

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

TUESDAY 02 JUNE 2026

[UNEDITED]

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

HOUSE: Observing a moment of silence.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. You may be seated. Secretary, may you read the next order please.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS SITTINGS

2.1 Minutes of the 5th May 2026

2.2 Minutes of the 19th May 2026

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I put before this House the minutes of the 5th May 2026 for adoption. Does the House adopt the minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I also put before this House the minutes of the 19th May 2026 for adoption. Does the House adopt the minutes?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. All sets of minutes are duly adopted by this House. Secretary, please 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let me draw your attention to Rule 106, Sub-section (6) which states that a motion without notice must not contain any debatable aspects. And where the motion without notice contains debatable aspects, it shall fall off at the discretion of the Presiding Officer or be converted to a notice of motion.

Based on this rule, I would then request that if a motion without notice is converted, a Member should formally table a notice of motion before the House. Are there any motions without notice? Thank you, Members. Honourable Wallhorn.

HON. WALLHORN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, I rise to congratulate the gymnast Haylee de Jager and her coach Dr Ninette Thiart on a landmark performance at the African Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships. Years of training shaped Haylee's raw talent through rigorous workouts leading her to the continental stage.

Dr Thiart, her coach, known for blending technical precision with a mountain of expertise has been a guiding hand to develop athletes of exceptional poise and develop athletic and personal resilience and above all character to compete at a continental level in young women such as Haylee.

Representing Potchefstroom gymnastics, Haylee carried the hopes of a club that has consistently demonstrated what community-driven sport can realise even when institutional support from our provincial sport and recreation department has fallen short. The partnership captures what is possible when dedication meets expert guidance.

In an environment where private initiatives has often filled the void left by the absent government support, their success shines as a testament to community resolve and the quiet power of unwavering commitment in our North West Province. I urge this House to join me in celebrating Haylee and everyone who made this milestone possible. I so move. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Wallhorn. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? None. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. I hereby on behalf of the Democratic Alliance move without notice that this House notes and welcomes the opening of the new USave store in Motsoseng Village, Mahikeng by local entrepreneur Mr Tlhoriso Phallo.

This House further notes that this investment demonstrates the untapped economic potential that exists within our rural communities when local entrepreneurs are supported and empowered. The House also acknowledges that the establishment of this store will improve access to affordable groceries for residents, create employment opportunities for local people, stimulate local economic activity and provide opportunities for emerging local suppliers.

We commend Mr Phallo for investing back into his community with the intention of reducing unemployment and restoring dignity to residents who continue to struggle under difficult economic conditions. Lastly, this House calls on the North West Provincial Government to create an enabling environment for more rural entrepreneurs through reduced red tape, access to funding support and infrastructure development so that communities such as Motsoseng can become centres of economic growth rather than symbols of neglect. I so move.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sonakile. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? Thank you, none. None. Can we stop the caucus Honourable Sambatha and Honourable Lenkopane. Honourable Fanon, I mean Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to move a motion without notice congratulating all organisers, delegates, participants and progressive formations on the successful hosting of the Conference of the Left which took place this past weekend at the Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Conference of the Left brought together progressive political movements, trade unions, civil society organisations, academics and community activists from across South Africa, the African continent and beyond.

The conference provided an important platform for engagements on the challenges facing the poor, the unemployed, workers, women and young people in a period marked by growing inequality, unemployment and social injustice. The conference further reaffirmed the centrality of Pan-Africanism as a guiding principle for the liberation and development of the African continent.

Delegates reflected extensively on the continued effects of colonialism, imperialism, economic dependency and the fragmentation of African unity. Through robust discussions, participants emphasised the need for stronger continental cooperation, economic integration, the protection of Africa's natural resources and the advancement of a united Africa capable of determining its own future free from external domination.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the Conference of the Left was not just a platform for discussion but a gathering that produced quick resolution on what is to be done to advance the struggle for economic freedom and social justice. Delegates adopted resolutions aimed at strengthening working class organisations, intensifying the fight against poverty and unemployment, advancing land redistribution without compensation, promoting state-led industrialisation, defending public services, combating corruption and building stronger solidarity among progressive forces across Africa and the world.

The successful convening of this conference demonstrates the continued irrelevance of leftist sought and progressive politics in confronting the failures of neo-liberal economic policies that have entrenched poverty and concentrated wealth in the hands of a few. The discussions and resolutions emerging from the conference contribute meaningfully towards the pursuit of economic justice, social transformation, land redistribution and advancement of the interests of the working class and the poor.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, as the Economic Freedom Fighters, we welcome all efforts aimed at building unity among progressive forces and strengthening the struggle against exploitation, inequality, corruption and all forms of oppression. I therefore move that this House congratulates the organisers and participants of this Conference of the Left on its successful hosting, recognises the significance of its Pan-Africanist reflections and resolutions and wishes all those involved a success in their continued efforts to build a just, equal, united and prosperous Africa. I so move.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Moema. Mr Shivambu did not attend. I thought you'll mention that for obvious reasons. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? Honourable Tsholo, you want to respond?

HON. TSHOLO: I am not responding Honourable Tsholo, uMkhonto weSizwe Party stands in support of the motion without notice by Honourable Moema, to further congratulate the successful Conference of the Left that was held at Birchwood.

And we need to congratulate the people who took that kind of an initiative, Honourable Deputy Speaker, because there was an objective of uniting the majority of dispossessed Africans and advancing their total economic emancipation, deepening the unity of the working class, revitalising activism of the ground outside government, legislative arm, the kind of activism that must inform and dictate the agenda of the National Parliament and Provincial Legislatures of which it will affect us in future one day.

We believe it, we like it or deny it Honourable Deputy Speaker. I so move when I support.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, I was not calling for support, I was calling for responses. I will take it as a response. No, no, Honourable Botswe. The Honourable Steyl wants to; you want to respond? Honourable Steyl, you can respond.

HON. STEYL: Thank you Deputy Speaker. That conference that they had was not a conference of the left, it is a conference of the leftovers, and the House should not adopt that ...
[INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DABAMPE: No, it's not a conference of racists. You are confused. It's not a conference of racists; it is a conference of progressive people.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members! The Honourable Botswe, you've got the podium. Can we have order please Honourable Members! I thought that Honourable Moema would respond to why was Mr Shivambu not there. Can you proceed Honourable Botswe.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to send our condolences to the family and friends of Daniel Letsie Makhabe popularly known as the Mokoena Letsie who was shot and killed outside his home in Potchefstroom on Wednesday.

Mr Letsie was a committed community activist who dedicated his life for the advancing of social justice, community development and uplifting of the people of Potchefstroom and beyond. He was a fearless voice for the oppressed and marginalised. And his activism reflects a deep commitment to human dignity, equality and solidarity.

Mr Letsie was the founder and the leader of the Potch for Palestine Movement through which he mobilised support for the Palestine's struggles and raised awareness about the plight of the Palestine people. His commitment to international solidarity and justice earned him the respect of many across different communities.

His untimely and violent death has sent shockwaves throughout Potchefstroom, the North West Province and the broader activist community. The Economic Freedom Fighters strongly condemn all forms of violence that robs communities of a dedicated activist and a leader.

We call upon the law enforcement agencies to leave no stone unturned and ensure that those who are responsible for this violent crime are swiftly apprehended and brought to justice. Therefore, we convey our deepest condolences to the Makhabe family, his friends, comrades and all members of the Potch for Palestine Movement during this difficult period of mourning. May his soul rest in revolutionary peace. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Botswe. Does any Member wish to respond? Honourable Morweng. You'll be followed by Honourable Lenkopane and Honourable Tsholo. And I hope this time around, it's not supporting, it's a response.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. We support the motion for we understand fully as the ANC that an attack to activist is an attack to the rule of law, democracy and accountability. So we cannot be by-standers when this injustice is prevailing in our society.

Of course, yesterday, the MEC responsible for Safety visited the family and assured the family and the community that the police will leave no stone unturned to make sure that justice is brought so that we do not silence the voice of those who continue to raise issues of economic freedom and justice in our society. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Lenkopane.

HON. LENKOPANE: Thanks, Honourable Deputy Speaker. The ANC has also directed me to join Honourable Botswe and to indicate that as the ANC we are extremely concerned regarding this recent spate of senseless violent crimes that seems to be targeting community activists.

We call on the police not to leave any stone unturned, to put the heartless criminals behind bars so that they can account for their barbarous acts. I would not read other contents, but they are not the same, but they convey condolences to the family. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Tsholo. Thank you Honourable Lenkopane.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. The uMkhonto weSizwe Party note with a very serious concern the protracted struggle in this particular province to silence community activists through bullets, 12 in North West, Mafikeng here where we are of Thato Molosankwe.

Now it is Dr Kenneth Kaunda, it has been alleged that 17 bullets. We are not going to become bystanders as law makers and we expect that the MEC responsible for Community Safety and Transport Management in this regard, he and his collective cononuclears of South African Police Service, they will work tirelessly, 24 hours across the board so that at the end of the day, the perpetrators are apprehended. Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Tlhapi, your motion.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to commend members of the South African Police Service mounted unit in Rustenburg for their swift response and vigilance following the fatal shooting of a prominent taxi operator, a 48-year-old Refilwe Bogopane at the Rustenburg Taxi Rank on the 23rd of May, 2026.

The immediate actions of members who were conducting observation duties in the area led to the rapid interception and arrest of three suspects aged 21 and 28 shortly after the incident. The operation further resulted in the recovery of two firearms and ammunition as well as confiscation of Suzuki vehicle believed to have been used in the commission of the crime.

The professionalism, alertness and coordination demonstrated by the Rustenburg mounted unit reflects the commitment of SAPS to combating violent crime and ensuring that perpetrators are swiftly brought to justice. The African National Congress further commends all members involved in the operation for their dedication to protecting communities and maintaining law and order in the North West Province.

No bail, a stiffer sentence will serve as a deterrence as well as send strong message that there is no place in our communities for fearmongers within the taxi industry and heartless assassinations. We wish to convey our deepest condolences to the Bogopane family as well as his colleagues in the taxi industry. The criminal justice system must ensure that justice is served. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tlhapi. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? MEC for Community Safety, I heard earlier on you are referred to as MEC of condolences.

HON. MORWENG: Yes Deputy Speaker. I want to start there that Honourable Babuile says I'm the MEC of condolences. At least I had expected him this time around to join in commending the men in blue for the swift arrest because within 30 minutes after the murder was committed, they managed to arrest. So I think Honourable Babuile must withdraw his words that I'm the MEC of visits and condolences. And with all the other murders that are happening, I'm

going to surprise him again and continue to do a wonderful work. Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Morweng. Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. Much as we wish to join the Honourable MEC in her submission that that was a smooth response, however, our worry is that it appears that in the province criminals are more advanced. The government is always chasing. There's high proliferation of firearms; we have long warned about that.

They have vehicles, they have all this machinery to can chase our innocent people in terms of crime. So it can't be correct that criminals are highly advanced while all the time we must come send condolences. All the time we must come and arrest. So among other responsibilities, you have MEC for Safety, you don't only have the responsibility to combat crime, but you also have a responsibility to prevent crime before happening.

So I think your attitude is that you must always combat when crime has already happened. So there must be intelligence on the ground. You must be able to intervene before the actual crime happens. I'll make an example. Many were even telling you that people like bo-Molosankwe, they long warned that they might be killed at any point in time. And there was no intelligence. Intelligence was nowhere to be seen coming in to ensure that that is prevented before it can actually happen.

So it can't be that all the time people must die. How many people must die before we can prevent crime as government? Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Fanon. Honourable Tsholo, your motion.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. I stand on behalf of uMkhonto weSizwe Party to convey the condolences to the family of the children who passed away due to fire in Tswaing Local Municipality.

I would like that this particular House, Honourable Chairperson, notes with profound sorrow that the tragic death of the two children who were below five years, both of them who died in a house where fire caught that particular house and the whole fire got burnt. It was caused by a candle used for lighting due to lack of electricity in that particular area.

Further, this particular House, Honourable Chairperson, notes that the same household like thousands in the municipality had no access to piped water to extinguish the fire despite water being a constitutionally guaranteed free basic water.

We need also to acknowledge, Honourable Deputy Speaker, that Section 27, Sub-section (1)(b) of the Constitution guarantees everyone the right to sufficient water and Section 152, Sub-section (1)(b) obliges municipalities to ensure provision of services in a sustainable manner.

We therefore, Honourable Deputy Speaker, as uMkhonto weSizwe Party condemn the failure of the municipality to provide free basic water and reliable electricity connections which directly contributed to the conditions where families rely on unsafe candles for light and cannot fight fire.

And it is very much pathetic, Honourable Deputy Speaker, to have learned that the municipality even told the family to go and buy a box for 10 000 Rand whilst none in the family is working. *Ubuntu bo kae?* Where is the indigent registers that we are normally talking about in municipalities of our own?

And Honourable Deputy Speaker, I would therefore request that we extend our deepest condolences in this particular regard and we need to ensure that emergency water tankering and electrification interventions for affected wards not only in the area where this particular incident happened.

In conclusion, Honourable Deputy Speaker, these children did not die by accident. They died because the state, the municipality broke its contract with the community at large, nor they broke their contract with the electorates around that particular local municipality known as Tswaing Local Municipality.

A candle is not a light policy. A bucket is not a water policy. Poverty is not a crime but criminalising the poor through neglect, it is one of such. Section 77 gives this particular House, Honourable Deputy Speaker, power over money. Let us use it to budget for lives not for funerals. *Ko ba neng ba tima molelo, kgabo e e kalokalo, ba o tima ka motlhaba le di-neighbouring houses, ba se na metsi*, Honourable Deputy Speaker.

May their young souls rest in peace. *A mowa wa bone o robale ka kgotso. Lala ngoxolo bana ba rona. Re a lo rata. Ke a leboga* Honourable Deputy Speaker as I so move.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Tsholo. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? None. We now go to Honourable Morweng, your motion.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a motion without notice congratulating the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) on its 47th anniversary.

On the 31st May, 1979, 47 years ago, the Congress of South African Students was established as an anti-apartheid student formation in the wake of the June 1976 Soweto Uprisings. The founding president of COSAS was the courageous, revolutionary and patriot, the late Ephraim Mogale. At the time of its formation, the African National Congress was banned along other liberation movements under the unlawful Organisations Act.

A guiding principle for COSAS was the view that the ANC was the authentic liberation movement of South Africa. In its first two years, COSAS took up two commemorative campaigns that the apartheid authorities saw as ANC supporting. The founding principles of COSAS were aimed at conscientizing the students and the wider community to the repressive nature of education in South Africa and to participate in the drawing up of educational charter for future non-racial democratic education system.

Its view was that democratic education system could only be achieved in a democratic society based on the will of the people. Although it was primarily education focused, COSAS identified the relationship between educational and social transformation in its statement of belief. This

progressive student formation that challenged the might of the repressive apartheid state and propelled courageous young people into the leadership of youth formations, student politics and the labour struggle maintained that students must be organised through democratically elected SRCs.

It advocated for students to serve their communities because it viewed them as members of society before they were students, ensure that students can play progressive role in the broad democratic alliance. The ANC wishes Congress of South African Students well and many more years, fortitude, as it continues to mobilise for quality, public education and redress of the past imbalances. I so move. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Morweng. Does any Member wish to respond to the statement? None. Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters in the North West Provincial Legislature to congratulate the Mmabatho High School Choir on their outstanding achievement at the Provincial SASCE Competitions held at the Mmabatho Convention Centre.

The choir secured first position both the male and western song categories, a remarkable accomplishment that has brought immense pride to the school, to the community of Mahikeng and the entire North West Province. This achievement is a testament of the hard work, the dedication and talent of learners, choir directors, educators and all those who have contributed to the development of this exceptional choir.

Their success shows the important role that arts and culture play in nurturing young talent, in promoting social cohesion and in providing meaningful opportunities for young people to excel on provincial and national platforms.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, as they prepare to represent our province at the upcoming National SASCE Competitions, we extend our best wishes and full support to the choir. We are confident

that they will continue to fly the flag of the North West Province high and make our people proud through their excellence, discipline and passion for choral music. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Dabampe. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? None. Honourable Sambatha, your motion.

HON. SAMBATHA: Honourable Deputy Speaker, thank you very much. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to wish the Proteas Women's Cricket Team success as they depart for the England ahead of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup scheduled to take place on 12 June to 5 July 2026.

The squad, captained by Laura Wolvaardt, continues to make the country proud through its consistent performances on the international stage, having reached three consecutive ICC tournament finals. We further welcome the return of the experienced fast bowler Shabnim Ismail and all-rounder Marizanne Kapp, whose inclusion strengthens the team ahead of the tournament.

