

ISSUE
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LegisTalk

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE



Q&A

WITH THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

LAW

SOPA

STATE OF THE PROVINCE ADDRESS

2024/25 BUDGET

PROVINCIAL TREAS

MAND

OVERSIG





Vision

The Limpopo Legislature is a representative and consultative body, a vanguard of people's aspirations and interests towards a democratic, nonsexist, nonracial, united and prosperous society.

Mission

The Legislature is an autonomous institution and an agent for transformation that strives to:

- Defend, strengthen, deepen and maintain democracy.
- Make quality laws and policies for the citizens of the province.
- Have effective and meaningful participation of the citizens in the law-making processes.
- Articulate the needs and desires of the citizens.
- Be a transparent, consultative and accountable institution.
- Maintain norms set nationally for eradication of racism and gender imbalances.
- Ensure provision, retention of competent skills and efficient utilisation of human resources.

Values

- Honesty, integrity and reconciliation;
- Consultation, transparency, accountability, participation and open communication;
- Commitment to transformation and continuous learning;
- Responsive.

Mandate

- Law-making
- Oversight
- Public Participation

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Former Member of the Limpopo Provincial Legislature Mmakwena Lydia Komape-Ngwenya affectionately known as Mam Lydia passed away on 11 October 2023 at the age of 88 years.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

As winter is just about to creep-in, it feels like so much has happened and to many people, mid-year fatigue seems to show its ugly face too soon this time. We coming from a fairly taxing first quarter, we conquered and are soldering-on. No need to panic of the tasks ahead, all is in good stride.

In the previous quarter we extensively covered the glittering 2024 State of the Province Address (SOPA) on page 6. Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha addressing the people of Limpopo and how the province is contemplating to carry out all its plans forward. Few days after SOPA, we went on to capture the MEC for Treasury, Hon. Charles Seaparo Sekoati as he was allocating funds during the budget speech, this and more on page 9.

As we continue to discharge our mandate of Law Making, Oversight and Public Participation. Find our permanent feature on page 11 which covers a series of Public Hearings where you live.

In our Up, Close, and Personal feature, on page 13, we posed questions to the Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Tshetereke Baldwin Matibe. Read what thirty years of democracy in South Africa means to him.

Enjoy our permanent features on page 4 and 5...the Secretary's Note and the Speaker's Note respectively. Remember to show our elderly and children some warmth and love during the winter period.

Keep well and stay safe!



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SPEAKER'S

NOTE



As we gear up to wrestle yet another tough year, it is important that we approach it with much revitalised energy and a positive attitude.

This is a great year in many aspects. It is the year we need to deeply reflect as citizens of the Republic of South Africa, and sons and daughters of Limpopo in particular. It is the year we need to self-introspect as leaders. This is the year we need to appraise the value of our democratic transition, the year we need to focus on the political, economic, and social dimensions of South African democracy and its eminent challenges in the past 30 years.

I am proud to tell you all that, after so many years, the Limpopo Legislature hasn't even once stopped to be the most trusted voice of the people of Limpopo. We've always ensured that our roles in affairs of the province are nothing but 'Batho Pele' oriented.

We need to assure our communities that we will not defer from our primary responsibilities of making quality laws that improve the lives of the ordinary people, ensure that views and inputs of the people of Limpopo are always represented in the Legislature and further ascertain that government delivers quality services to the people of Limpopo.

As we celebrate 30 years of hard earned democracy, I wish to reiterate the words of the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Paul Mashatile when he delivered his keynote address at the 2024 Oversight Summit in Cape Town. And I quote, "Accountability, good ethics, integrity, and transparency are therefore critical in providing a guiding framework for strengthening the legislature's role toward improving the lives of all South Africans. Without these principles, the sustainable human development agenda will not find its truest expression".

As we are about to roll out the red carpet for the Seventh Administration immediately after the National and Provincial Elections on May 29, 2024. May I conclude with the wise words: "Although it takes one hero to stand up, a village takes it." The author is unknown.

Reneilwe R. Molapo
SPEAKER



SECRETARY'S

NOTE



Again this year, our priorities haven't changed, not with a single inch. I can affirm and assure our principals nothing but tireless support in carrying out their mandate of Law making, public participation, and oversight over the Executive.

Colleagues, this is a demanding year for everyone in the Legislative arm of the State. Very soon South Africans will return to the polling stations for the National and Provincial Elections,. It is the year in which we celebrate 30 years of democracy brought about by the freedom and the year in which we'll be ushering in the Seventh Administration.

With that in mind Colleagues, let's fold our sleeves and give our principals the unwavering support to execute their constitutional mandate and, in the course of time, accomplish the vision of the Provincial Legislature.

