of students.

However, like many fighters in the EFF he did not retreat, instead he remained resolute, defended his principles and continued with the academic commitments. Today his graduation stands as proof that no intimidation can defeat a determined revolutionary.

Honourable Speaker, this achievement sends a powerful message to young people across our province and the country at large that it is possible to be an activist and still excel academically. It confirms the correctness of the historic slogan of the student movement that says we must strike and pass at the same time.

This slogan, Honourable Speaker, means that the struggle for justice and academic success must go hand in hand because as the students of Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe we believe that education means service to Africa. The Economic Freedom Fighters therefore takes this opportunity to salute Fighter Mjikwa for this achievement and wishes him strength as he continues to serve our people with his knowledge, discipline and revolutionary consciousness.

Lastly, Honourable Speaker, we encourage the residents of the North West Province and citizens of South Africa at large to vote for the EFF in the coming local government elections. EFF inspires confidence leadership and EFF is the last hope for our people. Thank you Honourable Speaker. I so move.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Moema. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable LGB.

HON. MOTSUMI: Honourable Speaker le rona #[us also]# as the African National Congress we are joining hands in congratulating the researcher who happens to be a fighter. But I am having a problem with the last statement because I believe that the researcher he is a beneficiary actually of this Legislature and this Legislature is led by the African National Congress. So why should people vote for EFF whereas the very same ANC they have empowered the very same fighter.

So, this thing it must encourage the fighters in making sure gore they encourage others to vote for ANC so that more fighters ba kgone go ka #[they can be able to]# graduate. So, a remove only that thing a se ka tsaya #[don't take]# credit e e sa belong to ene. #[which does not belong to him]# The Speaker of this Legislature belongs to the African National Congress. That bursary ya the Legislature comes from the African National Congress. So, our people out there bonang mmereko o montle #[see a beautiful job]#... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. MOEMA: Order Speaker.

HON. MOTSUMI: Re kgona go ka #[we are able to]# empower the fighters ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. SPEAKER: There is order. Honourable MEC!

HON. MOEMA: Order Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable MEC! There is order. Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much. It would be quite incorrect for us to sit here and allow the MEC misleading the public. (1) Fighter Mjigwa is not employed by the Legislature. He is

employed by the EFF in the Legislature. That's why we made it clear that he is ...
[INTERJECTION] ...

HON. MOTSUMI: Honourable Speaker order! On a point of order Honourable Speaker!

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Moema! Can you take your seat. Can you take your seat.

HON. MOEMA: So she's confused like she said earlier ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. SPEAKER: Moema! Honourable Moema! Sit down! Kodisang!

HON. MOTSUMI: He's a beneficiary. Wena o batla #[You want]# attention especially ha o apere
#[when you are wearing]# tradition.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable MEC! Honourable MEC!

HON. MOTSUMI: Wena ha o apere tradition re a go itse, o batla go #[You, when you are wearing
traditional attire, we know you, you want to]# impress. Wena. Wena o rata go impress thata and
then o a bora.#[You, you like to impress a lot and you are boring.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Are you done Honourable Members? Are you done? Honourable Members,
I've pleaded with you. Not today! Please! Not today. Please. Honourable MEC, not today.

HON. SONAKILE: Speaker, se ka ba dumelela. Moya ke wa Paseka. O se ka ba dumelela hore ba o tshase dilo tse mpe. #[do not allow them. It is the Passover spirit. Do not allow them to smear you with bad things.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Dial, your motion. Honourable Dial, your motion. Honourable MEC?

HON. MOTSUMI: Nna o a n-confusa jaanong #[You are now confusing me]# Honourable Speaker because I thought you noted Honourable ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. SPEAKER: No, I've noted Honourable Dial. I thought you are raising an order.

HON. MOTSUMI: Hebanna! Nnyaa, go #[Wow! No, It's]# busy today mos.

HON. MATUANE: Honourable Dial is not ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DIAL: Honourable Speaker I withdraw from the motion. I withdraw my motion Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable MEC, when I was calling your name, I was calling you to order. I then recognised Honourable Dial. Your turn will come. I was not saying your motion. Honourable Dial, your motion.

HON. DIAL: Thank you Speaker. Ne ke re ke #[I wanted to]# withdraw motion.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay. Honourable LGB, you can come in with your motion then.

HON. MOTSUMI: I am also equal Member. I am also equal Member of this Legislature. Unfortunately, I've got all rights le nna. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to commend the South African Police Service in the North West Province for its vigilance and dedication of its members following the arrest of a suspect in Vryburg for possession and dealing in drugs.

The suspect was apprehended during routine crime prevention patrols where members conducted a stop and search operation where members that led to the discovery of the drugs in his possession. Further investigation resulted in additional drugs being confiscated at the suspect's residence including a substantial quantity of mandrax tablets and crystal meth with an estimated street value of over 50 000.

The successful operation demonstrates the continued commitment of law enforcement officers in combating drugs-related crime and protecting communities from the harmful effects of substance abuse. The African National Congress further commends the members of the South African Police Services for their professionalism and dedication in ensuring the safety of our communities.

We appeal to our communities to work with police to strengthen partnerships for effective policing to and our communities of the scourge of substance and drugs destroying our youth. As I move Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much LGB. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you very much Speaker. Let the DA also join in in congratulating SAPS for the sterling job that they have done in arresting that gentleman. I think what the MEC forgot to mention in her motion is the fact that it was also discovered that the person who has been selling drugs that has been arrested is a member of the ANC in good standing. So it shows that the

quality of people that are within the ANC is a problem as well. So I don't know why the MEC omitted that part, but we do support the job that SAPS has done. Thank you.

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

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party to table a motion without notice in order to congratulate the President, General of uMkhonto weSizwe Party Nxamalala Jacob Zuma on his upcoming 84th birthday. President Zuma was born on the 12th April 1942 at KwaNxamalala in Nkandla, Norther KwaZulu-Natal.

He served as the state President of South Africa from 2009 until 2018. He joined the ANC youth league and SATU in 1959 and has been an active member of the African National Congress during the defiance campaign, the adoption of the Freedom Charter held in Kliptown in 1955, the anti-pass campaigns and the historic 1956 women's march to the Union Buildings.

President Jacob Zuma was recruited into uMkhonto weSizwe military wing by the liberation struggle stalwart, the late Moses Mabhida. He was arrested in June, 1963 near Zeerust at Groot Marico in the present day North West Province. On the 12 August 1963, he was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment on Robben Island. ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

During his tenure as President, he established new government departments in line with the NDR objectives such as the Department of Women, Children and People with Disabilities, Rural Development and Land Reform, Basic Education, Higher Education, Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs refocusing provincial and local government, Human Settlements, International Relations and Cooperation, Defence and Military Veterans, thereby demonstrating care to ex-freedom fighters who gave up their lives for freedom.

As we are continuing to celebrate, Honourable Speaker, President Zuma further established the national planning commission and produced the National Development Plan. The uMkhonto weSizwe Party would like to wish President Zuma well on his 84th birthday that we are continuing to celebrate the whole April Honourable Speaker. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Tsholo. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable Sonakile, Honourable Matshe, Honourable Chief Whip.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you very much Speaker. You know Speaker there is something that is a bit difficult with this motion. I don't know whether it is quite extraordinary or what that this House is now being asked to celebrate a birthday that has not yet occurred. We are being told that it is coming in April. It is quite confusing. I don't know whether from the DA I must stand and say happy birthday to the birthday to come Ntate #[Mr]# Zuma or what but at this rate we're going to end up now debating next year's birthday as a House. And this is very concerning. Thanks Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Matshe.

HON. MATSHE: Thanks, Honourable Speaker. Just in addition, the Honourable Member must make a distinction between a decision of an individual and an individual implementing an organisational decision, okay. The second thing very important is to urge the Honourable Member to use the former President's birthday to do two things: (1) Allow you to go and elect your leader. (2) Make a decision around dual membership. You can't be a member of MK but want to remain a member of the ANC. So we wish this should be part of what you direct to be done by the honourable Zuma. Thank you.

HON. BOTSWE: Honourable Speaker?

HON. SPEAKER: Is that an order? Honourable Chief Whip. Honourable Chief Whip.

HON. ROSHO: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I was just wondering whether it is an April Fools in advance or what with this motion because today is the 31st of March. Tomorrow is the first of April. And I want to concur with what the DA has put before the House that we're now starting to celebrate birthdays in advance which is quite quirky, very, very, I don't know **ke** # [it is the]# sophistication of the MKP to express its position within this Legislature. Unfortunately, I want to say that I support the DA and this motion can fall off. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile, your motion.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you very much Speaker. Speaker, can I be protected from choir ya # [of]# Honourable Teme.

HON. SPEAKER: You know Honourable Sonakile, just hold on. Honourable Tsholo, I've requested all of you today, not today no matter how you feel. Hurdle fine, nicely and keep quiet. You don't have to prolong your issue. You are causing this House to be a mockery and that's not what I'm going to allow unfortunately. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Ke a leboha Mmusakgotla hobane le nna ke mo Lenteng ha ke tlo dumelela Honourable Member a nleofise. # [Thank you Speaker because I am also on lent, I will not allow the Honourable Member to lead me to sin]# I hereby move without notice that this House notes with grave concern the ongoing and visible public consumption of substances at the long distance taxi rank in Mahikeng.

Further note that this situation is not only unlawful but is contributing to the rapid deterioration of public safety, dignity and the wellbeing of commuters and residents. Acknowledge that young people in particular are increasingly exposed to and trapped in substance abuse in full public view with devastating social consequences. Recognises that the continued lack of decisive intervention risks normalising lawlessness in one of the most critical public transport hubs in the province.

We call on the Executive Mayor Councillor Tshepiso Mphehlo together with the South African Police Services and all relevant law enforcement authorities to urgently intervene through visible policing, enforcement of by-laws and coordinated social support programmes. And urge that immediate sustained action be taken to restore order, protect vulnerable youth and ensure that the Mahikeng Taxi Rank is a safe and dignified space for all.

Honourable Speaker, our youth is perishing before our very eyes and inaction is no longer an option. I so move.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Sonakile. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable Dantjie, Honourable Magagane.

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Ne ke re ke dumelane le Ntate #[I am saying I agree with Mr]# Sonakile. Bonnete ke gore kgetsi ya tsie e kgonwa ka go tshwaraganelwa. #[The truth is we have to work together]# This thing ya #[of]# substance abuse it contributes a lot also on gender-based violence. Ke mafatlha mawelana. #[They go together]# So, we just want to make a call from the Department of Social Development's view that working together we can do more in fighting this scourge because it's not only the problem of Mahikeng Municipality.

Even all of us as Members of this House, we must continue to work together and join all the campaigns by the Department and the Office of the Premier to ensure that we safeguard the future of our children. Enkosi #[Thank you]#

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you MEC. Honourable Magagane.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you very much Honourable Sonakile, Honourable Dantjie. And we also concur that we need urgent assistance in terms of infrastructure to upgrade the infrastructure of Mahikeng long distance and actually the local taxi rank to ensure that the current surge of drugs

and the chaos that you get at the taxi rank, the crime rates there. You can't go there without the fear of being mugged.

And also, the infrastructure because there is water everywhere, wherever you step, wherever you are there. And we would like to also thank Tolamo Lobelo who actually brought this to our attention and requested that if we really want to see the future of this country, the future of this town, the future of this capital, we need to act now together as the government and all facets of government. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Magagane. If you can take your motion.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to commend the South African Police Services in the Bojanala District for their continued record of strong operational successes. In their strive to fight crime; the police in Bojanala launched a well-coordinated crime fighting operation conducted between the 22nd and the 29th of March across Rustenburg, Koster, Boitekong, Phokeng, Tlhabane, Dwaarsberg and Swartruggens policing area.

The operation resulted in multiple arrests for serious and priority crimes including for three murders, unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition, assault, GBH 1, for bribery, sexual offenses were 13, contravention of the Immigration Act were 19, public drinking, yoh! 28, public indecency 3, theft related crimes.

Police also recorded arrests for drug-related crimes an additional 12, drunken driving 10, liquor related offenses 15, possession of suspected stolen property 1, trespassing 2, possession of house breaking implements 1, contravention of the road traffic act 1, offenses in terms of Animal Identification Act 2. The road block operations also contributed to the overall success with 371 vehicles stopped, 39 warrants of arrests executed, three vehicles impounded, traffic fines to the value of 36 850 issued.

The African National Congress commends all SAPS members and stakeholders involved in the operation. They should sustain the momentum and intensify the fight against crime in order to create safer communities for all. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Magagane. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. As the EFF we join Honourable Magagane in commending the good work done by the men in blue by combating and attempting to also prevent crime in our communities. Their hard work is really commendable. However, we must make it known that under the ANC government, the same men in blue they remain understaffed, with a shortage of vehicles, with shortage of fuel, shortage of uniform.

The prison cells or the holding cells, they remain over-populated with no food and also with possibilities that at any point the same people they apprehended they can at any point escape those prison cells because of this ruling party. So, their work is well commended however, we are saying the ANC government is failing them to can do even much better than they are doing currently. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Babuile, your motion.

HON. BABUILE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a motion without notice in sending our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and fighters of the former Member of this Provincial Legislature Honourable Xaba.

Honourable Xaba joined politics in the 90s by joining the ANC and after a question was asked in 2013 on what is to be done on a basis of the situation that the country is facing, he joined the EFF as one of those who is a founding member of the EFF. Honourable Xaba was elected as a provincial command team of the EFF.

He served also as a Member of the North West Provincial Legislature from 2019 to 2024. He was affectionately known as ‘Caracara’ in this House. He was known for holding this Executive accountable. And Honourable Speaker he was very known of liking Honourable former Speaker of this Legislature.

Honourable Xaba was buried this past Sunday in a village called Tshidilamolomo in Ratlou Village. As we continue to encourage our people to register to vote, may Honourable Xaba’s soul rest in peace. Thank you.

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

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you Madam Speaker. As the African National Congress, fighters we are with you in these trying times. Honourable Xaba was a good fighter and a good Member of this Legislature. He was well-behaved. How we wish that Members of the EFF can take from him and learn a lot from him Honourable Members but indeed we are with you. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory, my crush. Enkosi #[Thank you].

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Speaker. Let me join in that motion and send our condolences as the DA to the Xaba family, the EFF colleagues and all close people who were close to the late former Member. Indeed, the EFF has lost a very courageous and hard working Member. One got the chance to really work with Ntate #[Mr]# Xaba in the committees, and he was one of those Members that was always free-spirited.

There’s a particular joke; he always found humour in the tough situations that we’ll find ourselves in. I remember at one point we were in Moses Kotane and ha re le koo mo #[when we were there at]# Moses Kotane go bo na le issue ya gore some of the members tsa ANC ba #[there was an issue

that some of the members of the ANC, they]# storm into the meeting wa rona. #[of ours]# So Ntate #[Mr]# Xaba always had a way of explaining hore o la survive yang #[how he survived]# from that meeting. I'm not going to say it today but the former Speaker knows hore Ntate #[that Mr]# Xaba o la tswa yang #[how he came out]# because he used to just say it in the House hore o la kgona hore e be ena fela #[he was the only member]# Member o survive-ile #[survived]# from that attack but in a very humorous way.

So may his soul indeed rest in peace. Ho hlhile e leng hore ke ntho e bohloko #[What happened is something painful]# to the Xaba family. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Lehari, your motion. Honourable Lehari, your motion.

HON. LEHARI: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I knew Mr Xaba very well but let me stop there because Mme #[Madam]# Dantjie covered me. We can't ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. SPEAKER: You have three minutes MEC to say your motion.

HON. LEHARI: But it's a sad moment. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a motion without notice welcoming the arrest of accused Mogotsi Kushumane, 48 years who was sentenced to four life terms imprisonments by the Molopo Regional Court for multiple rape incidents committed between 2013 and 2016.

Kushumane was convicted for a series of violent sexual offenses committed in Mmabatho and surrounding areas where victims were lured or overpowered before being sexually assaulted, attacked in separate incidents and others assaulted while with companions.

Through meticulous investigation and the utilisation of forensic DNA evidence, the accused was positively linked to the crimes. He subsequently pleaded guilty to all charges and the court then sentenced Kushumane to four life terms of imprisonment which will run concurrently.

As the ANC we commend the court's judgment to declare Kushumane unfit to possess a firearm and direct for his name to be entered into the national register for sex offenders. Perpetrators such as Kushumane must face the harshest hand of the law because such heinous crimes invade people's rights and as a country with a constitution founded on the principles of human rights, we must continue to put in all efforts needed to restore public safety and protect the rights of all citizens.

As the ANC, we applaud the investigation by the Serjeant Lorraine Semunza attached to the Provincial Serial and Electronic Crime Investigation whose diligence and commitment was instrumental in securing the conviction. Such convictions send a strong message that perpetrators of gender-based violence will be dealt with and that we'll not be a lawless country as the rights of our people will remain government priority to safeguard. Thank you very much.

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

HON. MOEMA: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I should wish to join the MEC in welcoming the sentencing of the perpetrators of gender-based violence particularly with the rise of patriarchy in our society, femicide and infanticide. However, we are saying as the EFF that to denounce the scourge of gender-based violence is not enough, to run campaigns is not enough.