The achievements of the Proteas Women continue to inspire young girls and aspiring athletes across South Africa, including here in the North West, demonstrating the important role of women in sport and nation-building. This House commends the players, coaching staff and Cricket South Africa for their continued dedication, commitment and excellence and wishes the team well as they pursue their ICC Women's T20 World Cup title. I thank you Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sambatha. Does any Member wish to respond to the motion? Honourable Tsholo.

HON. TSHOLO: *Ke a leboga Motlatsa Mmusakgotla. Ke ne ke re eme jaana ke itse e bile ke batla go re re ba eleletse masego bana ba rona ba ba tswang mo. Re na le bopaki jo bo tletseng e bile gore ba a go re emela ka bothakga le botswerere jo e leng gore re tla bo re bo lebeletse jaaka baagi ba South Africa bogolosegolo jang mo porofenseng ya rona ya Bokone Bophirima. Ra re ba*

tsamaye sentle, masego le katlego kwa pele kwa ba yang teng go fitlhelela ba re naya sekgele. Ke a leboga Motlatsa Mmusakgotla.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: *Ke a leboga Motlotlegi Tsholo. Ga o ise mafatlha kwa godimo fa o amogela se se beilweng ke Motlotlegi Sambatha.* Does the House adopt these motions including the one that was referred to as leftovers?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you! Thank you, Honourable Members. Thank you, Honourable Members. The motions are adopted. Are there any notice of motions? Are there any notice of motions? Honourable Moema followed by Honourable Sonakile then Honourable Magagane. Ga se di-statements Honourable. Honourable Moema, your motion please.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. I move in terms of Rule 107 to table a motion that in the next House sitting the House debates the urgent need to scrap off all historical debts in public hospitals particularly for indigent women and the elderly persons and people with disabilities. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I so move.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, I move in terms of Rule 107 that the House notes with concern the response that was provided by MEC Mosenogi during Oral Questions on 19 May 2026 when responding on behalf of Honourable Molapisi to a question posed by Honourable Steyl regarding disaster management interventions in Khunotswana.

Further note that, in response to a follow-up question, MEC Mosenogi indicated that residents of Khunotswana had received support and assistance from government following the disaster. A subsequent oversight conducted in the affected area revealed that several residents remain in dire conditions, with houses still submerged and sinking in water, and with little to no visible intervention or support from the Provincial Government as alluded.

Therefore, recognising that misleading responses to the Legislature undermine the constitutional oversight role of Members and erode public confidence in the integrity and accountability of the Executive. Therefore, the House resolves that the Speaker investigate the conduct and correctness of the response provided to the House by MEC Mosenogi on the matter and determine whether the House may have been misled. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable; Honourable Members can we have order! Honourable Magagane.

HON. MAGAGANE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress in terms of Section 107 that this House in the next sitting debate a motion with notice on a critical review of the South African Tax Act and the social economic imperative for electricity tax exemption. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. The notice of motion by Honourable Moema and Honourable Magagane will be put on the Order Paper for debate as per the Legislature programme. As for what Honourable Sonakile said, I will make a ruling before the end of the sitting as to whether that is a notice of a motion or not because it was quite a lengthy statement which I still need to go through the rules to ascertain if that is a notice of motion. I don't need your help. I have got my own rules book. Can we have order Honourable Members! Secretary, may you read the next order please.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 4 STATEMENTS

4.1 Statements by Members as per Rule 130

4.2 Executive Statements as per Rule 130(a)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does any Member wish to make a statement in terms of Rule 130? Thank you, Honourable Members. Honourable Steyl, your statement please. You've got three minutes.

HON. STEYL: Thank you Deputy Speaker. We are seeing a steady change amongst South Africans in how they exercise their right to vote throughout the country. Thirty-two years after the dawn of this beautiful constitutional democracy we now see an upswell in DA support throughout the country.

The commentariat, opinion leaders, and the media have consistently predicted the demise of the DA, from the 1.7% party in 1994, to today, where the DA is a major partner in the Government of National Unity. At municipal, local and national levels, the DA in government is busy delivering services, building a capable, professional state, eradicating corruption and enforcing accountability.

In fact, on every metric, whether it be municipal, provincial or national government, DA Councillors, Mayors, MECs, and Ministers and Premiers are, quite frankly, not only outperforming their ANC counterparts but also bringing the positive change South Africans have been waiting for. During the 2024 national elections, the ANC's electoral support fell nationally below 40%. That was a political milestone. The momentum brought by this electoral shift seen during the 2024 elections continues to gain traction, most notably where it matters the most - at ward level.

In North West, on the 04th of December 2024, the DA took a ward from the ANC in Maquassi Hills, Ward 5. Voters there rejected the ANC in that by-election. Last week, in Gauteng, for the first time since democracy, residents in Evaton, Ward 28, Emfuleni Local Municipality, rejected the ANC in a by-election and elected a DA councillor, Maki Tshabalala.

Ward 28 has historically been an ANC ward. But crucially, over the last 5 years, the ANC has lost almost 20% in electoral support, falling from 51% in 2021 to just 32% last Wednesday. If the Ward

28 Emfuleni by-election results are anything to go by, the ANC will lose its corrupt political hold over Gauteng Metros in Johannesburg.

We will see Cilliers Brink, Helen Zille and Khathutshelo Rasilingwane be sworn in as Executive Mayors, not to speak of Mogale City and strengthening DA support in Midvaal. And by 2029, the ANC in Gauteng will be relegated to the opposition benches. The DA-led provincial government will kickstart South Africa's economic, business heartland.

In North West, the DA is hard at work to convince hundreds of thousands of voters to follow the example of voters in Maquassi Hills, Ward 5 and Emfuleni, Ward 28 to reject this ANC and vote DA on 4 November ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just hold on Honourable Steyl. Actually, you've got 30 seconds to wrap up because you've got three minutes but there's a point of order.

HON. BABUILE: I'm calling order on Honourable Nathan Oliphant. We are in a House not in a shebeen. How he's laughing inside the House is disturbing. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Honourable Members, can we please have order. You see the rules does not stipulate. I will not know how we laugh in a shebeen and in the House because; so it's very difficult for me to arrive to a determination but can we just converse so that we don't disturb the Member on the podium. Honourable Steyl, you've got 30 seconds remaining.

HON. STEYL: Yes, Deputy Speaker. That's why the voters will reject the ANC and the EFF because they know how to laugh in shebeens. This year the DA will ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DABAMPE: No, why are you putting the EFF?

HON. STEYL: And soon we will be winning ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members order!

HON. STEYL: All the wards from the ANC. Nako ya ANC e fedile!

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Steyl. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond to the statement? Honourable Lenkopane.

HON. LENKOPANE: We must reject any attempt to rewrite the political history of South Africa or create an impression that the Democratic Alliance is the principal driver of government in our country. It is important to note that the ANC remains a leader of society because it continues to carry the historic responsibility of transforming a deeply unequal society inherited from apartheid.

The ANC has never claimed perfection. We acknowledge governance failures where they have failed, but we acknowledge that corruption has damaged public confidence and that decisive action remains necessary. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Lenkopane. Honourable Steenkamp, your statement.

HON. STEENKAMP: Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. The North West Parks and Tourism Board has officially become a case study in how to charge the public more with delivering less. Last week, during a committee meeting, the Board's own Fourth Quarter report exposed an entity in serious trouble.

Only 50% of Quarter 4 targets were achieved. Conservation performance collapsed to just 40%. The Board completely failed its conservation effectiveness targets. Commercialisation initiatives achieved absolutely zero. And only 5% of concession contracts were reviewed. And while they continue blaming ageing infrastructure and maintenance backlogs for poor performance, they only spent 38% of their capital infrastructure budget.

But Honourable Deputy Speaker, this is the same board that aggressively increased tariffs at provincial reserves and tourism facilities, expecting residents and tourists to pay premium prices for deteriorating infrastructure, declining reserve conditions and failing conservation standards.

The people of North West were told these increases were necessary for sustainability and infrastructure improvements. Now the Board's own report proves the opposite. The public paid more but they got less. And then came the most shocking revelation of all. During committee proceedings, we were informed that the North West Parks and Tourism Board allegedly discovered an undisclosed Standard Bank account containing approximately R6.3 million only two weeks ago, an account official claim they did not know existed.

Now Deputy Speaker, you do not simply find R6.3 million lying around in a bank account. That revelation alone should send alarm bells ringing across the province. But this comes shortly after the conviction of the North West Parks and Tourism Board Chief Financial Officer on corruption-related charges. So naturally, serious questions arise now. How many other governance failures are hidden beneath the surface? How weak are the financial controls within this entity? And who exactly is being held accountable?

The DA will continue pushing for aggressive oversight into the Board's finances, governance failures and concession agreements and infrastructure spending because the people of North West deserve functioning reserves, thriving tourism destinations and accountable public entities, not another ANC-run institution collapsing under scandal, incompetence and excuses. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Steenkamp. Does any Member of the Executive wish to respond? Honourable Lenkopane.

HON. LENKOPANE: It will be very unfair not to pronounce this to the public of this province that Honourable Member claimed to be DA when in actual fact she knows she's a member of the Portfolio Committee that has adopted the reports and has always received review performance of this board.

It will be unfair for not coming out clear that the four times 99 years leases could not be reviewed and the MEC is at a point of 90% possibility of starting to get it right with the concession. Hence who ... [INAUDIBLE] ... to DA and have not been declaring their dividends in this board. It will as well be so unfair if we could not indicate the existing freshly produced SIU report that has already unrooted the same disclosed cash that has been in Parks Board for years, administered by a DA-related CEO ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. SONAKILE: Ee ha re soka re ba di-MEC. Ska re tsenya mo nthong. Are you saying your friends? E seng rona. Hebathong.

HON. LENKOPANE: It will as well be so unfair to the communities of this government if we could not report to them that the communities who own the land in Pilanesberg and Borakalalo for the first time after 30 years, they managed to get their title deeds and they are getting dividends and they are able to benefit from co-management.

It is not DA that plays oversight over this board, but it is the Portfolio Committee and the Legislature. I would still want to get deeper into following what Honourable Steenkamp calls DA as to whether it is not abusing ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Lenkopane!

HON. LENKOPANE: Of her position in the Portfolio Committee to advance a political party. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Lenkopane, your time is up. You've got one minute to respond. Honourable Members, can you please have order!

HON. SONAKILE: No mare o bua maaka.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He-eh, Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: O bua maaka! Hebathong! Which HOD?

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile can you please have order! Honourable Members, can you have order! Can you please have order! Honourable Lenkopane! I will now call on the sergeant of arms. Honourable Members, do you want me to invite the sergeant of arms?

HON. SONAKILE: Tsotso ke former MEC. Ke ene a hirileng DA geh. Gocho ke wena o mo hirileng geh. Hebathong.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile, can you please have order! Honourable Members, can you please have order in the House! I know that you like listening to yourselves when other Members respond, you feel very uncomfortable but that is the nature of the business we are dealing with. We will now call Honourable Moema for your statement. Three minutes.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to express our firm rejection of the recent decision by the North-West University to impose application fees on prospective students seeking admission to the institution.

This decision represents a direct assault on the aspirations of poor and working-class young people who already face immense barriers in accessing higher education. At a time when thousands of learners across our province are preparing to take the next step in their academic journey, North West University has chosen to place a financial hurdle at the very entrance of education. This application fee sends a clear message to poor students that their dreams are conditional upon their ability to pay.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the EFF has always maintained that education is a public good and not a commodity to be bought and sold. The introduction of application fees is a dangerous regression that seeks to reverse the hard-fought gains of the Fees Must Fall movement. The historic struggle challenged the exclusionary practices of institutions of higher learning and demanded that the doors of learning be opened to all, regardless of economic status.

Today, North West University is undermining that struggle by reintroducing financial barriers that disproportionately affect poor, black, rural and working-class students. Many learners in the villages, townships and informal settlements of the North West Province struggle to afford transport, stationery, internet access and other basic necessities required for university applications.

The addition of an application fee will inevitably discourage countless deserving students from even attempting to apply. It is a cruel and unjust practice that effectively tells the poor that they must pay before they can even be considered worthy of education. Deputy Speaker, this decision exposes the extent to which NWU has increasingly become a capitalist institution that prioritises revenue generation over its social responsibility to serve the people.

Instead of expanding access to higher education, the university is seeking to extract money from desperate young people who are simply seeking an opportunity to improve their lives. This is not the conduct of a public institution committed to transformation and development. It is the conduct of an institution that has embraced the logic of exclusion and profit.

The EFF rejects the notion that the university should operate as business. Public universities are funded by public resources and must therefore serve the public interest. Their primary responsibility is to educate, empower and develop society, not to create new mechanisms for extracting money from the poor and the marginalised.

We therefore call on the management and Council of the North-West University to immediately reverse the decision to impose application fees and to engage with students, communities and stakeholders on measures that will advance rather than restrict access to higher education. We further call on the Department of Higher Education and Training to intervene and ensure that no deserving student is denied the opportunity to pursue tertiary education because of their financial circumstances.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your three minutes is over Honourable Moema.

HON. MOEMA: Honourable Speaker, education must remain a right and not a privilege reserved ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Moema. Your three minutes is over. Thank you Honourable Moema. Who's in charge of the SRC? Does any Member of the SRC, of the Executive wish to respond? No, thank you Honourable Moema for the statement. No Member wishes to respond. We'll now go to Honourable Khonou.

HON. KHONOU: Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement welcoming the launch of the Local Government Elections Voter Registration Campaign by the IEC, marking the commencement of the mass awareness towards the 4th of November, Election Day.

These elections are the basic tenet of our emerging democracy, an expression of the will of the people, the legitimacy of the state and constitutional imperative of free, fair and regular elections. The IEC's state of readiness on the Local Government Elections is in line with its mandate of managing free and fair elections of legislative bodies and institutions through the participation of citizens, political parties and civil society in deepening electoral democracy.

To ensure the broader societal participation, we are encouraged by the IEC's state of readiness, the education and awareness campaign and digitisation in the age of information technology with specific target on young people. We congratulate the IEC's record-breaking registration of more than 28 000 registered voters. Through this campaign the registered number of voters will increase, ensuring that a substantial number of the populace participates in the local government elections.

During the forthcoming weekend of the 20th and 21st of June, the ANC will join the IEC and the country on the path towards the 4th November elections. We encourage society, especially youth, to register to vote in the local government elections. This sphere of government is important for the country. And it is for that reason that the ANC has declared 2026 as a year of decisive action to fix local government and transform the economy, to create more jobs, invest in people and provide quality services.

These elections take place in the decisive moment of our country, in the period of the Review of the White Paper on Local Government aimed at enhancing local government in the discharge of its mandate. The ANC encourages society to register to vote in the forthcoming local government elections. Register to Vote the ANC! Get up and show up and vote! I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Khonou. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond? None. Honourable Dabampe.

HON. DABAMPE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a member statement regarding the rising number of suicide cases in the North West, which are a tragic reflection of the deep social and economic challenges facing our communities.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the reality is that many people in our province are facing enormous social and economic pressures. High levels of unemployment, high levels of poverty, high levels of inequality, and gender-based violence, substance abuse, and the rising cost of living has created conditions that leave many individuals feeling overwhelmed and hopeless. Young people are

particularly affected, as they continue to struggle to find employment and opportunities that can give them hope for a better future.

While mental health challenges can affect anyone regardless of their background, access to mental health services remains limited, especially in rural and under-resourced communities. Too many people are suffering in silence because they do not know where to seek help or because the necessary support services are simply unavailable.

The EFF therefore calls on the provincial government to strengthen mental health services, increase the number of social workers and psychologists in public facilities, and invest in community-based programmes that provide counselling, awareness, and early detection. We further request that efforts to combat unemployment, to combat poverty, and to combat inequality be intensified, as these challenges are closely linked to the declining mental well-being.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, suicide is not only a health issue, but a social justice issue that requires a remembrance that behind every statistic is a family that has lost a loved one, that behind every statistic is a community that has been left in pain, and a life that could have been saved through timely intervention and support. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Dabampe. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond to the statement? Honourable Sambatha.

HON. SAMBATHA: Honourable Deputy Speaker, on the statement the matter realised by the Honourable Member is indeed a very serious matter in society but also on the basis of the pressure and frustration our people are exposed to in the socio-economic impact. First of unemployment and secondly of the system itself.

But we also call for everyone, members of society and families to be observant to the developments they would see in members of society they reside with, but they should also call on counselling services which most of them are freely provided in society and some provided by the Department of Social Services.