And to Colleagues whom we have lost along the way, including our much adored Mpho Mabusela (Committee Coordinator), may her beautiful soul continue to repose peacefully and may you all be comforted.

Dr Isaac Nkuna

ACTING SECRETARY





FEATURE

It was on 10 May 1994 when Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as the first democratically elected president of South Africa. To the majority of South Africans this was the dawn of new life filled with endless opportunities and hope of a better life to come. This year (2024), marks exactly 30 years that South Africans have lived under democratically elected administrations, elected to serve their needs and interests. To commemorate three decades of democracy in South Africa, we have reached to ordinary citizens of South Africa to hear their thoughts on 'what 30 years of democracy means to them...

Knowledge Pitja (31)

**Tshwane University of Pretoria Graduate
(Polokwane Campus)**

30 years of democracy to me, means equality, free education, and accessible health care services. Black people are able to create businesses without limitations. They are able to participate in the economy of the country. We are able to live without our rights being infringed upon. Even though things are not perfect but there is a bit of light. There is decent service delivery and other things. Even though our government needs to work hard to uproot corruption and fight crime. In the 30 years of democracy life is a bit better and the future is also promising.

Dimakatso Lekola (23)

Final Year LLB student at University of Pretoria

For me, 30 years of democracy embodies the struggles endured for freedom and human rights. Honouring the sacrifices of those who paved the way before me. It signifies the opportunity to pursue my aspirations without the barriers of systemic oppression, regardless of my background. Three decades of democracy mean I am free to dream and strive for my full potential without worrying about limitations. Coming from the rural landscapes of Phetwane village in Limpopo Province, I cherish the newfound ability to interact and collaborate with individuals previously beyond my reach prior to the onset of democracy.

Mimesis Dlamini (30)

MA in Environmental Studies

For me I think South Africa has moved from apartheid nationalist policies and introduced a system where all South Africans have a voice and contributions to the political space even within the economy as demonstrated by a growing middle class of the previously marginalized. Social cohesion has been the conversation, and the current has tried to use tools to create a reflection of what a rainbow nation looks like even though issues of racial relations are still prevalent due to inequality which some argue that we are in the era of neo-apartheid. There is obviously more support for education and young South Africans are indeed getting basic education unlike before where the conditions were not favourable.

Matlala Mathetja (33)

Currently unemployed

All these 30 years of democracy, I have witnessed government where everyone had a freedom of speech and women occupying positions of power. It shows that the system of monarchy or theocracy has changed. This is the democracy I wanted, which is based on principles like equality, participation of all genders in position of power and fundamental rights despite colour of skin or type of gender.

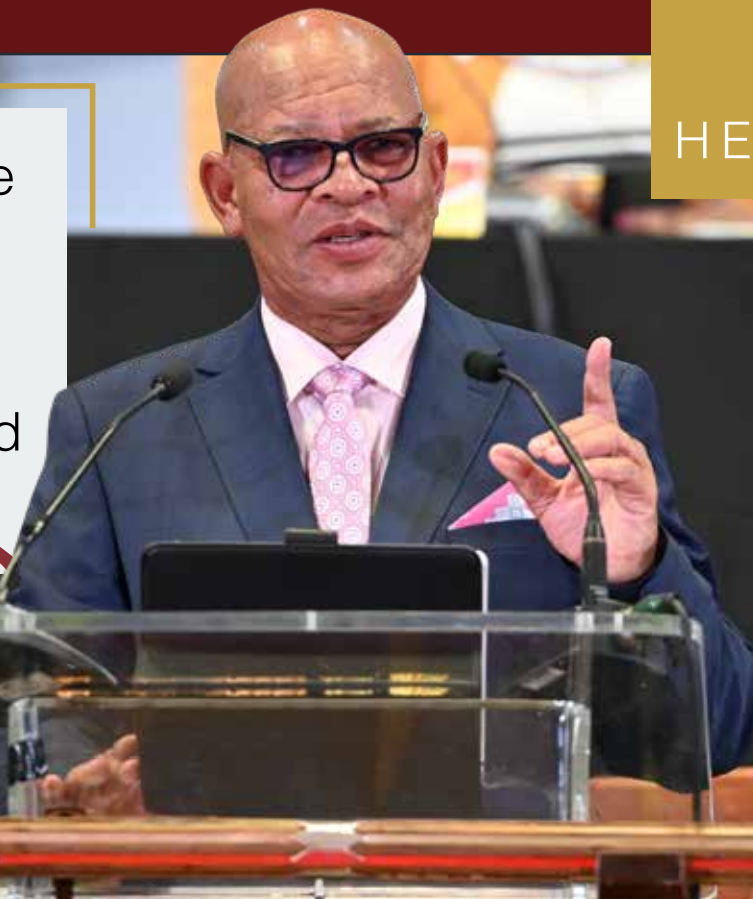
Lizzy Kgodu (23)

30 years of democracy is a reminder of the many challenges that still exist such as inequality, poverty and corruption. Regardless of one's perspective, it is undeniable that South Africa has undergone a great deal of change over the past 30 years, through there is still much work to be done.