We need to also protect victims. We also need to protect witnesses of such incidents but lastly we need to also support families of those who are killed through gender-based violence because in most cases our experience is that families they end up not even being able to even attend court cases because they do not have money, they are unemployed and the government end up abandoning them.

It end up being the perpetrator alone appearing before the competent court of law while the actual people who want to see justice taking place they end up not even being able to take just one taxi to court and back because from time to time there are postponements, there are ... [INAUDIBLE] ... and so on. It ends up stretching the families psychologically and financially.

So, we want to see a government that budgets for such instances and providing necessary support to the families of those who lost their loved ones. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. Honourable Dantjie.

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. In concurring with Ntate #[Mr]# Lehari and Honourable Moema, it must be noted however that government has done a lot in making sure that gender-based violence issues are being taken seriously and are being taken care of. Parliament of South Africa in 2024 have passed almost over four laws to protect the perpetrators.

The President towards the end of 2025 he established an interministerial task team to just focus on the issues of gender-based violence. Again, towards the end of last year, the President has declared gender-based violence as a national disaster. So, working together we can do more. Vote ANC as we fight this monster.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much MEC. Is there any Member that I mistakenly didn't see? Honourable Dantjie, your motion. Is it Honourable Dantjie only I didn't see? Your motion.

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I was like you have forgotten me because Ntate #[Mr]# Lehari came way, way far.

HON. SPEAKER: I indicated that I might have not recognised other hands. I will recognise them.

HON. DANTJIE: Okay.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes.

HON. DANTJIE: Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a motion without notice congratulating a young, female physician for becoming the very first female cardiothoracic surgeon of the African descent. Born from the rural areas of Dutjwa in the Eastern Cape and raised in the small village of Wonderkop in the North West where she herded cattle as a young girl.

Dr Lindiwe Sidali has broken the patriarchal glass ceiling in the complex medical field which involves surgical treatment of conditions such as the heart and lung diseases, an alumnus of the prestigious Nelson Mandela/Fidel Castro medical training programme. Dr Sidali studied and graduated with medical degree in Cuba and completed her fellowship in surgery at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital in the province of KwaZulu-Natal.

The young daughter of the soil becomes a trailblazer in a specialised field of medicine which is predominantly male. She defied all societal, constructed conversions despite her humble beginnings and previously disadvantaged background. Dr Sidali is an embodiment of perseverance, resilience and commitment in which all girl children may draw inspiration with the firm expectation that there's no limit in everyone's potential.

The ANC remains unceasing and committed in advancing the empowerment of women and continue to champion a society wherein every girl and every woman is able to pursue their aspirations and recognise that their potential is boundless and know that the future is bright for all our females. Vote ANC. Enkosi #[Thank you]#.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC. Does any Member wish to respond? Thank you. Does the House adopt; oh, you want to respond? Okay, Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: No, it's a very short one Speaker. We agree with the motion except the last part. We are not voting ANC. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay. Does the Hosue adopt these motions?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Except the birthday one, yes, yes. In due course when the President of MKP have a birthday, we will definitely congratulate him on his birthday. For now, he is not birthdaying. Thank you very much. Are, there any notice of motions? Can I see by show of hands. Honourable Moema, Honourable Chief Whip. Honourable MEC, please! Don't do that. Honourable Moema and then Honourable Chief Whip. CoC is your hand up? Okay. And notice of motions.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise in terms of Rule 107 to table a notice of motion that in the next House sitting the House must debate the continued paralysis of Geoge Dick Montshioa Airport. Thank you Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: You withdraw? Any other notice of motion? The notice of motion will be put in the order paper for debate as per the Legislature programme. Secretary, may you 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: Thank you. Does any Member wish to make a statement in terms of Rule 130? Can I see by a show of hands? You will come at the Executive Statements. For now, it's Members. I think I've captured. Honourable Sonakile your hand was up, I've captured it. Yes captured, yeah.

If there's any mistakes, I will definitely correct it but I think I have captured, yes. CoC, I have captured you. Honourable Botswe, your statement.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to express a serious concern about the unjust termination of scholar transport services in January 2026 for learners attending Moratwa High School in Makapanstad within the Moretele Local Municipality.

This decision has negatively affected close to 200 learners who now struggle daily to access education, a basic constitutional right that the government is failing to protect. Since the termination of this transport, parents many of whom are already struggling under difficult economic conditions are now forced to use their own limited financial resources to ensure that their children get to school.

This has become unbearable financial burden on the working class and the poor family who are already battling to rising cost of living, unemployment and poverty. Education should liberate our people from poverty not deepen their suffering through carelessness. Honourable Speaker, the Department of Education has attempted to shift the blame onto parents by claiming that they choose to enrol their children in schools that are far from their home. This explanation is not only insensitive but also dishonest.

The real issue is that many schools are severely overcrowded, under-resourced and unable to accommodate all learners within their communities. Parents do not send their children far away by choice but out of necessity because there are simply not enough schools to accommodate the growing number of learners in Makapanstad and the surrounding areas.

The EFF maintains that this situation exposes the continued failure of the provincial government to invest in building new schools, expanding existing infrastructure and properly planning for learners placements. It is unacceptable that in 2026 learners must still travel long distances because the government has failed to build adequate educational facilities in their community.

Honourable Speaker, we therefore call on the North West Department of Education, Department of Community Safety and Transport Management and Department of Education to urgently

reinstate the scholar transport for the affected learners of Moratwa High School. We further demand a clear plan to address overcrowding through the buildings of new schools, the expansion of existing schools and the proper resourcing of education system in Moretele Local Municipality.

The EFF will continue to fight for the right of the learners for equal access to education and for the dignity of the poor family who must never be punished for government failure. Education is not a privilege for the few, it is the right for all and we will not rest until that right is fully realised. Ke a leboga.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Botswe. Does the Premier or a Member of the Executive wish to respond? Does the Premier or a Member of the Executive wish to respond? Thank you. Honourable CoC. Honourable CoC, your statement.

HON. MODISE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of African National Congress to table a statement commending the African National Congress and its tripartite alliance SANCO, COSATU, SACP for making the third anniversary of Constitution and the Human Rights Day on the 21st of March 2026.

Leading the people's march nationwide peaceful mass action centred on defending South African nation sovereignty and democratic gains, mobilising in a key hubs like Johannesburg, East London, Cape Town and the movement sought to reaffirm citizen urgency against foreign interference while standing in the international solidarity with nations facing geopolitical aggression.

African National Congress stand moved by the overwhelming seeds of green, gold and black that flooded the streets of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and every corner of the Republic of South Africa. The nationwide people's march was thunderous reminder that the pulse of South African democracy beats strong in the hearts of its citizens.

As we commemorate 66th anniversary of Sharpeville Massacre, we do not merely look back in grief but forward with a renewed sense of duty 30 years after adopting our democratic constitution,

the ANC declared one of voice that South African sovereignty is not for sale and our democracy gains are not up for negotiations.

In an era of a growing global complexity and attempt by external interests to dictate our democracy path, we reaffirm that our foreign policy is rooted in non-alignment and the pursuit of the multipolar world. We will not be bullied by opportunistic forces or concerned by international actors acting as proxies for foreign interests.

And our loyalty lies solely with the South African people as we continue to engage the world on our own terms prioritising the national interests, regional stability and the total liberation of the African continent. The African National continue to lead charge in cleaning up the municipality, fixing the energy grid and ensuring the wealth of the land is shared by all who live in it.

We will not be distracted by those who wish to see us fail. We will stand firm; we stand independent and we stand with the people of our country. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

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

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party to make a Member statement on the inhabitable Groot Marico capture site. Honourable Speaker, capture sites are heritage and monuments in nature for the people of North West and South Africa as a whole.

I happened to visit the Jacob Zuma capture site on the 07th of March 2026 on Saturday. The situation was very and really deplorable and one cannot keep quiet while taxpayers money was used and later on, the same department neglects such historic and valuable sites.

The Groot Marico Jacob Zuma capture site is a heritage site in South Africa that marks the spot where former President Jacob Zuma was arrested in 1963 for his involvement with uMkhonto weSizwe Party, oh uMkhonto weSizwe not uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Honourable Speaker, the armed wing of the African National Congress. He was 21 years at the time and on his way to Botswana for military training with 45 other recruits.

The site was launched in 2017 as part of the liberation heritage route and features a museum, a statue of President Jacob Zuma and a cultural village. The idea was and it still is, to promote tourism and economic development in the area while also preserving the history of the anti-apartheid struggle heroes.

However, Honourable Speaker, the site has been abandoned and is in despair with no electricity or water. The building is leaking during rainfall and there is no planned maintenance and daily care for this particular centre. The grass is as tall as a giraffe. As I submit Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tsholo. Does the Premier or ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Botlhoko. #[painful]# , yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Tsholo! Thank you.

HON. TSHOLO: He must behave.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to respond? Honourable MEC.

HON. TLHAPI: Ke a leboga Mmusakgotla. Mmusakgotla, tlaa ke leboegele statement sa Honourable Tsholo. Mme ke indicate fela mo Ntlong ya gago gore just like any other site ya rona mo porofenseng, Jacob Zuma site ga se gore ga e tshwane le tse dingwe re aware gore go na le mathata mo porofenseng ka ntlha ya di-site tsa rona.

Mme re le department, re na le plan on place go dira gore di-site tse di bereke. Mme ke indicate gape mo Ntlong ya gago gore site e a bereka irrespective of the challenges, go na le batho ba ba

etang kwa site-ng. Issue ya dipula le eng le eng, le kwa ntlong ga go na ntlo e e sa neleng. Honourable Tsholo o a itse.

Mme ga e tshwane fa di-site tse dingwe tse e leng gore re na le tsone, re na le plan ya gore re dira jang gore re kgone go di kolomaka, Honourable Tsholo jaaka ke ne ke setse ke kaile mo go wena. Ke a leboga Honourable Speaker.

English translation follows:

#[Thank you Speaker. Let me be thankful for Honourable Tsholo's statement. And let me indicate to your House that just like any other site in the province, it is not that Jacob Zuma's site is unlike the others. We are aware that there are problems in the province regarding our sites.

However as the department, we have a plan in place to make sure the sites are working. And also let me indicate to your House that the site is working irrespective of challenges, there are people visiting the site. The issue of rains and this and that, even in the house, there is no house without challenges, Honourable Tsholo, you know.

But it is not like the other sites we have; we have a plan of what to do to clean them. Honourable Tsholo as I had already indicated to you. Thank you.]#

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC. Honourable Sonti, your statement.

HON. SONTI: Thank you Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I hereby rise on behalf of the EFF to table a member statement registering our discontentment with the North West Provincial Government for embarrassing us once again by obtaining only three clean audits in the 2024/2025 financial year and ranking as one of the lowest performing provincial governments in the country.

Honourable Speaker, there is a consistent contradiction between the positive tone the North West Government presents its achievements with/and the reports presented of the province by overseeing entities. First, it was Stats South Africa with quarterly labour force survey that constantly exposed that the government did not create all the jobs the Premier says they did.

And now the Auditor General is exposing the horrendous state the provincial government is in even though the Premier said they are making great progress in his State of the Province Address. In her presentation last Thursday, 26 March 2026, the Auditor General stated that the North West Provincial Government should cause concern as their audit outcomes are not improving and that they are remaining stuck. In simple terms saying that this provincial government is playful.

As EFF, Honourable Speaker, what we find most baffling is the ease with which even the Premier who is here today lies to our people. Even the MEC of Finance in her budget speech spoke of the great progress the province is making. Which progress is this that the Auditor General is not saying?

Furthermore, the report indicates that North West also has a high number of material misstatements which refers to lies and information that is deliberately withheld in the reporting of the province's finances. If there is anything that this audit outcomes prove is that all the claims the EFF has been making about this government's dealings with provincial funds are true and every defence given to these claims were baseless.

We clearly cannot trust the ANC. Therefore, we urge the people of North West to register to vote in the upcoming municipal elections either at their nearest IEC branch or on the official IEC website and stand with the EFF in making meaningful change. ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Sonti. Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to respond? Premier.

HON. PREMIER: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I don't think we should really debate this matter because facts speak for themselves in terms of progress. If you look at provincial government performance as it relates to audit outcomes, departments all of them, nine of them which are on an unqualified status with only one department which is at qualified status, departments which have maintained and others which have moved to a clean audit.

When you go to municipalities, you look municipalities that have moved from disclaimer and they moved to qualified. Therefore, that's significant improvement. That's what we're talking about

and that is as a result of our deliberate interventions that we have made in municipalities and focusing in our provincial government.

And therefore, we'll continue to be more focused in assisting our municipalities to be where they are expected to be. And I think that's what the Auditor General has also agreed. I'm not sure what non-improvement is referred to in this instance. Thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Premier. Honourable Matshe, your statement.

HON. MATSHE: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement welcoming the provincial government's continued acceleration of health infrastructure delivery across the North West. As the ANC, we applaud the completion of several healthcare facilities as well as additional upgrades that are in the implementation stage. This will ensure improved healthcare provision and offer our people effective, dignified healthcare services.

As we continue towards achieving our ANC manifesto commitment to provide universal healthcare, we commend the completion of health facilities in Delareyville, the three Park-home clinics in Sheila, Uitkyk and Magogoe Villages as well as the bulk pharmacy centre. These developments form part of the province's broader strategy to improve access to quality healthcare provision especially in the underserviced working class and poverty-stricken communities.

The establishment of a dedicated chemotherapy unit at Mahikeng Provincial Hospital will offer oncology services which will enhance cancer treatment within the province, reduce patient transport costs, the traveling distance and ensuring that patients are not far from their families.

The expansion of specialised services at Job Shimankane Tabane Hospital that include neurology, the new magnetic resonance imaging unit (MRI), the mammography services, the digital X-rays and C-arm equipment for increased radiology capacity will ensure that our people get the best medical care our health professionals can offer.

We believe that neurology services extended at Moses Kotane Hospital, maxillofacial services to Brits District Hospital and ophthalmology services at Tlhabane Community Health Centre will

guarantee universal health coverage in our lifetime. The ANC commends the current momentum that once again reaffirms our commitment to ensure development and expansion of healthcare infrastructure. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

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

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognise the looming price hike that we are going to see in fuel coming 12 o' clock tonight. With effect from the first of April, we will have devastating consequences for the people of the North West Province with petrol expected to rise by over five Rand per litre and diesel by more than nine Rand per litre.

South Africans are facing one of the most severe fuel shocks in recent history. These increases are driven by escalating international oil prices linked to conflicts in the Middle East, a weakened Rand and a further 21 cents per litre hike in fuel levies. For residents of the North West, the impact will be immediate, and it will be severe Madam Speaker.

Ours is a province where long travel distances are the norm not the exception. Workers often commute far to access economic opportunities and these increases will drastically erode already stretched incomes. For many the cost of getting to work may soon out way the benefit of having a job at all.

Small businesses particularly in agriculture, mining support services and transport will be forced to either absorb these costs or they will need to pass it along to their consumers. In many cases, this will result in downsizing, job losses or even closures, further deepening the province's unemployment crisis.

Unlike in the Western Cape, where many workers have access to flexible working arrangements or the option to work from home, residents of the North West are effectively locked out of these alternatives. The failure by this provincial government to invest in reliable broadband infrastructure and improve network connectivity has left communities digitally excluded and economically vulnerable.

The Democratic Alliance has put forward a clear and practical alternative to bring relief to all South Africans and the people of North West. This includes scrapping the 21 cents increase in fuel levies, conducting an urgent review of the entire fuel price structure and introducing a more efficient, transparent pricing model.

The DA has also called for greater investment in public transport and infrastructure alongside measures to stabilise the Rand and support economic growth. This fuel price, Madam Speaker, is not just about rising costs at the pump when you go to fill up before 12 ‘o clock tonight, it is about livelihoods, dignity and opportunity. And it will even see the ANC’s one loaf per family approach go to half a loaf per family.

South Africans deserve a government that acts, Madam Speaker, decisively to protect jobs and ease the burden on struggling households. South Africans deserve a government that works through good governance, and South Africans deserve a government controlled by the Democratic Alliance to bring forth these opportunities. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Van Huyssteen. Does the Premier or the MEC wish to respond? Honourable Morweng.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you very much Speaker. The Honourable Member started very well and attributed these increases in as far as the fuel prices are concerned to the conflicts in the Middle East. However, when she concluded her statement like expected she deteriorated and want to attribute everything to the African National Congress when the global community understands very well that the Middle East conflicts they contribute to the global economy which some of its effects is this increase in as far as the fuel levy is concerned. And if there’s anything she must blame that stupid Donald Trump that continues to cause conflicts. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC. Honourable Dial, your statement.

HON. DIAL: Good morning Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to welcome the declaration and resolution of the United Nations that slave trade and slavery stand amongst the gravest violation of human rights in human history.