We so agree with the Member, but it needs the whole society's awareness campaign in ensuring that people frustrated must not hide themselves. They must present frustrations to other members so that developments and interventions are done quite quicker. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sambatha. We'll go to Honourable Magagane, your statement please.

HON. MAGAGANE: Sincerest apologies Deputy Speaker. Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the African National Congress, to table a statement expressing our profound gratitude and revolutionary appreciation to the people of Ward 2 in the Mahikeng Local Municipality for once again placing their confidence and trust in the movement of Oliver Tambo, Tshepiso Zela Motshabi and countless martyrs of our liberation struggle during the recent by-election.

The ANC has successfully retained Ward 2, one of its historical strongholds, through an overwhelming electoral victory which has resulted in the election of Comrade Olebogeng Emmanuel Magano as the new Ward Councillor, not with eight votes. These by-elections were necessitated by the untimely passing of the late Ward Councillor, Comrade Tshepiso "Zela" Motshabi, ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Deputy Speaker!

HON. MAGAGANE: Who dedicated ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Magagane. Do you want to rise on what Honourable Tsholo? You're rising on what?

HON. TSHOLO: On a point of order that the statement that is being made, it is a motion, as I have learned from the Chief Whip of the majority party when I was new in this particular House trying to differentiate between a member statement and a motion without notice. Therefore, the statement that is being made by my fellow Honourable with due respect, it is a motion not a member statement.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, Honourable Members! Honourable Members can you please have order. Now the persons responsible for making the determination of whether the statement is correct or it's a motion, is the person presiding over. So if you want to quote a rule that says this is not a statement or a motion, you can do that. I therefore rule, Honourable Tsholo, that Honourable Magagane may proceed with the statement. Proceed Honourable Magagane.

HON. MAGAGANE: Okay. The ANC obtained an overwhelming 1 275 votes ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Order! Order Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. MAGAGANE: Representing 73% of the total votes cast, a significant growth from the 58.6% secured during the 2021 Local Government Elections. The decisive increase constitutes a clear political mandate ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Deputy Speaker on a point of order.

HON. MAGAGANE: From the people and an affirmation that the ANC remains the only trusted liberation movement capable of advancing development and service delivery in our communities. Equally, the results reflect the continued decline of opposition parties, particularly the Economic Freedom Fighters, whose support sharply declined to a mere 21%.

The people of Ward 2 have decisively rejected political opportunism, empty rhetoric, and divisive politics in favour of the stability, experience, and revolutionary character of the African National Congress. The ANC extends its sincere appreciation to the masses of our people across the five voting stations of Ward 2. Your participation and unwavering support reaffirm the ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Order Honourable Deputy Speaker!

HON. MAGAGANE: Enduring relationship between the ANC and the people on the ground.

HON. TSHOLO: Order Honourable Deputy Speaker!

HON. MAGAGANE: The movement further conveys its ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. TSHOLO: Order Honourable Deputy Speaker! This particular House of North West Provincial Legislature previously set a very wrong precedence ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: ANC volunteers, branch activists, alliance structures, community leaders, and members ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Magagane, can you please ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. OLIPHANT: *Tsholo o futhumetse tota. Ke jase e ya kwa Russia.*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no! Honourable Magagane, can you please hold on. Honourable Magagane.

HON. OLIPHANT: *A re tswele ka motse jaanong. A re tswele ka motse jaanong. He-eh, re genoeg.*

HON. MAGAGANE: Fix local government and transform the economy. I thank you.

HON. OLIPHANT: Botswe ke yone conference of the left.

HON. TSHOLO: ... [INAUDIBLE] ... I learned from Honourable Chief Whip Rosho Motlalepula. Therefore, you are not going to press wrong things upon us and we just need to ... [INAUDIBLE] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you please take your seat Honourable. No! No! I am the Presiding Officer, unfortunately, I have made that ruling and it's final. Can we then move to Honourable Oliphant for your motion? Honourable Oliphant, your motion. Honourable Oliphant, your statement.

HON. LENKOPANE: Call the security.

HON. OLIPHANT: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker.

HON. LENKOPANE: MEC of Public Safety is here.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, can you please afford Honourable Oliphant an opportunity to present his statement.

HON. SONAKILE: Bua Oliphant.

HON. OLIPHANT: Deputy Speaker, thank you very much. I'm generally a very orderly person. *Ene nna ga ke ise ke utswe di-military uniform tsa kwa Russia ha ke fetsa be ke tlhanya ha ke fitlha mo.*

HON. TSHOLO: Ha go kgathalesege whether military uniform from Russia or not. You are forever late; you arrive late during the House sitting. Ene ha o tsena re utlwa ka wena. It's wrong.

HON. OLIPHANT: I rise on behalf of the African National Congress ...
[INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hai Honourable Tsholo hoo! Hoo! Honourable Oliphant hoo! Honourable Tsholo, can you please behave yourself! You will only press the mic when you are recognised to speak. Please!

HON. OLIPHANT: Ke microwave e a e tsentseng e.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you please proceed Honourable Oliphant.

HON. OLIPHANT: Thank you, microwave. Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress, *umbotho wabantu*, to table a statement condemning the tragic

killing of social activist Thato Molosankwe as well as commending the support of the North West Provincial Government to the Molosankwe family in Lomanyaneng village near Mahikeng.

After the Presidency condemned Molosankwe's heinous murder, a Provincial Government delegation, led by the Honourable Premier Lazarus Mokgosi and accompanied by MECs and Deputy Ministers from the Presidency, Honourable Kenny Morolong, reaffirmed government's commitment to ensuring that those responsible for this heinous act are brought to justice.

Thato Molosankwe was widely recognised as a dedicated community activist who consistently advocated for the voiceless, marginalised and vulnerable members of society. His activism, including raising awareness against Gender-Based Violence and Femicide and holding institutions accountable, reflected a deep commitment to social justice and community development.

The ANC further welcomes the assurance provided by the Acting Police National Commissioner and the MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Honourable Wessels Morweng, that specialised police teams have been deployed and that investigations into the matter are at an advanced stage.

We also commend the residents of Mahikeng and surrounding communities for remaining calm and conducting peaceful as well as dignified demonstrations during this difficult period. Acts of violence against community activists undermine social cohesion, democracy and the collective effort to build safer communities. It therefore remains critical that justice is served and communities must continue to work with law enforcement agencies in combating crime. The ANC extends its heartfelt condolences to the Molosankwe family, friends ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There's a point of order Honourable Oliphant. Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. In terms of Rule 74, point of order, I just want to check that does the Member on the platform, is he aware that the late Thato Molosankwe *o tlhokafatse a le* on record *a bua gore o hate ANC le gore e kare ANC ke party ya magodu le gore* ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

HON. SONAKILE: *E bile o kare ma-ANC a ka swa otlhe.*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the point of order there Honourable Sonakile?

HON. SONAKILE: *E re a ntse a tla mo House a tlo grandstand ka lebitso la moswi ...*
[INTERJECTION] ...

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile, please take your seat. Please take your seat Honourable.

HON. SONAKILE: *Setswana sa re lefoko la moswi le agelwa mosako.*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members! Honourable Sonakile!

HON. SONAKILE: *So today le ska tla la itira as if ne le mo rata kapa le mo lwela.*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Sonakile! Can you proceed Honourable Oliphant.

HON. SONAKILE: Condolences is a motion. It's a motion.

HON. OLIPHANT: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. It's of course the pain from Honourable Sonakile, that it's not him meaning those condolences.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As you conclude. You've got 20 seconds remaining.

HON. OLIPHANT: The ANC extends its heartfelt condolences to the Molosankwe family, friends and the broader community during this painful time and express gratitude for the support that communities across the province and beyond gave the bereaved family towards and during the funeral service attended by thousands of mourners on Saturday.

His burial at the Heroes Acre as part of the posthumous honour and recognition afforded to the gallant anti-crime and gender violence and femicide activist ... [INTERJECTION] ...

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

HON. OLIPHANT: I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Oliphant. Does any Member of the Executive Council; does any Member; Honourable Sonakile, does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond? So I'm expecting Members of the Executive Council to respond. I know that you may be very ambitious to be Members of the Executive Council but I'm now calling on Members of the Executive Council to respond. Honourable Lenkopane. Honourable Lenkopane, you've got one minute.

HON. LENKOPANE: Thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker. Let me also join Honourable Oliphant and key to indicate that as government we really condemn this brutal killing in the strongest possible terms. And no democracy can survive where community voices are silenced through violence.

The government of Premier Mokgosi through the MEC Wessels Morweng has always committed to work tirelessly until those responsible for this act are brought before the law. And justice for Thato is important not only for his family but for the society as a whole.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Lenkopane. I will now call on Honourable Botswe, your statement.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Economic Freedom Fighters to table a member statement regarding disheartening infrastructural, living and financial challenges of the students at the Potchefstroom College of Agriculture which led to the protest held on the college campus yesterday, 1st of June 2026.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the youth of the North West were once again forced to take their frustration to the street in order to be recognised. The students of Potchefstroom College of Agriculture have raised concerns regarding the worrisome state of infrastructure that they continue to learn and live in which includes regular electricity and water cuts, unmaintained buildings with collapsed roofs and unclean toilet, rusted sports facilities and aged learning facilities.

Other concerns including uncertainty regarding the National Skills Fund bursary approval of which 80% of the students rely upon for funding. This has also resulted in many students not having financial means for basic supplies like food and toiletries. The street and discomfort these students have been exposed to when there is a government with the means to intervene is shameful.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the concerned students protest over yesterday were not raised for the first time. There is a record of this concerns being raised almost every year since 2022 without any success. What is even more heart breaking is the new norm of our Provincial Government

responding only to protests in as far as service delivery is concerned. Protests are the only language that government understands.

As the EFF, we find repulsive that the youth of North West must first be tormented and left to their last resort before anyone even hears them. Our youth are our future and failing to both protect and support them is a direct failure to all that the generations that follow.

We therefore demand that MEC Sambatha be more than a show pony and address the funding concerns with the National Skills Fund as a matter of urgency. We further demand that an urgent plan be devised to upgrade and maintain the college infrastructure including the hostels and farm areas. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Botswe. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond? Honourable Sambatha.

HON. SAMBATHA: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. The Member is just failing South Africans and using the protest for basis of capturing the minds of the students. Here is the fact: Protests ... [INAUDIBLE] ... resolved on the same day. The money for infrastructure reallocated from the own departmental budget yet it's supposed to be coming from the conditional grant.

Secondly, the issue of NSFAS, the Member is misrepresenting because agricultural colleges and nursing colleges are not beneficiaries of NSFAS but in agriculture they are covered through NSF and that matter of being owed by NSF or not being covered was resolved yesterday. Thirdly, the issue of the access to sanitary towels not as a demand to get votes, was resolved yesterday that the Department of Agriculture is going to permanently provide sanitary towels without campaigning for those students to vote for them.

Thirdly, the matter of the protest as responding to the protest. You respond to the protest each time it arises because you are not the planner of the protest. When it arises, a caring government equal to the ANC government ... [INAUDIBLE] ... would respond and not run away from the protest.

The Member must congratulate the government of the ANC for quick response and responding exactly to the challenges facing the students. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Sambatha. Honourable Smuts Matshe.

HON. MATSHE: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement welcoming the handover of 300 title deeds, 300, 300, Honourable Sonakile, 300 title deeds last week Thursday by President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa as part of a land tenure upgrade initiative for low-cost housing.

This programme also included the transfer of 20 title deeds to beneficiaries in Setlagole, upgrading from the 30-year leaseholds to full ownership. Land rights involving over 59 666 hectares were also restored to three communities of Barolong boora Rapulana, Barolong ba ga Phoi, and Barolong ba ga Seitshiro.

This milestone represents a decisive reversal of the historical injustices imposed by the 1913 Natives Land Act as well as the subsequent dispossession policies, affirming the ANC-led government's commitment to restore land to the dispossessed, ensure equitable access, and sustainable livelihoods for the present and future generations.

The ANC resolution to intensify oversight to ensure that effective implementation of land reform programmes happens, also strengthen partnerships with municipalities and traditional authorities to guarantee fairness and transparency, and also to monitor socio-economic impact of the title deed transfers as well as the land rights restoration so that ultimately all these interventions they contribute to development of the people as a whole and poverty eradication.

This major national milestone is a positive development in the struggle for justice, dignity, and transformation. And the African National Congress calls upon all stakeholders to support the beneficiaries and ensure that land reform becomes a cornerstone of building a united, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and yet prosperous society. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Matshe. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond? O theogetse Mma Lenkopane gompieno. Honourable Lenkopane.

HON. LENKOPANE: Thank you Honourable Speaker, I think the issuing of the title deeds by His Excellency Honourable President was actually a demonstration of the mood of his government, the whole country. You see how it was as well celebrated by ... [INAUDIBLE] ... Minister when he was issuing the same title deeds in the Kruger National Park to the communities who own the land and has get their land back.

You see how it was celebrated in Borakalalo in the same ... [INAUDIBLE] ... he has also issued the title deed to the community of Borakalalo. And you see the community ya Barolong ba ga Seitshiro as well as the pending title deeds that are still coming on protected areas. That is actually the mood that the President is driving while others are celebrating things that are not existing about his wellbeing as the President and the only President of the country that understands the needs of its people.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Lenkopane. We now move to Honourable Modise, your statement please.

HON. MODISE: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. I rise on behalf of the African National Congress to table a statement commending the Department of Social Development for promoting the 2026 Old Persons Family Involvement Programme that remains key to healthy ageing and family unity. This support initiative is one of the most important pillars in promoting the dignity, wellbeing and quality of life of the old persons.

Families at Sonop Old Age Home in Brits under the Madibeng Local Municipality were afforded an opportunity to engage with their elderly, gain insight into their daily lives, and better understand the programmes and support services aimed at ensuring their beloved elderly person's continued wellbeing.

Family involvement remains an important part of healthy ageing, reminding families that regular visits, meaningful interaction and continued support help elderly people feel valued, connected and reassured that they are still an important place within their families and communities. This engagement highlights the importance of meaning strong family connections and keeping their family united.

It is evident that even though these homes provide care, accommodation, nutritious meals, recreational activities and programmes that promote active ageing, family interactions continue to play a vital role in ensuring that old persons remain socially connected, valued and included in their family life.

As the African National Congress, we continue to commend what the department is doing because it encourages families to provide quality time with their beloved ones, particularly during the holidays, special occasions and family celebrations. We urge older persons to remain active, engaged and connected to their communities through the various activities, including the National Annual Golden Oldies Sports Games and other social recreation programmes.

As the African National Congress, we will ensure that we achieve our 55th conference resolutions to protect the rights of the old persons, keep them active and engaged to make sure that they never feel neglected or useless or undervalued by the families or the community. I thank you Honourable Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Modise. Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to respond? None. Honourable Sonakile, your statement.

HON. SONAKILE: Thank you Deputy Speaker. The DA wishes to raise a serious concern regarding the growing crisis of stock theft affecting rural communities across the North West Province.

Recent interviews with residents of Disaneng village outside Mahikeng paint a deeply troubling picture of a community that has allegedly been battling stock theft for decades, *ke a tla ho wena*

Sambatha, with residents expressing frustration, fear and a loss of confidence in the ability of authorities to effectively protect their livelihoods.

For many people in Disaneng, Taung and other rural communities, livestock are not merely animals. They are a source of income, school fees; food security and generational wealth. When cattle, goats and sheep are stolen, it is not only an animal that disappears. It's a family investment, dignity and future opportunities that disappear with it.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, the testimonies coming from Disaneng reflect a broader challenge facing many farming and rural communities across the province. Residents describe living with constant fear as livestock disappear while families are left carrying the financial and emotional burden of these crimes. Stock theft is no longer simply a rural crime. It is increasingly becoming an organised criminal activity that threatens local economies, food security and social stability.

The DA therefore calls for the following: Increased capacity and visibility of specialised stock theft units, improved cooperation between SAPS, farming communities and traditional leadership structures; faster investigation and prosecution of stock theft cases; greater use of technology such as drones, surveillance systems and livestock tracing mechanisms; and decisive action against organised criminal syndicates involved in stock theft.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, communities such as Disaneng and other rural communities should not be left to fight this battle alone. Farmers and livestock owners contribute significantly to rural economies and food production, yet many feel abandoned when these crimes continue with little consequence for perpetrators. The frustrations of the people must not be ignored.

The DA stands with rural communities affected by stock theft and calls for urgent, visible and sustained intervention before more families lose their livelihoods to this growing criminal threat. I thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Does any Member of the Executive wish to respond? Honourable Morweng.