NB: Please note that, the editor of this publication has the rights to edit for clarity or length, correct errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation.



We have made progress in addressing the legacy of colonialism and apartheid.



Hon. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha while expressing gratitude and reflecting on his term serving as the Limpopo Premier since 2013 during the State of the Province Address.

PREMIER MATHABATHA PREPARES THE GROUND DURING SOPA

When delivering his last annual State of the Province Address, Premier Chupu Stanley Mathabatha expressed his profound sense of gratitude and reflection. “It has been an honour to serve as the Limpopo Premier since 2013, leading our fifth and sixth administrations through their journeys of transformation and renewal”, he said.

The Premier acknowledged that the journey of stabilising and growing Limpopo over the years is the evidence of the commitment to good governance, sustainable development, including the provision of public goods and services. “The amalgamation of three Bantustan governments and the Transvaal provincial administration marked a significant step towards unity and

progress. It laid the foundation for a single, inclusive, and integrated province”, he added.

He further pointed out that the journey that has been travelled covered transformation and development in critical areas, such as the economy and the provision of public goods and services, like water, electricity, roads, education, health and homes.

Hon. Mathabatha called on the citizens of the province to build on the progress Limpopo has made, harnessing the potential of the youth, investing in infrastructure, fostering industrialisation and promoting sustainable development.

“Surely, you will agree with me, regardless of party-political affiliation, that we have made

progress in addressing the legacy of colonialism and apartheid. We also all acknowledge that there is still a lot of work to be done. I am sure we all agree that the road to success is a journey, not a sprint”, he said.

The Premier reminded the House that in 2013, Limpopo was at a critical juncture. “Five departments were under national administration. Confidence in our provincial administration was waning. Our task was clear, yet daunting. It was to breathe life back into these departments and restore confidence in our governance. It was a journey akin to the mythical phoenix rising from the ashes, a symbol of renewal and resilience that resonates deeply with the spirit of Limpopo”, he added.

He highlighted that over the past decade, his administration has worked tirelessly to bring stability and sound administration to the province. Through collective effort and unwavering commitment, this administration has seen remarkable improvements in audit outcomes and overall provincial performance. "The once prevalent disclaimer audit opinions are now a thing of the past in our departments, public entities and municipalities. No department is under administration", he said.

In reflecting on the progress made by his administration, the Premier called on everyone to look to the future with optimism and determination. "The story of Limpopo's renewal and development is far from over. It is a continuous journey, one that requires an active citizenry, and the collective effort of every community and leader. Together, we can build on the foundation we have laid, striving for even greater achievements and a brighter future for all who call Limpopo home" he added.

He also reminded the House that the Limpopo population landscape has changed. "Since 2022, we are now the fifth largest province in South Africa. Although we have moved from the fourth spot, we have become the largest contributor to Gauteng's population. Our economic and social development programmes should help us retain our youth, while protecting their freedom movement", he said.

Limpopo remains youthful, with a greater proportion of the population still between 18 and 34 years old, according to the Premier. He is calling on the administration to strengthen programmes that aims to address youth unemployment, and challenges in education or training. "The programmes include our Youth Development Strategy, including skills development, placements in work, and youth empowerment" he added.

He further acknowledged that since the year 2000, mining became the largest contributor to the economic growth in the province. "Mining contribution to our GDP rose from below 20 per cent in 1999, reaching a peak of 28.1 per cent in 2008. The 2008 global economic meltdown affected our economy, resulting in a decline in many sectors. At 25.6 per cent, mining reached a new peak of its contribution to our provincial economy in 2019", he said.

Premier Mathabatha indicated that it is important to distribute economic development evenly, to do away with the legacy of uneven development. "The rise of mining in Limpopo has led to the positive economic developments that are witnessing along the Dilokong Corridor in Fetakgomo-Tubatse, Sekhukhune, and in Waterberg District", he said.

The Limpopo Provincial Government is taking steps to ensure the sustainability of entities under the Limpopo Economic Development Agency (LEDA). "These include establishing a Provincial Public Finance Management Act 3D Entity Monitoring and Evaluation Task Team", said the Premier.

Limpopo is known as a province where agriculture plays a pivotal role. The Premier also indicated that his administration has made significant progress in agriculture. "We implemented agricultural support programmes, such as the Land-Care Programme, the Revitalisation of Agriculture and Agro-Value Chain Plan, and the market access certification programme", he said.