This declaration came after South Africa and other 123 countries supported a motion tabled by Ghana to vote in favour and agreement that for more than 400 years, millions of people were stolen from Africa, put in the shackles and shipped to the new world to toil in cotton fields, sugar and coffee plantations under scorching heat and the cracking of the whip, denied their basic humanity and even their own names, forced to endure generations of exploitation with repercussions that revibrate today including persistent anti-black racism, discrimination and that this resolution was the only root to healing and reparative justice.

Whereas three countries namely Argentina, Israel and United States voted against the declaration and 52 other countries abstained, the African National Congress condemn the historic slave trade and its modern day manifestation. These acts of crimes against humanity and the legacies that fuel current racism, inequality and human trafficking.

The ANC remains an advocate of human rights, equality and dignity. We will therefore continue to use these principles to combat the lingering socio-economic consequences of colonial-era exploitation and slavery. We join the global efforts to remember the abolition of slave trade. The legacy of slavery persists in racism and inequality, and the ANC remains committed to dismantling these legacies and building a better future, and dignity, justice and prosperity for our people. Madam Speaker, I thank you so much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Dial. Does the Premier or any MEC wish to respond? Thank you. Honourable Kodisang, your statement.

HON. KODISANG: Ke a leboga Mmusakgotla. #[Thank you Speaker]# Honourable Speaker, I rise on a statement on behalf of the Action SA to address a matter of urgent public concern affecting the community of Logageng in Ratlou Local Municipality.

Honourable Speaker, residents of Logageng have over a prolonged period expressed deep dissatisfaction regarding the construction of Kagiso Barolong High School. While it is acknowledged that the construction is currently underway, the pace of progress remains a concern. This project has now dragged on for years, raising serious concerns about delays and project management.

The community's frustration is both understandable and justified. There are growing concerns about whether public funds allocated for this critical education infrastructure are being utilised effectively and responsibly. Such delays not only erode public trust, but also directly undermine the constitutional right of learners to access quality education in a safe and conducive environment.

Honourable Speaker, the people of Logageng deserve answers. They deserve accountability. And most importantly, learners deserve a school that is completed and functional without further delays. As Action SA, we would like to quell the confusion purported to be prevailing around these issues by calling for transparency, accountability, and consequence management to be upheld at all times.

It is therefore critical that the Department of Education in the North West acts decisively to address these concerns, restore public confidence, and ensure that this project is completed with urgency.

I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Kodisang. Does the Premier or any MEC wish to respond? None. Honourable Magagane, your statement.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you Honourable Speaker. E kare ba baakantse line ya rona jaanong. #[It seems they have fixed our line now]# Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement welcoming the recent launch of the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) by the North West Provincial Government. The PGDS is primarily aimed at restructuring and strengthening economic activities in the province to create jobs and fight poverty.

This strategy directly aligns with the key pillars outlined by Premier Lazarus Mokgosi, who has correctly affirmed this year as the “Year of Decisive Action to Fix Local Government and

Transform the Economy.” To realize the full potential of the PGDS, the Premier has anchored our provincial priorities on aggressive service delivery. This means driving our municipalities towards clean audit outcomes and rolling out massive infrastructure "Dignity" Projects such as the 2.2 billion bulk water supply investments in Madibeng, Ratlou, Mahikeng, and Ramotshere Moiloa.

Honourable Speaker, as a province, we must leverage this strategy to radically boost local production. There is no doubt over agriculture being the backbone of our rural economy. By fixing local infrastructure, we are not just paving roads; we are ensuring that our local farmers can get produce to the markets efficiently even whilst they negate through the foot and mouth disease outbreak currently.

The PGDS provides a framework to process what we grow right here in the province, keeping the value chain and ensuring local growth and local profitability. As the ANC, we are confident that its implementation will assist reset the provincial economy, attracting investors and spurring both urban and rural economies.

However, strict monitoring of its implementation plan will be critical. This House has a mandate to ensure full implementation of the PDGS. Our interventions must remain sustainable if we are to successfully resurrect depressed mining towns, expand markets for our local farmers, boost tourism and achieve total economic transformation. Therefore, we must register to vote but register to vote the ANC. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Magagane. Does the Premier or any MEC wish to respond? None. Honourable Moema, your statement.

HON. MOEMA: Honourable Speaker, I rise to express a serious concern about the growing problem of underage and illegal gambling in the North West Province, a matter that has recently been highlighted through findings by the North West Gambling Board. This crisis is not just a moral issue but a social and economic crisis that is trapping young people in cycles of addiction, debt and hopelessness while government response remains inadequate.

Honourable Speaker, recent interventions by the North West Gambling Board in schools such as Marikana High School have confirmed that underage gambling is becoming a serious problem, with studies showing that a significant number of high school learners have already been exposed to gambling despite it being illegal for persons under the age of 18 years of age.

The rapid growth of online betting platforms and illegal gambling operations in communities has made it easier for young people to access gambling, exposing them to addiction, financial distress and criminal influences at a very young age. The EFF believes that this situation reflects the deep socio-economic crisis facing our communities.

Many young people are not gambling because they are irresponsible, but because they are desperate. They are growing up in communities with high unemployment, poverty and lack of recreational facilities. Gambling is being wrongly seen as a shortcut out of poverty, when in reality it is pushing many families deeper into financial distress.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF further notes that illegal gambling operations continue to operate in many villages and townships of the North West Province, undermining regulation and exposing even children to these activities. Reports indicate that illegal gambling is costing the province millions in lost revenue while also creating unsafe environments with no consumer protections.

Therefore, gambling must never be allowed to become a survival mechanism for the poor while big gambling corporations continue to make profits from the desperation of our people. The government must take decisive action to protect young people and the black working-class communities.

The provincial government must strengthen law enforcement operations against illegal gambling establishments, particularly those operating near schools and in residential areas. There must be visible joint operations between the Gambling Board, SAPS and municipalities. Secondly, government must introduce stronger awareness and prevention programmes in schools, including integrating gambling education into Life Orientation subject so that learners understand the risks before they are exposed.

Thirdly, the Department of Social Development must provide counselling and support programmes for young people already affected by gambling addiction, including partnerships with community organisations. Fourthly, the provincial government must invest in youth development

programmes, including sporting facilities, libraries, skills development centres and employment programmes so that young people have alternatives to gambling.

Lastly, the EFF calls for stricter regulation of online gambling platforms, including stronger age verification systems to prevent access by minors. Honourable Speaker, the future of the North West cannot be a generation of young people who are trapped in betting shops instead of classrooms or addicted to gambling mobile apps instead of pursuing education and productive economic activities. We must act now to protect the dignity and future of our youth.

The EFF will continue to fight for a government that prioritises the protection of the poor, the development of young people and the regulation of industries that exploit desperation of our people. I thank you Honourable Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Moema. Does the Premier or any Member wish to reply? Honourable Tlhapi, Honourable Dantjie.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. Let me also share the same sentiments with Honourable Member. But safe to say the Department of Economic Development has all these awareness plans on place. I know for sure that more especially when coming to young people ba ba gamble-ang #[those who are gambling]# ka di #[with the]# two Rand le di #[and the]# Five Rand there is a programme.

We request your House, Madam Speaker, all seated here gore ge ba bona le ge go na le metšhine kwa ntle #[that when they see that there are machines outside]# Honourable Sonakile le e report-e kwa mapodiseng #[they should report them to the police]# because Honourable Wessels also has a programme e e leng gore e thusa bana ba rona #[which assists our children]# because it is indeed a concern gore bana ba rona ba start-a go gamble-a ba sa le ba bannyane. #[that our children start gambling while they are still young.]#

Ke nagana gore le #[I think even the]# Department ya #[of]# COSATMA together with Department of Economic Development and all the departments that Honourable Moema has

indicated has all those programmes in place to make sure that they help our community in North West. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you MEC. MEC Dantjie.

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I'm covered.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Sebegoe, your statement.

HON. SEBEGOE: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement noting with serious concern recent media reports premised on purportedly leaked documents, which advance the insinuation that the organisation has been subject to, or complicit in foreign influence campaigns, including allegations of involvement with Russian or Iranian state actors.

The ANC rejects these allegations in the strongest terms and states unequivocally that there has been no foreign funding, direct or indirect, of any ANC electoral campaign. There has been no collaboration, coordination or engagement with any foreign intelligence service, including those of the Russian Federation or the Islamic Republic of Iran. There has equally been no external influence, neither financial, strategic nor political, on the ANC's internal democratic processes and electoral outcomes.

These claims are entirely baseless, devoid of evidence and form part of a broader campaign of misinformation aimed at undermining the credibility of the movement and eroding public confidence in democratic institutions. It must be understood that the ANC, as a historic liberation movement with deep roots in international solidarity, has always maintained principled global relations grounded in anti-imperialism, mutual respect and the sovereign equality of nations.

Engagements with international stakeholders, including academics, journalists, diplomats and policy institutions, is both legitimate and necessary in a democratic society. To distort such

engagements into allegations of collusion is not only intellectually dishonest but reflects a deliberate attempt to weaponize misinformation in pursuit of narrow political ends.

The ANC will not be defocused by orchestrated narratives designed to delegitimize its historic mission or to weaken the democratic gains secured through struggle. We remain resolute in defending the sovereignty of our country, the integrity of our democratic processes, and the right of South Africans to determine their own future free from both internal distortion and external interference. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sebegoe. Does the Premier or any MEC wish to respond? None. Honourable Sonakile, your statement.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Speaker. Speaker, on the third of December 2025 during the Department of Water and Sanitation's Sanitation Month Programme in Pelindaba, Tswaing Local Municipality, residents raised concerns about failing water and sanitation services. These matters were committed to be escalated to the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality as the water services authority.

Following this, the Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation Honourable Sello Seithloho undertook a walkabout where a vulnerable family including a teenage child living with a disability was identified as having no access to sanitation. A commitment was made to restore dignity to this household.

I'm pleased to report that through partnership with Amalulu and the local community, the Deputy Minister delivered a wheelchair friendly, water-efficient, sanitation facility. However, Honourable Speaker, while this commitment was honoured, the broader concerns of the community remain ignored.

Despite repeated correspondence since January 2026, the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality has failed to provide any feedback or an action plan. Worse still, the district failed to attend the official handover with no representation whatsoever. This lack of accountability is both disappointing and unacceptable. Communities cannot be abandoned in this manner. At the same

time, this intervention demonstrates what can be achieved when government, the private sector and communities work together.

Honourable Speaker, we'll continue as the DA to champion dignified, practical sanitation solutions and demand accountability where it is absent. I thank you.

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

HON. ROSHO: Tlala ke go lebogetse Mmusakgotla. #[Let me thank you Speaker]# Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement wishing all South Africans a happy and blessed Good Friday/Passover that is the culmination of the Lent period of repentance which echoes the 40 days the Lord Jesus Christ faced in the desert prior his crucifixion at calvary.

This season is one of the holiest periods in our religious calendar globally. During this time, our diversity as a nation is strengthened by the spiritual rejuvenation that characterise the Christian faith. Christianity has been central to the ANC's values and practices since its birth in 1912. The ANC was founded in the Wesleyan Church outside Bloemfontein in 1912 and has historically had close relations with the religious community from which it drew its strength from especially by its leaders.

As is tradition, South Africans are going to their various places to worship across the country. In the Christian faith, the period is also synonymous with renewal and rejuvenation. This resonates strongly with the ANC renewal programme which seeks to restore the ANC to its original and time-tested values.

The ANC national officials led by our President Ntate #[Mr]# Cyril Ramaphosa, the National Executive Committee and Provincial Executive Members in the province led by Ntate #[Mr]# Dumile Patrick Maloyi will be visiting various churches throughout the weekend to reconnect with the historical roots of the ANC and to communicate a message of selflessness and renewal. Easter

is also a time that the ANC reaffirms its commitment to nation-building and to serve the people of our country and restore their dignity.

For the ANC, April is a special month in the history of our liberation struggle, where we remember heroines and heroes like Charlotte Maxeke, Solomon Mahlangu, Oliver Tambo, Chris Hani and Winnie Madikizela Mandela. Their blood and example of selfless service to the nation continue to inspire us as we continue to consolidate the gains of our freedom.

The ANC recognizes that many South Africans will be taking a holiday break, while others will be visiting families and friends during this period. The ANC wishes all those who will be travelling to drive safely and help prevent carnage on our public roads.

And we wish all our communities in the North West and the country a revolutionary Good Friday/Passover and Easter and remember to pray for an end to global conflicts and peace in the world. We should also encourage that we should not violate traffic rules but ensure that we drive safely on the roads. We so move. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Chief Whip. Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to respond? None. Thank you. Honourable Members, I now proceed to Executive Statements in terms of Rule 130(a). Does the Premier or any Member of the Executive wish to present a statement? MEC Morweng, your statement.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you Madam Speaker. The Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism rises to table this Executive Statement to congratulate Honourable Premier on the successful launch of the Provincial Growth Development Strategy (PGDS) which sets a clear, decisive path for a development trajectory of our province.

Honourable Speaker, PGDS represents a bold and necessary framework that places economic growth, service delivery and institutional renewal at the centre of government's programme of action. It provides strategic direction required to unlock full potential of our province and to ensure that development is inclusive, sustainable and impactful.

Honourable Members, as the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism, we fully appreciate the responsibility placed upon us as a central driver and navigator of this strategy. Our mandate positions us at the heat of economic transformation, environmental sustainability and enterprise development of all which are critical pillars of the PGDS.

In this regard, the department will play a leading role in driving industrialisation and localisation initiatives supporting SMME and the formal sector to expand economic participation, unlocking opportunities in the green economy including waste biodiversity and conservation, facilitating investment, trade, tourism development, strengthening partnerships with municipalities and the private sector to accelerate the implementation. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable MEC Morweng. Does any Member wish to respond? Thank you. Honourable Dantjie, your statement.

HON. DANTJIE: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I am pleased to present this executive statement in response to the call made by this House that the Department of Social Development must address the concerns pertaining to late finalization of NPOs, SLAs and consequently late transfer of payments.

The Department have turned the corner, executed the resolutions of this House by making serious strides to finalise funding of NPOs on time. With this come also timeous transfer of funds to enable NPOs to improve service delivery as well as strengthening, monitoring, and evaluation including the support.

Today I can confirm, Madam Speaker, to this House that the Department has completed the assessment and validation, Honourable Van Huyssteen, of 353 business plans submitted by Non-Profit Making Organisations positioning the Department to begin disbursing funds to qualifying organisations at the start of the new financial year. This marks the first year in over 10 years, that the department published the NPO funding process in the first quarter. Our aim is to ensure full compliance with the Sector Funding Policy as we embark on improvement plans.

The 353 business plans, Madam Speaker, mentioned above account for over 200 000 beneficiaries, and this will create 3 832 job opportunities across the province, while strengthening the delivery of essential services at the community level. From the total of this 353, it is worth noting that 86 NPOs were not funded in the previous financial year but for now they are beneficiaries and it also include the new incomes in the field.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to urge the programme managers within the Department of Social Development to make sure that they do what the Portfolio Committee led by Mme Karabo Magagane normally says, monitoring, compliance is very key. So we thought that monitoring of compliance of NPOs, this achievement will mean nothing. So it means that as the department also we still have a role to play.

Let me also take this opportunity to applaud and congratulate the department officials who have been responsible, taking sleepless nights to make sure that we realise this great achievement and really appreciate the whipping and everything by the Portfolio Committee that pushed us to achieve this greatest achievement. Enkosi #[Thank you]#.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much MEC. Does any Member wish to respond to the Executive Statement? Honourable Van Huyssteen.

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the statement by the Honourable MEC for Social Development it is welcomed. And the commitment by the department as she has rightly indicated for the first time in many years to comply with the sector funding policy is also welcomed.

But we look forward as a Portfolio Committee and as the Democratic Alliance to see full commitment to the entire sector funding policy which includes the annual increases to the various service providers being the NPOs in the province who give us these essential social services to the residents. I thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Van Huyssteen. Honourable Tlhapi. Oh, okay. Premier? You don't have any statement? Thank you very much. Honourable Members, we are done with statements. Secretary, may you read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 5 PROCEEDINGS ON BILLS

5.1 Public Service Commission Bill [B30B-2023]

Final Mandate

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the Standing Committee of the Oversight on the Legislature conducted public hearings in the four districts of the province on the Public Service Commission Bill [B30B-2023]. The NCOP Select Committee received and processed the submission from provinces. The Standing Committee further agreed to submit the final mandate in favour of the Bill to the NCOP. Does the House concur that the final mandate in favour of the Public Service Commission Bill [B30B-2023] be sent to the NCOP?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Members. The final mandate in favour of the Bill will be sent to the NCOP for further processing. Secretary, may you read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 6 ANNOUNCEMENT, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, reports have been tabled through the ATC and referred to the relevant committee for scrutiny and further processing. Committee reports with

recommendations were also tabled through the ATC. Does the House adopt the committee recommendation tabled as the House resolutions?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: E kare lo lapile jaana. Lo tshwana le nna kajeko lo a lwala. #[It seems you are tired. You are like me today, you are sick.]# Thank you Honourable Members. The committee recommendations are now adopted as House resolutions. Secretary, may you please read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 7 DEBATE ON FREEDOM DAY

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Freedom Day is commemorated annually on the 27th of April to remind the people of South Africa the immeasurable sacrifice made by individuals and nations to break them away from the chains of unjust segregation by a selected few. The Legislature has deemed it necessary to debate this day prior to its constituency period. I now call on Honourable Tlhapi to lead the debate. Honourable Tlhapi.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I hope ditsala tsa ka, ka fa left ba tlaa behave-a kajeko. #[my friends on the left will behave today]# Honourable Speaker Mme Mohono, Deputy Speaker Ntate #[Mr]# Maine, Honourable Premier Ntate #[Mr]# Mokgosi, Members of Executive Council, Members of Provincial Legislature, the leaders of the political parties and the civil society formations, members of media, our guests in the gallery, fellow South Africans, baagi ba Bokonebophirima, dumelang.#[The citizens of the North West greetings.]#

Deputy Speaker, this year marks 32 years since the end of apartheid as well as the end of more than the three centuries of the colonial rule. As South Africans, the month of April is a solemn reminder of our painful past as we commemorate heroes and heroines who sacrificed their lives

and dedicated themselves to the struggle against an unjust and oppressive system. The courage and commitment of our liberation struggle stalwarts paved the way for freedom, democracy and the social justice for all.