HON. MORWENG: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. We note the concern raised by Honourable Member, Honourable Sonakile which is a ... [INAUDIBLE] ... community concern. Be that as it may be, amongst the recommendations that are progressive that he is bringing forth it is the launch of the drones that took place two weeks ago which primarily bring to focus on organised crimes like stock theft, murder and robbery.

But key amongst them for the context of the debate, it will focus on stock theft. The team from national led by Brigadier Kgopodithata has descended in the province to of course collectively lead with the team that is led by Brigadier Langer who is the head of stock theft unit. The team has been working very hard. Just last week it has made five arrests with regards to the same type of criminality that the Member is bringing forth in the area of Potchefstroom.

So that's the point I wanted to emphasise that the drone unit ... [INAUDIBLE] ... launched primarily to deal with criminality like stock theft. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Morweng. Honourable Members would recall that in terms of the rules, the statements are allocated an hour. Now I will now call on Honourable Wallhorn at the discretionary time of the Presiding Office and after that, that will be it because we have exceeded the one hour. So I'm calling on you at my discretion and after that, that will be it.

HON. WALLHORN: Thank you Deputy Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise on behalf of the DA. Shortly this House will consider the budget for the North West Department of Education, yet there is no clarity on how the department will fund its constitutional obligations.

On 6 May 2026, Section 27 formally demanded that the department release its 25/26 school infrastructure report, which by law must be tabled within 120 days of the financial year-end. Deadlines passed, but the report is still not publicly available, and questions remain about concealment and accountability.

Previous financial years proved that billions are needed to repair crumbling schools, but 86% of projects are stalled. Approaching a new budget amid reports of a significant fiscal shortfall, North

West Education cannot provide a clear account of the current state of classrooms, sanitation, or scholar transport.

Before the budget cycle, the MEC must publish relevant reports and explain how it will be funded while irregular expenditure persists, especially in Supply Chain Management, where there is a huge scope for Unauthorised, Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful expenditure.

The lack of transparency undermines public confidence and prevents this Legislature from exercising proper oversight. And parents, educators and learners deserve to know whether funds allocated for infrastructure and essential services are reaching the schools that need them most. Every delayed project, every incomplete classroom and every unsafe sanitation facility represent a failure to deliver on the promise of quality education.

Without accurate and up-to-date information, this House cannot make informed decisions on budget allocations or hold the department accountable for its performance. The DA's principles of transparency, fiscal responsibility, efficient use of public funds and equal opportunity demand nothing less. I thank you and thank you for the opportunity, Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Wallhorn. Does any Member of the Executive wish to respond? None. Honourable Members, I now proceed to Executive Statements in terms of Rule 130(a). Does any Member; *O itse yang* Honourable Sonakile? Does any Member of the Executive Council wish to make an Executive Statement? Thank you. None. Secretary, may you please read the next order.

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

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Members, reports have been tabled through the ATC and refereed to the relevant committees for scrutiny and further processing. Committee reports were also tabled through the ATC. Does the House adopt the committee recommendations as House resolutions?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SONAKILE: Yes, we adopt especially ad-hoc committee report.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. The committee recommendations are now resolutions of this House. Secretary, may you please read the next order.

SECRETARY: ORDER NO. 6 DEBATE ON NOTICE OF MOTION AS PER RULE 107

6.1 The role of the mining industry in addressing the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty, inequalities, implementation of social and labour plans/responsibilities and mining beneficiation of host communities in the North West Province.

6.2 The urgent need for all state funded clinics in the North West Province to provide 24-hour operations.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. Earlier on, I said I will make a ruling in terms of the notice of motion deposited by Honourable Sonakile in terms of Rule 107, Sub-section (2) Honourable Sonakile failed to propose a draft resolution to be adopted by the House. Rather in his submission, he resolves that the Speaker investigates the conduct and correctness of the response provided to the House by MEC Mosenogi which does not seek a resolution of the House. And Honourable Sonakile is advised to write to the Speaker. Therefore, the motion falls off. I so rule.

Members during the sitting of the 3rd of March 2026, Honourable Tsholo tabled a motion in terms of Rule 107 for the House to debate the role of the mining industry in addressing the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty, inequalities, implementation of social and labour

plans/responsibilities and mining beneficiation of host communities in the North West Province. I will now call on Honourable Tsholo to lead the debate. Honourable Tsholo, 10 minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Speaker. *Baagi ba porofense ya Bokone Bophirima*. Honourable Deputy Speaker, the uMkhonto weSizwe Party has requested that the North West Provincial Legislature debate the role of the mining industry in reducing triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequalities, implementation of the social and labour plans and mining beneficiation of the host communities in our platinum rich North West Province.

On the 26 June 1955, the Congress of the People adopted the Freedom Charter which sets the objectives of the National Democratic Revolution. All progressive forces are in agreement that the South African economy should be guided by the Freedom Charter, in particular the injunction that “The People Shall Share in the Country’s Wealth!” The national wealth of the country, the heritage of South Africans shall be restored to the people. The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole.

The North West Province, Honourable Deputy Speaker, is a significant mining hub in South Africa, and our province is known for its rich mineral resources, including platinum, gold and diamonds contributing substantially to the economy of South Africa. The North West Province is often referred to as the Platinum Province due to its vast deposits of platinum group metals and a home to approximately 300 active mines, which contribute about 31,3% of the region’s gross domestic products, the GDP.

A large number of families, including immigrants from neighbouring countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland as well as Botswana, just to name but a few, rely on the income earned on mines, with about 18% of the total employment in the province coming from mining.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, uMkhonto weSizwe Party would like to request this august House to reflect and zoom and appreciate the variety of mining products obtained from the North West, to appreciate the God given wealth to the people of this particular province so that at the end of the day they become beneficiaries of the process. The Mines in the North West Province produce

about 50% of the platinum procured in the world, and 65% of the South Africa's platinum group metals.

For instance, chromite is another major mineral mined throughout the province, and there are several ferrochrome smelters and other processing plants. Gold and uranium are found along the border of the province with Gauteng and Free State. In particular we can also mention Klerksdorp as well as Orkney.

Diamonds are mined at Christiana, Bloemhof and Lichtenburg. Lichtenburg is also the centre of the cement industry. Other minerals found in our province North West include fluorspar, vanadium, rhodium, uranium, copper, limestone, slate, phosphate, manganese, coal and nickel including significant stone and granite operation hence there are some communities in farms around Bodibe because of the lime that is being produced around that particular area.

Notwithstanding the North West Province being well endowed with mines as a God given natural resources, Honourable Deputy Speaker, the province is still faced with socio-economic challenges inclusive of high unemployment rate, poverty and inequality.

The North West Province is the only province, Honourable Deputy Speaker, in the country where the unemployment is the highest, where half of the population is unemployed. There are unemployed people than there are employed people. Unemployment in our province has been rising steadily and has now reached unmanageable levels.

Therefore, Honourable Deputy Speaker, there is an urgent need for the North West Provincial Legislature to debate the role of the mining industry in addressing the triple challenges of unemployment in our province, in particular poverty and inequalities, the extent of compliance in implementation of the social and labour plans by mining companies, and mining beneficiation of local host communities in the platinum rich North West Province.

You can take an example of Marikana and neighbouring areas where there are a lot of mining and the roads in those particular areas where there is mining that is taking place. Nothing is happening, no development and so forth. Raw mining materials including huge mining profits are still exported outside the North West Province instead of being processed in the province to strengthen manufacturing opportunities.

This is an opportunity that can be engaged or taken as an advantage by the province so that we are able to assist our community in this particular province. Many mineworkers are being retrenched, and the labour democratic gains of workers are being reversed. You look at Tarisa Mine. They have just did as they wished. They have just fired 34 and other people they have been fired out of nothing without compliance of the Labour Relations Act. Ownership of mines is still in the hands of the few and majority Africans are still dispossessed in this particular regard Honourable Deputy Speaker.

The National Department of Minerals and Energy which is the custodian of the mining laws and charter does not actively, I am repeating it, does not actively monitor compliance of mines and especially with respect to Social Responsibility to host communities in North West Province. They remain in a poverty as long as they will still be there without anything, without any development that is taking place in their area.

Many communities that need mining licences are not actively supported. There is therefore a need, Honourable Deputy Speaker, for the North West Provincial Legislature to debate and answer the following questions in the context of the Freedom Charter and advancing the objectives of the National Democratic Revolution in the North West Province.

What are the current conditions of the North-West Province mine workers and the mining sector in 2026? That is a very pertinent questions. How much tangible progress have we made since 1994 as this particular province, towards the achievement of all the goals of the Freedom Charter, towards implementing the basic mining programmes of our National Democratic Revolution in our North West mining rich province?

How are we doing towards successfully completing the national democratic revolution in as far as the mining sector in the North West Province is concerned? What role is the mining industry playing in empowering our women, youth and our disabled in this particular province?

What can the North West Provincial Legislature do, as agents of change, to influence national government to ensure that the mining natural resources of the North West are maximally used to banish unemployment, poverty ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo!

HON. TSHOLO: And inequalities in the North West Province?

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo! Just wait. Honourable Tlhapi, I have seen your hand is up.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Chair of Chairs. *Akere nna ke ngwana o goletseng kwa di-mining. Ke batla go botsa fela gore a speaker se ka tsaya question?*

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Deputy Speaker, I don't have time to take any question. We will debate this matter outside. What role is the mining industry playing in empowering women, youth and the disabled people in the province? What can the North West Provincial Legislature do, as agents of change, to influence national government to ensure that the mining natural resources of this particular province are maximally used to banish unemployment, hunger, poverty and inequalities in the North West Province?

To what extend are mining companies complying in implementing their Social Responsibilities to host communities? What can be done, Honourable Deputy Speaker, to ensure that the raw mining materials are being processed in the North West Province with a view of creating more job opportunities? As we are speaking *matlo a baagi ba rona ke magaga side ya Bapong. Batho ba ineile malapa a batho. Ba a epa, ga go re sepe*. Everything is business as usual.

Madam Chair of Chairs, uMkhonto weSizwe Party would like to refer this august House to Section 42 of the Constitution of South Africa. Whereas issues of Mining, Defence and others are a national competency, but Section 42 of the Constitution has provided channels through which the Provincial Legislatures, Provincial Governments can ensure that that provincial interests are taken into account in the national sphere of government as well as national legislation.

Therefore, Honourable Chair of Chairs, uMkhonto weSizwe Party, would like to sensitise and to urge the North West Provincial Government as well as us as the Provincial Legislature to effectively utilize the channels provided by Section 42 of the Constitution in making proposals to national sphere of government to address matters of national competency that affects the residents of the North West Province.

It can't be business as usual that when we raise certain issues, we are being told about the national competency while the laws nor the acts assist us to do best. Section 42, Sub-section [1] of the Constitution, Honourable Chair of Chairs, provides that the Parliament consists of the National Assembly; and the National Council of Provinces. Therefore, Section 42, Sub-section [2] again states that the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces that is the NCOP participate in the legislative processes in the manner ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Member, as you wrap up. As you wrap up Honourable Member. Wrap up Mma.

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Chair of Chairs, the ruling party did not ... [INAUDIBLE] ... two thirds majority vote it had for the three decades that time to meaningfully change the lives of the majority of South Africans as expected by the forefathers of democracy in South Africa. It is particularly this ... [INAUDIBLE] ... by the monopoly capital to date to keep the majority dispossessed Africans under perpetual poverty, ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. OLIPHANT: Point of order CoC.

HON. TSHOLO: Hunger, joblessness and inequality after 30 years of political democracy ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo, let me hear point of order.

HON. TSHOLO: The foundational issues of poverty, unemployment and ...
[INTERJECTION] ...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Let me hear the point of order.

HON. TSHOLO: Stems from the theft of land minerals resources ... [INTERJECTION] ...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable!

HON. TSHOLO: For three decades Honourable Chair of Chairs, the majority of previously disadvantaged have been living from the crumbs that fall from the tables of the monopoly and the capitalists at large.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo thank you very much. Let me call Honourable MEC Lenkopane. Honourable MEC you have 10 minutes.

HON. LENKOPANE: Honourable Chair of Chairs, allow me to acknowledge the Honourable Member who tabled this motion and let me greet Honourable Members of the House as well as Members of the Executive.

This debate is important because it speaks to a matter that continues to occupy the minds of our people. It is about jobs. It is about economic inclusion. It is about whether the wealth of the North West Province is being leveraged to improve the lives of the people of the province. Many of our people continue to ask this legitimate question which is how can a province blessed with some of the world's richest mineral deposits continue to face unemployment, poverty and inequality?

Government does not dismiss this question. We understand the frustrations of mining communities. We understand the frustrations of young people searching for opportunities. We understand the frustrations of local businesses seeking meaningful participation in the value chains. And as government, we understand the concerns relating to environmental management, infrastructure pressures and the future sustainability of the mining towns.

However, as government led by the ANC, the leadership requires more than identifying challenges. Leadership requires understanding why those challenges exist and what must be done to address them. For many decades, the dominant mining model was built around extraction. Minerals were extracted here, transported elsewhere and processed elsewhere. The highest levels of value addition often occurred outside communities where resources originated. While mining generated significant economic activity, it also created structural weaknesses that continue to affect many communities today.

This is why government is deliberately driving a transition from an extractive economy towards a beneficiation economy and industrial economy. Honourable Chair of Chairs, the lessons from Klerksdorp, Orkney, Hartbeesfontein and Stilfontein remain very important. These communities teach us that the economic diversification cannot begin when a mine closes. It must begin while mines are still operating. Mine closure planning must start early. Skills must be retained. Communities must be prepared for a future beyond extraction.

Most importantly, these experiences taught us that a mining town should never be left with a single economic identity. While mining is active, government and industry must simultaneously be building the next economy that will sustain the communities when mining activity declines. That lesson continues to shape our work today.

Honourable Members, there is a narrative that government lacks direction. We reject that narrative. Government is guided by the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy. The PGDS is not just merely a planning document. It is a framework through which we are aligning municipal economic development plans, infrastructure investment, industrialisation programmes, and tourism development, beneficiation opportunities, investment and attraction strategies.

The objective is simple: to build a productive, competitive and inclusive economy capable of creating jobs and reducing unemployment. The economic transformation does not happen by

accident. It happens through planning, coordination and leadership. Honourable Chair of Chairs, the global economy is changing rapidly.

The competition for critical minerals is intensified. Supply chains are being reconfigured. The hydrogen economy is emerging. Advanced manufacturing is expanding. The energy transition technologies are creating new opportunities for countries and the countries that possess strategic mineral resources.

Government understands these realities. Through national engagements and broader discussions linked to South Africa's participation in the global economic platforms, it has become clear that provinces such as the North West must start to position themselves strategically within the future industries.

This question that is before us is no longer whether we possess mineral wealth. But the question is whether we are prepared to build industries around that wealth. Government has made its choice. We choose beneficiation. We choose industrialisation. We choose localisation and we choose innovation. We choose value addition.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, our engagement with the mining houses led by the MEC of Economic Development has evolved significantly. These discussions today is no longer confined to production volumes and compliance requirements. Increasingly, our engagements focus on supplier development, enterprise development, localisation, youth employment, beneficiation opportunities and the future sustainability of mining communities.

We are encouraging mining houses to view themselves not only as extractors of resources but as strategic partners in the regional economic development. That is why government continues to advocate for Social Labour Plans that leave behind productive economic assets, sustainable enterprises and measurable community benefits.

The Social Labour Plans must increasingly be aligned with Municipal Integrated Development Plans. Communities themselves must help to shape these priorities. The traditional leadership structures, the municipalities, and industry must work together to ensure that mining investments support long-term development objectives.

The future of SLPs must be about sustainable economic value. Honourable Chair of Chairs, government is also examining opportunities that continue to pass through our province without generating sufficient local benefit. Whether it is opportunities linked to cement production, logistics, industrial services, coal-related supply chains or downstream manufacturing activities, government continues to ask a simple question:

How do we increase local participation? How do we create opportunities for SMMEs? And how do we then ensure that local enterprises become part of the supply chains? And how do we ensure that economic activity translates into local jobs and local ownership? These are practical interventions that government is employing to ensure that more value remains within our province.

One of the most important strategic interventions that is currently underway is the joint Mineral Beneficiation Framework that has been developed between the two provinces when the MEC for Economic Development of Limpopo and North West as per the directive of the two Premiers came together.

How do we ensure that local enterprises become part of supply chains? How do we ensure that economic activity translates into local jobs and local ownership? These are practical interventions aimed at ensuring that more value remains within our province.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, one most important strategic intervention currently underway is the joint Mineral Beneficiation Framework developed by North West and Limpopo.