Premier, Hon. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha in the company of the Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Rosemary Molapo and the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Tshireke Matibe, during the State of Province parade before the address.



"Today, I stand before you filled with a profound sense of pride and accomplishment, as we reflect on the strides we have made in the realm of public works and infrastructure development. Over the past four years, under the Sixth Administration, our collective efforts have borne fruit, contributing to the transformation of our province's landscape and the quality of life of our people", said Hon. Mathabatha.

Speaking on education, the Premier said the department saw remarkable progress with the completion of 12 schools that had been devastated by severe storms. "Schools like Nwaridi Secondary in Vhembe and Khetho Nxumalo in Mopani, among others, stand today as symbols of resilience and hope for our children and communities", he said.

He indicated that cultural heritage and governance structures were also strengthened with the delivery of traditional council offices, including the recently completed Raphahlelo, Bakone ba Matlala, Davhana and Bakwena ba Matsepe Traditional Councils.

The current administration has refurbished the Schoemansdal Museum and the Thohoyandou Government Complex. "Through these projects, we have created over 21,800 work opportunities, empowering women, youth, and people with disability", he said.

He stressed that the province has improved spending, resulting in receiving an additional R250 million this year for human settlements grant. "Our emphasis on spending has nothing to do with expenditure for its own sake. It is essentially a means to deliver public goods and services. That is our ultimate mandate", he said.

The institution of traditional leadership has received substantial support. From 2014, the provincial administration has been allocating vehicles to deserving senior traditional leaders to enable them to perform their work. "We are honoured that in 2023, we have allocated a further 102 vehicles to deserving senior traditional leaders. Our target is to complete the allocation by the end of March 2024," he added.

He further expressed his sincere gratitude to traditional leaders for running initiation schools in ways that make the province the best in the country. "We wish the 2024 initiation season a great success, characterised by zero death," added the Premier.

The Premier boasted that the Sixth Administration carries pride in offering the best results in the 30-year history of Limpopo. "In addition to the commendable improvement in the matric pass rate of 2023, we have realised an increase in bachelor passes," he added.

According to the Premier, Healthcare infrastructure received a significant boost with upgrades to laundries at various hospitals and the construction of new medical facilities. The province has made remarkable strides, particularly in reducing the HIV positivity rate among the 15 to 24 years age group from 1.9% to 1.3%. Efforts in TB treatment and maternal healthcare have also positioned Limpopo as a provincial leader in these areas. Construction of the Limpopo Central Academic Hospital has also commenced, while the upgrading of the Siloam Hospital, as well as other healthcare facilities, will improve the provision of healthcare in the province. The government has also acquired 566 ambulances in the current financial year to enhance the Emergency Medical Services.

"Our Rural Health Matters Programme has contributed significantly to reducing the backlog of surgery, taking quality healthcare to the people", said the Premier.

"In the same vein, I want to send a strong message to all those in the public service, particularly those who are prone to commit corruption, fraud and maladministration, to desist from committing those activities", he added.

He also acknowledged that from 2018 to 2023, the Premier's Bursary Fund has awarded bursaries to 48 learners to continue their studies in higher education and training.



Members of the Limpopo Legislature and Honourable Members of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) during a group photo shoot moments after the State of the Province address.

HEADLINE

MEC SEKOATI UNVEILS
2024/25

BUDGET FOR LIMPOPO

Hon. Seaparo Charles Sekoati unveiled his budget speech and allocations for provincial government departments during a sitting of the Legislature at the Polokwane Municipal Council Chamber.

Delivering his 2024/25 budget speech and allocations, MEC for Provincial Treasury, Hon. Seaparo Charles Sekoati indicated to the people of Limpopo that, "the total provincial fiscus revolves around R83.255 billion for the 2024/25 financial year."

Allocation to government departments and other institutions for 2024/25 is as follows.



VOTE
01

Office of the Premier
R506.194 million



VOTE
02

Limpopo Legislature
R549.516 million



VOTE
03

Education
R44.163 billion



VOTE
04

Agriculture &
Rural Development
R1.783 billion



VOTE
05

Provincial Treasury
R478.063 million



VOTE
06

Economic Development,
Environment and Tourism
R1.866 billion



VOTE
07

Health
R24.639 billion



VOTE
08

Transport &
Community Safety
R2.611 billion



VOTE
05

Public Works, Roads &
Infrastructure
R5.272 billion



VOTE
06

Sport, Arts and Culture
R827.099 million



VOTE
07

Co-Operative Governance,
Human Settlements &
Traditional Affairs
R2.473 billion



VOTE
08

Social Development
R2.077 billion



Sound mind - Hail from the hills of Tshilamba village in Mutale, is the former Member of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and now the Deputy Speaker of the Limpopo Provincial Legislature, Hon. Tshitereke Baldwin Matibe sharing with us his perspective as we celebrate 30 years of Democracy in South Africa...