Haikhona #[no ways]# ... [INTERJECTION] ... ke batho ba ba ka fa #[It is the people this side]#
Madam Speaker. Our liberation struggle stalwarts envision a free, fair and just society. The Freedom Charter better articulates the vision of a democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous South Africa. This vision must not only remain enshrined in our constitution as its guiding principles. It must actively be realised as a foundation for building an ethical, developmental and inclusive state.

Deputy Speaker, in a continued effort to address historical injustices to ensure that the remains of indigenous communities are treated with dignity and respect, President Cyril Ramaphosa presided over a solemn ceremony on the 23rd of March 2026 for the re-burial of the Khoisan ancestral remain at the Kinderle Monument in Steinkopf, in Northern Cape. This acts as a powerful acknowledgment of the dehumanisation suffered under colonial rule and apartheid.

In reaffirming our commitment to justice, we stand aligned with the United Nations Declaration that slavery and apartheid constitute crimes against humanity. Deputy Speaker, as we commemorate this year's Freedom Day under the theme: Freedom and The Rule of Law – 32 Years of Democratic Citizenship.

It is important to reflect on the government's effort in upholding the Bill of Rights as enshrined in Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. Our government's ongoing efforts and commitment ensures that the values and dignity, equality and justice remain at the heart of our democracy.

The year 2026 is earmarked for the Seventh Democratic Local Government Elections. Over the past six local government elections, as well as our previous general elections, the people of South Africa have enjoyed a full and equal rights, freely exercising their political choice in voting for candidates and parties of their preferences.

Today the people of South Africa not only enjoy the full exercise of their political rights but also the freedom to express themselves openly. Every individual regardless of background is entitled

to equal protection under the law. This includes the members of the LGBTQI+ community who alongside all citizens share in the guarantee of full and equal rights in our democracy.

Further, Deputy Speaker, 2026 marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of South Africa. Together these milestones reflect the resilience, the maturity and the enduring strength of our freedom and democracy. Deputy Speaker, as we commemorate Freedom Day, it is appropriate that we commend our government for having recognised the mammoth task that lay ahead following the democratic breakthrough of 1994.

From the onset, our government acted decisively through the adoption of a progressive constitution and policies like the reconstruction and the development programme that confronted the deep rooted societal challenges that had burdened our communities for generations. Through the government's efforts in pursuit of narrowing inequality gaps, reducing the poverty and confronting spatial legacies of apartheid such as the inherited infrastructure backlog and the depravation historically imposed on black communities, remarkable progress has been registered by the government of the day.

Today access of housing, clean drinking water, electricity, healthcare, education and other essential services has significantly expanded which has improved the quality of life for millions and thus advances the vision of a more just and equitable society. Deputy Speaker, we cannot deny that the lives of our people have improved for the better under this government. We can't.

The government's continued initiative to alleviate poverty, to reduce inequality and create employment stand as a clear testament to its unwavering commitment to ensuring that the hard won gains of our freedom and democracy are fully realised and enjoyed by all.

In addressing the legacies of the workplace, the Employment Equity Act was passed which promotes equity and diversity in employment. It mandated employers to implement measures to eliminate unfair discrimination and advance the representation of historically disadvantaged groups. As a result of these efforts, many black professionals have elevated and established themselves within the middle class.

Deputy Speaker, despite the government's broad-based black economic empowerment initiative which was designed to redress historical economic imbalances by promoting the participation of

black South Africans across the industries, economic power continues to rest largely in the hands of the minority.

In response to that, the Seventh Administration of the North West Provincial Government has introduced a range of targeted interventions aimed at creating sustainable economic opportunities. This includes empowering SMMEs through funding support, the provision of equipment and comprehensive skills development programmes.

The Honourable Premier during his State of the Province Address, Deputy Speaker, announced two flagship programmes, the Mahikeng Student City and the Smart and Mega Cities Initiative. These projects are expected to generate significant economic spin-offs not only for the broader provincial economy but also for the growth and sustainability of the SMMEs.

In commemoration of the women and youth who courageously protested against the restrictive law, the Portfolio for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities must continue to champion socio-economic transformation, empowerment and meaningful participation. These mandates should be advanced through the mainstream advocacy as well as rigorous monitoring and evaluation ensuring that the voices and the contribution of women, youth and persons with disabilities remain central to our nation's progress.

Deputy Speaker, with respect to the Employment Equity Act and the imperative of including women and persons with disabilities in the business sector, our government must continue to ensure their meaningful representation within public institutions. In addition, it is essential that government actively monitors and promotes their participation in the private sector thereby advancing equity and inclusivity across all spheres of economic activity.

Deputy Speaker, the Honourable Premier also during the State of the Province Address emphasised that our development cannot reach its full potential without women at the centre of its trajectory. Deputy Speaker, ours is a province that takes the empowerment of women seriously. Through capacity building initiatives, women-led cooperatives and enterprises have steadily advanced.

To date, more than 200 women-owned enterprises have successfully completed various business management programmes strengthening their ability to contribute meaningfully to the provincial economy. The land restitution since 1994 has been characterised by both notable progress and persistent challenges. While the process of land reform has often been hindered by the complexities

that prevent the swift implementation, millions of hectares have nonetheless been redistributed contributing to improved productivity and enhanced livelihoods.

Looking ahead, there is a pressing need for the government to establish a unified national framework that guarantees secure land tenure through the issuing of the title deeds. This must be complemented by integral post-settlement support and the transparent system of the beneficiary selection ensuring that land reform delivers sustainable and equitable outcomes.

Deputy Speaker, the rights of women are indeed human rights. Our Constitution enshrines the rights of all South Africans ensuring that every citizen can exercise them freely without discrimination based on race, gender, class or sexual orientation. Yet the reality we face is that women and children do not enjoy these rights to the fullest extent. The rights are continuously violated and many live in fear of becoming victims of GBV and femicide.

Deputy Speaker, while the scourge of disproportionately affects women and children, we must also acknowledge that men too can fall prey to psychological and physical abuse at the hands of other women. It is therefore imperative that our collective efforts to protect human rights address all these forms of abuse while prioritising the urgent need to eradicate gender-based violence and safeguard the dignity of women and children.

Deputy Speaker, the Bill of Rights guarantees women same full rights as men including the fundamental right to live free from all forms of violence, gender-based violence and femicide have rightly been declared a pandemic and the manner in which our government responds must carry the same urgency and the weight as a state confronting any other national crisis. Our policy system must act swiftly, decisively and appropriately in addressing cases of GBV and femicide.

Deputy Speaker, it is time we stand boldly and unite in defending black women from becoming victims of this scourge. Patriarchy remains an enemy to women, and we are committed to doing everything in our power to dismantle it. Gender equality is non-negotiable and future of South Africa depends on full and equal participation of women in every sphere of the society.

Deputy Speaker, the establishment of the Madlanga Commission and the Parliamentary ad-hoc Committee that probes allegations made by Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi as well as the subsequent arrests stands as a clear affirmation of the rule of law. Furthermore, the deployment of

soldiers to support the police in addressing the illegal mining and violent activities demonstrate the law in action ensuring that the security of our citizens is protected and upheld.

Deputy Speaker, corruption undermines the hard-won gains of our freedom and democracy. It erodes public trust and diverts resources meant to uplift our people. Therefore, we stand firm in our conviction that those who have embezzled government funds must be held accountable. They must repay what they have stolen and face the full might of the law.

Deputy Speaker, our government has worked tirelessly to achieve the progress we celebrate today. And it is now incumbent upon all of us to defend and advance the hard-won gains of our democracy and freedom. The Provincial Local Government Kgothakgothe #[General meeting]# has mandated all municipalities to transform the way they manage their finances.

In line with this directive, municipalities are required to prioritise critical service delivery issues particularly water and sanitation while also addressing the growing demand for housing. These measures are essential to ensuring dignified living conditions and strengthening the foundation of local government.

Deputy Speaker, as I close, we cannot shy away from the challenge of unemployment that continues to confront our province particularly amongst youth. Our people must be reassured that government is working tirelessly to implement measures and initiatives aimed at creating jobs. In addition, we are committed to empowering small, medium and, the SMME that will enable them to play a vital role in supporting government's effort to generate the employment opportunities and drive the inclusive economic growth. I thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tlhapi. The next speaker is the Honourable Matuane with 10 minutes.

HON. MATUANE: Ka moya wa Paseka; #[It is the spirit of Passover]# Honourable Deputy Speaker, leaders and ground forces of the Economic Freedom Fighters in all regions of North West, Members of the Executive, fellow Members of the Provincial Legislature, baagi ba

Bokonebophirima bao ba nang le tshepo mo mokgatlhong wa #[the people of the North West who have hope in the political party, the]# EFF.

Freedom Day as celebrated every year on 27th April serves as a reminder of one of the most significant milestones in the history of South Africa. It is a reminder of the first time all South Africans could participate in democratic elections after the 46 year rule of the apartheid regime. For many black South Africans, the dawn of 27 April 1994 not only presented an opportunity to choose their government but also presented victory from legislation that enforced white supremacy and black inferiority with the same intensity.

It presented victory from constant fear of being captured, humiliated and tortured sometimes to the point of death by police force that could not bother to hide its hatred. It presented hope that the future of South Africa will embody the highly priced freedom paid for with the blood of the brave mothers, fathers, sons and daughters who refused to accept the status quo.

The 1995 blueprint for what democratic South Africa would look like better known as the Freedom Charter defined freedom as being inclusive of economic justice and restorative of the dignity of black South Africans. Freedom was seen as more than just the absence of apartheid but included the active presence of equal rights, opportunities and living conditions not limited to decent housing, good quality education and healthcare and consistent refuse collection.

Unbeknown to the struggle icons of the time is how this freedom would be turned into a tool of manipulation in the decades that followed. When Robert Sobukwe was fighting for the black ownership of the land, we now know that he was required to specify that the land is for food security and economic participation of black South Africans and not as stash houses for illegal currencies.

When Mama Madikizela Mandela was fighting for freedom of movement, she didn't know that she was required to mention that such restriction must also not be caused by fear of safety or lack of trafficable roads. Today rather than carrying forth the spirit and attitude of freedom heroes, leaders of the former liberation movement in the North West arrogantly dismissed the lived experiences of our people as lies.

When the people of Alabama says that sewage flows into their houses, the leaders say they are lying. When the people of Groot Marico say that they are living in conditions of poverty and have

no decent houses, no electricity and have no identity documentation, the leaders of the former liberation movement in North West says they are lying. When the people of Tsetse, Sheila and Jericho say that their local clinics are not operational 24 hours and that their access to emergency healthcare outside of the current operational hours is a challenge, the appointed MECs of the former liberation movement in North West say they are lying.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, these are the culprits who will be embarking in door to door campaigns in the coming months but whose dismissive actions and failure to deliver consistent, good quality services to the people of the North West for more than 30 years has distorted the trust our people have in governance and all its systems including the elections.

This government and the party it represents is the reason voter registration and voter turnout have been at an all-time low in previous elections. The EFF recognises that political freedom without economic freedom is useless. We also recognize that in a war one uses the tools that are readily available to secure victory. This is the reason the EFF encourages all South Africans to register to vote in the 2026 municipal elections.

It is only through participating in the elections that effective changes can be made in our own municipalities. Honourable Deputy Speaker, we extend this message to the people of the North West Province who have expressed their dissatisfaction with this government over the years through protest and were met with rubber bullets. We extend this message to those who lost valuable furniture and personal items in floods caused by lack of drainage system.

We extend this message to those who live in sewage infested areas, those who have been waiting for houses for more than 10 years and pass abandoned buildings every day. We extend this message to those who have nowhere to go for medical attention when they get sick in the middle of the night. Those communities are taken over by crime and drugs and who sleep every night in fear of being robbed and killed.

Our message is simple: Register to vote at any IEC office or on the official IEC website. That is the first step to making effective change in your municipality during these upcoming local government elections. Go ntse ka magodu a puso. #[It is enough with government thieves]# Let us remain and redefine the victories of our struggle heroes and turn this freedom our people fought

into a daily realities. EFF, kgololosego ya ikonomi mo dinakong tsa matshelo a rona.#[economic freedom in our life time.]# Thank you Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Matuane. Honourable Sonakile, nine minutes.

HON. SONAKILE: Deputy Speaker, Honourable Members, good morning. Freedom did not arrive as a gift. It rose from the dust of suffering; it was carried in the voices of the silenced and written in the courage of ordinary people. We the people of South Africa recognise the injustice of our past.

Honourable DS, these are not just words recited on ceremonial days, they are a solemn covenant, a living promise that freedom in South Africa would mean dignity, equality and justice under the rule of law. Today as we mark 32 years of democratic citizenship, we are called not only to celebrate that freedom but to measure it, to defend it and where it falls short, to restore it.

Nelson Mandela said to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others and yet Deputy Speaker, freedom that is not protected by the rule of law is freedom at risk. Today we rise not merely to remember a date, the 27th of April 1994, but to honour a promise, a promise that every South African regardless of race, birthplace or circumstance will stand equal before the law, a promise that freedom will not be selective but shared.

Thirty two years into democracy, we must ask ourselves a difficult but necessary question: Are we truly free if the rule of law is unevenly applied? Freedom Day must never become routine, it must remain a mirror and a measure, a mirror reflecting how far we've come and a measure of how far we have yet to go but because freedom is not just a right to vote, it is the right to live safely, to work with dignity, to access justice without fear or favour, to trust the laws protects not persecutes.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the foundation of our democracy is not only freedom, it is the rule of law. The rule of law says no one is above the law, no one is below it and no one should be beyond its reach. Yet today too many South Africans feel that justice is uneven, delayed or denied.

When corruption goes unpunished, when communities live in fear while criminals walk free, when institutions meant to protect are weakened, then freedom begins to fade, not in law but in lived reality.

Let us bring this closer to home, the North West Province, a province reaching potential yet burdened by government's failures, collapsing municipalities, water insecurity and communities who feel forgotten. What does freedom mean to a resident in Makwassie Hills without reliable water? What does freedom mean to a young person in Ikageng without a job? And what does freedom mean to a family in Majakaneng living in fear of crime? Freedom without service delivery is incomplete. Freedom without accountability is hollow.

Last week during the Human Rights debate, I've already demonstrated how days like these become useless if they are not met with action by government but today is not only about critic, it is also about renewal and reflection because Freedom Day is also a celebration of a Constitution that remains one of the most progressive in the world, a people who continue to rise despite hardship and a democracy that though tested still stands. We must guard these achievements fiercely.

Honourable Members, democratic citizenship is not passive, it demands participation, it demands vigilance and above all, it demands accountability. We honour those who fought for freedom not by words alone but by how we govern today. We dishonour them Honourable Tlhapi when public funds are abused, when the law is bent for the powerful or citizens are treated as subjects do not equal.

As the DA, we remain steadfast in our belief that freedom must be protected by strong institutions, that the rule of law must be applied without fear or favour, and that government must be transparent, accountable and responsive. Let us then recommit today to building a capable state, to restoring trust in public institutions, to ensuring that justice is not a privilege but a guarantee.

Let us ensure that North West and across South Africa, freedom is not something we remember once a year but something we experience every single day. In villages across the North West and beyond, freedom is not measured in speeches, it is measured in water that flows, lights that stay on and dignity that is felt and for too many that freedom remains incomplete.

Honourable Members, Honourable MEC Tlhapi's remarks suggest a very profound disconnect from the reality of our people. The MEC, you would believe that she lives under some rock

somewhere and not in North West that we all live in. And I think it is about time that she moves away from that rock and starts facing reality of what is happening.

All the programmes that she has mentioned in the speech as demonstration for freedom that we have achieved have either failed or failed to reach their intended focus due to her own government's failures to implement. She spoke about BEE, while BEE, its intention might have been good, we must not shy away to say that it has only enriched the connected few meaning that it has not achieved what it sought to achieve.

The employment equity that she's talking to must open doors and not become a tool that distorts opportunity without growing the economy. The emancipation of women that she has spoken to would make sense if the sex for jobs scandal was not found in municipalities that are led by her own party.