The significance of this framework lies in the fact that it moves government from reacting to mining developments towards actively shaping the future of the mining economy. The framework recognises that the Bushveld Complex is one of the world's most strategic mineral assets.

It seeks to increase local processing, support manufacturing industries, strengthen research and innovation, expand participation in value chains and position our provinces within future industries linked to platinum group metals, fuel cells, hydrogen technologies and advanced manufacturing.

The long-term objective is clear: retain more value, create more jobs and build more industries closer to where the resources originate.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, the Platinum Valley and Bodirelo Special Economic Zone forms part of this broader vision. The Beneficiation Framework tells us where we are going. The SEZ provides one of the mechanisms through which we intend to get there.

Its purpose is to attract investment, support beneficiation, encourage manufacturing, stimulate innovation and create sustainable employment opportunities. Through these initiatives, government seeks to unlock thousands of direct and indirect opportunities over time through industrial investment, supplier participation, enterprise development and associated economic activity.

None of this can succeed without skills. That is why our partnership with institutions such as North West University is important. The future mining economy will require engineers, artisans, geologists, environmental specialists, metallurgists, researchers and technology innovators.

If beneficiation is to succeed, we must build a pipeline of local skills capable of supporting industrial growth. The province must not merely export minerals, it must increasingly export knowledge, expertise and innovation.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, government is equally committed to ensuring that former mining communities are not abandoned. Mine closure should not mean community closure. Government believes rehabilitation should not mark the end of economic activity. It should mark the beginning of a new phase of economic activity. Rehabilitation mining land presents opportunities for renewable energy projects, solar farms, agriculture, logistics hubs, tourism facilities and industrial redevelopment.

Emerging miners, cooperatives and community enterprises must be supported within a framework that promotes environmental compliance, safety, sustainability and long-term economic value.

While mining remains important, the future of the North West economy cannot depend on mining alone. That is why government continues to diversify through tourism, agriculture, agro-processing, renewable energy, the green economy and the waste economy through Matlakala ke Zaka. These sectors are not competing priorities. They are complementary pillars of a diversified economy capable of creating opportunities across different regions and different skills levels.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, the opportunities before us are significant. Beneficiation can create new industries. Industrialisation can create new jobs. Supplier development can strengthen local enterprises. Tourism can diversify local economies. Renewable energy projects can attract investment. Skills development can prepare young people for future industries. The combined impact of these interventions has the potential to unlock thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities across our province.

This administration has made its choice. We are not spectators to economic change. We are shaping it. We are coordinating it. We are driving it; and we are doing so because the people of the North West deserve an economy that works for them, creates opportunities for them and leaves a better future for their children.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable MEC. Let me call Honourable Sonti. Honourable Sonti, you have nine-minutes.

HON. SONTI: Thank you very much Chair of Chairs.

Chair of Chairs, the mining industry has been the backbone of the economy of North West Province for many decades. Our province is rich in platinum, gold, chrome and other mineral resources that have generated billions of Rands in wealth. Yet, despite this abundance of natural resources, many communities living near mines continue to suffer from high unemployment, deep poverty and growing inequality.

Mining companies cannot focus only on extracting minerals and making profits. They also have a responsibility to contribute to sustainable development and improve the living conditions of the communities that host their operations.

Firstly, the mining industry must contribute meaningfully to job creation. The North West Province continues to face extremely high levels of unemployment, particularly among young people. While mining remains one of the largest employers in the province, mechanisation and restructuring have reduced employment opportunities over time. Mining companies must therefore invest in skills

development programmes, a paid job where you learn a skilled trade, internships and artisan training to prepare young people for employment within and beyond the mining sector.

Chair of Chairs, mines must prioritise local procurement and local employment. Too often, communities surrounding mines watch opportunities being awarded to businesses and workers from outside their areas. Local people must be the first beneficiaries of economic opportunities created by mining activities. This will not only reduce unemployment, but will also stimulate local economic growth.

Secondly, the mining industry must play a greater role in the fight against poverty. Poverty remains a painful reality in many mining communities. Families continue to live in informal settlements without adequate housing, water sanitation and healthcare services. While mining companies make substantial profits from the extraction of minerals, host communities often see very little improvement on their quality of life.

Chair of Chairs, this is where Social and Labour Plans become critically important. Social and Labour Plans were introduced to ensure that mining activities contribute directly to community development. They require mining companies to invest in housing projects, schools, healthcare facilities, roads, skills development and other community programmes.

Unfortunately, many Social and Labour Plans are either poorly implemented or not implemented at all. Communities frequently complain that projects promised by mining companies never materialise or are completed without meaningful consultation. In some cases, there is little transparency regarding how funds are spent and whether commitments are fulfilled.

Government regulators must strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure full compliance with Social and Labour Plan obligations. Mining companies that fail to honour their commitments must be empowered to participate actively in the planning, implementation and monitoring of these projects. Development cannot be imposed on communities; it must be developed together with them.

Chair of Chairs, the third challenge is inequality. South Africa remains one of the most unequal societies in the world and this inequality is visible in many mining towns. On one side, there are modern mining facilities generating enormous wealth. On the other side, there are communities struggling with unemployment, inadequate infrastructure and limited opportunities. This

inequality creates frustration, social instability and conflict. To address this challenge, mining companies must ensure that the benefits of mining are shared more equitably. Workers deserve fair wages and decent working conditions. Communities deserve meaningful investments that improve their lives. Local businesses serve access to procurement opportunities. Traditional communities and landowners deserve fair compensation and participation in decision-making processes.

Another critical issue is mineral beneficiation. For too long, South Africa has exported raw minerals while importing finished products at much higher process. This practice limits job creation and economic growth. Beneficiation refers to the processing of minerals into higher-value products before export.

The North West Province has enormous potential to become a centre of mineral beneficiation, particularly in the platinum sector. Instead of exporting raw platinum, we should be manufacturing catalytic converters, fuel cell technologies, jewellery and other platinum-based products. This would create thousands of additional jobs, stimulate industrial development and increase the economic benefits derived from our minerals.

Chair of Chair, beneficiation must not only occur at national level, but must also benefit host communities directly. Training centres, manufacturing facilities and enterprise development programmes should be established in mining areas. This will ensure that local communities participate meaningfully in the entire mining value chain rather than benefiting only from temporary employment opportunities.

The future of mining in the North West Province must be based on partnership and accountability. Government, mining companies, organised labour and communities must work together to ensure that mining contributes to inclusive growth and sustainable development.

The wealth beneath our soil must translate into opportunities above the ground. Mining should not leave behind poverty, unemployment and inequality. Instead, it should create jobs, build infrastructure, support education, promote entrepreneurship and improve the quality of life for all our people.

Only then, will the people of the North West Province receive their fair share of the wealth generated by mining companies.

I thank you Chair of Chairs.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable Sonti. you have saved two-minutes. Let me call Honourable Sonakile. You have eight-minutes.

HON. SONAKILE: Chair of Chairs, I don't know how inspiring it is that in 2026, we are still sitting in this House and have to debate mining beneficiation and opening of clinics 24-hours as debate topics when at least at a time like this, one would think we would now be talking or debating implementation budgets, oversights and outcomes of implementations of these two issues that are before us today. But *eish*, it is in the North West, even the obvious still have to be re-discovered with every sitting.

CoC, if mining wealth alone could defeat poverty, unemployment and inequality, then mining communities in the North West would be among the most developed in South Africa.

Instead, many communities next to mining operations still live with collapsing roads, unemployment, informal settlements, sewage spillages and failing municipal services.

The people of this province have watched billions leave their soil while very little returns to their communities. That is why this debate cannot become another exercise in slogans and political rhetoric.

The real question is simple; who has benefited most from mining wealth, the people or politically connected elites?

Chair of Chairs, mining has built the economy of the North West Province. the platinum beneath our soil powers industries across the world. Our province contributes enormously to the South African economy through mining production, exports and employment.

Yet, communities in Marikana, Wonderkop, Bapong, Kanana, Khuma, Stilfontein and Ramotshere continue to face unemployment, deteriorating infrastructure and deep poverty. How can communities sitting on platinum, chrome and gold still be trapped in poverty?

How do municipalities receiving mining revenues still fail to provide basic services? And how do communities continue hearing promises through Social and Labour Plans while conditions on the ground remain unchanged?

Chair of Chairs, the Democratic Alliance believes mining remains critical for economic growth, investment and employment. But mining alone cannot solve poverty and inequality when government fails to enforce accountability, transparency and proper development planning. It will say when the department of minerals is sleeping on duty and it is captured.

One of the greatest failures has been the implementation of Social and Labour Plans. Communities are continuously promised schools, roads, clinics, housing projects, skills development programmes and local economic opportunities. Yet, in many instances, communities see consultation meetings and glossy presentations but very little implementation on the ground.

Social and Labour Plans cannot continue to become a public exercise relations exercise. They must become legally enforceable development commitments with proper monitoring and public reporting.

CoC, we must, however, acknowledge where progress is being made. Institutions such as Orbit TVET College in Rustenburg have shown what meaningful partnership between mining and education can achieve. Through collaborations with mining houses, young people are receiving artisan training, technical skills and workplace exposure that create direct pathways into employment.

The Platinum incubator in Rustenburg also supports entrepreneurship and manufacturing opportunities in jewellery design and beneficiation. These are examples of mining contributing positively towards skills development and economic participation.

Honourable Members, let us be clear; the mining sector is not government. It cannot permanently substitute the role of a capable and functional state.

Chair of Chairs, even visible infrastructure successes expose government failure. The biggest problem in the North West is government. Look at Olympia Park Stadium, it has been allowed to deteriorate under the government oversight to the point where the North West no longer has a compliant stadium capable of hosting PSL matches. I know when I touch such topics, I get such

responses and these are responses that are coming from Members of EXCO, who were supposed to be at the forefront of what we are dealing with today. So, it is quite embarrassing.

How does a province with this level of mining activity fail to maintain even basic sporting infrastructure? The mine donates, government sits back and expects that infrastructure to still be in condition. That is how disappointing it is.

We must also confront the painful lessons of Marikana. Marikana was not just a labour tragedy; it exposed the deep inequalities that exist within mining communities. It exposes the deep inequality that exists within mining communities.

Workers and communities who contribute to the wealth of this province continue to live in overcrowded informal settlements with limited services and little economic opportunity. More than a decade later, many of those socioeconomic conditions remain unchanged. What does that say about our commitment to justice and transformation?

Chair of Chairs, another major frustration among communities is the issue of local employment and procurement. Young people living next to mines often complain that they remain unemployed while opportunities are outsourced elsewhere. Small local businesses struggle to access procurement opportunities while major contracts continue circulating among politically connected networks and established companies. That is why you are getting that response from Members of EXCO. Their politically connected networks are the ones who are beneficiaries from these mines in terms of procurement.

Mining communities should not merely watch wealth pass through their towns. They must actively participate in that economy. The DA therefore believes that mines must publish transparent local employment statistics and local procurement figures so communities can hold both mining companies and government accountable. In Stilfontein and other affected areas, allegations continue surfacing about community resources and mining opportunities being diverted by politically connected individuals instead of benefiting ordinary residents. That is why you see Honourable Oliphant jumping up and down like this because he is from Matlosana and this talks directly to the area where he comes from.

At the same time, abandoned mine shafts have become breeding groups for illegal mining operations and *zama zamas*, creating dangerous underground economies associated with crime, violence, fatalities and exploitation. This is not beneficiation. This is the collapse of governance.

Despite decades of mining activity and billions extracted from the soil, many communities in Matlosana still face unemployment, pothole-ridden roads, failing infrastructure and worsening poverty.

CoC, the North West Province also continues losing enormous economic opportunities because we still export raw minerals while value-added manufacturing happens elsewhere. Why are we exporting raw materials instead of exporting finished products?

Why are beneficiation industries not being aggressively developed in mining communities? True beneficiation means creating factories, industrial hubs, processing plants and manufacturing industries right here in the North West.

It means creating sustainable jobs beyond extraction. It means ensuring that our mineral wealth creates long-term economic diversification for future generations.

Chair of Chairs, the DA is not merely to criticise. We are here to propose solutions.

We call for:

- Full public disclosure for all Social and Labour Plans;
- Independent annual audits into mining commitments and community projects.
- Transparent reporting on local employment and procurement;
- Strong consequences for mines and officials who fail communities;
- Proper partnerships between municipalities, communities and mining houses; and serious investment in beneficiation and industrialisation in the North West Province.

CoC, there are communities in the North West where children grow up seeing mine shafts every day, but never seeing opportunity. Communities where the ground beneath them produces immense wealth for the global economy, yet the streets around them remain filled with potholes, unemployment and poverty.

For many residents, mining trucks pass daily, billions are extracted yearly but their own living conditions never improve. That contradiction is the true story of mining in the North West Province.

The Democratic Alliance supports responsible mining, economic growth and investment. But we do not support a system where the minerals leave, the profits leave and the poverty remains.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable Sonakile. Let me call Honourable Groenewald. Four minutes.

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you CoC.

CoC, the mining industry in the North West is not the enemy of development. In many communities, it is one of the few remaining engines of development. Mining remains the backbone of the Province's economy. It sustains jobs, supports local business and contributes directly to the social wellbeing of communities around mining towns. But today I want to focus on two practical matters.

The first is community upliftment. Across the North West, mining companies have contributed to schools, water infrastructure, training programmes, internships, bursaries and small business development. These are not abstract promises. These are classroom, pipeline skills programmes opportunities for young people. The problem is that too many of these efforts are slowed down, frustrated or made more expensive by failing local government, a mining company can commit funding, it can appoint contractors, it can identify community projects, but if municipalities cannot process approvals, maintain infrastructure, coordinate planning or provide basic services, then the community still suffers.

Honourable CoC, this is the truth that must be spoken. The people of mining communities are not only being failed by companies and not promises are not delivered. They are also being failed by municipalities that cannot perform the most basic duties, in a year where communities will again be asked to place their trust in local government. This House must be honest with the people, service delivery does not happen through slogans, it happens through competent municipalities.

The second issue is beneficiation. In North West, cannot remain only a province when minerals are extracted and transported elsewhere. We must become a province where mineral wealth creates local industries, local suppliers, technical skills and long-term jobs. But beneficiation will not happen simply because politicians demand it from the podiums. The Provincial government must play its part; it must create conditions for investment; it must fix roads, water, electricity constraints; it must support industrial zones, reduce red tape, assist SMMEs; improve training pipelines and work with mines to build local value chain. If the government wants beneficiation, it must become a development partner rather than an obstacle to development.

The Freedom Front Plus believes in accountable and fairness, mining companies must contribute to host communities, but municipalities and provincial departments must stop on the mining, the very development they claim to support.

Honourable CoC, the answer not to attack the mining sector; the answer is to make development work. Let mining contribute; let the government enable, let communities' benefit. That is the practical approach that the people of the North West deserve.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable Groenewald. Let me call Honourable Mpho Khunou. Honourable Khunou, you have seven-minutes.

HON. KHUNOU: Thank you very much Honourable CoC. Let me greet this august House, the Deputy Speaker, Members of the Provincial Executive, ladies and Gentleman.

We welcome this debate initiated by Honourable Tsholo. I note in her tirade before this House, she then has the temerity to attack the ANC for failing to amend the constitution. I want to give you a bit of home work because in preparing for this debate, I don't think you did your research fully. I you to read about Shiva Uranium Mine in Klerksdorp. It was a Gupta controlled mine and they given those rights none other than the president of your own party. It produces uranium and gold in Klerksdorp. So, before you start talking about the ANC, please do a bit of reading about the Shiva Uranium Mine.

Honourable Sonakile, I listened attentively to your submission and is quite a superficial submission because it doesn't really address the fundamental challenges of the mining sector and there is no doubt why you don't do that because you are a beneficiary of this mining houses. Your party remains the biggest beneficiary in terms of funding of all of these mining houses. None of the proposals that you have made deal with the real issue, which is the transfer of the mineral wealth of this province [...*interruption*...]

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Khunou. Let me hear point of order Honourable Sonakile.

HON. SONAKILE: In terms of Rule 74, is it not ironic that the former Mayor of Rustenburg is standing here, we are discussing mining and is telling me that I am a beneficiary. Is it not ironic?

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Sonakile, what is your point of order? Honourable Sonakile, switch off your mic.

HON. KHUNOU: Honourable Sonakile, I want you to practice the art of listening. I am saying that your party remains one of the biggest beneficiaries to these mining houses which remains untransformed.

Now I also want you to go and read the facts, look at your own party funding.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Steyl, what is your point of order?

HON. STEYL: CoC, *dumela*. I rise on Rule 174. Just for the record, the Honourable Khunou, it is only the DA that declared its donations. The ANC didn't declare its donations, so what Honourable Khunou is saying, is a lie.