1. We are celebrating 30 years of democracy in South Africa, what does it mean to you and what do you think government especially the Legislative arm of state has fared in improving the lives of ordinary people?

This is a great reflection of what our democratic government has been able to achieve over the past 30 years. It coincides with the National and Provincial elections which is a remarkable success regarding human rights – the right to vote in a free and fair elections.

2. Would you in your own analysis think and believe this is exactly where government progress should really be in bettering the lives of South Africans?

Our goal is “to be better today than yesterday, and with a plan to

Q & A

QUESTION &
ANSWER SESSION
WITH THE DEPUTY SPEAKER
OF THE LEGISLATURE,
HON. TSHITEREKE MATIBE.

become even better tomorrow.” There is positive progress made by our democratic government compared to the 1994 situation. The lives of the people of South Africa, especially the previously disadvantaged group, has improved. Most of disadvantaged group are currently participating in the economy, and literacy rate, access to health as well as ownership have improved.

3. Which areas do you think government (Legislative arm) did well and why, and areas you think needs urgent remedial attention?

The legislative arm has done very well through holding the executive accountable for utilising public funds. The improvement in government state of finance, reduction in disclaimer audit opinions and decline in unwanted expenditures, is a clear demonstration of the positive contribution of the legislative arm towards good governance. Furthermore, as the legislative sector, we have done well when it comes to ensuring that the people of South Africa, even those in deep rural areas, participate in law making processes. Despite the positive contribution by the legislative sector, there is urgent need to ensure that all resolutions taken by the Legislature are fully implemented by the Executive within the stipulated timeframes. We also need to come-up with effective mechanisms to track the implementation of House resolutions. Another area which needs our attention is to have legal authority to act against the executive, accounting officer or any other official for failure to fully implement House resolutions.

4. Do you think such problems or challenges are political or administrative?

These challenges can be political, administrative as well as legally. It becomes political when the political

head is not providing proper leadership within the department. Similarly, it can also happen when the accounting officer fails to act against officials for failure to comply with rules and regulations governing financial management. Furthermore, these challenges can be legal due to lack of legislation that empowers the legislature to act against anyone violating public financial rules and regulations.

5. What do you think are the key attributes of a successful government especially around the areas of law making, public participation and oversight?

The key attributes for a successful government are openness, transparency, accountability, effective participation, ethical leadership, and respect for human rights as well as the rule of law. It is our constitutional responsibility to ensure that the people of South Africa fully participate in law making processes, participate in elections and their rights are respected.

6. According to you, what would be the best approach to strengthen areas of race relations to ensure unity in diversity?

Race and tribalism are areas that we often ignore to talk about. Quite often we only react when racial or tribal connotations have been made and picked by the media. We should learn to appreciate that South Africa is a diverse country, and our institutions should reflect that diversity not only in theory but also in practice. We should strive to unite all races and ethnic group within our institutions. Ubuntu should be our guiding principle in strengthening race relations and ethnicity within our institutions.

7. Would you confidently say South African politics are heading into the right direction, what would you classify as the right direction?

South Africa is a democratic state and indeed our politics are heading towards the right direction. Our democracy is gradually maturing, and you can see it by the number of political parties and independent candidates participating in the National and Provincial elections. Our respect to human rights and the rule of law further indicates that our politics are heading towards a right democratic direction.

8. Would you say institutions supporting democracy have been effective and were thoroughly tested in the three decades of democracy?

Our state institutions such as the Public Protector, South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities, Commission for Gender Equality (CGE), Auditor-General, and Electoral Commission have played a pivotal role in supporting our democracy. The reports produced by these institutions are critical in strengthening parliament oversight.

9. Who is your political role model?

My political role model is Cde Joel Netshitenzhe. Cde Netshitenzhe is a South African politician, strategist, and a great communicator. He contributed immensely towards the development and implementation of ANC and government policies.

10. What is your favourite political quote and how does it inspire you?

My favourite political quote is from Amilcar Cabral when he says and I quote “Always bear in mind that the people are not fighting for ideas, for the things in anyone’s head. They are fighting to win material benefits, to live better and in peace, to see their lives go forward, to guarantee the future of their children”.





Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Transport and Community Safety, Hon. Rebecca Seono and Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Hon. Suzan Mathye presenting an award during the 2023 Matric Results announcements at the Ranch Hotel.