All programmes that she has mentioned would really make sense today if she would measure them and tell us how far we have come, but instead she has spoken about Zondo Commission, Madlanga Commission. Those are the very same commissions that have mentioned the likes of her leaders like Gwede Mantashe, Vincent Smith, Malusi Gigaba, Zizi Kodwa, Dudu Myeni who are staunch ANC members, others who are in the leadership.

So, for her to come and want to say we praise and that freedom shows that there is freedom just because those commissions have been called. There would not have been a need to have those commissions if her government leaders or if her leaders did not steal from the very same people that they've said that they have fought for. Today indeed we are seeing that the wheels of change are moving albeit very slow, but we would not be where we are.

If you look at the millions that were lost in the Zondo Commission, if you look at the millions that are still being spent at the Mandlanga Commission, it's millions that could have delivered services but ANC members decided that they will steal and then ANC members later decided to call commissions and then ANC members later come into this House and want us to praise them for having commissions, commissions that would not have been necessary had things been done right, commission that would not have been necessary had we stuck to what the Freedom Charter says, had we stuck to what the Constitution requires of us.

So Honourable Members as we reflect on the freedom and the journey we have taken, let us do so truly. Let us say that it is 32 years. In these 32 years what did we envisage to be at and what did we envisage to have achieved and have we achieved that? If the answer is no, then let us reflect on what is necessary? Where are the gaps and then forge a way forward. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sonakile. Honourable Groenewald, four minutes.

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you Honourable Speaker. Freedom Day should not be a day of empty slogans or political nostalgia. It should be a day of honesty ... [INAUDIBLE] ... which we ask a simple question: What does freedom mean in South Africa today? Because freedom is not measured by speeches, freedom is merely whether ordinary people can live safely, work productively, raise their children with confidence and build a future without constant fear, decay and state failure.

If a child must walk through sewage to get to school, there is no freedom in that. If families must turn their homes into fortresses because crime has become part of our daily lives, there is no freedom in that. If honest people work hard, pay taxes, obey the law and still live with broken roads, failing infrastructure, collapsing municipalities and disappearing services, there is no freedom in that.

If young people want to work, want to build and want to stay but see an economic future for themselves in their own country then freedom is under pressure. This is the real question of Freedom Day not what politicians say freedom is, not what government posters say freedom is but what freedom looks like in the daily lives of ordinary citizens.

And for too many South Africans, freedom today is under pressure from every side. Crime limits freedom, economic decline limits freedom. State failure limits freedom. Corruption limits freedom and a state that fails where it must act and intervenes where it should not, limits freedom. South Africa were promised the freedom but what too many experience is insecurity, uncertainty and decline.

We are often told to focus on individual success stories. We are told to celebrate what still works and when the failures of the present become too clear to ignore, we are told to look back but after 30 years government cannot endlessly complain against history while refusing accountability from the present.

And at some point, the condition of the country reflects those who govern it. At some point collapsing towns, unsafe communities, unemployment, corruption and institutional failure can no longer be explained away. At some point responsibility belongs to those in power.

The Freedom Front Plus believes freedom must have substance. Freedom means law and order. Freedom means property rights. Freedom means limits but effective government. Freedom means municipalities that work. Freedom means economic opportunities. Freedom means respect for communities, culture, language, and identity. Freedom means that the citizens come before the cadres, the taxpayers before the looters and the competence before the political loyal.

Freedom is not when the state grows while society weakens. Freedom is not when people become more dependent while government becomes less capable. Freedom is not when communities are expected to tolerate collapse and call it progress. Freedom means the right to live in a country that works, a country where streets are safe, where infrastructure functions, where children can walk to school in dignity, where business can grow and where families can plan their future.

So on this Freedom Day, let us be clear. Freedom is not secure when crime becomes normal. Freedom is not secure when sewage runs in the streets. Freedom is not secure when unemployment destroys hope. Freedom is not secure when corruption destroys trust. Freedom is not secure when the state cannot perform the basic duties of civilisation.

Freedom must once again mean something real in the everyday lives of South Africans. Freedom with safety, freedom with responsibility, freedom with opportunity, freedom with dignity, freedom with a future. This is the freedom worth attending. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Groenewald. Honourable Matshe, nine minutes.

HON. MATSHE: Motlatsammusakgotla, mo nakong e, re ka simolola ka go ikgopotsa mafoko a a builweng ke Moporesidente wa maloba wa #[Deputy Speaker, this time we can start by remembering the words spoken by the former president of the]# African National Congress President Oliver Tambo, o ne a bua a re, ke a mo nopola: #[he said, I quote him]# “We who are free to eat and sleep at will, to write, to speak, to travel as we please, we who are free to make or break a revolution, let us use our comparative freedom not to perpetuate the misery of those who suffer, nor to give indirect aid to the enemy they fight by withholding our own contributions.”

This seminary instructive words should continue to guide us on our path to build a better post-apartheid society. We should recommit ourselves to serve the people selflessly, work tirelessly towards the attainment of the vision spelled out in the Freedom Charter. Our debates of today signifies our democratic gains, it represents the embodiment of our people’s achievements in defeating the apartheid monster which excluded the majority of the people from participating in the affairs of their own country, denied the people their fundamental rights and dignity.

As we celebrate Freedom Day, we are also celebrating our journey towards a national democratic society. It is a celebration of our nation as a whole, an affirmation of all South Africans to the principles of freedom and democracy, a commitment to fight hatred, divisions and a painful history of racial, gender and class oppression and build a common future.

Now, this year is celebrated under the theme: Freedom and the Rule of Law-32 Years of Democratic Citizenship. The theme reaffirms the many years of protecting fundamental human rights, equality, the rule of law and participatory democracy. The Freedom Charter affirmed that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black, white and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people.

We are mentioning this Honourable Deputy Speaker, precisely because the Freedom Charter serves as a yard stick to measure progress in achieving the ideals of freedom in our country. Over the last 22 years, we have been able to promote and protect the rights of all the people especially their right to choose their public representatives at national, provincial and local level.

This is a gain that should at no stage be taken for granted and hence we continue to encourage our people to participate in regular elections. Our work is premised on our obligations to ensure human rights, promote the rights of the previously excluded groups, especially persons with disabilities

as well as the LGBTQI+ community. We continue to ensure freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and equality before the law.

Jaanong re tlhalose wena Motlotlegi Motlatsammusakgotla, ga re a phasumela fela mo kgololosegong. Re tsene mo re ipaakantse. Tokomane ya rona ya 1992 ya Ready to Govern e re baakantse gore re itse dikgwetlho tse re tlaa samaganang le tsone. Go lwela kgololosego go ne go se bonolo. E bile go tswelela re sireletsa kgololosego ga go kitla go nna bonolo.

Bao e neng e le baemakgatlhanong la lenaaneokgololosego ga ba a ineela. Ba tswelela pele go nna baemakgatlhanong. Le bao ba neng ba emetse kwa thoko ba phuthile matsogo, gompieno ba sa ntse ba phuthile matsogo ba sa batle go tsenya diatla mo go sireletseng democracy ya rona. Bangwe ba bone ba bua ka mokgwa wa go batla go diga batho mowa, batho ba nyatse democracy, batho ba utlwe gore democracy e ga e na sepe. Mme maitlhomomagolo a bone ke go batla go re busetsa kwa morago.

A lo raya gore ga lo bone dilo tse di dirilweng ke democracy? A lo raya gore ga lo bone gore gompieno bana ba kgona go tsena sekolo go sa bodiwe seemo sa lodi sa lelapa le le rileng le ngwana oo a tswang mo go lone? A lo raya gore ga lo bone madi a re a dirisang go fepa bana kwa dikolong go ba fa dibasari kgotsa dilo tse ga di diragala lo a bo lo le kae? A ga lo bone gore bao ba neng ba se na tshwanelo ya go nna le matlo, gompieno ba na le tshwanelo eo?

A dilo tse ga lo di bone? Kgotsa a kgololosego ya lona ke dipuo fela tse di lolea? Re amogela gore kgololosego go tlile go nna thata go e sireletsa. Dikgwetlho tse re tsamayang mo go tsone di raya gore re tswelile pele go netefatsa gore dikgwetlho tse di lebaneng setšhaba di akaretsa mathata a metsi, mathata a kgeleloleswe, di a rarabololwa ka mokgwa o o maleba.

Motlatsammusakgotla, Motlotlegi Mmusakgotla, kgololosego ya rona ga e a lekana go fitlhelela Mapalesetina ba gololosega. Mokgwa o ba bolawang setlhogo ke puso ya Maiseraele, rona ba re gololosegileng re tshwanetse re eme, re eme mmogo le bone.

Kwa bofelong, rona re ikutlwa sentle ga re re maatla ke a batho. The people shall govern. Kgololosego e ke ya batho. Ga se ya baeteledipele ba ba buang dipuo tsa phorego, ba batla gore batho ba latlhegelwe ke go tshepa kgololosego e ba e lwanetseng. Ke a go leboga Motlatsammusakgotla.

English translation follows:

#[Now let us explain Honourable Deputy Speaker, we did not just barge into freedom. We got here prepared. Our 1992 Ready to Govern document prepared us to know the challenges we will deal with. Fighting for freedom was not easy. And to continue protecting the freedom, will never be easy.

Those who were opposing the programme of freedom have not given up. They continue to be the opponents. Even those who were standing aside folding their hands, today they are still folding their hands they do not want to put their hands in protecting our democracy. Some of them talk about a way of discouraging the people, for the people to undermine democracy, people to hear that there is nothing in democracy. But their main intention is that they want to take us back.

Are you saying that you cannot see the things done by democracy? Are you saying that you cannot see that today children are able to go to school without questioning the financial situation of a certain family where the child comes from? Are you saying you cannot see the money we are using to feed the children in schools, to give bursaries, or where are you when these things happen? Can't you see that those who did not have a right to own houses, today they have that right?

Can't you see these things? Or maybe your freedom is just empty words? We accept that it is going to be tough to protect freedom. The challenges we are in, means we have to continue to make sure that the challenges which the nation face which includes water problems, the problems of sewerage, are solved the relevant way.

Deputy Speaker, Honourable Speaker, our freedom is not enough until the Palestinians are free. The manner in which they are being brutally killed by the Israelites, us who are free must stand up, and stand with them.

In conclusion, we here ourselves very well when we say power to the people...The freedom belongs to the people. It is not for the leaders who speak deceptive words, wanting the people to lose hope in the freedom they fought for.]#

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Matshe. Honourable Tsholo, you've got four minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, boferefere ga se papadi ga bo tshwane le go itlwaetswa e bile malatsing a, le bo-ga-nka-bo-re-tlha ba ipeta sebetse. Bangwe ba phunyeditsewe pudungwana dintsi, ke ka moo o bonang letsatsi le, le tla pele ga nako, mme le be le fetisiwa ke Kokoanotheomolao, mme ga re fetisa a rona matsalo, ga go a nna jalo. #[fraud is not something you can use to gain something, and in these days even those who desire for opportunities, are bold. Some, harm have been put on their way, that is why you see this day coming before time and is approved by the Legislature, but when we pass our birthday wishes, it is not like that.]#

Bopodungwana ba phunyeditsewe dintsi ke bo nkgate ke tlhane #[Some, harm have been put on their way by those who cannot be trusted]# because of the majority and very abusive of the rules. Allow me Honourable Deputy Speaker to quote an activist Bandile Ndlalose when he spoke about the trap of the 1994. He said, and I quote as he described Freedom Day. He described Freedom Day as a trap for the 99% of people who are not free questioning if the freedom achieved was merely for the 1% elites.

As I go on Honourable Deputy Speaker, I will say that there is no Freedom Day that we are celebrating. There is, a lost revolutionary path and a lost freedom. As long as we are in a coalition in the so-called government of national unity with those who has, ba ba tlhokofaditseng le go hlekefatsa batsadi ba rona, #[who hurt and abused our parents]# there will never be freedom.

You look at key critical departments and core departments that are being led by those who brought us where we were including our parents. Where is our land? Honourable Deputy Speaker, uMkhonto weSizwe Party would like to pay tribute to all the South Africans who contributed in various ways to the attainment of political freedom.

The 27th of April 1994 is a day when South Africa attained political freedom but not economic freedom. Freedom Day is a product of resistance by the leaders of the great nations of Africa by traditional leaders, students, communities, workers, churches and the young lions of the 1980s who responded positively to OR Tambo's call to render South Africa ungovernable and apartheid machinery ungovernable.

Many sacrifices Honourable Deputy Speaker and compromises were made at CODESA when the 1996 constitution was passed which saw the economy remaining in the hands of the minority few to date. The North West Province, Honourable Deputy Speaker, is rich in natural resources in mines, a vast natural agricultural land and tourism but our province is rated the highest in terms of unemployment. Half of the population of the North West Province which is unemployed cannot celebrate Freedom Day because they are not free. They are without jobs, they are living or surviving on hungry stomachs.

As we are speaking, our raw materials from North West are being transported outside the province thus weakening prospects of manufacturing and job creation. The black majority, Honourable Deputy Speaker, are still excluded from any meaningful economic participation and benefit. South Africa is still having strong presence of economic, social, spatial, cultural and knowledge apartheid and oppression.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, one of the guiding principles of the Freedom Charter is that the people shall govern. It is our political freedom attained in 1994 that ought to be guiding how our economy operates, how our banking system functions and how the wealth of the country is distributed equally in North West and the broader South Africa. Instead, it is the capital markets and the rand or money that controls and guides our politics and not the will of the people. Where is freedom in this Honourable Deputy Speaker? We find ourselves at the mercy of big business ... [INTERRUPTION] ...

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

HON. TSHOLO: Demands and mining industrial and complexes demand instead of people governing and ... [INTERRUPTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up. Your time is up. Thank you very much. Thank you. Honourable Kodisang, four minutes.

HON. KODISANG: Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Members, distinguished guests, baagi ba Bokonebophirima. #[The citizens of the North West]# Today we rise not just to commemorate Freedom Month, we rise to confront it because freedom as Nelson Mandela once said, “it’s not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this month we remember the giants of our struggle, Oliver Tambo, Steve Biko, Chris Hani, Charlotte Maxeke, Winnie Madikizela Mandela, who did not fight for a freedom that ends with promises but a freedom that began with actions and will end with action. They fought for dignity, for justice, for a better life for all legal citizens of South Africa.

Yet today the North West is once again among the worst performing provinces in the Auditor General’s 2024/2025 audit outcomes reflecting persistent weaknesses in financial management and a lack of meaningful improvement in accountability systems. This is a reflection in villages across the North West where families go without water, roads have collapsed and young people still with qualifications but no opportunities.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Action SA is clear. We demand consequence management without fear or favour because freedom without service delivery is not freedom. Freedom without opportunity is an illusion and we shall not keep quiet.

Freedom Month and Day must not be reduced to speeches and ceremonies. It must be a call for action, a call to build schools that are safe, a call to deliver water that is clean, a call to restore dignity to every household in the North West. Honourable Deputy Speaker, let us honour those who came before us not just in words but in action.

Ka nako eno, e re ke nopo! #[at this time, let me quote]# word of the day. Ke dumelana le sebui se se bolelang gore maatla ke a baagi. #[I agree with the speaker that said the power belongs to the citizens]# Power it’s with the citizens. Ke nopo! ka moya wa Paseka le ka ke gwetlha baagi ba Bokonebophirima, ke ya mo makwalong a Diteronomi #[I quote with the Passover spirit and to challenge the citizens of the North West, I go to the scripture of Deuteronomy]# 28:43-44 e re #[it says]#: “Foreigners will live in your land and gain more power while you the citizens of South Africa you gradually lose your power. They will have money to lend you, but you will have none to lend to them. And in the end, they will be your rulers.” Watch out South Africans, wake up.

HON. MOEMA: Order Deputy Speaker, I have a point of order.

HON. SONAKILE: Haai! eo Beibele Mme #[No! that Bible Madam]# Kodisang o ikwaletse #[you wrote it yourself]# Deputy Speaker, this South Africa, that scripture.

HON. MOEMA: Speaker, is it parliamentary to use a genuine debate to promote xenophobia?

HON. SPEAKER: No Honourable Moema, I will make a ruling on that in the next sitting. Can we have order Honourable Members. Honourable Magagane you have got 10 minutes.

HON. MAGAGANE: My sincerest apologies Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, Mokone Maine, Honourable Speaker, Dr Mohono, Premier of our glorious North West Province, Honourable Members of the Legislature, and most importantly the resilient people of Bokonebophirima.

The iconic leader of our glorious liberation movement and struggle stalwart, a former President of the African National Congress, Albert Luthuli, the first African to be conferred with the Nobel Piece Price set. There can be no compromise in our struggle to make South Africa a truly democratic country.

This democracy or freedom was never a gift to the people of South Africa, it was never granted willingly by the oppressor, it was forged through the fears commitment and ultimate sacrifice made by our heroes and heroines of our country men and women who devoted their lives to the liberation of others. This includes the very freedom enjoyed by all of us sitting in this House.

We, the people of South Africa at this moment honour those who suffered for the justice and freedom of our land.