HON. KHUNOU: Honourable CoC, I think the people of the North West are listening. They are listening to the beneficiaries of mining in the province.

Honourable CoC, you really have to call Honourable Sonakile to order, because he is disrupting this debate.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Member, don't disrupt this debate/

HON. KHUNOU: The issue about ownership of mining rights in the province, Honourable Sonakile, I invite you, because none of you have actually done proper research in preparing for this debate. I want you read the latest report of the competition commission on ownership of mining in the North West Province. this superficial debate that you always raise, the fact of the matter is that the overwhelming majority of the people of this province remains excluded from ownership and control because of continuous support of these mining houses by your own party. So, before you start talking about the ANC, look in-house and the reason why we continue to struggle to deal with this question of transformation of the sector is that parties like the DA which are enemies of our people continue to be against Broad Based Economic Empowerment. Until such time you learn what this means and what we need to do to transform the economy for the benefit of our people, you have no right to be talking about, I think we would have lost our mind to even consider voting for the DA.

Honourable CoC, as a carry on with this very interesting debate, the reality if you listen to the opposition, they have come here to cry at the wrong funeral. It is just lamentations, there is no clear plan they have put on the table on making sure that the mining sector benefits the people of the country.

Here are the facts, the fact of the matter is that in giving effect to the dictum in the Freedom Charter, Honourable Tsholo, the mineral wealth of this country must benefit the people its people. Let me give you extra homework of what you must read to illustrate what the ANC government has done to issue transformation of the sector.

The first one is that in 2002, the ANC government engineered the adoption of the mineral and petroleum resources development act, this was to start this transformation of the mining sector. I want you to go and read the 2011 beneficiation strategy. You talk about beneficiation, but there is nothing you are putting on the table about this beneficiation strategy. Go and read about this beneficiation strategy. In your debate, you don't refer to the 2018 Broad-Based Socio-Economic Charter for the mineral industry. This charter is also tied to the implementation framework. What is the role of the Legislature? The role of the Legislature is not to sit here and cry, it is to present concrete suggestions on how we should transform this industry for the benefit of our people.

I am certainly not crying, I am empowering you so that when you come and do this, you would have done your research.

Honourable CoC, we are suggesting in line with what Honourable MEC has said, that the past 100 years, the history is that North West has at least been doing mining for the past 100 years, since discovery of the Merensky Reef. For the past 100 years we have had mining and yet we have all of these challenges in our province. what we really need is a social compact to change the picture of mining over the next 100 years so that we can transform ownership and ensure that there is meaningful empowerment of the local communities.

Thank you.

HON. OLIPHANT: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs. Without wasting any time and listening to the brouhaha, the brouhaha on my left that is uninformed.

Chair of Chairs, this debate is titled, a debate on the role of the mining industry in addressing the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty, inequalities, implementation of social and labour plans, responsibilities and mining beneficinations of host communities in the North West, we have heard nothing, but smoke and dust coming from those who have initiated this debate. This is but, regrettably a storm in a tea cup. We agree, Chair of Chairs, that the mining sector has not met all of our expectations. We agree with that, but what we can't agree with is people consistently raising debates when they are uninformed, they don't do research, they don't quote statistics, they don't do anything, they just come here and scream and we can't continuously be abused like that.

Honourable Tsholo has not raised a single fundamental point and she has not raised any motivation for this particular debate.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, in his state of the Nation Address, his Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa precisely position the mining sector, as a key driver of economic renewal, describing mining as a sunrise industry with vast untapped potential to accelerate growth, create jobs and strengthen the country's industrial base, we won't begin to talk about the water *zama-zamas* of Ditsobotla.

The sector provides the primary raw materials for manufacturing, construction and technology, while also driving job creation, infrastructure development and substantial foreign exchange revenues. Mining is often seen as a controversial industry, but when managed responsibly, it has the potential to be a powerful driver of economic development and a catalyst for social change. Unfortunately, none of us are part of capital, unless you are.

Mines in the province have not lived up to expectation of the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy to contribute meaningfully to the economy. According to Stats SA, our province through mining activities contributes approximately 20-24% of the mining GDP. That is insignificant. They have provided minimal jobs, which have over the years made an insignificant dent to the high unemployment rate which does not match the provinces reputation of accounting for more than 90% of South Africa's platinum output and roughly 70% of the entire global supply chain producer. DMPR reports, that the mining sector is the biggest real economic sector, generating more than 50% of the total provincial output.

However, thousands of individuals in our province are yet to gain income to support their families and stimulate local businesses and services from the benefits of the mining value chain. These mines, are not run by the ANC, they are run by private interest which are funding your party. These mines are historically associated with job reservation as well as exploitation and as extraction economy should have created thousands of jobs not only for host communities, but also for labour sending communities.

Regrettably, the functions on mining monitoring and oversight are not devolved to provinces but resides in the National Government. We will advocate for the devolvment of this function to maximise impact and oversight. That has not been proposed by beneficiaries like yourselves.

In addressing the triple challenges, mines in the province needs to present plans for formal employment and skills development, small-scale / artisanal mining and supply-chain entrepreneurship to young people in order to defuse the time bomb of unemployment.

These avenues will provide targeted opportunities for community upliftment, sustainable wealth creation and structured training and monthly stipends for unemployed youth. Our province sits on a bedrock of riches. From platinum to chrome, vanadium to gold, we are among the most mineral-endowed in the world. Yet our communities remain scarred by poverty and unemployment, relics of a resource economy too often divorced from local benefit.

To overcome this, we need to convert mineral wealth into long-term skills, jobs and technological leadership. A new school of mines and mining engineering university in Bojanala is a necessity as it will bridge a gap and produce the skilled engineers and geologists needed to extract critical minerals required for infrastructure, the global energy transition and daily life. In addition to this, a practical solution is that the North West Provincial Government establish a mining company and invest R500million year on year. The practical effect is this, we can't talk to those who don't know. The R500million is used to acquire equity in existing listed companies and even investing in unlisted companies, being able to get their return on investment but fundamentally being able to influence directly through this company, the actual social labour plans that all of us are complaining about and none of us have come-up with practical solutions to that problem. An investment of R500million year on year over five years gives you R2.5billion, return on investment through dividends would raise that in no time and will allow us to further expand on that, but would also allow government to have an entity that would expand its own pocket of own revenue. That is what we need. The failure of mines to implement social labour plans have left many of our mining communities with higher unemployment rates leading to increased poverty and economic stagnation. We will be able to resolve this through this development.

It is evident in an area called Moshana outside Zeerust that, mining activities have not spurred the development of roads, schools, hospitals and housing. The development of such infrastructure will lead to better access to service and job opportunities, which plays a crucial role in alleviating poverty. We would be able to attain to this through the North West Mining Company. An investment of our state where we are able to make an influence and talk to and on behalf of our people. none of you have said anything about anything.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Time up. Honourable Tsholo.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, let me tell Honourable Khunuo and Honourable Nathan, the former Mayor of Rustenburg Local Municipality and the CEO of Gambling Board, that debating without political consciousness and ideological content is a danger and it is very much suicidal in nature.

Now with regards to the issue of the uranium where you said my president was there with the Guptas, let me remind you, the kingpin of mines or mining is your current state president soon to be impeached called Ramaphosa, nicknamed phala-phala, the beneficiary of the process which led to the Marikana massacre because he was benefiting out of that and you failed as the Mayor to come up with social labour plans and to correct the social ills of mining industry around Rustenburg. You can't come here and tell us that *re bua dilo di sele* like Nathan said smoke and dust from those who initiated this particular debate. You must go read and research so that you understand the debate or the topic where it comes. You are saying that other political parties, they did not bring clear plans. Let me tell you; I have been listening very well. Listening is a requirement, not a skill, let me tell you, I have learnt from the best. You should have listened carefully, you would have heard those particular clear plans that were brought upon.

Let me come to Honourable Bitsa Lenkopane. Beneficiation framework, for how long, that rhetoric, we are sick and tired as this particular province and community to hear rhetoric. You are good in planning, you are good in coming up with policies but you are failing in as far as implementation is concerned. Don't remind us Honourable Khunou about the existing acts policies in as far as mining is concerned. I went through all these things, where is implementation. You failed and you did not even advise previously as the the Mayor.

Now, uMkhonto weSizwe Party will like to make a clarion call to all residents in this particular province of North West and to all anti colonial progressive forces to work together to complete the unfinished struggle for the total economic freedom and amendment of the 1996 constitution that is still protects the rights of the minority few, our generational mission should be economic

freedom in our lifetime. The return of all natural and economic resources from the minority hands to the ownership and control and benefit for the people as a whole including mines, water, electricity and renewable energy resources. The issue of uranium, your counter parts, Khauoe as the former Mayor, Honourable Khunou, was the beneficiary of uranium at the Shiva Uranium Mines ko Klerksdorp and they benefited, hence the closure of that particular mine.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo, *ema pele* Honourable Oliphant.

HON. OLIPHANT: Chair, I am trying *mare wa rasa, ga re kgone go mo utlwa*.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs. Political Freedom alone without the economic justice for workers mostly in the majority disposed, Africans is not enough at all. Political freedom again without the achievement of the total economical emancipation of the majority disposed Africans, is just a dummy freedom or *tami ya ngwana e e tshetsweng mashi a e momona, a tsenwa phefo ka mala*. Government must implement a comprehensive beneficiation plan in this particular province. we need not to be told about beneficiation framework where there are no plans in this particular province. develop that particular comprehensive beneficiation plan for each mineral category with the aim of creating million of primary and tertiary jobs, directly or indirectly, linked to the mineral resources in this particular.

The North West Province, Honourable Chair of Chairs is very much rich in natural resources in mines, a vast agricultural land and tourism, but our province is rated the highest in terms on unemployment. Half of the population of the North West Province, which is unemployed is without jobs, on hungry stomachs, raw materials are being transported from North West to outside the province, thus weakening the prospects. We need not to be lied to as community members in particular Province by the African National Congress.

Well done opposition parties. Your debates where so outstanding with clear plans.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable Members for the debate. Let me go to another debate.

Honourable Members, during the sitting of the 3rd March 2026, Honourable Moema tabled the notice of motion in terms of Rule 107 for the House to debate the “urgent need for all state funded clinics in North West to provide 24-hrs operation”.

I will now call upon Honourable Moema to lead the debate.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs, Mme Tebogo Modise...

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Before you start, Honourable Sonakile, Honourable Lenkopane, please, we are in the House. Can you give Honourable Member an opportunity to address us, listen, then after that you will talk.

HON. MOEMA: Thank you so much once again, Honourable Chair of Chairs, Mme Tebogo Modise; Leadership collective of the EFF led by Commissar Shakes Botswe; Honourable Premier, Lazarus Mokgosi in absentia; Honourable Members of the Legislature, administrative Staff; Security guards, cleaners and garden workers of the Legislature; Traditional Leadership; Residents of the North West Province; good morning.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, as the old adage goes, History learns perspective and history is the presence stretched and elongated. I should wish to begin this debate by inspiring the House to learn from the life and time of Steve Bantu Biko. An anti-apartheid activist and a leader of the black consciousness movement who believed that all people deserve dignity, equality and access to essential services.

Steve Biko, upon learning that black communities live in abject poverty and have inadequate health care facilities, he got involved in the establishment of the Zanempilo Community Health Care Centre near King Williams Towns in the Eastern Cape, Honourable Sambatha. The clinic was established in 1975. It offered medical consultation, health education and preventive health care

services. The clinic also created employment opportunities and encouraged community participation in the health care.

Steve Biko's contribution to basic health care services is particularly relevant to the people of the North West Province today. It forces us to confront a painful reality of whether the poor, the unemployment, the rural masses and those living in forgotten villages are considered human enough to enjoy quality health care because Honourable Members, if they were, we wouldn't be having debate about whether clinics should operate for 24-hours, if they were, no mother would be forced to travel long distances at mid-night in search of medical assistance; if they were, no child would be denied urgent healthcare because a clinic has already closed its doors for the day.

Honourable CoC, healthcare is not a privilege reserved for those who live in cities and suburbs. Health care is a constitutional right that must be enjoyed by every South African, regardless of their geographical location or economic circumstances. It is therefore unacceptable that in 2026, thousands of people across the North West Province still don't have access to healthcare services throughout the day and night. The North West province remains predominantly rural, with many communities located far from major hospitals, villages such as Morokweng, Ganyesa, Tlaakgameng, Setlagole, Madibogo, Khunoana and many others depend almost entirely on local clinics as their primary sources of healthcare. For many residents of these communities, hospitals are located several kilometres away and are often inaccessible due to transport challenges, poverty and poor road infrastructure. For the people of these villages, clinics are not merely healthcare facilities, they are a life line. They are the most reliable and accessible source of medical care available to ordinary people. When a pregnant woman experiences complication during the night, she is far more likely to seek assist at a local clinic than at a distance hospital. When a child develops severe breathing problems in the early hours of the morning, the nearest clinic often represents difference between life and death. When an elderly person suffers a medical emergency after night, immediate access to health care can determine whether they survive or not. Yet the ANC led government continues to maintain health care system that effectively tells our people that they may only get sick during office hours and or at night. This approach is irrational, unjust and being insensitive to the realities faced by the communities. Illness does not operate according to government schedules; emergencies do not wait for clinics to open; labour pains do not follow

administrative procedures. Healthcare services must therefore be available 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, whenever the demand for improved healthcare services is raised, the ANC government responds with the same tired excuse; there is no money, we reject this argument completely. The claim that there are insufficient funds to operate clinics on a 24-hours basis is not a financial reality, it is a political choice. There is money for consultants who produce reports that gather dust on shelves; there is money for luxury vehicles and exclusive travel budgets; there is money for politically connected service providers who continue to benefit from inflated tenders. There is money that disappears through corruption, wasteful expenditure and poor financial management. However, when the conversation turns to providing health for poor black people in rural communities, government suddenly claims that there are limited resources.

The truth is that there is money. What is absent is political will. The ANC government has consistently failed to prioritise the healthcare needs of our people because it has become disconnected from daily struggles faced by ordinary South Africans. The refusal to provide 24-hour clinic services is not consequence of financial constraints; it is a consequence of misplaced priorities.

Honourable CoC, the implementation of 24-hours clinic operations would also provide a practical intervention to address unemployment crisis confronting our province. every clinic that operates around the clock requires additional nurses, doctors, pharmacists, administrative personnel, cleaners, maintenance staff and security officers. Expanding clinic operation will therefore create meaningful employment opportunities while simultaneously improving healthcare delivery. The North West Province is home to many qualified healthcare professionals who remain unemployed despite possessing the skills required by the healthcare system. There are trained nurses sitting at home. There are healthcare graduates who continue to search for work. There are security personnel, cleaners and support staff who remain unemployed because government refuses to expand public services. The contradiction is obvious; government claims that there is a shortage of health care workers while thousands of qualified healthcare professionals remain unemployed. Government claims that clinics cannot operate 24-hours because there are not enough personnel while trained and capable workers remain excluded from employment opportunities. This

contradiction exposes failure of the ANC administration to utilise available human resources in the interest of our people.

The establishment of 24-hours clinics will therefore serve two important objectives simultaneously. Firstly, it will improve healthcare access for communities that depend on clinics for survival. Secondly, it will create employment opportunities in a province struggling with high levels of unemployment particularly among young people.

Honourable CoC, the consequence of failing to provide round the clock healthcare services are devastating. Delayed treatment leads to preventable deaths. Patients are forced to travel long distances to already overcrowded hospitals. Medical conditions worsen because communities cannot access healthcare when they need it the most. Families suffer unnecessary trauma because government has failed to provide healthcare infrastructure. A government that cannot guarantee access to healthcare through the day and night cannot claim to be committed to the wellbeing of its people. A government that allows poor rural communities to suffer while hiding behind budgetary excuses has abandoned its constitutional responsibilities.

The Economic Freedom Fighters believe that every community, regardless of its location deserves access to quality healthcare. We believe that every village deserves properly resourced clinics operating 24-hours a day. We believe that healthcare workers must be employed to serve communities and reduce unemployment. We believe that healthcare is a fundamental human right that should never be determined by geography, income or social status. The people of the North West deserve better. They deserve clinics that remain open when emergencies occur. They deserve healthcare professionals who are available whenever medical assistance is required. They deserve a government that places human life above budget excuses. If Steve Biko was able to improve the lives of many people and live a long-lasting legacy at the height of the heinous apartheid regime, why can't a democratic government do so.