CLASS OF 2023

LEAVES A POSITIVE MARK

Exhilarating: Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Hon. Suzan Mathye accompanied by the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Transport and Community Safety, Hon. Rebecca Seono presenting an award during the 2023 Matric Results announcements at the Ranch Hotel outside Polokwane recently. The class of 2023 has improved by 79.5% compared to 72,1% attained by the class of 2022, thus moving the province from position 9 to position 7 nation-wide.

MEC for the Department of Education, Hon. Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya applauded the hard work demonstrated by both learners and educators across the province. 'Your exceptional performance has redeemed us as a province, we are proud of you and we wish you all of the best in your future academic endeavours,' said the MEC during

an emotionally charged event graced by the Premier of Limpopo, Hon. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha, Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Rosemary Molapo, Deputy Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Tshitereke Matibe and honourable Members of the Legislature.

Top three district:

Mopani West with 83,8%
Mogalakwena with 82,6%
Vhembe East with 82,5%

Top three candidates in Public ordinary schools:

Lefophane Nthabiseng from Bokamoso Secondary School in Capricorn District with 1743
Mavhungu Mbedzi Remonia from Patrick Ramaano Secondary School in Vhembe District with 1712
Moshabi Jonas Kgakishi from Seritarita Secondary School in

Mogalakwena District with 1702

Top three candidates in Public Special schools:

Modika Karabo Prince from Setotlwane Secondary School in Capricorn District with 1447 credits
Maotjane Thabiso from Setotlwane Secondary School with 1291
Mogale Phulufelo from Rivonia Secondary School with 1225

Top three candidates in independent schools:

Mubayi Masana from Nkwangulatilo Secondary School with 1710
Siphuma Livhuwani from St. Augustine with 1701
Zitha Peace from Nkwangulatilo with 1688

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COMMITTEE DIGESTS THE HEALTH INSURANCE BILL



Member of the Committee, Hon. Johanna Aphiri addressing some of the concerns raised during public hearings in the Waterberg District.



Hon. Polly Boshelo deliberating during public hearings at the Mopani District where she was accompanied by Hon. Florence Manganyi, Hon. Marcelle Maritz, and Hon. Johanna Aphiri.



Member of the Committee, Hon. Dr Lillian Mananga engaging stakeholders during Public Hearings in Sekhukhune District.

In pursuing its mandate of lawmaking, the Legislature through its Portfolio Committee on Health has conducted Public Hearings on the National Health Insurance Bill across the five districts of the province to solicit inputs from stakeholders and ordinary people of the province.

The objective of the NHI Bill is to provide universal access to quality health care for all South Africans as enshrined in the Constitution. The Constitution recognizes healthcare as a fundamental human right. The NHI Bill seeks to achieve this by ensuring that no one is deprived of the abovementioned rights because

of their socioeconomic status. One public health fund is created with adequate resources to plan for and effectively meet the health needs of the entire population, not just for a selected few; and to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The NHI fund will cover South Africans of all races, rich or poor and legal long-term residents. There will be one pool of healthcare funding for private and public healthcare providers alike. The cost of our healthcare system, which is currently the most expensive in the world, will be reduced. When people visit healthcare facilities, there will be no fees charged because the NHI fund will cover the costs of people's medical care in the same way that medical aids do for their members. NHI will narrow the gap between the rich and poor in terms of standards of healthcare.

South Africans will no longer be required to contribute directly to a medical health scheme to get quality health care. The NHI Fund will be funded from:

- General taxes,
- Contributions of persons earning above a set amount, and
- Monthly contributions made by the employees to the fund.

Employers will assist the NHI Fund by ensuring that their workers' contributions to the NHI fund are collected and submitted in a similar manner to UIF contributions. NHI will not replace Medical Aid Schemes, members will be free to continue with their medical schemes if they still wish to. When the NHI is fully implemented the role of medical schemes will change as they will provide cover for services not reimbursable by the NHI Fund.

Most participants in public hearings throughout the province supported the Bill with amendments to review, amongst others, the inclusion of illegal foreign nationals, citing the lack of sufficient resources for South Africans.

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The Standing Committee on Quality of Life, Status of Women, Youth & Disability chaired by Hon. Polly Boshielo facilitates convention of a Men's Parliament under the theme "The Term of Advancing Men's issues through Men's Parliament." presided by Hon. Essop Mokgonyana at Bolivia Lodge in Polokwane.

Men representing various sectors were afforded an opportunity to discuss issues affecting them like mental health, HIV/AIDS, Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. Men were encouraged and motivated to speak out openly about issues that affect them.

Members and delegates in attendance were taken aback as they watched and listened to the life changing message conveyed through a drama performed by a talented group during the event on the effects created by human rights violence and gender-based violence in society perpetrated mostly by men.