We remember that on the 30th of March 1909, the Suid Afrika Colonies met to consider and adopt the South African Act which led to the formation of the Union of South Africa with the exclusion of the black majority.

We remember that on the 30th of March 1960, nine days after the Sharpeville massacre, the unrepented apartheid South Africa declared the state of emergency or at least gave a licence to kill, arresting over 3000 people and killing more in one afternoon to enforce the passed laws.

We, the people pay tribute and respect the former President Mandela, Oliver Reginald Thambo, and our very own giants born from this rich soil of the North West. We salute the bravery of Kgosi Abram Ramotshere Moiloa, the motherly guidance of Mama Ruta Mompati, and the fairy spirit of Onkgopotse Tiro.

And Deputy Speaker, we vogue the memory of the giant of our movement and the son of the soil, Moses Mauwane Kotane. Kotane famously taught us that “revolution ke batho #[is the people]#, the revolution is the people. He understood that freed freedom is not found in textbooks or abstract debates, it is found in the material conditions of our mothers, our youth, our workers. The ANC remains to be the vehicle of that revolution because ANC is the people.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, this year marks the 32nd anniversary of the attainment of our national democracy. We remember the rousing historic events of the 27th of April 1994 when we hosted our spears of freedom, and we claimed the sovereignty of our country for the first time since the arrival of dromedaries and the fellowships.

We recall how millions of South Africans patiently stood for hours in winding queues to cast their first democratic votes. We remember the pure joy as we celebrated the lowering of the apartheid flag of oppression, secure in the knowledge that we will never again fly a symbol of oppression as authority of our land.

As we continue to celebrate of our three decades since the adoption of our democratic Constitution, we must live to realise its values. We must continue to aggressively transform our society from a ...[INAUDIBLE]... of oppression into a thriving democratic state based on human dignity, equality and freedom. Yet we cannot speak of a complete freedom when our mothers, sisters and daughters live in fear. Gender based violence and femicide represent a grievous violation of the sanctity of human life. These acts of violence are a direct front to our Constitutional values.

As we mark the 32 years of democratic citizenship under the theme, “freedom and the rule of law”, we declare the rule of law must be maintained. We must end GBV now, not later, not tomorrow, but today.

In resonating with the words of Tata Madiba and Moses Kotane we must take this historic occasion to reflect on how our freedom was achieved, the immense progress we have made, and how we all worked together to implement NDP Vision 2030, we are 4 years away from 2030.

Let us look at the facts, we have made massive strives to improve the lives of our people from the devastating legacy of apartheid, and those who today sit in the opposition benches masquerading as ignorant to these achievements.

In acknowledging both our achievements and our challenges, let it be known that since the attainment of freedom the ANC has ensured that our people receive decent basic needs. It is not perfect, but we all can make it better. We have mapped out the radical inclusion of the

marginalised, especially the black majority attaining true economic freedom in our lifetime. This stands in stark contrast to the hollow public rhetoric that we had earlier on.

No one, absolutely no one can deny lived experiences of our people. For instance, in Groot Marico in 2013, 715 houses were built, this is in the democratic society.

And we must remember that if you walk the streets of Groot Marico you will see that the whole township is a new settlement. Therefore, we cannot deny lived experiences of our people.

And Honourable Sonakile, yes, I do agree Freedom Day observation can never be a routine because we can never be caught with our pants down taking this day for granted. The unjust apartheid economy was constructed on the deliberate exclusion of the majority, reserving wealth for only one small racial minority, and this is why we can never take Freedom Day for granted.

Our democratic gains saw the removal of these limiting and damaging restrictions, but I want us to also look at what the ANC has achieved through broad-based black economic empowerment. May I remind you that it has fundamentally shifted South Africa's economy by increasing black ownership and management controls. We will never shy away to claim this achievement.

It has reversed historical inequalities, although not adequately by promoting economic participation of black women like me, youth and our rural communities right here in the North West. 10 new black billionaires have been the result of world distribution and sustainable development. You have your Seriti, you have your My Sols, you have all these other participants in mining.

These progressive agenda must be protected at all costs Honourable Botswe. We must ensure to continue to redress political injustice and foster inclusive growth ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. BOTSWE: Honourable Speaker.

HON. MAGAGANE: Freedom ke batho #[is the people]# Honourable Botswe. Honourable Deputy Speaker, the freedom that many fought for ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. BOTSWE: Honourable Speaker.

HON. MAGAGANE: For remaining incomplete without total economic emancipation Honourable Botswe ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. BOTSWE: Can you recognise me Honourable Speaker?

HON. MAGAGANE: That is why the ANC led government has initiated both the economic reforms to strengthen ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Magagane?

HON. MAGAGANE: Honourable Deputy Speaker?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A re fe Rre #[Let us give Mr]# Botswe, can you rise Rre #[Mr]# Botswe?

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What are you rising on?

HON. BOTSWE: Can the Honourable Member take a question?

HON. MAGAGANE: Honourable Botswe o batla go njela metsotso, nna fo fatshe. #[You want to take my minutes, sit down]# Has initiated bold economic reforms to structurally change the economy and undo deep rooted inequalities ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down ...[INAUDIBLE]... your question

HON. BOTSWE: ...[INAUDIBLE]... never rule on that.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, just sit down Honourable Botswe.

HON. MAGAGANE: Because we believe revolution ke batho #[is the people.]# Let us look at what the ANC government is doing on the ground in the North West to uplift our people, first we must acknowledge on infrastructure and roads, we acknowledge that our province faces massive road infrastructure backlogs, but we are not folding our hands.

The ANC led provincial government has actively intervened to roll out massive road rehabilitation programmes. We are not only talking about the upgrading and patching of critical roads, but we are connecting to economic roots. These projects are not just about time gravel, they are about creating immediate job opportunities for our local youth and linking people to economic centres.

Secondly, on agriculture and food security, the North West is the bread basket of many parts of the country, including the maize triangle that we have here in Ngaka Modiri Molema. Our

transformation initiatives are actively deracialising this sector. Through our Agricultural Support Programmes, the ANC government is providing livestock, grain production inputs and machinery to historically disadvantaged small holders.

We are actively pushing programmes that bring women youth into commercial farming. We are making sure that the land and its fruits benefit the majority not just a privileged few.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, despite the difficulties and weaknesses connected with building a new democratic state, problems we share with much of the developing world such as crime and unemployment, the ANC remains resolute gore #[that]# freedom ke batho, le gone gore #[is the people and also that]# revolution ke batho #[is the people]#. We are on path; this does not mean that we are on off course as we move forward.

We are committed to fixing local government, improving basic service, stabilising dysfunctional municipalities and strengthening financial management. We are cleaning up house because we answer to the people. Since its establishment in 1912 the ANC has demonstrated that it truly cares for our people. We are not a mere election machine; we are a liberation movement that respect and enhances freedom of others.

We have vowed to protect democratic gains of our people to serve with dignity and respect. We will do so Honourable Sonakile, unequivocally.

In conclusion, I echo the words of the founding father of our nation, Tata Madiba when he said, “there is no easy walk to freedom anywhere, and many of us will have to pass through the valley of shadow of death again and again before we reach the mountaintop of our desires”. We are marching to the mountaintops, we are marching together, revolution ke batho,#[they are the

people]# aluta continua, mapambano yanaendelea, kgaratlho a e tswelele, maatla. #[let the struggle continue, power]# Register to vote for the African National Congress. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Magagane. Honourable Tlhapi, you have got 5 minutes.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Madam Speaker, Deputy Speaker, I am sorry. Let me start by, Honourable Matuane, I am sure lebaka la gore ke seke ka utlwa gore o ne o bua ka eng ke gore o cross-itse the floor, so ke tle go kopa gore #[the reason I did not hear what she was talking about is that she crossed the floor, so I will ask]# Honourable Botswe lo thuse #[to help]# Honourable Matuane, she is a woman, o mo ntšhwa ga ke tle go lo tlogela lo mo abuse-a re le teng mo Ntlong e rona bomme ba #[she is new, I will not allow you to abuse her while we are here in this House, us the women of the]# African National Congress. So, ga a tshwanela go cross-a the floor, ke kopa le mo thuse. #[She is not supposed to cross the floor, please help her.]#

Yes, that is why ke mo thusa,#[I help her]# I am here to help her as a woman. Thank you, ke mmone nna, #[I saw her myself]# so that is why ke sa utlwa gore o ne a bua ka eng, mme le mo bolelele fela gore, #[not heard what she talked about, but you must tell her that]# Honourable Matuane I'm sure ga o na nkutlwa, ke rile kare #[you did not hear me., I said]# government ya rona e na le program e re e bitsang #[of ours has a program which is called]# Kgothakgothe #[general meeting]#, together le wena #[with you]# Honourable Sonakile, e nang le di #[which has the]# timelines, ha le ka e fa #[if you can give it a]# chance le tla re botsa ha re boa gape gore a na #[you will ask us when we come back whether it has]# in terms of the timelines tse re lo fileng tsone mo Ntlong e ya ga #[which we gave you in this House of the]# Deputy Speaker, a na re dirile se re neng re se solofeditse gore re tlaa se dira #[have we done what we promised to do.]#

Honourable Groenewald, what is freedom, let me help you my Honourable Member, freedom is where the black farmer has the water rights just like the white neighbour farmer have a right. Aker le a itse gore le dirang, #[you know what you are doing]# you are building the tunnels then le tlola

batho ba rona ba Bantsho #[you skip our black people.]# That is the freedom that we are talking about Honourable Groenewald.

Today ga re sa tlhole re tsamaya ka di-passport, rotlhe re a tshwana, di ID tsa rona di a tshwana, #[we are no longer moving with passports, we are all the same, our IDs are the same]# that is the freedom that we are talking about. So, ha o tla mo o tla go re botsa gore #[when you come here you come to ask us]# what is freedom, you must be clear gore a mme o a e understand-a gore #[that do you really understand]# what is freedom.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, South Africa is a nation in progress led by a progressive government committed to achieving equality, social justice, development and economic empowerment for all. Our ongoing efforts to redress the injustices of the past and to safeguard the gains of a democracy and freedom, affirm our commitment to building an ethical development state.

While all promises and plans cannot be implemented simultaneously due to budgetary constraints Honourable Matuane and Honourable Sonakile, it is essential that we afford the current government the necessary time to build the society that is truly equal and just for all. Ke a itse gore ga le e rate maar rona #[I know you do not like it but we]# African National Congress re batla go bona mongwe le mongwe a lekalekana mo #[we want to see all people equal in]# South Africa.

Tata Nelson Mandela o kile a bua #[once said]# Deputy Speaker, “true freedom requires responsibility, it requires unity”, it also says “we need to respect the freedom of others”, just like I have already indicated Honourable Huyssteen, ya di #[of the]# water rights, ke tlile go le tebela ka yone, ke yone right ya motho Montsho eo, #[I am going to chase you with it and that right of a Black person]# Honourable Sonakile.

Deputy Speaker, ha ke tswala ke ne ke re ke itsise Ntlo ya gago gore #[As I conclude I want to inform your House that]# it has always seemed impossible until it is done, re tsile go dira rona re le Mokgatlho wa #[we are going to work us as the]# African National Congress go netefatsa ha batho ba rona ba le #[to make sure our people are]# free from yourselves Honourable on the left. Thank you very much.

HON. MOEMA: Deputy Speaker?

HON. SONAKILE: Kuse ku #[It is already]# late, kuse ku #[It is already]# late my darling. Why o sia? #[are you running?]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Moema, can you please rise?

HON. MOEMA: I rise in terms of Rule 73 which speaks to explanations, and according to this Rule when a Member, says something that is not quite clear, for us to not to distort whatever she is meaning at least we must get an explanation. So, the Member is saying that we must give the ANC some more time and we strongly feel that the ANC has got enough time since the attainment of this democracy.

So, how much time do they need as African National Congress. If they need 200 years they must come here and tell us, it must be on record, the public must know, this House must know. So, can the Member explain that particular aspect of debate. Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can't call the Member back; you are not presiding over this sitting. I just allowed you to speak. Thank you very much.

Honourable Members, we are done with the debate. Before we go to the next order, I have learned two things, there are things that brings you together, but also I have learned that South Africa, my beloved country is mentioned in the Bible, I thought I am Christian enough to know that South Africa would be mentioned, but it was just on a lighter note, on a lighter note Members.

Secretary, can you read the next order?

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 8, PREMIER'S ORAL REPLY TO QUESTIONS AS PER RULE 143.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I will now call on the Premier, Honourable Mokgosi to reply to oral questions as per Rule 143. Honourable Premier?

Honourable Premier, you may respond to the first question as posed by Honourable Tsholo. And my request is that you must also respond to sub-questions, if the question has got sub-questions, respond to the question in its entirety so that the Honourable Member does not have to come from time to time with follow-up questions, just one follow-up question in the. And I thought you will do it at your seat because it means you will have to come back from time to time.

So, may I request you to go back to your sit and take questions from your seat Honourable Premier, so that you don't have to come back for all ten questions up and down. If you so Pleases Premier, but if you want to exercise up and down, its fine.

HON. MOKGOSI: So, Honourable Deputy Speaker, you want me to go through all of them?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, one question and then all the sub-questions.

HON. PREMIER: And sub all of them?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All the sub-questions, when you respond to your question, respond to all the sub-questions, so that when Members make a follow-up, they make follow-ups in the question in its entirety

HON. MOKGOSI: No, I will do that Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, on the question asked by Honourable Tsholo, the Provincial Government through the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism in collaboration with the Department of Small Business Development, Municipalities Development Institutions and the private sector have made significant progress in implementing programmes aimed at revitalising village and township economies.

This includes the distribution of equipment and machinery to 172 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises beneficiaries comprising of women, youth and persons with disabilities in the rural communities and township dwellings. It is of importance to emphasise that 66 Small Enterprise owned by people with disabilities have benefited since the programme commenced in the 2024/2025 financial year.

The provisioning of tools and machinery has enabled these enterprises to significantly improve their productivity, competitiveness and financial sustainability. Training was also extended to 25 enterprises in Taung where a start capital of R10 000,00 was initiated. This initiative was carried out in collaboration with the North West University and Youth Enterprise Institute.

Through partnerships with Absa Bank and Municipalities such as JB Marks and Mahikeng we have trained 88 informal traders and assisted them with the CIPC registration and other related

compliance requirements. In relation to Moretele Local Municipality, 33 informal traders were supported with training, business registration and tax compliance.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, furthermore, the Dunlop business in a box initiative across districts where small enterprises are supported with tyre fitment infrastructure including slabs and pits is in full swing and is progressing well to phase 2, which will include electricity and fencing with full rollout expected by June in 2026.

Through infrastructure and market access support we are providing trading infrastructure such as containers, work spaces, and sector specific facilities to improve access to markets and supply chains.

Through these integrated interventions and strategic partnerships, the provincial government continues to accelerate the revitalisation of township and village economies ensuring inclusive participation, economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods in line with the Premier's commitment to eradicate poverty, unemployment and inequality.

Honourable Members, moreover, Informal Traders Support Programmes focus on training, business formalisation, compliance support and equipment, informal trading with business management and technical skills. The programme also seeks to reclaim and strengthen local retail markets, including general dealers and tuckshops. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Tsholo, do you have a follow-up question, you have got 1 minute? Honourable Tsholo is covered. Any Member wish to make a follow-up question? Honourable Sonakile, 1 minute?

HON. SONAKILE: Thank You Deputy Speaker. Premier, is it not correct that despite those programmes that you have mentioned, township unemployment and informal sectors stagnation continues, showing policy failure rather than progress?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Deputy Speaker, I think we must accept and note that the challenge is huge, and therefore all our attempts that we are doing to mitigate against this tragic situation that we have will be viewed in some instances that it's a drop in the ocean. But within the minimum resources that we have as government we see that as a significant progress, and therefore we believe that from time to time we will be able to report and accordingly ensure that our people derive benefits from whatever we are doing. But however, we agree that its work in progress, but the challenge is huge.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. We will now migrate to Question 2 as posed by Honourable Sonakile to the Premier, a very long question indeed. Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Sonakile speaks about the signing of performance agreements. All Members of the Executive Council have duly signed their respective performance agreements in line with the applicable legislative and governance prescripts before the end of the first quarter 2025/2026. The agreements were concluded within the prescribed timeframe and the commencement of the financial year.

The Premier has instituted a structured and ongoing performance monitoring framework to assess the work of Members of the Executive Council against agreed performance targets and service delivery priorities.

Performance monitoring is conducted through a combination of formal and informal mechanism, including scheduled Executive Council processes, bilateral engagements and continuous oversight informed by departmental reporting system.

Engagements with MEC's are not limited to isolated events but form part of a continuous governance and oversight process. As such, performance discussions occur regularly throughout the governance circle rather than on a fixed once off dates, where necessary these engagements are aligned with key reporting periods including quarterly and annual reviews.

Where performance challenges are identified, the Premier provides guidance and support in line with established governance protocols. This may include the issuance of directives, request for remedial action plans, or other appropriate interventions aimed at strengthening service delivery outcomes.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, performance outcomes for Members of the Executive Council are assessed within the framework of government, broader monitoring and evaluation system, which include Departmental Annual Performance Plan, Quarterly Performance Reports and Annual Reports tabled in the Legislature.