Honourable CoC, let me remind the government of the day that it is the freedom charter that provides that healthcare is a basic human right rather than a privilege reserved for a few. American medical anthropologist, physician and humanitarian, Paul Farmer, neatly contends that, if access to healthcare is considered a human right, who is considered human enough to have that right. This question posed by Paul Farmer is particularly relevant to this debate.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, the EFF therefore calls for the immediate implementation of 24-hour operations at all State funded clinics across the province, accompanied by the urgent recruitment of healthcare personnel and the allocation of adequate resources to ensure a sustainable service delivery.

Healthcare cannot sleep while our people suffer.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you Honourable Moema. Honourable Members, in terms of Rule 76; “A Member may take a charge of business on behalf of another Member, provided that he or she has been authorised to do so by the absent Member in writing and the Speaker and they Chief Whip of the House are also informed in writing.” Therefore, Honourable Members, Honourable Lehari wrote a letter to say I will be attending to an urgent invitation by the NGO’s which is scheduled on the 2nd June 2026. I have therefore requested Honourable Tsotso Tlhapi to stand on my behalf. I will be very much glad.

Therefore, I will call Honourable Tsotso Tlhapi on behalf of Honourable Lehari.

HON. TSHOLO: Honourable Chair of Chairs, on a point of order that this House is a House is a House to be respected. When you look on your left, the majority of Members left. So, should we leave as the minority or as official opposition?

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tsholo, can you sit down Honourable Members. Members are in the House. Let the debate continue. Honourable Member, can you continue.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs, Honourable Tebogo Modise; Honourable Deputy Speaker, Rre Collen Maine; Chief Whip of the majority party, Honourable Motlalepule Rosho; Honourable Premier in absentia; Colleagues; all Honourable Members present; Baagi ba Bokone Bophirima.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa places a responsibility on government to progressively realise the right of every citizen to have access to healthcare services. This constitutional mandate is further strengthened by the National Health Act, which requires the state to provide accessible, equitable and quality primary healthcare services to all communities.

The African National Congress has, since the advent of democracy in 1994, championed the transformation of the health sector from one that was fragmented, unequal and largely inaccessible to the majority of our people, into a system founded on the principles of equity, dignity and universal access.

The establishment and strengthening of Primary Health Care remain one of the most significant achievements of the democratic government because it brings healthcare services closer to the people, particularly those in rural and previously neglected communities.

As we continue laying the foundation for the successful implementation of the National Health Insurance, strengthening PHC services remains central to our vision of achieving universal health coverage. The debate regarding the operating hours of clinics, community health centres and district hospitals must therefore be understood within the broader political commitment of the ANC-led government to ensure that no community is denied access to essential healthcare services because of geography, poverty or historical disadvantage.

Honourable Chair of Chairs and Members, MEC Lehari appreciates the opportunity afforded to him by this august House to provide an update on the operating hours of Primary Health Care Facilities across our province and to outline the work currently underway to expand access to healthcare services. This discussion is important because the operating hours of our facilities directly affect the ability of our people to access emergency services, maternal and child healthcare chronic medication, trauma care and other essential health interventions. It is therefore imperative that we engage on this matter based on facts, available resources and the realities facing our healthcare system.

The North West Province has made significant progress in extending access to healthcare services beyond traditional daytime operations. Currently, the province operates 84 clinics on a 24-hours basis, representing a substantial investment in healthcare access and services delivery.

The distribution of these facilities is as follows:

- Bojanala District: 23 clinics;
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 29 clinics;
- Dr Kenneth Kaunda District: 10 clinics; and
- Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District: 22 clinics.

These facilities provide critical after-hours services to communities ensuring that healthcare remains accessible beyond normal working hours.

Furthermore, the Department has already identified 12 additional clinics for conversion to 24-hour operations, demonstrating that this programme is not merely a future aspiration but a process that is actively underway. These facilities are distributed as follows:

- Bojanala District: 6 clinics;
- Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 5 clinics
- Dr Kenneth Kaunda District: 1 clinic.

The Department does not convert facilities to 24-hours operations without proper planning. We follow nationally prescribed Primary Health Care norms and standards as well as provincial criteria to ensure that facilities are safe, sustainable and capable of providing quality services.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Tlhapi, *ke kopa o eme jalo*. Honourable Sonakile, *ke kopa o eme ka dinao*. Honourable Sonakile, *ke kopa o behave*. You are in the House. I am warning you for the last time.

HON. TLHAPI: Thank you Chair of Chairs. *Go nale melao e e thusang gore re convert's clinic gore e bulwe 24-hours. Now, Honourable Moema, ga re tsoge phakela e be re convert'a clinic to 24-hours. Go nale melao le melawana e e tshwanetseng gore re e latele.*

Honourable Chair of Chairs, among the factors considered are population demand, patient volumes, catchment population size and the pressure experienced by nearby hospital. We also assess geographical access, particularly in rural and remote communities where residents often travel long distances to reach healthcare services.

The burden of disease and service demand are equally important considerations. Facilities with high trauma cases, significant maternal and child health needs and frequent after-hours emergencies receive priority consideration.

Infrastructure readiness is another critical requirement. Before any facility can operate on a 24-hours basis, it must have adequate security, reliable electricity and water supply, sufficient medicine availability, emergency equipment, maternity capability and suitable observation space.

Equally important is the availability of human resources. A facility must have adequate professional nurses, support personnel, shift teams and emergency response capacity to sustain continuous operations.

Chair of Chairs, the total number of facilities that do not offer 24-hours, are 233. These include all facilities that operate as follows:

- 12 hours;
- 8 hours, 5 days a week;
- 12 hours, 7 days a week;
- 8 hours, 7 days a week;
- 5-day clinics;
- Health posts.

The Province continues to perform strongly in the implementation of the Ideal Clinic Realisation and Maintenance Programme. The majority of our facilities comply with national standards, with district performance exceeding 80% compliance in many instances. This demonstrates our commitment to quality healthcare and continuous improvement.

However, we must be honest with ourselves. While substantial progress has been made, challenges remain. The province currently faces a shortage of nursing personnel and presently carries 733 nursing vacancies distributed across all districts.

These vacancies are as follows:

- Bojanala District: 327;
- Dr Kenneth Kaunda District: 136;
- Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District: 124; and

- 'Ngaka Modiri Molema District: 146

These shortages contribute to challenges such as understaffed facilities, reliance on overtime, extended waiting times and instances where facilities operate without fully developed staff structures.

To address these challenges, the Department has developed a phased human resource expansion plan aimed at strengthening nursing capacity across facilities. As financial resources become available, we will continue working towards the eradication of one-nurse facilities and the strengthening of service delivery teams throughout the province.

In addition, Chair of Chairs and Honourable Members, infrastructure upgrades are being implemented to ensure compliance with readiness requirements. Human Resource for health plans are being aligned to support shift systems required for 24-hour operations. Facility organograms are being reviewed and corrected where necessary, while Ideal Clinic assessment continue to guide and accelerate the readiness of facilities identified for conversion.

While challenges relating to staffing, infrastructure and financial resources persist, the Department has clear plans in place to address these constraints. Guided by the values of the African National Congress and our constitutional mandate, we will continue strengthening Primary Health Care as the cornerstone of a people-centred health system and as a critical pillar towards the successful implementation of National Health Insurance.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Let me call Honourable Wallhorn. Honourable Wallhorn, you have eight minutes.

HON. WALLHORN: Honourable CoC, thank you.

I rise on behalf of the Democratic Alliance to address a critical issue in healthcare delivery in the North West Province; the urgent need for properly functioning 24-hour clinics.

Healthcare is not something that can be switched on and off according to a timetable. People become sick at night; accidents happen after hours; children develop fevers in the early hours of the morning; pregnant women go into labour at any time of the day or night.

Yet across large parts of this province, primary healthcare effectively stops once clinic doors close in the afternoon. When that happens, families face limited and often impossible choices. They must travel long distances to overcrowded hospitals or wait until morning in the hope that conditions do not worsen. In rural communities especially, that delay can be dangerous.

A clinic that is closed cannot help in an emergency and in healthcare, timing often determines the outcomes.

This province already carries a heavy burden in maternal and emergency health outcomes and continues to record maternal mortality rates above the national average.

One of the recurring factors identified in reports is delay in accessing care, particularly in rural areas where transport is limited and services are not available after hours. A woman in labour cannot wait for a clinic to open. A new-born in distress cannot wait for daylight. A patient who is experiencing severe pain, trauma or a sudden illness cannot be instructed to go back the next morning.

These are situations where immediate access to care is not optional. That is why 24-hour clinics are not an extra service. They are a basic requirement for a functioning health system.

Honourable CoC, the challenge is not only about hours of operation. It is about whether clinics are actually capable of remaining open safely and effectively throughout the night. Many facilities in the North West are not yet in a position to do this. In some cases, infrastructure is deteriorating. In others, staffing levels are too low to support shift work. In others still, supply shortages and maintenance backlogs make continuous operation difficult.

These are not new problems. Oversight reports and audit findings have repeatedly raised these issues. Issues such as weak internal controls, supply chain breakdowns, infrastructure delays and staffing gaps all affect whether a clinic can function beyond standard hours. If we do not address those foundations, 24-hour clinics will remain a policy on paper rather than a service in practice.

A working 24-hour clinic system depends on three things:

1. Safe and functional infrastructure. Water, electricity, sanitation and security must all be reliable at clinics. It is unreasonable to ask employees to work nights in dangerous or poorly maintained facilities.
2. Adequate staff. Clinics must have enough nurses, midwives and support staff working in shifts. To avoid understaffing in rural facilities, targeted recruitment strategies and fair compensation for night duty are essential.
3. Consistent medical supplies. Essential medicines, emergency equipment and maternal health resources must be available at all times. Without these resources, extended operating hours do not improve care, they simply extend dysfunction.

Honourable CoC, there are two areas where 24-hour clinics make the most immediate difference.

1. Maternal and new-born care. Complications during pregnancy and childbirth can arise rapidly and unexpectedly. Immediate access to trained healthcare workers, stabilisation treatment and efficient referral systems are crucial in preventing avoidable deaths. This is particularly true in rural areas, where extending clinic hours can lead to significant improved outcomes for both mothers and their babies.
2. Emergency stabilisation. In many parts of the province, ambulance response times are inconsistent and often delayed. When emergencies occur, local clinics are often the first point of contact. A clinic that can stabilise a patient before transfer can make the difference between life and death.

For this reason, clinics must be integrated into emergency medical services. They cannot operate in isolation from the rest of the system.

What is needed now is a clear and practical implementation plan.

The DA calls for a funded rollout of 24-hour clinics across the province, phased over 12, 24 and 36 months. The plan must include specific clinics, staff needs, infrastructural enhancements and measurable targets.

Funding must be set aside for security, maintenance and human resources. Rural clinics should be prioritised as they are located in locations with serious transportation and distance problems. In order to effectively stabilise and transfer patients when necessary, clinics and emergency services must work together. Without these measures, 24-hour clinics will not function as intended.

This issue ultimately hinges on whether healthcare in this province is structured to meet the needs of the people or constrained by the system's limitations.

A clinic that closes its doors at night cannot serve its full purpose. A system that delays care until morning is not meeting the needs of its communities. A province that does not move decisively on 24-hour care is leaving too many residents without support when they need it most.

The Democratic Alliance supports the expansion of 24-hour clinics because they are essential to building a healthcare system that is accessible, reliable and responsive.

We therefore call on this House to support a clear, funded and accountable rollout plan that ensures clinics are open when people need them most.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you Honourable Wallhorn. Honourable Groenewald, four minutes.

HON. GROENEWALD: Thank you Honourable CoC. The Freedom Front Plus agrees that communities in the North West, especially rural communities need better access to after hours health care. Illness does not wait for office hours. A child does not fall sick only between four and eight. The elderly does not get hurt according to government timetables. Honourable CoC, what does it help to keep a clinic open for 24-hours if there are not enough nurses. What does it help if there is no medicine, what does it help if the patient records are badly managed, ambulances are unavailable and mothers are told that infant vaccines are out of stock. The current shortage of infant vaccines including vaccines meant to protect babies against severe forms of TB, should alarm every Member of this House. This is not a small administrative mistake, it means that the babies can be left unnecessarily exposed to preventable illness, disability and even death if the government cannot reliably provide vaccines. The infant during ordinary clinic hours, how are we going to credibly promise a fully functional 24-hour service.

Honourable CoC, the Freedom Front Plus support the principle of expanded clinics, but we reject empty announcements that are not backed by staff, medicine security, ambulances and proper

management. The first step is to fix what is broken, ensure medicine availability, fix vaccine supply, improve patient records, appoint and retain nurses, strengthen ambulance services, secure clinics after hours, then identify priority rural clinics where 24-hours services can be implemented responsibly.

For 25 years, communities have heard promises about accessible healthcare, yet in many parts of the North West, people are still struggling to access basic services, they wait long queues, they travel for distances, they arrive at clinics only to be told that medicines and vaccines are not available and then the government says there are budget constraints. But the people know the truth, this is not only a money problem, it is a governance problem, it is poor planning, it is weak administration, it is corruption, it is a legacy of a government that has spoken more about healthcare, than it has delivered healthcare.

Honourable CoC, this year communities will again judge those who govern closest to them. They will remember the closed clinic gates, they will remember the missing ambulances, they will remember the vaccines that were not available for the child. The people of the North West do not need another promise, they need clinics that actually work.

Thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you. Thank you, Honourable Groenewald. Honourable Matshe. Honourable Matshe, you have ten minutes.

HON. MATSHE: *Motlotlegi Modulasitilo wa forum ya baduladitilo ba ntlo ee. Ke lebogela sebaka se. Ko tshimologong, aa re gopole se se kileng sa buiwa ke mongwe wa baeteledipele ba ba tlhwatlhwa, President ya ko Burkina Faso, Comrade Thomas Sankara, ke a mo nopola; “As revolutionaries, we don’t have the right to say we are tired of explaining. We must never stop explaining. We know that when the people understand, they cannot help but follow the revolution”.*

Motlotlegi Moema, gompiano, e kete ga re mo dikganetsanong. Ke nagana gore re tsene mo dithutong, re rutane. Ga e kare raa ganetsana, re tla be re dira phoso. Ga motho a go reeditse, e kete wa re, wena koo tshelang ko teng, ga gona di clinic tsa 24-hours, le ka mokgwa o o

tlhagisitseng kgang ya gago ka kwano ka teng. A re go netefeletse gore di teng, di a dira mo province ee. gongwe selo se re tshwanetseng re se baakanye ke gore go nale selo se se bidiwang tools of analysis. Ke go go thusa go tlhaloganya, go lemoga seemo le go tsenya mekgwa ya go rarabolola dikgwetlho tsa loago. E kete e ya go latlhegela.

Ga o leba seemo sa Aforika Borwa, pele ga 1994, go simolla fela ka the 1960, re ne re nale a very strong public health system. Mare ga re ya ko di negotiations, Honourable Botswe, that public health system was collapsed in favour of a private healthcare system. Go reng go ne go diriwa seo. Se ne se diriwa ka gore puso e e tlabeng e eteletse pele ke batho b aba ntseng ba gateletswe, e ne e tlile go tsena. Jaanong, mokgatlho wa lefatshe, o tlhagisitse dilo di le thataro, tse ba reng ke di building blocks tsa healthcare. Quickly;

1. Leadership and governance;
2. Access to essential medicines and other communities;
3. Health workforce;
4. Health system financing;
5. Health information system;
6. Health service delivery.

Jaanong, ga o bua dikgang tse, o sa tlhagisi gore o bua ka efeng e mokgatlho wa lefatshe o rileng re e baakanye, tota o itsenya mo sekgweng. Jaanong, mokgatlho oo wa lefatshe, o rile mebuso ya lefatshe ee farologanyeng, ba dirise bonnye, 5% ya GDP. Rona re mo kae? Re me 8.5%, mare bothata ke bo, mo 8.5%, 5% e ungwela 14% ya Sechaba. Ke gore ke batho ba le 8.5 million b aba ungwelwang ke madi a 5%. Ga re tswa foo, ke fela 3.5% ya GDP ya rona e e ungwelang 86% ya population. It is just about 51.5 million people.

Now, tsitsinyo ya gago yaa re, tlogela batho ba, b aba tshwereng 5% ba tswelle ka yone. Ba ba tshwereng only 3.5%, the 86% of the population, wa re a re ye go ba bulela di clinic. Jaanong nna ka re nyaa, a re tsikinye selo se man, a re tsikinye selo se. madi se ke a ya go baa, b aba humileng baa, 5% ya GDP, e e seke yay aa ko bathong ba ba botlananyana ba, 14%. Re simolla foo, fa re batla go baakanya pholo.