Premier, Chupu Mathabatha delivered keynote address, whereby he said that "Our goal is to unite individuals from diverse backgrounds and walks of life, to strengthen the coordination and capacity of men in the country to respond positively to the social challenges and health issues they are faced with. He further mentioned the importance of society to shape the way boys and girls relate to each other and nurturing of young men and women to view one another as equals.

The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Matibe Tshitereke commended committee for convening Men's Parliament and affording men an opportunity to voice crucial issues affecting their livelihoods.

Delegates debated on various topical issues that affects men yet seldom discussed openly by men in public.

LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE CONVENES MAIDEN MEN'S PARLIAMENT



Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Quality of Life, Status of Women, Youth & Disability, Hon. Polly Boshielo, delivering concluding remarks during the Men's Parliament.



Premier, Hon. Chupu Mathabatha, delivering a keynote address during Men's Parliament.



Deputy Speaker, Hon. Matibe Tshitereke talking to Limpopo men during the inaugural Men's Parliament.

FEATURES

LIMPOPO DELEGATES TO THE NCOP CONDUCTED OVERSIGHT VISITS TO LIMPOPO'S VHEMBE & MOPANI DISTRICTS

The Limpopo's Permanent Delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), together with their provincial counterparts, have conducted oversight visits to provincial and municipal infrastructure projects in Vhembe and Mopani districts this week.

These visits form part of this year's National Provincial Week programme of the NCOP, which was carried out under the theme: "Building viable provincial and municipal infrastructure for effective delivery of services to communities".

The programme began officially on Tuesday, 12 September 2023, at the Parliamentary Village in Bendor Park, Polokwane, from 10 am to 5 pm, wherein the delegates and Members of the Limpopo Legislature were briefed by the Premier; the MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure; MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs; Chairperson of the South African Local Government Association; municipal representatives; as well as senior officials of the Department of Water and Sanitation.

On Wednesday, the delegates together with their provincial counterparts further conducted oversight visits at the Beitbridge-Musina Integrated Water Supply Scheme, N1 Musina Ring Road and a site where road D4 is rehabilitated between Elim and Malamulele.

On Thursday, they proceeded to Giyani water treatment works, Giyani landfill site, and the upgrading project of road D3187 and D3843 from Mageva to Makhuvha Villages.



Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Hon. Grace Makhurupetje addressing the delegation after briefing by (RAL) Roads Agency Limpopo.



Members of the Legislature and the NCOP delegation inspecting the Musina water pipeline.





Representatives from all arms of state attending the 2024 two-day South African Legislative Sector (SALS) Oversight Summit hosted by the Speakers' Forum of South Africa at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town.

THE LEGISLATIVE SECTOR

CARRIES OUT ITS MANDATE DILIGENTLY

Strengthening the legislative arm of state, honourable Members of the Limpopo Legislature joined their counterparts during the two-day South African Legislative Sector (SALS) Oversight Summit hosted by the Speakers' Forum of South Africa at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town recently under the theme: 'Striving for Oversight that ensures the realisation of a better life for all South Africans'.

In his keynote address, Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Paul Mashatile shared similar sentiments expressed in the theme. 'This theme is relevant in that it reminds us of

the strategic role that legislatures play in transforming society and championing the interests of all South Africans towards a better life for all. The theme also probes us to reflect on the democracy and governance work that continues in South Africa's young democracy', the Deputy President stated.

Representatives from the Executive, Judiciary and the Institutions Supporting Democracy, South African Local Government Association (SALGA), SADC Speakers, European Union (EU), Civil Society Organizations and Academics attending the summit focused mainly on objectives such as, (i) to reflect on the effectiveness

of the legislative sector role in the implementation of constitutional mandates (oversight, public involvement and law making); (ii) to explore transformational approaches and strategies to ensure effectiveness of sector oversight; (iii) to share experiences within the sector and exchange ideas with regional, continental, and international counterparts on effective oversight practices; (iv) and to explore partnerships and opportunities for collaboration with relevant and critical role players in the oversight ecosystem.

Honourable Members entered into robust debates and lengthy knowledge sharing sessions



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2024 South African Legislative Sector Oversight Summit



Honourable Members of the Limpopo Legislature attending the two-day South African Legislative Sector (SALS) Oversight Summit held at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town

unscrambling matters around, 'the effectiveness of the South African Legislative Sector and approaches to public involvement in the oversight process'. Wrapping-up deliberations on day one of the summit, the session further touched on, 'the importance of monitoring the implementation and impact of laws to improve oversight – Post-Legislative Scrutiny'.