These instruments provide a comprehensive account of progress made against agreed targets and service delivery commitments. Performance is therefore recorded and reported at those departmental and executive levels, in showing alignment with provincial priorities and the medium term strategic framework.

The assessments of MEC performance is undertaken in a holistic and developmental manner rather than through a simplistic categorisation of met or not met. Performance varies across portfolios

due to differing mandates, contextual challenges and service delivery environments. Where targets are achieved or exceeded this is reflected in the departmental reporting and contributes to overall government performance outcomes.

Where there are areas of underperformance, these are addressed through established governance process including performance engagements, corrective action plans, and ongoing oversight by the Premier.

Therefore Deputy Speaker, the performance of MEC's in terms of the assessment is not of an employee and employer relationship. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. SONAKILE: Yes, please?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: 1 minute.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Can the Premier name and confirm any MEC's that have been sanctioned or given directives based on underperformance, and can the Premier table the agreements for scrutiny?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Deputy Speaker, discussions of MEC's and Premier are on a bilateral in terms of performance and directives. And therefore, the Premier is not necessarily after engaging them must go out and publicise that I had an MEC today and I gave him this directive and so on and so

on. So, I think it's on an ongoing like I said in relation to how government operates within reporting circles. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does any Member wish to make a follow-up question, Honourable Huyssteen?

HON. VAN HUYSTEEN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, based on response given by the Premier where he indicated consultations takes place on an ongoing basis, and it seems on a very informal basis as there is no paper trail. How can the Premier ensure this province that he can lead a government and implementing good governance where there no paper trail to even confirm the actions been taken by his office?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Deputy Speaker, I think Honourable Member must listen very attentively. I have explained all the reporting mechanism in terms of overall performance of government, and those documents are there, if you want APP's, you will get them, Annual Reports, you will get them, Quarterly Reports, you will get them. So, I don't know which paper trail you are looking at. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. We will now migrate to the third question as posed by Honourable, oh Honourable Magagane?

HON. MAGAGANE: We welcome the accountability measures outlined by the Honourable Premier to hold the Executive accountable for deliverables as outlined in the Performance Agreements with the respective Members of the EXCO. But Premier, just what we need to know is that what measures are available to you as the Premier to deal with recurring underperformance where it is experienced?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Magagane, the Performance Agreements signed by Members of the Executive Council are primarily like I said aimed at ensuring that departments achieve all the intended objectives as per their Annual Plans.

And as explained in the State of the Province Address, any indication in relation to underperformance or the relegation of duty will be followed by what we call political consequence management. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. We will now migrate to the third question as posed by Honourable Sebegoe to the Honourable Premier. Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Sebegoe, we have officially launched the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy to drive the economic trajectory of the province, at the centre of this initiative is mineral, beneficiation, agricultural development and tourism.

In relation to the latter, an investment of over R400 million has been touted to commercialise our provincial game reserves. An infrastructure investment of over R3 billion in the medium term expenditure framework in our road network is aimed at reincarnating various activities through targeted economic corridor of our province.

Deputy Speaker, moreover, as we have explained during the State of the Nation Address, R300 million has been set aside for various job creation efforts, curbs conditional grants targeted at women, youth and people with disabilities. We are also going to create over 10 000 work opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme called Itirele in our Roads

Maintenance Programme. This will include over 46 000 work opportunities in various departments and municipalities through our EPWP.

In March 2025 the lab projects with R779 million were launched in the North West Province, these projects targeted over 24 000 beneficiaries targeting mainly young people. These projects are spread across the length and breadth of the province in agriculture, construction and tourism.

Now, following the recently launched PGDS, the provincial government identified the following sectors as employment creation, agriculture, mining, construction, manufacturing, tourism, logistics, green economy and digital information.

To this end Honourable Sebegoe, the following key focus areas are targeted as a vehicle to deliver on several of our strategic objectives. Water and sanitation, R5 billion has been set aside for the construction of 11 water projects which are at various stages of completion. Renewable energy power generation, our province is estimated to have capacity to connect to 3,47 gigawatts of new electricity generation onto Eskom transmission grade.

Furthermore, the North West province is endowed with the very good solar resources resulting in 2 out of 11 envisaged renewable energy development zone been in the province, in Vryburg and Matlosana. The full development of this solar PV potential is estimated to attract about R50 billion. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sebegoe, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. SEBEGOE: Thanks Deputy Speaker. Honourable Premier, we note the detailed plans to upscale job creation, particularly as it affects our youth and appeal for improved coordination of project intended to extricate them from the hopeless and ensure that they are participating

meaningfully in the economy. This will reduce among others substance abuse and youth depression.

We are also encouraged by the target, the 356 000 jobs to be created in that agriculture and rural economy during the 26/27 financial year in the line with the ANC January 8th priorities. Just a follow-up is that, is the business and private sector engaged to also contribute towards job creation, if so, are we confident of their buying in. thank you DS.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. The private sector is fully on board, and our engagement with the industry leaders in this sector such as mining, agriculture, affirms this accession.

Earlier this year we were participating in the Investment in Africa Mining Indaba where we lobbied extensively private sector to support even our Provincial Development Fund. All these measures, Deputy Speaker will be cemented and affirmed during our Provincial Job and Investment Summit to be held very soon in this financial year. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Does any Member want to make a follow-up question? None.

We will now migrate to Question 4 as posed by Honourable Dabampe to the Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Dabampe, anti-corruption measures implemented as it relates also to our financial disclosures and in particular by SMS. All our SMS Members are required to submit annually their financial disclosure forms to the Public Service Commission. This measure

is designed to detect conflicts of interest, prevent abuse of office and promote transparency. Noncompliance is reported to the Executive Authority and may result in disciplinary action.

This is also an alignment with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. Departments have developed Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategies aligned with National Anti-Corruption Strategy. The NACS emphasis zero tolerance for corruption, improved coordination, and stronger institutional capacity, it offers a structured multi-pillar approach that integrates prevention, detection, enforcement and public accountability.

Lifestyle audits have become a mandatory governance tool in the South African Public Service following the Department of Public Service and Administration, DPSA Guidelines for 2021. The primary purpose is to strengthen ethical governance, detect and prevent corruption and ensure that public servants lifestyle are consistent with their lawful income.

The audits are embedded within the financial disclosure framework and supported by legislation such as the Public Service Act, Public Administration Management Act and Public Service Regulations. They are also aligned with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. Lifestyle audit serves as a preventative and a detective mechanism within the public service.

We also have the internal audit and risk management units. Department maintain Internal Audit Units and Risk Management Committees to detect irregularities and strengthen internal controls, and findings are reported to the Audit Committee and Auditor General.

The forensic coordination Unit in the Office of the Premier, this unit is established to coordinate forensic investigation across the province, and it provides centralised oversight, ensures consistency in investigations and strengthen accountability.

Effective of measures, the compulsory financial disclosure forms by SM Members have improved transparency and accountability, providing a mechanism to detect conflicts of interest. Lifestyle audits through still been rot out have strengthened oversight of senior officials and have created a deterrent effect against any maleficence in the public service.

These efforts have also been boasted by Internal Audit and Risk Management Structures that provides earlier detention on irregularities. These measures are in correlation with the National Strategies that ensure coordination with enforcement and prosecutorial bodies. The Forensic Coordination Unit continues to enhance investigative capacity and oversight.

And also to mention that this is an ongoing exercise, tomorrow we would be appearing in Cape Town to appear before the National Committee to go and speak about what measures are we also putting in place, meaning that the Oversight Act National Parliament, they are also interested as to what are we doing as it relates to this lifestyle forensic coordination and other related matters. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Dabampe, a follow-up question?

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Clearly the Premier did not read the question and failed to answer it.

The question was what has he done as the Premier since coming into office, and what he says about lifestyle audits, and it was there in 2021, it is not a new thing, it is not a measure that he as the Premier has come with.

But Chair just to check, how many prosecutions as a result of the measures that he says he came up with, but I know you got them there, how many prosecutions have been done as a result of your initiative, and how have those measures kept on nipping the butt of corruption. And in terms of lifestyle audits, how many employees have been found wanting and arrested. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: No, I think Honourable Dabampe what we are trying to emphasise here is that strengthening capacity of the state to do exactly what you are talking about, it's what has been emphasised.

Sa bobedi ke gore rona ga re di # [Secondly is that we are not the]# law enforcers, people have been arrested, people are appearing before the Courts, we don't want to judge them. So, once people are sentenced, we will be able to pronounce ourselves. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Any Member with a follow-up question, Honourable Sonakile?

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you DS. Premier, it is very difficult to honestly believe that those measures that you have mentioned are working, because corruption levels remain systematic and entrenched. Is there a political interference protecting individuals implicated in corruption?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you can proceed Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Deputy Speaker?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can proceed Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Ok. No, there is not any political inference Honourable Sonakile. If there are any suspicious political interference and they are brought to our attention, we would have been able to intervene. We believe that once detection is made and is reported and is investigated the necessary action must be taken. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Tonakgolo. A go na le Leloko lengwe le le nang le potso ya tlaleletso? # [Thank you Honourable Premier. Is there any other Member who has a follow-up question?] # None.

We will now migrate to Question 5 as posed by Honourable Tsholo to the Honourable Premier.
Honourable Premier?

HON. PREMIER: Honourable Tsholo, the North West Province has a memorandum of understanding with Samara Region of Russia. The MOU has been reviewed because it did not yield any benefits for the province. The province is now going to focus on agriculture, heritage, culture, economic development and student exchange programmes.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the province is planning on taking the opportunity to learn from Russia, the Samara Region, on preserving its cultural and natural heritage with the key efforts of managing our heritage sites like Taung and developing the legal frameworks to protect our architectural landmarks and our ecological science. Through our intersection with Samara, we aimed to resuscitate the drama theatres, ballet and opera opportunities in our Mmabana Arts Foundations.

Through Samara we are looking for training opportunities for civil service and our municipal workers in the field of engineering, scientific and humanitarian disciplines and linking them with the programmes that we have with our North West University and our FET Colleges. Samara is known to be producing aerospace launch vehicles, satellites and various space services that we can learn from and assist in industrial production.

I think at the centre Deputy Speaker, what Members must understand is that MOU by their nature are long terms plans that we have, and secondly, they are not defined and prescriptive, they are a matter of exposing you to opportunities. And what is of importance it's your ability to say what are the opportunities that are there, so they are not defined in terms of mutual benefit at the first instance, it's what opportunities are there and how far can you pursue them.

Therefore, we have reviewed our MOU and we believe with the newly identified areas of opportunities we will be able to utilise the MOU. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Motlotlegi Tsholo, a o na le potso ya tlaleletso. Ke a leboga. #[Honourable Tsholo do you have a follow-up question? Thank you]# Any other Member with the follow-up question? None.

We will now migrate to Question 6 as posed by Honourable Khunou to the Premier. We have a letter from Honourable Khunou authorising Honourable Rosho to take the question on his behalf. Honourable Premier, you can respond to Question number 6.

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you Deputy Speaker. The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management is implementing and strengthening a range of measures to mitigate the increasing incidents of overloading of learners in schools' transport. These measures include

intensified route monitoring and inspections, verification of vehicle type and capacity against approved contract requirements, and stricter enforcement of compliance with operating licence conditions, and road traffic legislation.

The department is also strengthening contract management to ensure that only approved vehicles in terms of the service level agreement are utilised. Coordination with the law enforcement agencies and schools has been enhanced to ensure ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MEMBER: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Khunou is not in the House.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No Chief, you were not here when I said we have a letter, don't go out and want to disrupt the Sitting, we have a letter from Honourable Khunou. Can you please proceed Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Ok, can I proceed Deputy Speaker, am I protected?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, you can proceed Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: The Department Deputy Speaker, also strengthened contract management to ensure that only approved vehicles in terms of the service level agreements are utilised. Coordination with the law enforcement agencies and schools have been enhanced to ensure proper reporting and action on incidents of overloading.

Correction Action Plans are issued when non-compliance is identified, requiring operators to remedy such breaches within the stipulated timeframes of seven days, failure to comply may

penalties, suspension of services, appointment of alternative service providers, or termination of contracts in accordance with the SLA.

The provincial government does not condone the operation of scholar transport services by operators whose operating licences, permits, or compliance documents have expired. The National Land Transport Act no. 5 of 2009 Section 50, Regulation of Road Based Public Transport state that no person may operate a road based public transport services unless they are the holder of a valid operating licence or permit issued for that specific vehicle.

The National Road Traffic Regulations also, Regulation no. 2138, Certificate of Roadworthiness, this Regulation states that public transport vehicle must always have a valid roadworthy certificate, and such vehicle must undergo roadworthy tests at prescribed intervals, typically 6 months for buses operating as public transport.

Moreover, a vehicle may not be operating for public transport, unless it complies with roadworthiness requirement. Where such non-compliance is identified, operators are required to immediately regularise their documentation within a specific period. The department has also strengthened pre-payment compliance verification process to ensure that expired documentation is detected prior to payment processing.

The department has implemented several monitoring and control mechanism to reduce fraudulent claims. This includes physical route monitoring, verification of invoices against approved routes and schedules, confirmation of learner numbers, and school served, a validation of vehicles used against approved contract records. Additional controls include reviewed supporting documents prior payment. Follow-up monitoring where discrepancies are identified, strengthened internal control validation, improved record management and consequence management process.

In the current financial year, the department detected two instances of suspected fraudulent and or irregular claims relating to scholar transport services. This includes claims for services not rendered inconsistencies with approved routes and non-compliant supporting documents. And there are some cases that are still under investigation, at this point we can report there are about five cases that we are investigating.

Where fraudulent claims or material contractual breaches were identified, the department implemented measures including issuing breaches nor preaching notices, imposition of penalties and requiring corrective action plans. As a consequence, and to deter such practices, a total of two contractors has been cancelled while investigations are ongoing in five or more incidents that have been detected. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Rosho, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. ROSHO: Thanks very much Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, I just want to indicate that while we appreciate the comprehensive response and efforts that have been done by the provincial government, I think it is important that blacklisting and criminal action should be a default as part of the punitive measures for defrauding government at the conclusion of investigation that are currently underway. I think it is important that it also been strengthened from their side. Thank you very much.

But we are quite happy as the ANC with the response and the work that has been done by the provincial government. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Chief Whip.

HON. MOKGOSI: It is highly appreciated Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ok. Any Member with a follow-up question? Honourable Sonakile?

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. You know there is nothing worth being celebrated on measures that have been taken against scholar transport in the province, there is still a lot of challenges and everything that the Premier has mentioned now it's something that has been done yet, when you drive in our roads you still find vehicles that are not roadworthy. So, everything that he said it's really not worth the paper it's written on.

The follow-up, I just want to check what disciplinary actions has been taken against officials who approved or ignored non-compliant operators. Thank you DS.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: To date Deputy Speaker, we have not found any direct involvement of an official, and if such cases are identified we will take the necessary and appropriate action.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Tonakgolo. #[Thank you Honourable Premier]# Honourable Dabampe, 1 minute?

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Perhaps if the Premier can provide us with the list of the scholar transport that he says have been terminated and all those that are found to be wanting because there are many scholar transports which are operating without a licence. So, we want to check which ones have been terminated and the reasons, so that we are

able to bring to the Premier and the MEC the other scholar transports which are doing the same thing. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Dantjie can you have order. Honourable Premier will respond, but I don't think that, but let me not respond, let us hear the response of the Premier, Honourable Premier you can respond to Honourable Dabampe.

HON. MOKGOSI: No, I think such information can be provided Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Moema, are you covered?

HON. MOEMA: Thanks Honourable Deputy Speaker. I think my question is partly covered but put differently Honourable Premier, I am partly covered by Honourable Rosho. But put differently, have you ever terminated any of these companies that happened to contravene the National Land Transport Act in the province?

HON. MOKGOSI: Yes, that is what the report is saying Honourable Moema, yes, it's written, that is what we are saying. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Moema, there can't be a conversation between you and the Premier, you have posed your question, the Premier has responded, you know the rules. The Premier has responded.

Now Members, we will then migrate to Question 7 as posed by Honourable Steenkamp to the Honourable Premier. Honourable Steenkamp is not in the House, but she has written the letter

authorising Honourable Sonakile to take the question on her behalf. You can respond Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Sonakile, the following it's a breakdown of confirmed food and mouth disease cases as per district and per State Veterinary Office in the North West Province.

- In Dr Kenneth Kaunda we have a total of 62;

Ventersdorp - 26

Potchesfroom – 26

Maquassi Hill – 5

Matlosana – 5.

- In Bojanala – 53;

Rustenburg – 21

Madibeng – 16

Kgetleng – 15

Moretele – 6

Matlosana – 1. Matlosana is a mistake Honourable Deputy Speaker, it should not be there, it is covered already.

- In Ruth Segomotsi Mompati, we have got;

Naledi with 23

Greater Taung – 8

Mamusa - 4

Molopo – 2

- Ngaka Modiri Molema;

Ratlou – 4

Mahikeng – 9

Tswaing - 3

Ditsobotla - 10

Ramotshere Moiloa.