Jaanong mengwe ya metheo ya NHI, e bua ka equal access e e reng eliminate the inequality of the two-tier healthcare system, where the wealthy people access private facilities and the poor they rely on an under-resourced public clinic. Karl Marx, ka 1875, mo nngwe ya ditiro tsa gagwe,

Critique of the Gotha Programme, o re rutile sengwe ke se, a re; “from each according to ability, to each according to need”. Jaanong wena Motlotlegi Moema, o ka seke wa tutubala tlhee, o be o ignore’a dithuto tse tsa ga Karl Marx, o ka seke wa tutubala o be o re re rarabolole, o tutubetse, o sa utlwe gore gaa teng golo fa. Hee e, bula matlho Ntate, bula matlho Motlotlegi, utlwa gore raa reng golo fa. Jaanong rona, re lwa kgatlhanong le bahumi le batho ba e leng gore ke beng ba dithoto tsa tlhagiso. The owners of production, ba isistse court. Jaanong ga re utlwe lona lwaa reng. Rona re le African National Congress, Minister wa rona, Aron Motswaledi, re mo ema nokeng gore, ntwaa ee, ya go lwantsha bahumi gore re emise gore madi aa mantsi a ye ko go bone. Re e tshotse ntwaa ee. Jaanong, re batla go utlwa gore lona lwaa reng, ga re utlwe le bua sepe. Lona ekele lwaa re, se se dirilweng mo Nakong e e fetileng, a re tswelele pele fela ka sone.

Jaanong Motlotlegi Modulasetilo wa Ntlo Ee, re ikuela go bagaetsho kafa, gore bas eke ba bua dilo, mare bas a kgone go re tlhalosetsa gore context e re operate’ang mo go yone ke efeng. Rone, re netefaditse gore tiro ee ya go bulela di facility go batho ba rona ea tswelela. Ga go a lekana ka gonne go nale mathata, madi a rona a ya ko bahuming, and ke selo se bahumi baa gana gore madi... re fetisitse molao, ba lwantsha molao oo.

Kgang ee nngwe ke ee, ga re batle di-clinic tsa ditshokolo. Re batla di-clinic tse di naleng seriti. Re simolotse go aga di-clinic tseo, mare for as long as madi a sa lekane, ga re tle go kgona go fitlhella maitlhommo a rona.

Ka jalo ko bofelong Motlotlegi Modulasetilo wa Ntlo Ee, re ikuela go batsaakarolo mo di thutonmg tse gore e re ba bua dilo, ba di bue, ba itse gore ntwaa e bolotse. Ba seke ba itumela go clapelwa matsogo ke bao ba eleng gore ba sireletsa dikgatlhegelo tsa bahumi.

Ke go lebogile.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you Honourable Matshe. Let me call on Honourable Tsholo. Honourable Tsholo, you have four-minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Chair of Chairs and the community of North West at large.

I bring you salutations from the MKP National High Command and from the President-General of uMkhonto WeSizwe Party, President-General Gedleyihlekisa Jacob Zuma.

Madam CoC, uMkhonto weSizwe Party supports a motion that the North West Government works hard and accelerate the pace of achieving a goal of ensuring that all state funded clinics in the North West Province are provided with 24-hours operations, as there is an urgent need thereof.

The 24-hours operations of all state funded clinics will bring improved access to healthcare. As MKP, we believe that 24-hour clinics operations can provide critical primary healthcare services at any time, which is essential for the well-being of citizens.

Many state funded clinics normally operate between 07h00 and 16h00 from Monday to Friday. These limited operating hours severely constrain access to critical primary healthcare and infringe on the rights of citizens to have access to healthcare as and when needed.

Illness does not keep to office hours. People get ill at night and need medical care. If a clinic is open, they would be able to consult with the clinic after hours.

The 24-hours operation will increase access to health facilities for the working population majority of which are busy or committed during the day. This will reduce asking permission from employers without asking permission from employers as well as sick notes.

The 24-hour clinic operation will mean that citizens will be able to access health services at a more convenient time for themselves. For instance, an average person who works in a shopping centre as a cashier, a cleaner or security officer depends on the public healthcare system and not expensive private health providers. If their closest clinic closes at 4pm, they choose to go to outpatient facilities at hospitals because of limited cash.

These are certain types of services that should be available on an ongoing basis even at night like maternity services in clinics. If your nearest clinic does not operate at night, then communities are compelled to travel long distances at night to hospitals.

Many hospitals become overburdened because they have to provide care for ill patients in wards, deal with medical emergencies and serious accidents. The 24-hour clinic operation will alleviate overburdens borne by state hospitals. State hospitals become overburdened because they also have to provide care for ill patients in wards, deal with medical emergencies and serious accidents.

MKP acknowledges that running a 24-hours clinic services are a costly exercise and it needs proper planning. The clinics would need to be properly staffed to ensure that health professionals get the necessary breaks given the high crime rates, there is a need to provide clinics with a 24-hour security services. At night, security should not guard clinics with batons given the reported crimes. The 24-hours clinics operations will also need administration on board to be truly effective.

Madam Chair of Chairs, during the recent public hearing on health conducted by the National Council of Province's, Taking Parliament to the People programme in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District, residents of the North West Province expressed unhappiness about health clinics operating hours, saying they would like them to be open 24-hours, rather than only during the day, as they are right now. Other concerns included shortages of medicine and ambulances, poor filing systems, inadequately resourced security guards and filthy clinics. Citizens appealed to government extend our clinics operating times to 24-hours.

Citizens of the North West Province cannot wait for the delayed rollout of the National Health Insurance Act while many people already struggling to access healthcare. They are not going to be sick in 2030.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Magagane. You have ten minutes.

HON. MAGAGANE: Honourable Chair of Chairs, Tebogo Modise; Deputy Speaker, Mokone Maine; Members of the Provincial Legislature; Member of EXCO; Distinguished guests, ladies and gentleman; baagi ba Bokone Bophirima and also members of the media.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, “our revolution is not a public speaking tournament. Our revolution is not a battle of fine phrases. Our revolution is not simply for spouting slogans that are no more than signals used by manipulators trying to use them as catchwords, as code words, as a foil of their own display. Our revolution is and should continue to be the collective effort of revolutionaries to transform reality, to improve the concrete situation of the masses of our country.” These are the wise words of Thomas Sankara, the late President of Burkina Faso, who is remembered for his

ambitious social, ecological and economic reforms aimed at promoting independence, unity and self-reliance.

Honourable Chair of Chairs, let us deal with the reality and not grandstanding slogans. Driven by the ideal social services access model championed in the ANC Manifesto, our vision is clear; healthcare must be physically and equitably accessible to all. True access to healthcare requires looking beyond clinic walls to the surrounding ecosystem. A clinic cannot function effectively in isolation from other public services.

Let us contextualise this debate within the painful, lived realities of the North West Province. the sobering statistics is that the vast majority of our population does not have access to medical aid. We are working-class and rural province. we must speak directly about the working poor employed individuals who are locked out of healthcare entirely. They do not qualify for free, daytime state services because they are at work, yet they cannot afford the exorbitant fees of private doctors.

Think of the mother working long hours at Shoprite, who finishes her shift late, catches a taxi and returns to her village long after the local clinic doors have locked.

Think of the taxi driver who is on the road at the crack of dawn and only comes home late at night.

Where must they go when they are ill? Under current limitations, they are forced to wait until a minor ailment turns into a life-threatening emergency. This is the concrete situation of the masses that we are called to transform.

Currently, all Community Health Centres (CHCs) operate 24-hours. Ideally, based on the ANC policy, these CHCs are situated no more than 14 kilometres from primary healthcare facilities, clinics which operate for 12 hours and provincial hospitals. CHCs offer a critical bridge between clinics that only operate during the day and hospitals that are usually very far to reach in emergency cases.

Honourable Moema, in Tlaakgameng, we have a CHC that operates 24-hours. Let us be completely honest about what it takes to scale this model up to ordinary clinics so that our Shoprite workers and taxi drivers are included. The opposition acts as if transitioning a day clinic into a 24/7 facility is as simple as turning a key, it is not.

It requires major infrastructure upgrades and a comprehensive remapping of social service amenities. A 24-hours clinic cannot survive without a fully integrated support network.

As we commemorate over 30 years of our Constitution, it is imperative that we continue to safeguard the lives and rights of our people as we strive towards achieving a non-racial, non-sexist, united, prosperous and democratic South Africa. This debate, which calls for the urgent need for all state clinics in the North West to operate 24-hours, must not be used as weapon to diminish the work that has been done and is currently in motion by the Department of Health, but as a guiding tool towards achieving our set goals to have a health sector that can provide quality, free, inclusive and universal health coverage for all the people of this province.

In March this year, we saw this reality starkly exposed recently when the department moved with speed to have the Old Dinokana Clinic operate 24/7 following the tragic closure of Dinokana CHC due to a biological agent attack on our nurses. Because the ordinary Dinokana Clinic was structurally never designed to operate 24/7, the facility simply could not cope with the patient volumes despite having adequate shift staff. Maternity deliveries had to be rushed to Lehurutshe Hospital due to a lack of space and auxiliary services had to be cramped into mobile units.

This is the concrete reality Thomas Sankara spoke of. The security threat to our medical professionals is a massive barrier to 24-hour operations. Honourable Moema, last year, you did have a motion without notice on what happened at Bapong and we must not take this for granted where a nurse was attacked while working at night by our residents. It is exacerbated by alcoholics and drug users who have, in the past, attacked nurses and security personnel during the early hours of the morning.

This is further complicated by the unique dynamics of our mining towns, which bring rapid population influxes and specific social ills that overstretch our local grids. A visit to the Marcus Zensile Clinic in Khuma provides a sobering reality check of these unfortunate, volatile circumstances.

Honourable CoC, our efforts to expand these services face severe internal and external fiscal constraints. National budget cuts and historical provincial accruals which are a standing item in the Portfolio Committee of Health and Social Services have damaging implications on the number of nurses, security personnel and doctors we can hire to safely run day-and-night shift rotations.

Without adequate staffing, we risk extreme medical burnouts and costly medical negligence claims that squeeze our already overstretched budgets. Furthermore, our infrastructure development continues to be aggressively sabotaged by criminal construction mafias, stalling the vital upgrades required to meet the stringent standards of the National Health Amendment Act.

How do we overcome these financial deficits to include our working-class citizens? We do it through aggressive financial restructuring, prioritizing public-private partnerships to secure clinic infrastructure and optimizing our current allocations to fund permanent night-shift personnel. But more fundamentally, our permanent solution lies in structural legislative reform.

The implementation of the National Health Insurance (NHI) remains our definitive framework to balance these economic inequalities. However, we must address the legal realities of today. Following the recent May 2026 Constitutional Court Ruling, which confirmed the invalidity of the “certificate of need” provisions and the ongoing legal pauses on the Act’s proclamation, our path forward requires meticulous and alternative preparation.

The opposition wants to use these court rulings to declare the NHI dead and maintain a status quo that favours the wealthy in Camps Bay. They are wrong. This legal pause is a call to accelerate our system readiness.

Furthermore, we must look closely at the implications of the court’s decision. The “certificate of need” was designed to distribute medical resources equitably. Without it, we face the distinct danger of further disadvantaging our rural communities, who already battle to attract and retain doctors due to geographic remoteness. Private practitioners will naturally cluster in wealthy urban centres, leaving rural North West communities stranded.

This ruling heavily underscores why the state must focus on upgrading our public health facilities right now. If the private sector cannot be legally incentivized to move to remote areas, our public clinics must become world-class to fill that vacuum. Under the NHI funding model, more clinics will achieve “ideal clinic” status because the equity-driven framework will unlock the necessary financial injections into our provincial budgets.

Ince actualized, the NHI will allow us to hire more medical professionals, eradicate infrastructure backlogs, purchase fir-for-purpose EMS vehicles (as resolved by this House) and fully implement

programs like the Central Chronic Medicines Dispensing and Distribution system to improve treatment adherence.

As I conclude Honourable CoC, the ANC government remains completely committed to the actualisation of the NHI Act and the realization of universal health care. We will not use this house for a public speaking tournament of empty complaints or populists demands. We will continue the collective, revolutionary effort to transform our clinics, upgrade our infrastructure, align our social amenities and deliver an inclusive, dignified and accessible 24-hour healthcare system for the masses of our people, including the taxi drivers, the retail workers and the rural communities of this province.

I thank you.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Honourable Moema, come and close the debate. You have five minutes.

HON MOEMA: Thank you very much CoC. This is so pathetic that when we have to debate extension of hours, already these clinics are operational during the day. We are saying the same attention our people need medical attention, they equally need it at night. At night it is even more crucial because there are issues of safety and so on and we cannot access to the main hospital. You have Honourable Tsotso coming here to say that we are still planning, but we are saying with what we have currently, extend the hours. We do agree that there are challenges, our people get sick at night, it is even more critical. She is saying melao le melawana, as if she is saying something serious, but when they come ka melao le melawana e e allow'ang di tavern and clubs and nightclubs to operate late at night, they don't say ke melao le melawana. But now because we are talking about the most marginalised people of our society, we are told about melao le melawana. Here clearly the issues is your priorities. Your priorities are not right. Let's prioritise healthcare of our people. Even worse, we are saying the issue is budgets and so on. We clearly told you that there is money. You are paying consultants a lot of money. You are paying different service providers in different departments, in different aspects of governance. Fruitless expenditures are there. You can't even recoup those monies. So I think you have lost your thinking leadership. That

is so shocking. That is why we try to take you back to history that we had people like Steve Biko with those initiatives, we have bo Charlotte Maxeke, I thought you are going to be inspired by those women because they come from the rank and files of the very same party that you are leading from. But clearly, you are far detached from the realities. The same person, the car she is driving can operate a hospital for a month, the ones that are provided the VIP protection, for what, we don't even understand, yet people are dying on a daily basis but yourselves as executives, you are enjoying tax, you are enjoying from tax payer's money over just individual protection. Your petrol cards if we were to check, it can run four ambulances in a month, but because you are not conscious, let us not labour too much into that. I think Honourable Matshe and Honourable Sambatha will engage you outside.

Honourable Matshe, you know when Friedrich Engels was speaking at the graveside of Karl Marx, he makes a contention that a man before they engage in politics, science, arts, religion and so on, they must first eat, they must have land, they must have bread, shelter over their head and so on. So, I can tell my dear leader that you are now engaging in politics of *borotho*. You just have to defend, even things that cannot be defended by Marxists. I agree with you; from each according to ability, to each according to need. Are you saying our people do not deserve to get health attention or to have access to health facilities?

You know, I listened to Magagane, and I was what is she saying this one because those clinics are there. We are saying state funded clinics extend the hours, is like we are speaking rocket science. It is nothing difficult leadership. Already those clinics have security guards protecting that infrastructure. At night, some of these things are already in place, whether they get services at night or not, that infrastructure is protected. Whoever is within those facilities already has protection. So, it is not like everything else must go and be outsourced, we must bring a lot of new systems. All you are saying is just a lot of English and concepts that are not going to take our people anywhere.

You know during my door-to-door Honourable Sambatha, one lady said to me, this ANC government they only remember us during the time of voting as special voters but when they have to remember us as people with special needs, they don't do so and clearly today, with this type of a debate, we can tell that we want to make things that are easy very complex. Ba re botsa ka melao le melawana. Already there is a law that allows the clinics to operate. Already those clinics are

operational. So clearly, you didn't even follow the debate. But also, Ayi Kwei Armah, Honourable Matshe, just after Ghana gained independence around the 1950s, he says that; "The beautiful ones are not yet born" and that also is collaborated by the writings of Antonio Gramsci that the old world is dying and the old is refusing to be born. So, we can't all the time be stuck in the apartheid era. Yes, we fought the **mytheys** and so on but you are in charge, you are even black, you are even losing government as the ANC. It is gone, you are no longer in charge. Still saying you are planning, still saying melao le melawana as if you are becoming intellectual. There is nothing intellectual about telling us in this platform that melao le melawana. There is an urgent need for those clinics to be opened 24/7. Let us save our lives

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you Honourable Member. Thank you very much Honourable Members. This concludes the business of today. The sitting is adjourned until 23 June 2026.

HON. BABUILE: I rise in terms of Rule 81 where I call on the Members to cast a vote on the debate we just had now on as to whether the Legislature must take a discussion on the implementation of clinics to be opened 24-hours. We want to see the ANC people refuse that.

HON. CHAIR OF CHAIRS: Thank you very much Honourable Babuile. Thank you for sitting down. This House is adjourned until the 23 June 2026

--HOUSE ADJOURNED AT 12:52--