As the two-day summit concluded, representative resolved with a declaration, that, among other important aspects highlighted, the sector will, 'incorporate performance monitoring and evaluation in all the oversight activities to conduct effective oversight and improve the lives of South Africans. Improve the capacity of Legislatures by resourcing committees and appointment of suitably qualified professionals and managers in Legislatures. Systematically evaluate and review the Public Participation Framework and public participation processes for effectiveness oversight in Legislatures and to consider promulgating legislation and regulations governing the formation and functioning of coalition governments to avoid dysfunction caused by hung legislatures and councils,' the summit resolved.



Honourable Members of the Limpopo Legislature attending the two-day South African Legislative Sector (SALS) Oversight Summit held at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town.



Honourable Members of the Limpopo Legislature attending the two-day South African Legislative Sector (SALS) Oversight Summit held at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town.





Former Member of the Limpopo Provincial Legislature Mmakwena Lydia Komape-Ngwenya affectionately known as Mam Lydia passed away on 11 October 2023 at the age of 88 years. Mam Lydia was born on 06 August 1935 at Mamphulo, Ga-Matlala-a-Thaba outside Polokwane.

She was born in an area that is fondly remembered for its contribution in the building of the African National Congress (ANC) in its formative years. She was actively involved in the underground activities of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the armed wing of the ANC. Her duties include the recruitment and smuggling of military

trainees into the neighbouring countries such as Lusaka, Zambia and the then headquarters of the ANC during the dark days of the apartheid regime.

Mam Lydia was elected in the National Assembly as an ANC candidate between 1994 and 2009 and served as a member of the Land and Agriculture Portfolio Committee until the year 1999. Mam Lydia also served two terms in the Limpopo Provincial Legislature as Deputy Chief Whip between 2009 and 2019. She served in several Portfolio Committees including Standing Committee on Quality of Life, Status of Women, Youth, and People

with disabilities and the Standing Committee on Petitions; Portfolio Committees on Social Development; Sport, Arts and Culture; Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure; Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs; Health; and Agriculture. Mam Lydia also served in the Provincial Executive Committee as the Deputy Chairperson, a position which she held for 13 years.

Mam Lydia is survived by two daughters namely Noko Maggie and Mmanare Matshidiso Helen including eleven (11) grandchildren and twenty-one (21) great grandchildren.

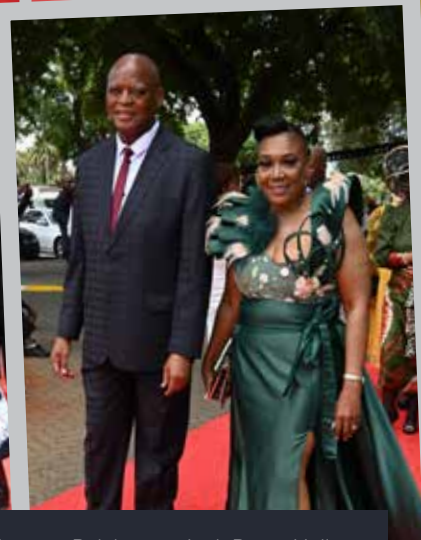


Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Cllr. Given Moimana, Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Rosemary Molapo with former Member of the Legislature, Mr Soviet Lekganyane joining other mourners during the burial service of Lydia Komape-Ngwenya.



Honourable Member of the Legislature and the Komape-Ngwenya family reminiscing about some of the sweet memories they had with Mama Lydia Kwamape. The delegation was led by the Speaker of the Legislature, Hon. Rosemary Molapo.

Travel & SOCIAL SCENES



Honourable Members of the Legislature attending the State of the Province Address at Polokwane Jack Botes Hall.



Honourable Members of the Legislature attending the Parliamentary debate in Cape Town.



Speaker, Hon. Rosemary Reneilwe Molapo and Premier, Hon. Chupu Stanley Mathabatha during the State of the Nation Address.



Honourable Members presenting awards during the 2023 Matric Results announcements at the Ranch Hotel.



Honourable Members attending the Freedom day commemoration at Mapodile Sports Ground.



NCOP Members, Hon. Elleck Mamagase Nchabeleng and Shaida Shaik attending the BRICS Parliamentary Forum.



Honourable Members attending the 66th CPA Africa Region in Accra, Ghana.

EDUCATIONAL

T O U R S

Tours to the Limpopo Legislature are open to the general public, schools, and institutions. During the tours, you will experience and be informed on the following:

- The difference between the Legislature and the Premier's office / Executive
- Core business and programme of the Legislature
- The law-making processes
- Visit the legislative Chambers
- Sitting arrangements in the Chamber
- The role of Committees

Visiting days are Monday to Friday at 08h00 to 16h00, preferably Tuesdays and Thursdays when there is a Sitting.

If you want to be part of this experience don't hesitate to contact us. Appointments are done through the Office of the Secretary.

Reach us by mail at:

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