These are confirmed cases of the FMD.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the suspected ones in the province, in Dr KK we have got 17, Ngaka Modiri Molema we have 80, and the number of outbreaks has increased from 143 in February to 210 at the same time in March. Suspects have decreased, as a result returned to confirm that the farms and villages are positive.

The high risk district is the district that possesses the risk of spilling over to Botswana, and these are outbreaks that are in Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati and Ngaka Modiri Molema which have outbreaks that are within 10 kilometres of the boarder. Control measures in these districts are vaccinations; in communal areas there is summoning of personnel from other State Vet Offices.

All 210 outbreaks farms and villages are under quarantine and movement restriction. The economic impact will be calculated at the end of the disease control processes. The current focus is on stopping the disease. Thanks Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Sonakile, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. SONAKILE: Yes, thank you Deputy Speaker. Premier, are these services adequately resourced to deal with this FMD issue in the office?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: We are not adequately resourced Honourable Sonakile as a department, but with what we have we have not experienced any overwhelming situation, the department is coping thus far. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Any Member with the follow-up question? Honourable Magagane?

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you very much Honourable Premier for your response, we note the interventions that are made, but are there any other interventions that are anticipated to help and also to make sure that there are more cooperation and collaboration with the farmers and organised formations?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motlotlegi Tonakgolo? #Honourable Premier]#

HON. MOKGOSI: What we have done Deputy Speaker, re mo metselatseleng ya go bua le baagi ka kakaretso, re bua le borakgwebo, re bua le #[we are in a series of going out and talking to the communities in general, we talk to business people, we talk to]# civil society, re bua le baagi ka kakaretso mo go lwantsheng botlhoko jo jwa diphologolo. Mme se se botlhokwa se re se dirang

#[we are talking to the communities in general regarding this animal disease. And the important thing we are doing]# in this mobilisation, at the centre of it ke difamara tsa rona. Ka mantswe a mangwe, ka bokhutshwane re na le difamara tsa rona letsatsi le letsatsi go dira sure gore ba bone gore puso ena le bone ka malatsi otlhe, go leka gore ba se ke ba latlhegelwa ke diphologolo tse tsa bone. #[is our farmers. In other words, in short we are with our farmers every day to make sure they see that government is with them always, so they would not lose their animals.]# So, we have mobilised the entire society in terms of ensuring that we put the necessary control measures. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Premier. Honourable Kodisang?

HON. KODISANG: Thank you Honourable Premier. As we are following on the Foot and Mouth Disease Plan, I just want to find out where in the province can we get the livestock certificated in case one is forced to migrate it to another region. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: I think we should be able to go to the nearest Veterinary Offices close to the areas which you are referring to. We have offices throughout our districts and subdistricts in the province, and we have people responsible who would be able to assist. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Van Huyssteen?

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Premier, you have indicated that you are talking to the farmers and stakeholders every day, I would like to know which communication mechanisms are you using to speak to the individual farmers on the ground everyday so that they know these are the vaccines we have in the province, this is where we stand with the rollout, this

is how you can be engaged. How are you as a government communicating with those farmers every single day on the life basis?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can proceed Honourable Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Ok, thanks Deputy Speaker. We are in constant communication with Farmers Association in our respective areas. We have also involved our respective municipalities because we believe we can reach out our communities and farmers through our Ward Councillors, our Ward Committees and so on. That is why we spoke about mobilisation of civil society and the society in general to reach out. And we have got advocacy campaigns from our offices in our subdistricts and so on. So, that is why we are saying daily we are with our farmers. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Honourable Moema are you not coming for the second time on this question. you posed a question on this first, ok?

HON. MOEMA: No, thanks Deputy Speaker. On the question of issue of certification, the Premier is saying he thinks we can go to the nearest Veterinary whatsoever.

But he is saying he thinks so he does not speak with authority and he speaks on behalf of government. So, he just speaks with authority to say you can go to the nearest so and so facility or you can go this particular are, he can't say, I think. Immediately he says he thinks it's more like there is no authority or clarity in terms of what he is responding to. So, it's quite important that he responds with authority and clarity so that our people can know what to do. Thank you Chair.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can respond Honourable Premier, but I would not know Honourable Member that what is authority vice versa what the Premier is saying, but the Premier can respond, because English can be very broad, alright? Honourable Premier, you can respond.

HON. MOKGOSI: No, o nthusitse #[you helped me]# Deputy Speaker. Akere ke a makala gore akere ha o batla thuso ya puso #[Isn't it that, I am surprised that, isn't it that when you want help from government]# you go to the nearest office, so that is why ke re, ke ko o tshwanetse o ye teng #[I am saying, that is where you should go.]# So, I am just saying that I am surprised that we don't know when we want the services where are you supposed to go, you go to the nearest office of government office, that is where you are going to be assisted. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Premier. Members we will now migrate to Question 8 as posed by Honourable Magagane to the Premier.

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Magagane, 131 out of 254 clinics, and 22 out of 26 CHC are active on HPRS System based on the latest December 2025 to March 2026 headcount data, synchronisation with the central server.

Names of clinics actively using the system will be submitted in writing Honourable Deputy Speaker.

We have Bojanala, total number of clinics, which is 96, those who are on, and the number of CHC as indicated below. But approximately 58% of clinics in the North West have demonstrated to be having the minimum ICT infrastructure required to run HPRS effectively. All our CHC are fully functional on the HPRS System with adequate connectivity and ICT resources. Connectivity and ICT infrastructure gabs still remain particularly in our rural clinics, which account for the remaining 42%, not yet fully operational on the HPRS.

The Office of the Premier is continuing with our broadband rollout to the remaining rural clinics, and priority would be given to nonconnected clinics in its Provincial ICT Infrastructure Plan.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, moreover, through the Social Obligation Programme between the National Department of Health and SETA we have supplied and connected more than 170 facilities with LTE 5G routers. The National Department of Health will be donating 200 desktops computers and 190 tablets as part of the electronic medical record rollout which would also be used to replace obsolete HPRS computers.

The department will also set funding aside for this purpose and continue to conduct site inspections and provide network cabling to identified facilities that are not connected to the North West Provincial Government Network. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Magagane?

HON. MAGAGANE: Honourable Premier, we are encouraged by the progress registered and recognise the need for a universal rollout coverage, which will support the implementation of the electronic patient files and promote efficiency in health care. But what I need to know is what is the estimated timeframe for universal coverage to be achieved?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you Honourable Magagane. The desired outcome of the universal health coverage is that all people must have access to a full range of quality health services that they need and where and when they need them without any financial hardship.

The National Health Insurance is the mechanism that is aimed at achieving universal coverage. The estimated timelines for achieving of this coverage are dependent on the implementation of the NHI that is been done also in phases.

Phase 1 was a proof of concept, contracting units of the primary healthcare, focussing on the primary healthcare. And this was our phase 1 and it commenced in 2023 and was planned to continue for a period of 3 years until 2026.

While Phase 2, which is a while NHI rollout was focussing on primary healthcare and specialised health services. Phase 2 was planned to commence in 2026 and run for a period of another three (3) years until 2028.

However due to delays resulting in the multiplicity of legal challenges lodged against the government on various aspects of NHI, these timelines have been reviewed and changed, and we will continue with Phase 1 until 2028, while Phase 2 will commence at the end of 2028 and run for a period of another three (3) years. Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker, ke bo #[it is the likes of]# Sonakile ba re isang ko godimo le ko tlase #[who are taking us up and down.]#

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Honourable Sonakile, can you please have order. Honourable Van Huyssteen, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Premier, I just want to find out, since coming into office here we have been doing oversights at clinics, CHC's and hospitals throughout this province, and the figures that you are giving me does not align with what we have seen on the ground.

So, the figures that you have indicated where you say there is infrastructure are you then informed the infrastructure is there and these institutions are on the HPRS System, there is accessibility,

everything is running smoothly there. Is that the information that you have received, that you will put in writing for us to breakdown. Is that how you understand it, infrastructure and its functioning?

HON. MOKGOSI: So, what is the question?

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: I am asking, you have given the figures, you said these are the number of institutions that have infrastructure. I am saying as a Committee, we found infrastructure and it does not mean that the system is working and operational. So, I would like to know what your understanding from the information you have now obtained from the department, do you understand when the infrastructure is there that it is running smoothly as well. Is that what you have been informed?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, honourable Members can you please behave, let's allow the Premier to understand, but you know Members you must not be very technical with ourselves. Honourable Members, can you please have order. I will allow Honourable Premier to respond if he so wishes, but if he thinks that it is an information that he must go and look for ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. MOKGOSI: You know I am taking out my specs to look at you properly and say because what you are asking ...[INTERRUPTION]...

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Must I rephrase Deputy Speaker; must I rephrase because I think I have already done that?

HON MOKGOSI: No, I am saying your question is that ...[INAUDIBLE]...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, the Honourable Premier understand your question. I am saying you understand the question, she wants to take another three (3) minutes rephrasing the question and you have one (1) minute Member. So, the Premier will respond to your question. You can respond Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: No, I was just saying I was looking at you properly because what you are asking is what I have just reported to say the infrastructure that we have and we have articulated properly at what percentage is the infrastructure, we have articulated especially in our rural areas where we lack infrastructure and where our focus is going to be when we start to connect the infrastructure, the ICT and the priorities that we are going to have.

So, I am not sure what is that that you are looking for, but the reality probably you are asking is the infrastructure, is it functional. And I am saying from the report that we have yes there are instances where there is infrastructure, but there are delays in terms of connectivity to ensure that it is life and it's operational. If such detail is required, we can provide where and how.

But the truth is we have put infrastructure in certain areas, in the rural areas we still lack behind, and we are saying we are prioritising, and as the Office of the Premier we are rolling our broadband programme and we believe that we will achieve that.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No Honourable Members, it's fine. We will now migrate to Honourable Sonakile, I see your hand is up.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you DS, just as a follow-up to that question by Honourable Magagane. Can the Premier provide what is the timeline for full functionality of HPRS and who is accountable for the delays?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: I think Honourable Deputy Speaker; we can provide the information of the whole Project Plan if it's required on this matter. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Premier. Honourable Members, we will now migrate to, oh Honourable Kodisang, I am sorry?

HON. KODISANG: Thank you Premier, but there we go again. Premier says he thinks, so there is no authority again on the response. Thank you.

HON. DEPPUTY SPEAKER: No, but Honourable Members, Honourable Premier don't respond to that, you know, maybe the problem is English itself because the majority of us here we are not English-speaking people. So, we want to, maybe we should bring dictionaries to the House so that we just explain to ourselves what this thing is, what is the meaning of this interpretation because there is nothing that the Premier stands here and he does not speak with authority, there is no way.

The last point I want to make, I want to talk about Honourable Members, you see it is important that you bring these things, you know this building itself is an infrastructure, this building itself is an infrastructure, but there are technicalities in this building, that is why we are saying at some point we are going to close it. But let me leave that because I will be accused of responding.

Members we are migrating to the 9th question as posed by Honourable Van Huyssteen to the Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Van Huyssteen, the output indicator is reliable, as the Office of the Premier can make determination on which departments are not compliant to the Occupational Health and Safety Standards.

These standards which are used to monitor compliance in departments are informed by the following prescripts, Occupational Health and Safety, Environmental Management, Risk Management and Quality Management.

Once monitoring has taken place a report is produced and departments are giving feedback on deficiencies identified for correction. Furthermore, the office elevates these matters to the relevant governance structures for intervention. All our districts' municipalities are been assessed quarterly to access whether their DDM structures are functional.

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality has signed with all its local municipalities. Ruth Segomotsi Mompati it's still work in progress. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Van Huyssteen, do you have a follow-up question?

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Yes, thank you Deputy Speaker. It was indicated that Dr Ruth District Municipality is still work in progress Premier, can you give a breakdown, I mean there are different local municipalities under that district, for which have the interservice level agreements means into, and when do you foresee this will be concluded because it has been highlighted bulk supply is really a big problem in that district. When will we see this process finalised Premier. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: No, I agree Deputy Speaker, we will accordingly present such a report, such detail.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Any Member with a follow-up question? Honourable Modise?

HON. MODISE: Honourable Deputy Speaker. Let me welcome the response by Honourable Premier, and we wish to highlight that the district development model is a critical in coordinating effective support and functionality of local municipality intervention and intergovernmental relations, to address service delivery blockage.

Now I do a follow-up Honourable Premier. What are the planned interventions to fix the local government service delivery challenges in line with the recent Provincial Kgothakgothe #[traditional general meeting.]# Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you very much COC. The Kgothakgothe #[traditional general meeting]# resolutions are going to form our programme of action for 2026/2027 financial year. In this regard priority will be given to water and sanitation projects, refuse removal, road maintenance and so forth. We intend to achieve the objectives through the implementation of our Section 154 with Matlosana and Ditsobotla.

And I agree with you that we have since also institutionalised our DDM to ensure that our Mayors, our Ministers, our Deputy Ministers are well coordinated by ensuring that the Directors of the

Premier's Office in different districts serve as the secretariat and they are coordinating our DDM, and they work closely with Municipal Managers of our different municipalities. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Premier. Any follow-up question? None.

We will now migrate to Question no. 10 as posed by Honourable Rosho to the Premier. Honourable Premier, you can respond.

HON. MOKGOSI: Honourable Rosho, the City of Matlosana and Ditsobotla Local Municipalities have been identified for this important initiative which would be implemented through our Section 154. The two municipalities are being confronted with administrative and financial accountability challenges, hence the deployment of a cabinet and Provincial Executive Representatives.

These are strategic municipalities, when one looks at their natural endowment in the form of agriculture and mineral deposits. Therefore, intervention in this regard, either through administrative support infrastructure developments in the form of roads and refuse removal will go a long way in attracting investments to resuscitate and reincarnate economic activities to create jobs.

The department has commenced the assessment and scoping of identified roads in the municipalities, the Department of Public Works and Roads. The report will be presented to the Provincial and Local Government Stakeholder at the beginning of the month of April 2026 with anticipation of procurement process by the department to commence at the end of April and be concluded in June 2026.

Deputy Speaker, the department will ensure that the projects are delivered successfully within budget, time and required quality standards. The Department of Public Works will also ensure that there is accurate reporting of project performance in line with the indicators and targets outlined in the APP. There will be a comprehensive portfolio of evidence in terms of signed contracts, appointment letters, progress reports, site meetings and minutes, and accurate payment certificates and invoices.

The department will ensure that all procurement processes comply with the Supply Chain Regulations. There will be a clear performance indicators and deliverables in the contracts with regular updates, monitoring, reporting and site inspections.

The department will ensure that there is a structured stakeholder engagement with municipalities, community representatives and Public Transport Associations to ensure that there is a collective ownership of the projects, will ensure that there is also clear communication channels to address challenges and avoid delays to the projects.

An allocation of R60 million for reseal and R15 million procurement of asphalt bags for pothole patching from the Provincial Equitable Share has been allocated to the department in the 26/27 financial year for the intervention in these two municipalities. The department will manage the projects and assign Project Managers who will monitor the quality of the work, ensure compliance with projects specifications and track progress against approved budgets and timelines. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Rosho, a follow-up question?

HON. ROSHO: No thanks very much Deputy Speaker. As the ANC we welcome the targeted intervention which seeks to address critical infrastructure challenges faced by the two municipalities identified for the pilot phase.

However, DS, we think that there must be a total turnaround encounter of service delivery, and it needs to be strengthened and entrenched. As the ANC we are satisfied with the response provided and we have no further questions except to call for tight monitoring and effective project delivery outcomes.

The lessons learned Deputy Speaker, from this pilot project must be shared with other municipalities across the province to fix local government infrastructure delivery and boost local economic transformation. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Chief Whip. Honourable Premier, ke tsaya gore e ne e le fela go itumelela tiro e ntle e e dirwang ke puso go tswa mo go Semesegolo. A go na le Leloko lengwe la Palamente le le nang le #[I take it that the Chief Whip was only being happy for the beautiful work done by government. Is there any member of Parliament who has a]# follow-up question? Honourable Van Huyssteen?

HON. VAN HUYSSTEEN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, based on the information given now I would just like to find out Matlosana, Ditsobotla, both are under some form of financial administration by this provincial governments, especially considering Ditsobotla has been under financial administration for some time, and the recovering team is not on the ground at this stage. How will this action compliment that financial administration; and has provision been made for these interventive steps in the financial recovery plans for Matlosana and Ditsobotla. Thank you DS.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Premier?

HON. MOKGOSI: No Deputy Speaker, the support that we are providing over and above the intervention, the 139 in Ditsobotla, it's a national intervention. But we strongly believe that intervention which does not come with resources is not addressing the real challenges of service delivery. Therefore, over and above administrative support in as far as FRP's and so forth let's bring resources at the centre of its service delivery. So, it's an over and above support. Thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any other Member? None. Thank you Honourable Premier, we have concluded the questions, you may take your seat

Thank you Honourable Members. This brings us to the end of today's business. The sitting is adjourned until the next quarter.

HOUSE ADJOURNED AT 13:11!